

Château Pavie 2000

CSPC# 831605

750mlx3

14.0% alc./vol.

Grape Variety
Appellation
Classification
Website
General Info

60% Merlot, 22% Cabernet Franc, 18% Cabernet Sauvignon
St. Emilion
1st Grand Cru Classé
<http://www.vignoblesperse.com/fr/>

The slopes of Chateau Pavie and Ausone were first planted by the ancient Romans in the fourth century. However, Chateau Pavie did not become famous as a Bordeaux wine producer until almost two thousand years later. Chateau Pavie was definitely famous by the mid 19th century. At the time, the Robert Parker of the day was the Bordeaux bible published by Cocks and Féret's "Bordeaux et ses vins" written in 1850, the first edition was already high on the wines from Pavie as they named it one of the First classed growths in St. Emilion.

A portion of Chateau Pavie was sold off in 1885 to the well known, Bordeaux wine negociant Ferdinand Bouffard. It was Bouffard's desire to increase the size of the vineyards. In time, he managed to put together a 50-hectare vineyard with an annual production that ranged from 12,500 to 15,000 cases per year. That made Chateau Pavie one of the largest estates in the Right Bank!

By the late 1800's, Pavie and Pavie Decesse were fully separate estates. Close to the same time, the Macquin family was also busy purchasing parcels of Bordeaux vineyards too. Those purchases led to the creation of Chateau Pavie Macquin. Jumping ahead to the next century and the start of the First World War, Ferdinand Bouffard sold Chateau Pavie to Albert Porte who eventually sold to the Valette family. The Valette's were well known Bordeaux wine négociants from Paris. If the name sounds familiar, that's because Christine Valette is the owner of Chateau Troplong Mondot. Chateau Pavie was classified as Premier Grand Cru Classé "B" while under the Valette family's management in 1954. That changed in 2012 with the new Classification of St. Emilion as Chateau Pavie was elevated to Premier Grand Cru Classé A!

In 1998, Gerard Perse, who already owned Chateau Monbousquet purchased Chateau Pavie. Chateau Pavie experienced a rebirth thanks to the drive and the spare no expense attitude of Perse. In 2002 Gerard Perse expanded the vineyards of Chateau Pavie by 2.5 hectares when the vines of Chateau La Clusiere vines were incorporated into Chateau Pavie.

This was allowed to take place because of the similarity of terroirs which led the INAO. In 2002 to authorize the integration (or, perhaps the reintegration) of Chateau La Clusiere into the vineyard of Pavie. At the same time, a small part of the Pavie Decesse vineyards were also merged into Château Pavie. This reduced Pavie Decesse's area from 9.5 hectares to its current 3.5-hectare size, while increasing the vineyards of Chateau Pavie.

Winemaker Michel Rolland as their consultant

Vintage During the growing season, there was low rainfall with the exception of April (130mm/5.1 inches). August and September rainfall were very low (18mm/0.7 inch and 38mm/1.5 inches respectively). On the other hand, temperatures were not excessively high over these 2 months, making the conditions very favourable for good ripening of the grapes. July, August and September were ideal in temperature with little rain, enabling an even change of colour, and thanks to earlier crop thinning, high quality homogeneously ripe grapes at the moment of picking.

Vineyards The 42-hectare St. Emilion vineyard of Chateau Pavie is truly three unique and different terroirs. Each also has its own microclimate and soils corresponding to the Saint Emilion limestone "plateau", located around 85 metres up from the Dordogne, and composed of clay-limestone soil on top of chalk with marine fossils. Soils corresponding to the "mid-hillside" land 55 metres up from the Dordogne, composed



Vineyards	of a brown clay-limestone soil with a fine texture. Many parcels of land have been replanted and the vine-training system raised to increase the leaf surface. The terroir of Pavie does not promote early-ripening. In fact, Chateau Pavie is often one of the last St. Emilion estates to finish harvesting. Pruning down to 6 buds for the old vines and to 2 buds for the young vines. Thinning, leaf-stripping, grapes picked and sorted by hand. Gerard Perse replanted much of the Chateau Pavie vineyards in 1998.
Vinification/ Maturation	For the vinification of Chateau Pavie, after harvesting sorted in the vineyards and again using optical sorting, the whole berries are moved by conveyor belt to oak tanks for crushing by gravity. The wine is vinified in 20, temperature controlled, wood vats. Pre-fermentation cold maceration lasts for nine days at 8 degrees Celsius. This is followed by a 36-day maceration. Malolactic fermentation takes place in barrel. The wine of Chateau Pavie is aged in 100% new, French oak barrels for 32 months. The amount of new oak and time in the barrel will vary, depending on the characteristics of each Bordeaux vintage.
Tasting Notes	Pavie's 2000 vintage seems somewhat unassuming on paper, yet when you taste it, you understand why collectors buy it by the case. 2000's yields were as low as 28 hectoliters per hectare. This resulted in just 7,500 cases, making it an especially rare wine for Pavie. In addition, the weather in Bordeaux at the time ranged from drought-like as the grapes matured to slightly wet and cold at harvest. Like most wines grown under these conditions, the 2000 Pavie has an absurdly long finish. Critics say the finish lasts more than a full minute and displays a complex range of flavors they've never experienced with Pavie blends.
Serve with	Chateau Pavie is best served at 15.5 degrees Celsius, 60 degrees Fahrenheit. The cool, almost cellar temperature gives the wine more freshness and lift. Chateau Pavie is best paired with all types of classic meat dishes, veal, pork, beef, lamb, duck, game, roast chicken, roasted, braised and grilled dishes.
Production	7,500 cases made.
Cellaring	Drink now-2035.
Scores/Awards	<p>97 points - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - Web Only 2017</p> <p>96 points - James Suckling, Wine Spectator - July 2003</p> <p>95-100 points - James Suckling, Wine Spectator - Web Only 2003</p> <p>95-100 points - James Suckling, Wine Spectator - Web Only 2001</p> <p>100 points - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #220 - August 2015</p> <p>100 points - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #189 - June 2010</p> <p>100 points - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #146 - April 2003</p> <p>96-98 points - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #139 - February 2002</p> <p>95-96 points - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #134 - April 2001</p> <p>95 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - March 2018</p> <p>93 points - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - June 2003</p> <p>93 points - Ian D'Agata, ST's International Wine Cellar - March/April 2014</p> <p>97 points - Jane Anson, Decanter.com - April 2018</p> <p>96 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - February 2020</p> <p>97 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - September 2017</p> <p>97 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - August 2015</p> <p>98 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - December 2014</p> <p>99 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - June 2004</p> <p>100 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - May 2013</p> <p>98 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - February 2013</p> <p>99 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - February 2012</p> <p>99 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - March 2011</p> <p>99 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - August 2010</p> <p>100 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - July 2008</p> <p>99 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - February 2005</p> <p>97 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - June 2004</p> <p>16 points - Farr Vintner (score only)</p> <p>97 points - Neal Martin, Vinous - July 2018</p> <p>100 points - Jeb Dunnuck MW - August 2018</p>

Reviews

"Beautiful and on point now, with a cascade of gently steeped blackberry, boysenberry and raspberry fruit flavors that are showing some secondary notes, all followed by singed alder, dried anise, tobacco and black tea accents. Features a mineral lining on the finish, along with a long sanguine echo. Presents a mature edge, but this is racy and fresh, with hints of menthol and bay leaf. --Non-blind Pavie vertical (March 2017). Drink now through 2035. 7,500 cases made"

- JM, Wine Spectator

"Voluptuous red. Glorious aromas of very ripe fruit, with layers of spices and chocolate. Full-bodied, with big yet very silky tannins and a long, long finish. Generous and seductive red. Lasts minutes on the palate. Best ever from here. Best after 2010. 7,500 cases made."

- JS, Wine Spectator

"In your face at first, but very sexy and refined in the end. Intense aromas of licorice, Indian spice and blackberries. Super aromatic. Full-bodied, with big and velvety tannins. Long and caressing. A lovely, balanced wine in a full-throttle way. Still not in bottle in early December. Score range: 95-100"

- JS, Wine Spectator

"This is a super model of a wine. Super grapey, with red licorice and perfumed aromas. Full-bodied and very tight, with racy tannins and a sleek finish. Best wine of the hillsides of St.-Emilion. Lasts for minutes. Score range: 95-100"

- JS, Wine Spectator

"Just beginning to come around and strut its enormous potential, this wine at age 15 has been evolving like a glacier. The wine has an inky, opaque, plum/purple color and a stunningly rich nose of mulberries, bramble berries, blackberries, licorice and incense as well as touches of toast and graphite. Fabulously concentrated and full-bodied, with a multidimensional mouthfeel, this profound Pavie is in mid-adolescence. It should evolve and continue to drink well for at least another 30-40 years. This is clearly the first compelling effort made by the Perse family."

- RP, Wine Advocate

"I tasted this wine twice during the 2000 horizontals, then I actually popped the cork and drank a half-bottle of it. This wine remains, for me, one of the compelling success stories for proprietor Gerard Perse. An extraordinary effort made from a blend of 60% Merlot, 30% Cabernet Franc, and 10% Cabernet Sauvignon from the limestone soils that dominate this very distinctive terroir, the 2000 Pavie has moved out of the closed, dormant, broodingly backward stage into an adolescent period where one can see its extraordinary vibrancy, and great complexity as well as potential. It boasts an unctuous display of rich, cedar box-infused cassis fruit and liquid minerality. The tannins have sweetened, yet the wine has thirty years of longevity and potential evolution. A beautiful wine of great mass as well as elegance, it is good to see the extraordinary efforts that Gerard Perse and his team have made confirmed in this prodigious wine. A legend now ... a legend for the future. Anticipated maturity: 2012-2060."

- RP, Wine Advocate

"Give Gerard Perse credit. People thought his numerous assurances that 2000 was the greatest Pavie ever produced were premature as well as arrogant. However, after tasting this extraordinary blend of 60% Merlot, 30% Cabernet Franc, and 10% Cabernet Sauvignon (made from low yields of 28-30 hectoliters per hectare) six separate times in 2003, it is unquestionably one of the most monumental wines Bordeaux has ever produced. Bottled in March 2003, about nine months later than other 2000s, the color is an opaque purple, and the bouquet offers up notes of liquid minerals, blackberries, cherries, and cassis intermixed with spice box, cedar, and white flowers. On the palate, it exhibits a massive display of richness and extract, yet with pinpoint delineation and vibrancy as well as a 60+ second finish, this is the kind of phenomenal wine that Perse's critics were afraid he might produce - a no-compromise, immortal wonder that represents the essence of one of Bordeaux's greatest terroirs. Life is too short not to own and consume the 2000 Pavie. Anticipated maturity: 2012-2050."

- RP, Wine Advocate

Reviews

"With no shortage of confidence, Gerard Perse feels the 2000 is the greatest Pavie ever produced. Premature you say? Don't discount the proprietor's rhetoric. A blend of 60% Merlot, 30% Cabernet Franc, and 10% Cabernet Sauvignon, it is a backward, super-concentrated effort displaying an inky purple color, and a thrilling bouquet of minerals, black fruits, vitamins, and toast. It possesses a wealth of fruit, glycerin, and extract as well as high levels of tannin, and a finish that lasts nearly a minute. It will undoubtedly close down after bottling, and not be close to prime time drinking until 2010 or later. Anticipated maturity: 2010-2050."

- RP, Wine Advocate

"If wine is to be judged by what is in the bottle, Pavie has become a fabulous first-growth quality estate, offering extraordinary elegance married to awesome levels of richness. The 2000 is a backward effort with structure and tannin. At the same time, the concentration is fabulous. Structured, with an opaque ruby/purple color, Pavie's 2000 exhibits aromas of liquid minerals, black cherry liqueur, cassis, and flowers. The wine is full-bodied yet extraordinarily precise, with uncanny elegance, fabulous purity, and astonishing length. Although elevated, the tannin is sweet as well as nicely integrated. However, this 2000 will require considerable patience. Anticipated maturity: 2010-2040. Except for some of Bordeaux's provincial knuckleheads (who resent outsiders), this is widely acclaimed as one of the region's most singular and greatest wines."

- RP, Wine Advocate

"Very ripe and powerful with spice, meat and walnut character. Full-bodied, deep and layered. Flamboyant and decadent. Long and flavorful finish. Drink now or hold"

- JS, JamesSuckling.com

"Under the regime of Gérard Perse, Pavie seems to have become more opulent, more extracted, and, dare I say it, more simplistic. The richness of the 2000 vintage lends itself to this technique. While it is a wonderful, immediately appealing wine, with its intense dark fruits, it seems to lack the complexity of other wines of similar status."

- RV, Wine Enthusiast

"Bright red with a pale rim. Candied violet, cherry cola, almond paste and savory herbs on the expressive nose. Smooth and suave on entry, then lively and bright in the middle, delivering opulent red cherry, mineral and floral flavors of uncommon purity and poise. Outstanding length and balance on the perfumed, seamless finish. Another standout wine by Thienpont and Derenoncourt. Surprisingly drinkable already but has the stuffing to age and improve for at least another 15 years. Apparently, no Cabernet Sauvignon was included in this blend. (ID)"

- ID, International Wine Cellar

"One of the most thrilling surprises of the vintage, here a new approach to a more finely-wrought Pavie has collided with a vintage that has natural freshness and acidity. The result shows the potential of this terroir. Without a doubt the best Pavie that I have ever tasted, and one where I have not had to say, 'yes, but...'. Let's not pretend that it's night and day from the old regime, but nor should it be - Pavie needs to keep its signature black fruited glamour and intensity, as that is part of what delivered its new status, but to my mind this is a far better balance than in the past. The blend is 60% Merlot, 22% Cabernet Franc and 18% Cabernet Sauvignon, the lowest amount of Merlot since Perse arrived. This still has reams of intense fruit, but the tannins are not immovable as they have been in some years, and pulses of minerality leap up on the finish to make your mouth water. Gorgeous. It is also fascinating to learn the technical details that have helped bring out the vintage character - besides the lower Merlot content, there were 10 days less maceration than last year and only 70% new oak. Drinking Window 2027-2050."

- JA, Decanter.com

"Concentrated, powerful, tannic, stony and a bit tight, there is a wealth of fruit here, coupled with intensive, stony minerality and tannins for further aging. Lurking below the surface, the ripe, fresh cherry and plums are there, accompanied by licorice, flowers, crushed rock, oak, smoke and spice nuances. This bottle seemed tighter than others. Based on this example, the wine needs at least 2 hours of decanting or another 5 years in the cellar."

- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

Reviews *“Powerful, concentrated, deep and packed with deep, ripe, red and black fruits, smoke, thyme, earth and all the rocks and stones you need, this is young, fresh and luscious. Richly textured, with layers of dark fruits, at close to 18, it is hard to believe this is not yet fully mature. Another 5 years will add even more to the wine.”*
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

“Incredible levels of concentration, perfectly ripe fruits, crushed rocks, licorice and smoke are all over the place. The wine is intense, lush, young, fresh and sweet. The tannins are ripe, the finish serves up layers of fresh, sweet plums, cherry, thyme and earthy notes that are made even better with the velvety textures. This remains quite young. At least another 5-10 years of bottle age will add a lot to this wine.”
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

“Structured, mineral driven, powerful, floral, fresh, concentrated and complex, this has the stuffing and structure to age and develop for decades. The baby fat has faded away and new complexities have started to emerge. This bottle was popped and poured. I would think an hour of two of air would have made the wine even better.”
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

“Tasted twice in the same week, blind and not blind, this wine is a stunner. The finest wine yet produced at Pavie under the watch of Gerard Perse, this has it all. The perfume is packed with charcoal, smoke, mineral, truffle, wet earth, cocoa, blackberry, plum, licorice and black cherry liqueur. Powerful, yet refined, rich, silky, elegant and intense, the ample fruit on display is pure, balanced and attention seeking. Still young, feel free to pop a cork to catch it in its youth, or age it for decades.”
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

“Smoke, spice, licorice, crushed rocks, earth and ripe berry aromas open to a powerful, balanced, rich, intense, lush wine that improves with each sniff, sip and swallow. Complex and concentrated, the wine grabs your attention and keeps it where it belongs. This is serious juice that deserves to be tasted. I tasted this from pristine bottles in Bordeaux from the chateau and few weeks later in a blind tasting with similar comments. This is a stunning wine and for the moment, it remains the best vintage of Pavie produced by Gerard Perse yet.”
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

“Licorice, smoky cherries, truffle, forest floor and spice create the aromatics. On the palate, the wine is massive, concentrated and palate staining with incredible length and a beautiful sense of purity to the fruit. Still young, I would not be surprised to see this age for decades.”
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

“If you're a fan of Gerard Perse and Pavie, this is the wine to own. It has never been short of spectacular! The complex perfume is packed with crushed stone, licorice, blackberry liqueur, spice, earth and minerality. This stunning St. Emilion coats your mouth with silky layers of perfectly ripe, polished, corpulent, fruit and stone. Everything is in balance and harmony. While this is showing great at only 12 years of age, its best days are ahead. It's hard to predict when this will be fully mature, but it's on target to be 30, 40- or 50-year wine.”
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

“Intense in all the right places. Waves of ripe, black fruit with truffle, licorice and crushed rocks grab your attention. Powerful, rich, concentrated, opulent and lush, this hedonistic Bordeaux is almost too much of a good thing. Note, I said almost too much. The wine is perfectly balanced and is brimming with freshness and purity. The wine finishes with a mouth full of perfectly ripe, chocolate covered black raspberry and the essence of ripe along with almost over ripe, juicy black plums.”
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

Reviews

"Off the hook, or off the charts works to describe this wine. If either of those descriptors seem lacking, what about liqueur of St. Emilion? Or does insane levels of perfectly ripe, lush, palate coating fruit, minerality, smoke, licorice, slate and chocolate covered black and blue fruit sound better? Add a finish that lasts over a minute, filling every nook and cranny of your palate and that should give you an idea of how good this wine is. Tasted blind in a flight with 03 and 05 Pavie, this was the wine of the flight. Still young, this future legendary Bordeaux wine will only get better with time."

- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

"When you swirl, glycerin drips from the of the glass lip like wax from a melting candle. Elixir of blackberry, jammy fruits, spice box, minerals, molasses, sweet licorice, vanilla and coffee explode in your face. Incredible levels of concentrated Bordeaux are found in this wine! The amount of chocolate drenched, ripe and over ripe fruit that fills every nook and cranny of your palate is mind blowing! This is so thick; you want to eat it. And you probably could! Perfectly in balance, this is what hedonism and great wine is all about. The seamless finish lasts over one minute."

- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

"The perfume is compelling. Notes of ripe, black fruit with accents of raspberries, coffee, licorice, bitter chocolate and wood are stunning. But for me, the real fireworks take place when the wine begins filling every nook and cranny of my palate. This is so thick and plush, with multiple layers of sexy, ripe, decadent fruit I was stunned. For my palate, these are not over extracted, they are perfectly balanced Bordeaux wines. There is so much going on in this wine, it's hard to believe it's only 5 years old. The finish lasted close to :60! When fully mature, this future legend will define decadence."

- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

"The wine's color is completely opaque with black, purple tints. The aromatics were exotic. Spices, wood, anise and candied red and black fruit took over your nasal cavities. This incredibly, concentrated, complex wine is seamless. It is so rich; it must be tasted to be believed! The wine coats every nook and cranny of your palate. The finish was the longest finish of the night! The 00 Pavie is a great wine with a long life ahead. I hope to begin working on my case starting in another decade."

- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

"The 2000 Pavie has actually been tasted twice within several days, the first bottle shows a little more warmth than the second. Like other vintages it is matured in 200% new wood. It is slightly deeper in colour than the 1998. It has a showstopper of a nose: blackberry, crème de cassis and violets, a little more mineralité than the 1998. The palate is full-bodied with a disarming silkiness, layers of cassis and black cherry-driven fruit, very fine tannin and stunning purity. Does it express the terroir as well as say the 2015 Pavie? That is a question for debate, although you cannot argue that this is a great Pavie. Tasted at Berry Brothers & Rudd Pavie dinner. (NM)"

- NM, *Vinous*

"Showing some maturity, the 2000 Pavie is about as sexy and opulent as Bordeaux gets. Blackcurrants, blackberries, toasted spice, truffle, and awesome minerality all emerge from this behemoth of a wine. From a magical terroir of steep limestone slopes and made from 60% Merlot, 30% Cabernet Franc and the rest Cabernet Sauvignon, it offers incredible depth and richness, yet stays elegant, light on its feet, and graceful. It's an extraordinary, singular wine."

- Jeb Dunnuck
