

# Château Pavie 2019

CSPC# 831605

750mlx3

14.73% alc./vol.

**Grape Variety**  
**Appellation**  
**Classification**  
**Website**  
**General Info**

50% Merlot, 32% Cabernet Franc, 18% Cabernet Sauvignon  
St. Emilion  
1<sup>st</sup> 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 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**  
**Vintage**

Michel Rolland is their consultant

Winter: very mild. Spring: cool. Summer: exceptionally hot and dry. Autumn: very fine start to the season, some rainfall end September.

**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 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



<b>Vineyards</b>	by hand. Gerard Perse replanted much of the Chateau Pavie vineyards in 1998. Today, the vineyard is planted to 60% Merlot, 30% Cabernet Franc and 10% Cabernet Sauvignon.
<b>Harvest</b>	The harvest took place from the 30th of September to the 11th of October.
<b>Vinification/ Maturation</b>	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 80% new, French oak barrels for 18 to months. The amount of new oak and time in the barrel will vary, depending on the characteristics of each Bordeaux vintage.
<b>Tasting Notes</b>	Powerful dark berries. Great depth, structure, and length. Very long and rich on the palate, with a persistent finish.
<b>Serve with</b>	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.
<b>Production</b>	8,000 cases made.
<b>Cellaring</b>	Drink 2029-2065
<b>Scores/Awards</b>	<p><b>97 points</b> - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - March 2022</p> <p><b>94+ points</b> - William Kelley, Wine Advocate - April 2022</p> <p><b>97-100 points</b> - Lisa Perrotti-Brown, Wine Advocate - June 2020</p> <p><b>98 points</b> - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - February 2022</p> <p><b>98-99 points</b> - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - May 2020</p> <p><b>97-99 points</b> - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - June 2020</p> <p><b>17.5 points</b> - James Lawther, JancisRobinson.com - June 2020</p> <p><b>96 points</b> - Georgina Hindle, Decanter.com - January 2022</p> <p><b>96 points</b> - Jane Anson, Decanter.com - June 2020</p> <p><b>96 points</b> - Jane Anson, Insidebordeaux.com - January 2022</p> <p><b>98 points</b> - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - March 2022</p> <p><b>96-98 points</b> - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - June 2020</p> <p><b>96 points</b> - Neal Martin, Vinous - February 2022</p> <p><b>96-98 points</b> - Neal Martin, Vinous - June 2020</p> <p><b>97 points</b> - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - February 2022</p> <p><b>95-97 points</b> - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - June 2020</p> <p><b>99 points</b> - Jeb Dunnuck MW - April 2022</p> <p><b>97-99 points</b> - Jeb Dunnuck MW - June 2020</p> <p><b>99 points</b> - Peter Moser, Falstaff Magazine - June 2020</p> <p><b>98-99 points</b> - Terres de Vins (score only) - September 2021</p> <p><b>99 points</b> - Vert de Vin - April 2020</p> <p><b>96 points</b> - Bettane &amp; Desseauve (score only) - July 2020</p>
<b>Reviews</b>	<p><i>"Dreamy right from the start, with a seductive mouthfeel to its mix of raspberry puree, cassis and creamed plum flavors infused with rooibos tea, black licorice, and alder accents. Long and extremely fine-grained through the finish, with subtle floral lift and a lingering hint of chalky minerality. Gorgeous. Merlot, Cabernet Franc, and Cabernet Sauvignon. Best from 2025 through 2040. 8,000 cases made"</i></p> <p>- JM, Wine Spectator</p> <p><i>"While the 2019 Pavie does display a touch more restraint than the wines produced here a decade ago, it remains one of the most powerful, extracted wines in all of Bordeaux, exhibiting a glass-staining, opaque purple-black color and a rich bouquet of cherries, blackberries and berry fruit liqueur mingled with sweet spices, loamy soil, licorice and rose petals. Full-bodied, powerful, and muscular, it's thick and textural, with a layered, multidimensional mid-palate laden with ripe fruit and rich, chewy tannins, concluding with a long, youthfully grippy finish. The evolution of the early Perse-era wines at age 20 leads me to suspect that time will be kind to this 2019, but couldn't this great site—which naturally delivers elevated maturity combined with low pH—be rendered with more charm and sensuality? Drink Date 2029 – 2065."</i></p> <p>- WK, Wine Advocate</p>

## Reviews

*“The 2019 Pavie is a blend of 50% Merlot, 32% Cabernet Franc and 18% Cabernet Sauvignon, harvested from the 30th of September to the 11th of October. The yields this year were 35 hectoliters per hectare, and the alcohol came in at 14.73%, while the pH was 3.55 (remarkably low!). Very deep garnet-purple in color, the nose opens with a beguiling array of intertwined earth and black fruit scents: baked plums, black cherry preserves, tilled soil, black truffles, mossy tree bark and mulberries with nuances of allspice, clove oil, espresso, and cedar chest. Full-bodied, densely packed and with a rock-solid structure, the constrained flavor layers are just waiting to explode; it's framed by firm, exquisitely ripe, rounded tannins, and this vineyard's signature freshness, finishing with epic length and depth. Quaking with latent power and shimmering with a kaleidoscope of electric flavors, this could only be Pavie.”*

- LPB, Wine Advocate

*“Lots of blackberry and grilled meat with earth and spice. Some smoky undertones, too. Blackcurrants. Complex. Full-bodied with round, juicy tannins, yet they turn extremely fine and very linear and go on for minutes. Great length. Try after 2027, but already a joy to drink.”*

- JS, JamesSuckling.com

*“This is superb with great length and quality tannins. It's full-bodied with intense, polished tannins and great length. Tar and black fruit. Goes on for minutes. On and on. We will see which is better: 2019 or 2018.”*

- JS, JamesSuckling.com

*“This wine has an aristocratic air. The tannins and fruit flavors are rich but not showy, indicating how this estate has found its stride. With its firm structure and bold black fruit tones, it is going to be a wine for long-term aging.”*

- RV, Wine Enthusiast

*“Deep purple-black to the rim. Dark, ripe, and complex with a leafy, blackcurrant note. Still assertively tannic and powerful but there's a little more restraint and the tannins are polished and refined. Cool limestone terroir shows. Finishes on a muscly, chewy note. Plenty of wine but will need time.”*

- JL, JancisRobinson.com

*“Such an expressive nose, especially after five minutes, dark black bramble fruits with raisins and plums on the nose alongside touches of tobacco and coffee too. Quite refined on the palate, less upfront plump fruit and chewiness, more knitted and focused with a juicy core yet still powerful, underlying and driving. It's serious, muscular, and strong, really a vein of direct fruit coated in wet stone minerality. I love the tension and acidity with the heady density of fruit and soft perfume around the edges. So much going on here. It's a bold, confident style, but overall feels well-made and purposeful. Drinking Window 2026 – 2046.”*

- GH, Decanter.com

*“Excellent quality Pavie, rippling with black fruits. Notably more subdued than in some vintages as the team looks to reframe just slightly the bulging muscles of the past, and as the high levels of Cabernet Sauvignon and Franc make an impact. It takes a moment to adjust to, but when you sit with it, you feel a rippling frame to the wine, and a juicy central core. Fleshy cassis and blackberry fruits, slate walls, and black truffle overlay. Is going to age extremely well.”*

- JA, Decanter.com

*“Layered, powerful, supple tannins, full of nuanced liquorice, cocoa bean, espresso, cigar box, grilled almonds, tar, bitter mandarin, and black truffle that are packed in tightly against cassis fruits. This has been well handled over ageing, and feels contained, carefully holding the naturally powerful terroir of this site in place. 80% new oak. A great Pavie.”*

- JA, Inside Bordeaux

*“With a beautiful, dark, rich color, the wine opens its perfume to reveal a bouquet of flowers, crushed stones, black cherry, blackberry, espresso, and cigar box aromas. The wine is intensely concentrated, opulent, fresh, and most-importantly, balanced. Everything is working together here. Rich and mouth-coating, the fruits display purity, and touches of salty-minerality. The finish builds and expands in all the right directions. 2019 is the first*

**Reviews** *vintage where the Merlot does not dominate the blend. The wine was made using 50% Merlot, 32% Cabernet Franc and 18% Cabernet Sauvignon. Like all the great vintages of Pavié, the wine needs time to age and evolve. Drink from 2035-2060.”*  
- JL, [thewinecellarinsider.com](http://thewinecellarinsider.com)

*“Almost opaque in color, the complex nose, with its barbecue, flower, crushed rock, cherry liqueur, blackberry, plum, smoke and espresso are inviting. Concentrated, lush, full-bodied, mouth-filling and palate-staining, yet with all that going on, nothing is too much here, everything is in balance. The opulent, velvet drenched fruit really holds its own in the finish”*

- JL, [thewinecellarinsider.com](http://thewinecellarinsider.com)

*“The 2019 Pavié was sent directly from the château to my home in mid-January. Given the freedom to decant, I decided to examine this Saint-Émilion, the only "A" left standing at time of writing, over a 24-hour period. It has a very controlled and focused nose, one that completely contradicts those that still claim that somehow Pavié is overripe or picked too late. This is delineated, clean and precise – dare I say, almost "classic" in style. Those blackberry and incense aromas that I remarked upon from the barrel sample remain in situ, and the floral component is enhanced, suggesting iris rather than violet. The palate is medium-bodied, yet full in the mouth, the tannins lacquering though not overwhelming. The oak is neatly integrated, building very nicely, and the copious black fruit is laced with graphite and tobacco courtesy of the Cabernets, which, lest we forget, constitute half the 2019 blend. I noticed how, after three hours, the tannins become more prominent, toughening up a little, the Cabernets edging out the Merlot and lending more of a Left Bank-like personality. Then, after 24 hours, the wine mellows and becomes plush, putting quite a distance between itself and the more ostentatious Pavié-Decesse. It shuts down a little on the finish, a timely reminder that this Pavié will need plenty of cellaring. But this is going to be an awesome Saint-Émilion.”*

- NM, *Vinous*

*“The 2019 Pavié was picked from 30 September to 11 October at 29hl/ha. It is initially exuberant, feisty on the nose, a bit like the Pavié-Decesse. Allowing my sample an hour in the glass, it evolves more grace and composure with scents of blackberry, briary, incense and iris flowers. The oak beautifully integrated. The palate is medium-bodied with supple tannins, quite an edgy line of acidity, touches of graphite infusing the very pure black fruit on the satin-textured finish. This is undoubtedly a very impressive, suave Pavié destined for long-term drinking. 2024 – 2060”*

- NM, *Vinous*

*“The 2019 Pavié is incredibly elegant right out of the gate. Aromas of crushed rose petal, cedar, mint, and sweet pipe tobacco are immediately alluring. The 2019 is sensual and inviting, with no excess weight and fabulous overall balance. Blood orange, red/purplish fruit, cinnamon, and mint develop effortlessly. Time in the glass brings out Cabernet Franc aromatics and structure, leading to a feeling of vertical intensity that is hugely appealing.”*

- AG, *Vinous*

*“The 2019 Pavié is a showstopper. A wine of soaring intensity and grandeur, Pavié is striking from the very first taste. A rush of red/purplish berry fruit, mocha, dried flower, and lavender builds effortlessly. The purity of the flavors is just striking. Racy, deep, and sensual through to the finish, Pavié is magnificent. What a wine”*

- AG, *Vinous*

*“The 2019 Château Pavié is another beauty that offers more density and sexiness than just about every other wine in the vintage, yet it is still an unnecessarily restrained expression of this terroir, which is the fad in Bordeaux these days. Based on 50% Merlot, 32% Cabernet Franc, and 18% Cabernet Sauvignon that was brought up in 80% new French oak, this deep purple-hued effort has a great bouquet of ripe black cherries, darker currants, tobacco leaf, violets, and graphite, with a beautiful sense of minerality and salinity on the palate. Full-bodied, concentrated, and powerful, it has plenty of background oak, a deep, layered mid-palate, terrific tannins, and a great finish. It shows the more understated, elegant style of the vintage yet is still pure Pavié. Hide bottles for 5-7 years and enjoy over the following 30+.”*

- Jeb Dunnuck

**Reviews** *“The grand vin, the 2019 Château Pavie is based on 50% Merlot, 32% Cabernet Franc, and 18% Cabernet Sauvignon, continuing the trend toward less Merlot in the final blend. Brought up in 80% new French oak (this has also decreased over the past handful of years), it reveals an inky purple/blue hue as well as a fresh, vivid bouquet creme de cassis, toasted spice, violets, chocolate, and graphite. Just a rich, sexy, full-bodied wine, it stays straight and focused on the palate, with silky tannins, perfectly integrated acidity, and flawless balance. It's going to be drinkable with just short-term cellaring yet still evolve beautifully for 30 years.”*  
- Jeb Dunnuck

*“Deep dark ruby garnet, opaque core, violet reflections, delicate edge lightening. Sweet dark berries underlined with fine hints of spices, ripe cherries, a hint of nougat and figs, seductive bouquet. Juicy, powerful, dark wild berries, complex, extract-sweet and carried by ripe tannins, chocolatey texture in the very long finish, showed no rough edges, has enormous future potential, no trace of over-extraction, mineral and fresh, the quality of its outstanding terroir plays a role to the fullest. Chapeau!”*  
- Falstaff Magazine

*“The nose is elegant, racy, beautifully defined, precise and offers power, intensity in finesse, deepness, a racy power (in finesse/control). It reveals notes of ripe wild blackberry, crushed cassis, small notes of chocolate associated with touches of cardamom, crushed strawberry, toasted, fine hints of caramelization, crushed ripe almond as well as an imperceptible hint of saffron and liquorice. The palate is fruity, elegant, beautifully defined, precise, racy and offers a beautiful finesse of the grain, suavity, power (in finesse), elegance as well as a very beautiful structure, a beautiful silky/delicate touch and deepness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of ripe/juicy blackberry, juicy/ripe cassis, small notes of crushed raspberry associated with touches of small crushed violet plum, small, crushed berries as well as hints of chocolate, cardamom, crushed almond, ripe hazelnut, discreet hints of zan, black tea, saffron and sweet spices. Tannins are elegant, racy, powerful but beautifully built. God length and persistence. A gourmand finish which offers sapidity with fine hints of dark chocolate and almond.”*  
- Vert de Vin

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