

# Château Tour Saint Christophe 2021

CSPC# 801701

750mlx12

13.6% alc./vol.

<b>Grape Variety</b>	80% Merlot, 20% Cabernet Franc
<b>Appellation</b>	St. Emilion
<b>Classification</b>	St. Emilion Grand Cru Classé
<b>Website</b>	<a href="https://www.vignoblesk.com/en/wine-chateau-tour-saint-christophe.aspx#v2659">https://www.vignoblesk.com/en/wine-chateau-tour-saint-christophe.aspx#v2659</a>
<b>Sustainability</b>	All the vineyard management work is done using only organic, biodynamic, sustainable vineyard farming techniques.
<b>General Info</b>	<p>Chateau Tour Saint Christophe, like many Bordeaux chateau, takes its name from the location of its vineyard. The vines are situated in the commune of Saint Christophe des Bardes which is due east of the St. Emilion village, not far from Valandraud and Chateau Fleur Cardinale . The property was purchased by Peter Kwok in 2012 from the Castel group. By the time Peter Kwok obtained Chateau Tour Saint Christophe, he already owned Chateau Haut Brisson , located in the Vignonet sector of Saint Emilion, not far from Chateau Monbousquet or Chateau Teyssier . Peter Kwok purchased Haut Brisson in 1997. Peter Kwok has continued adding to his portfolio of estates in the Right Bank with vines in Pomerol . The property in Pomerol is sold under the name of Chateau Enclos Tourmaline .</p> <p>In November 2015, Peter Kowk purchased Chateau Tourans from Petrus Wolter. The 12.6-hectare vineyard that formerly belonged to Chateau Tourans was divided into both of the estates owned by Peter Kwok. 8 hectares were added to Tour Saint Christophe, as they share a similar terroir. This increased the size of their vineyard to its current 19 hectares. The remaining vines were placed into Haut Brisson.</p>
<b>Winemaker</b>	Jerome Aguirre. Michel Rolland consults on the wine making.
<b>Vintage</b>	2021, the year of cold and quickly applied decisions. If 2021 was drier than previous years, two intense climatic episodes impacted the vintage. The first one is the April frost which mobilized teams for 9 nights. The second is linked to the strong episodes of rain in June, with nearly 180 mm of precipitation. The trio August / September / October was accompanied by low rainfall, allowing to harvest in optimal conditions and preserving the qualitative potential of the vintage.
<b>Vineyards</b>	The 19-hectare St. Emilion vineyard of Chateau Tour Saint Christophe has a terroir of clay and limestone soils. The vineyard is planted to 85% Merlot and 15% Cabernet Franc . The vines are planted to a density of 6,500 vines per hectare on the older plots. New parcels are being planted to a higher vine density of 7,500 vines per hectare. Once the new owners took charge, one of the first decisions they made was to replant a large section of the vineyard which is at that higher level of density. They also terraced a portion of the vineyard and completely modernized their entire winemaking facility and cellars.
<b>Harvest</b>	The <i>harvest</i> took place September 18, October 15. The 2021 was harvested at 35hl/ha, but volumes will be roughly 15% down on last year as the young vines were relegated to the second wine
<b>Vinification</b>	After a meticulous selection process on the vines and in the winery, the sorted grapes are filled into concrete tanks or directly into Bordeaux barrels (about 25% of the harvest). This follows the method of Vinification Intégrale, particularly well- suited for Chateau Tour Saint Christophe. Our team is always present at the opening and closing of barrels by our cooper partners for better quality control.
<b>Vinification</b>	In 2015, the cellars were renovated and redesigned to best serve the expression of our terroir. The aim of the renovation focused not only on preserving the best of our berries but also on facilitating our team's processes. The main winery is fitted with advanced, varietal sized, and thermal-regulated concrete vats. With these vats, our team can separate the different plots of the vineyard and facilitate the pigeage. Two additional cellars have been devised for vinification in barrel and for malolactic fermentation through climate-control systems.
<b>Maturation</b>	40% new barrels, 40% 1-winebarrels, 20% 2-wines for 15 months.
<b>Tasting Notes</b>	From the very beginning of the tasting of this very fine vintage, we find the identity of Château Tour Saint Christophe. Elegant aromas of blackberry and blueberry are combined with delicate floral notes and small chalky touches. The powerful structure is carried by a beautiful acidity which brings a fresh and sappy side. Aromas of stewed fruit and black pepper complete the palate, which extends to saline notes.



<b>Serve with</b>	Chateau Tour Saint Christophe is best served with all types of classic meat dishes, veal, pork, beef, lamb, duck, game, roast chicken, roasted, braised, and grilled dishes.
<b>Production</b>	Approx. 72,000 bottles
<b>Cellaring</b>	Drink 2026-2040
<b>Scores/Awards</b>	<p><b>90-92 points</b> - William Kelley, Wine Advocate - April 2022</p> <p><b>89-91+ points</b> - Lisa Perrotti-Brown, The Wine Independent - May 2022</p> <p><b>93 points</b> - Zekun Shuai, JamesSuckling.com - December 2023</p> <p><b>92-93 points</b> - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - May 2022</p> <p><b>16 points</b> - James Lawther, JancisRobinson.com - May 2022</p> <p><b>92 points</b> - Georgina Hindle, Decanter.com - March 2022</p> <p><b>92 points</b> - Jane Anson, janeanson.com - November 2023</p> <p><b>91 points</b> - Jane Anson, janeanson.com - May 2022</p> <p><b>93 points</b> - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - March 2024</p> <p><b>92-94 points</b> - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - May 2022</p> <p><b>91-94 points</b> - Thomas Parker, Farr Vintners - April 2022</p> <p><b>90-92 points</b> - Neal Martin, Vinous - May 2022</p> <p><b>93 points</b> - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - February 2024</p> <p><b>91-93 points</b> - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - May 2022</p> <p><b>92 points</b> - Jeb Dunnuck MW - March 2024</p> <p><b>91-93 points</b> - Jeb Dunnuck MW - June 2022</p> <p><b>17+ points</b> - Matthew Jukes - August 2022</p> <p><b>89 points</b> - Jean Marc Quarin (score only) - April 2022</p> <p><b>93 points</b> - Yves Beck (score only) - June 2022</p> <p><b>90 points</b> - Peter Moser, Falstaff Magazine - May 2022</p> <p><b>95 points</b> - Vert de Vin - July 2022</p>
<b>Reviews</b>	<p><i>"The 2021 Tour Saint Christophe has turned out very well, delivering aromas of cherries and sweet berries mingled with hints of loamy soil and sweet new oak. Medium to full-bodied, pure, and lively, it's elegantly muscular, with powdery tannins and a penetrating finish."</i> - WK, Wine Advocate</p> <p><i>"Medium to deep garnet-purple colored, the 2021 Tour Saint Christophe reveals notes of blueberry compote, Morello cherries, and black raspberries with touches of cinnamon stick, cloves, and tilled soil. The medium-bodied palate offers mouth-coating black and blue fruits with a solid frame of rounded tannins and just enough freshness, finishing on a lingering, fragrant earthy note. Yields this year were 35 hl/ha."</i> - LPB, Wine Independent</p> <p><i>"Black cherries, mussels, mineral, chili chocolate and dark olives. Bright and racy on the palate with medium weight in the center palate. The fresh, fine-grained tannins add a sense of heft before a linear, lengthy finish. Drink or hold."</i> - JS, JamesSuckling.com</p> <p><i>"This is already nicely salty and chalky with crushed stones. Medium-to full-bodied with medium, firm tannins and a medium, juicy finish."</i> - JS, JamesSuckling.com</p> <p><i>"80% Merlot, 20% Cabernet Franc. 35 hl/ha. Cask sample. Lively and fresh with red-berry notes. Tension and length on the palate but sufficient fruit to add a bit of flesh. Chalky, terroir finish but nothing tough or exaggerated. Pleasing medium-term drinking. (JL) 13.6%. Drink 2026 – 2036."</i> - JL, JancisRobinson.com</p> <p><i>"A dark brooding nose, rich and concentrated, a touch savoury with soft perfumed blackberry aromas. Freshness straight away, the acidity is noticeable and so delicious, really bright and vibrant with a kick of fresh strawberry juice giving such energy to the palate. Really singing loudly. Mouthwatering attack and finish - that sense of life and acidity keeping pace the whole way through the palate. Lifted and joyous! A top buy for pure enjoyment but still with that structure with gentle herbal tones, some creaminess, vanilla, and cinnamon - it's less about one flavour more a subtle combination that underpins the wine with the freshness really on top and to the fore! Great effort in 2021."</i> - GH, Decanter.com</p>

**Reviews** *“Grilled cedar and sweet sandalwood, sappy raspberry, and redcurrant fruit, this is enjoyable and a clear success in the vintage, with texture and life to the tannins. Fresh acidities here translated to mandarin peel and lemongrass. Emmanuelle Fulchi D’Aligny arrived from Château Angélu as technical director in March 2022, with Jean Christophe Meyrou director. Single point upgrade.”*  
- JA, janeanson.com

*“Vignobles K is on a roll, with a series of great vintages, and there is clear depth to the fruit, heavy on the limestone salinity, enjoyable pumice stone minerality, and a push and pull between tannins and acidity. The signature of the vintage comes through in a sharp finish as the acidity kicks in, emphasising the austerity, but this is a successful wine. Emmanuelle Fulchi D’Aligny arrived from Château Angélu as technical director in March 2022.”*  
- JA, janeanson.com

*“Flowers, cherries, chocolate, black raspberries, plums, blueberries, and a background note of citrus open the perfume. On the palate, the wine is soft, polished, sweet and creamy with layers of cherries, and chocolate-coated, salty plums. Drink from 2024-2039.”*  
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

*“Roses, lilacs, espresso, caramel, Indian spice, cherries, and red plums create the complex nose. On the palate, the wine is bright, crisp, chewy, and fresh, with a good sense of minerality, and purity in the fruits. The wine is made from blending 80% Merlot with 20% Cabernet Franc, 13.6% ABV, pH 3.5. The harvest took place September 18, October 15. Because the tannins are so soft and polished, you can enjoy this young, but aging it a bit will add even more complexity. Drink from 2023-2039.”*  
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

*“The 2021 was harvested at 35hl/ha, but volumes will be roughly 15% down on last year as the young vines were relegated to the second wine. Deep ruby colour with a stony, mineral quality to the nose that is full of briary fruit. There is a raw, oily quality to the fruit on the palate, which is lined by firm, chalky tannins that persist long onto the finish. There is a real pop of fresh fruit through the mid-palate, which has great energy and only the subtlest hints of wood spice. Pure and long, this is a different take on Bordeaux that is moreish, with lip smacking freshness and fruit drive on the finish.”*  
- TP, Farr Vintners

*“The 2021 Tour Saint Christophe is perfumed and high-toned on the nose, featuring blueberry and raspberry fruit mixed with violet and iris flower. The palate is well balanced with sappy black fruit, gentle grip, impressive balance, and a correct, quite linear finish. Stylish and with good aging potential. It should end up at the top of my banded score.”*  
- NM, Vinous

*“The 2021 Tour Saint Christophe turned out beautifully. Dark, supple and engaging, the 2021 offers up copious dark fruit, leather, licorice, chocolate, spice and tobacco. This ample, heady Saint-Émilien delivers the goods. In this vintage, Tour Saint Christophe is not quite as opulent as it can be, but that is not a bad thing at all. It was aged 20% in foudres. Tasted two times.”*  
- AG, Vinous

*“The 2021 Tour Saint Christophe is terrific. Naturally, the 2021 doesn't have the breadth of previous vintages. Instead, there is a sense of energy running through the 2021 that is compelling. Dark fruit, leather, gravel, incense, and mocha all meld together nicely. Once again, Tour Saint Christophe is a star in the appellation for its quality and value.”*  
- AG, Vinous

**Reviews** *“Always a gem of a wine, the 2021 Château Tour Saint Christophe is no exception and has tons of charm and character. Ripe red and black fruits, tobacco, chalky minerality, and nicely integrated oak all define the aromatics, and it's medium-bodied, with a focused, elegant mouthfeel and ripe tannins. Mostly Merlot (20% Cabernet Franc) brought up in 40% new oak, it plays in the fresher, more focused style of the vintage yet brings good ripeness as well as concentration. Give bottles 2-3 years and enjoy over the following 15.”*  
- Jeb Dunnuck

*“From an estate that seems to never put a foot wrong, the 2021 Château Tour Saint Christophe is another wine that's well worth your time and money. Coming from a mix of 80% Merlot and 20% Cabernet Franc aging in 40% new barrels, its deep purple hue is followed by a beautiful, classic Saint-Emilion bouquet of cassis, ripe cherries, graphite, and spring flowers. Medium to full-bodied and concentrated on the palate, it has both richness and elegance, ripe tannins, and a great finish. It's another gorgeous wine from the talented Jérôme Aguirre.”*  
- Jeb Dunnuck

*“Rather firm and adroit on the palate and quite lean and hard on the finish, the fruit tone here is black cherries and cinnamon, and it is certainly upright and pure and demands time to settle and soften. Unlike so many of the forward wines in 2021, this one will repay patience, yet I expect the spice to remain, which provides a lovely point of difference for this wine. 17+.”*  
- Matthew Jukes

*“Deep ruby, opaque core, purple tinge to narrow rim. A gentle herbal savouriness lies alongside ripe cherries, a touch of figs, with tobacco notes underneath, subtle note of orange zest. Medium complexity, red berry fruit, fine, ripe tannins, pleasing freshness with lemony nuances on the finish; animated, a versatile food companion.”*  
- PM, Falstaff Magazine

*“The nose is fruity and reveals power with finesse, intensity with control, a fine airiness in the approach and a nice finesse of grain. There are notes of fleshy, very ripe boysenberry, blue fruits, blueberry and, more slightly, star anise, combined with hints of crushed strawberry and fine points of lilac, spices, fresh pepper and a subtle hint of fresh tobacco. The palate is fruity, racy, balanced and reveals a nice juiciness, gourmandize, finesse in its roundness, tension, thoroughness, a lot of elegance, a certain richness/concentration in finesse as well as a fine aerial side in the approach of its richness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy, juicy cherry, morello cherry, crushed currant and more lightly fresh crunchy blueberry combined with hints of blue plum as well as fine hints of liquorice, star anise, fresh pepper, sense of place as well as a subtle note of vanilla and fresh hazelnut. Good length. Fine, racy, and mellow tannins. Sapidty/salinity on the finish/persistence.”*  
- Vert de Vin

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