

Le Marquis de Calon Segur 2021

CSPC# 102909

750mlx12

13.2% alc./vol.

Grape Variety

58% Merlot, 42% Cabernet Franc

Appellation

Saint- Estèphe

Classification

2nd wine

Website

<http://www.calon-segur.fr/en/#wines-2>

Analysis

pH: 3.60

Sustainability

HVE-level 3 (Haute Valeur Environnementale) certification. The owners of the château have taken steps to minimize their environmental impact and protect natural resources. The estate practices sustainable agriculture using environmentally friendly growing methods. They use only natural fertilizers and avoid the use of chemicals whenever possible.

General Info

The estate's Second Wine is a different expression of the Calon terroir. With an average proportion of 75% Merlot in the blend, it is enjoyable to drink in the immediate term and exhibits a warm and velvety character.

The Marquis de Calon Ségur reveals another reading of the terroir of Calon. It is the subject of a real parcel definition. The Marquis de Calon is largely made from Merlot and delivers a very tender grain of tannin. Gourmand, silky, expressive, it plays with its immediate charm while recalling the elegance of its elder.

Winemakers

Vincent Millet. Consulting oenologist: Eric Boissenot

Vintage

After a rainy winter, even with close to 600 mm of rain, 2021 Saint Estèphe still began the year with 15% less moisture than they experienced in 2020. After a warm, and sunny February, conditions changed rapidly in April with frost conditions on April 7 and 8. Vineyards not situated close to the water, or on the slopes experienced crop loss. After a rapid but uneven flowering, the summer was relatively cool, and wet, which brought about risks of mildew. Things improved in mid-August which aided in vigneron were much happier at the potential of the vintage.

Thanks to the more precise leaves thinning, Calon Ségur was thus fortunate to avoid downy mildew; hence, the healthy bunches of grapes allowed growers to delay the harvest with confidence. This is the secret behind why Calon Ségur is able to shine in the vintage of 2021.

Vineyards

The vineyard of Chateau Calon Segur remains almost exactly the same as it did at the time of the 1855 Classification. While the vineyard is large at 55 hectares, most of the time, only 50 hectares of vines are planted. This allows time for the soils to remain fallow and become revitalized. The terroir of Calon Segur is a blend of gravel, rocks, clay, sand and limestone soils on the surface with gravel that can be as deep as 5 meters. Underneath, you find marl, clay and limestone. On average, the vines are 25 years of age. The young age is due to the replanting program. However, they have old vines, placed close to the small chapel, which range from 45-60 years of age.

Harvest

Hand picking. A first selection of grapes on the vine. Mechanical sorting of the grapes by vibration, followed by hand sorting.

**Vinification/
Maturation**

The harvest is entirely manual, they are accompanied by a first control on foot, a vibrating ginner followed by manual sorting. The grape berries are then divided into thermoregulated frustoconical stainless vats for a vat of 20 days. The wine was then aged for 17 months in barrels (30% new barrels). The egg white paste has been reintroduced.

Tasting Notes

Medium-deep crimson. Pure dark plum, blackberry fruits with herb notes. Inky deep wine with red and blackberry fruits, chocolaty/ chalky firm textures, and chinotto/ cola notes. Finishes grippy firm with attractive mineral length. Sturdy and fresh with saturated fruit. 58% merlot, 42% cabernet sauvignon. 17 months in 30% new French oak barriques.

Serve with

The wines from Chateau Calon Segur is best served with all types of classic meat dishes, veal, pork, beef, lamb, duck, game, roast chicken, roasted, braised, stewed, and grilled dishes.

Production

9,500 cases made

Cellaring

Drink 2025-2040



Scores/Awards **88 points** - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - December 2023
90+ points - William Kelley, Wine Advocate - February 2024
89-91 points - William Kelley, Wine Advocate - April 2022
85-87 points - Lisa Perrotti-Brown, The Wine Independent (score only) - May 2022
91 points - Zekun Shuai, JamesSuckling.com - December 2023
90 points - Georgina Hindle, Decanter.com - March 2022
89 points - Jane Anson, Inside Bordeaux (score only) - April 2022
91 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - March 2024
89-91 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - May 2022
92 points - Tim Atkin, MW - timatkin.com (score only) - April 2022
90 points - Neal Martin, Vinous - February 2024
88-90 points - Neal Martin, Vinous - May 2022
92 points - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - February 2024
91-93 points - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - May 2022
91-93 points - Jeb Dunnuck MW - June 2022
17.5 points - Matthew Jukes - August 2022
91 points - Jean Marc Quarin (score only) - April 2022
91 points - Peter Moser, Falstaff Magazine - May 2022

Reviews *"Reveals an austere edge to the mix of damson plum, chalk and dried rose petal notes, delivering dashes of tobacco and cedar on the finish. Merlot and Cabernet Sauvignon. Drink now through 2030. 9,500 cases made."*
- JM, Wine Spectator

"Aromas of dark berries and plums mingled with violets and lilac introduce the 2021 Le Marquis de Calon-Ségur, a medium-bodied, layered wine that's deep and complete, with powdery structuring tannins that lend this a decidedly serious, age-worthy profile for a second wine in this vintage. Don't be afraid to cellar it for a few years."
- WK, Wine Advocate

"Offering up notions of blackcurrants, spices, and cigar box, the 2021 Le Marquis de Calon-Ségur is medium to full-bodied, layered and lively, with powdery tannins and an impressively penetrating finish. It's a blend of 58% Merlot with 42% Cabernet Sauvignon, the latter mainly from young vines. Director Vincent Millet explains that he doesn't want the gap in quality between his second wine and the grand vin to be too flagrant and that he'll take lots from the Calon-Ségur blend to improve the Marquis if necessary—as it was in 2021."
- WK, Wine Advocate

"Sweet currant and black currant with violet undertones. Medium-bodied with fine and caressing tannins that follow through nicely at the finish. Slight hollow center palate but will fill in nicely. Second wine of Calon Segur. A year or two will open this nicely. Drink from the end of 2024 and onwards."
- YC, JamesSuckling.com

*"Very fresh and fine with silky tannins for the appellation. Medium body. Slate and oyster shell to the wild-
bramble and blackberry fruit. Elegant. 58% merlot and 42% cabernet sauvignon."*
- JS, JamesSuckling.com

"Delicate rose-tinted black fruits on the nose, really quite lifted and playful on the palate, the fruit jumping out the glass like an excited child. Lovely delicacy here, you get the richness and depth, but the flavours are also clearly defined with layers of fruit and acidity one upon another. It's fresh and juicy, vibrant, and well extracted, full of red cherry, strawberry, raspberry, and grapefruit elements that have an enjoyable and crisp bitterness to them. Nothing harsh here, just pure fruit enjoyment. 3.60pH. 17 months ageing, 30% new oak barrels."
- GH, Decanter.com

"Black cherries, licorice, spice, and smoky mint aromas hit the perfume. The wine is medium-bodied, soft, vibrant, fresh, and energetic with a savory, earthy, herbal-edged cherry tone that stays with you from the mid-palate through to the finish. This will be easy to enjoy on release, and for over the next decade. The wine is a blend of 58% Merlot and 42% Cabernet Sauvignon. Drink from 2024-2035."
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

Reviews *“Spicy black raspberries, thyme and cherry aromatics start off the wine. Medium-bodied, fresh, soft, silky, and already seemingly drinkable, this should be easy to enjoy on release, with its soft, cherry, spice, mint, and plum finish. Drink from 2023-2034. The wine is a blend of 58% Merlot and 42% Cabernet Sauvignon, 13.2% ABV. Drink from 2023-2034.*
- JL, *thewinecellarinsider.com*

“The 2021 Le Marquis de Calon Ségur, which was bottled June 2023, has dispensed with that Right Bank allure it hinted at out of barrel. Now in bottle, this is firmly in the Northern Médoc, with blackcurrant, loam and just a light scent of pine. The oak is neatly integrated. The palate is medium-bodied with just a touch of greenness on the entry, which I really like. There is a freshness and vibrancy to this.”
- NM, *Vinous*

“The 2021 Le Marquis de Calon Ségur was picked at 36hL/ha and matured in 30% new oak for a planned 17 months. Made from 58% Merlot and the remainder young Cabernet Sauvignon, it nods to the Right Bank in style, offering ample dark cherry, cedar, and damp earthy scents. The palate is medium-bodied with lithe tannins and modest weight and concentration, tapering in a little toward the finish, which has an attractive marine tincture. This is fine Marquis that should drink well over 12–15 years. 13.2% alcohol.”
- NM, *Vinous*

“The 2021 Le Marquis de Calon Ségur is fabulous. Dark, pliant, and super-expressive, the 2021 is an absolute delight. Graphite, spice, leather, dried herbs, and lavender lead into a core of dark red and black fruits. Readers will find a second-wine of real substance and class. Le Marquis, the estate's Merlot-based wine, is terrific in 2021. It benefits from some Merlot lots that often go into the Grand Vin. Tasted two times.”
- AG, *Vinous*

“The 2021 Le Marquis de Calon Ségur shows all of the freshness of the year in its bright, vibrant personality. Black cherry, plum, lavender, licorice, spice and mint all open effortlessly. Merlot drives the blend in a striking, mid-weight Marquis that hits all the right notes. There's a generosity to the Marquis, but it is balanced by notable vivacity. En primeur samples were taken from new barrels only, but the final wine is projected to have 30% new oak.”
- AG, *Vinous*

“The Merlot-heavy 2021 Le Marquis de Calon Ségur is solid, with a pure, seamless, medium-bodied style as well as pretty red fruits, notes of flowers and sappy herbs, a touch of minerality on the palate, fine tannins, and a great finish. The blend is 58% Merlot and 42% Cabernet Sauvignon.”
- Jeb Dunnuck

“According to winemaker Vincent Millet, Le Marquis has a very old vine Merlot nose to it coupled with a more “serious” wine feel. In any other year, this valuable Merlot asset would have found its way into the Grand Vin, but in 2021 it gives Le Marquis an extra boost of juiciness and intensity. This is an entirely red-fruited wine on the exterior, and the Cabernet Blanc fruit notes sit in the centre of the flavour. There is amazing classiness here, and the length is superb. I feel it will retreat into itself over the next five or six years only to emerge even more well-knit and magnetically attractive. 17.5.”
- Matthew Jukes

“Dark ruby core purple reflections, subtle ochre rim. Delicate aromas of cassis, red heart cherries with hints of tobacco and fresh tangerine zest. Medium body with bright red cherries on the fresh palate, ripe fruit sweetness, impressively woven tannins, already shows good integration and will be great with food.”
- PM, *Falstaff Magazine*