

Les Pagodes de Cos 2015

CSPC# 790376

750mlx12

13.0% alc./vol.

Grape Variety	46.2% Merlot, 44% Cabernet Sauvignon, 5.8% Cabernet Franc, 4% Petit Verdot
Appellation	Saint- Estèphe
Website	http://www.estournal.com/en/cos/wines/#wines-pagodes-de-cos
General Info	<p>Chateau Cos d'Estournal makes a second wine , Les Pagodes de Cos, which was first produced with the 1994 vintage. Originally, the second wine was called Marbuzet. The majority of the fruit came from their vineyard called Marbuzet, hence the name. The name was changed after both properties were purchased by Michel Reybier. Today, the grapes used in the second wine, Les Pagodes de Cos can from time to time, include fruit from Marbuzet, their other estate in St. Estephe, as well as grapes from young vines and declassified wine intended for Cos d'Estournal. Since 2005, Les Pagodes de Cos has morphed into one of the better second wines in all of Bordeaux. On average, Les Pagodes de Cos is aged in 40% new, French oak barrels.</p>
Vintage	<p>A cool winter, a warm spring, and a mixed summer; mild weather conditions for the harvest.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- From January to March: Temperature and rainfall close to the average.- May and June: Mild.- July: Hot and dry.- August and September: Cooler than average with some stormy showers in August and a rainy spell from 11 to 15 September.- Bud burst: A little later than usual followed by very regular growth.- Flowering: First flowers on 25 May and Full flowering on 4 June <p>Despite a slow start to flowering, it was then rapid and even.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Véraison: Mid-véraison on 4 August. As with the flowering, it was rapid and even.- Leaf removal: Leaf removal between the end of June and beginning of July, adapted to the water stress of each plot, and even within plots.
Vineyards	<p>The vineyard of Cos spreads around the château on 91 hectares. The Cabernet Sauvignon vines (60% of the vineyard) find the soil of their choice in the thin layers of gravely soil situated on the top and on the southern slopes of the hill. On the other hand, the Merlot vines (40% of the vineyard) excel on the eastern slopes and on the slopes where the Saint-Estephe limestone bed shows on the surface. The percentage of Cabernet and Merlot varies from one vintage to another according to the year weather conditions, benefiting successively to the one or the other. Plantation is extremely dense (8000 to 10000 vines per hectare) and the average age of the vineyard is high (35 years old on the average) in order to enable the roots to extend excessively and to obtain a very slender yield per vine that will create the "Grand Goût" Only the wines coming from over 20 years old vines will have the name of Château Cos d'Estournal.</p>
Maturation	Matured in 50% new oak
Tasting Notes	<p>Intense, refined and deep, it is perfectly balanced and voluptuous, a highly enjoyable wine. The 2015 vintage is fruity and explosive, with a silky aromatic signature. With satisfying notes of ripe fruit and fresh notes of spice, Les Pagodes de Cos 2015 is a glorious, balanced wine filled with promise.</p>
Production	19,167 cases made
Cellaring	Drink 2019-2029
Scores/Awards	<p>87 points - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - March 31, 2018 88 points - Lisa Perrotti-Brown, Wine Advocate Interim Issue - February 2018 87-89 points - Neal Martin, Wine Advocate #224 - April 2016 89 points - Neal Martin, Wine Journal - March 2018 94 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - February 2018 91-92 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - April 2016</p>



Scores/Awards **94 points** - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - February 2018
93-95 points - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - March 1, 2016
17 points - Jancis Robinson, JancisRobinson.com - April 2016
91 points - Stephen Spurrier, Decanter.com - April 2016
89 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - March 2018
86-88 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - April 2016
91-93 points - Jeremy Williams, winewordsandvideotape.com - March 2016
91 points - Tim Atkin, MW - timatkin.com - April 2016
89-91 points - Derek Smedley, MW - April 2016
91 points - Jeannie Cho Lee MW, asianpalate.com - May 2016
91 points - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - February 2018
90-93 points - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - April 2016
89 points - Jeb Dunnuck MW - February 2018
17.5+ points - Matthew Jukes, MW - April 2016
92-94 points - Falstaff Magazine (score only) - May 2016
16 points - Gault & Millau (score only) - June 2016

Reviews *"Pepper, bay leaf and olive notes lead off, with the core of bright red currant and damson plum fruit playing catch-up. The bright, wet pebble—edged finish is a touch taut in the end. Drink now through 2027. 19,167 cases made."*
- JM, Wine Spectator

"Medium to deep garnet-purple in color, the 2015 Les Pagodes de Cos has a rather fragrant nose of florals and earthy notions over a core of warm black fruits, red currants and cherry cordial plus a waft of sautéed herbs. The medium-bodied mouth is finely crafted, refreshing and soft with well-played tannins."
- LPB, Wine Advocate

"The 2015 Pagodes de Cos is a blend of 46.2% Merlot, 44% Cabernet Sauvignon, 5.8% Cabernet Franc and 4% Petit Verdot that will be matured in 30% new barrels. It has a generous bouquet of earthy, sous-bois-tinged black fruit, delineated if not as intense as the 2014 I recall from 12 months ago. The palate is medium-bodied and shows a little more sophisticated than the aromatics, principally because of the appealing fineness of the tannin and how well the oak is enmeshed into the fruit. That lends it a smooth and silky texture, and I suggest that after 2-3 years in bottle, this should drink nicely for up to another decade."
- NM, Wine Advocate

"The 2015 Les Pagodes de Cos has a tightly wound bouquet with intense blackberry, bilberry, soy and tobacco aromas. It feels nicely delineated, becoming earthier as it opens in the glass. The palate is medium bodied with firm, slightly rigid tannin. There is moderate depth in the mouth, quite fresh with a pleasant marine influence loitering in the background, although I maintain that it does not have the panache of the 2014 by comparison. Still, this should drink well over the next decade or more."
- NM, Wine Journal

"Really juicy and delicious on the nose. Enticing. Plum, berry and spice undertones. Some chocolate. Full and very long. Gorgeous focus and finesse. Better in 2021."
- JS, JamesSuckling.com

"Fine and silky second wine of Cos with blueberry, blackberry and walnut aromas and flavors."
- JS, JamesSuckling.com

"This wine is dense, complex and with great tannins. It is powerful and rich, packed with black fruits. Good acidity gives the wine its freshness, its black-currant fruit and its potential longevity. Rich and with great aging potential, this is becoming a major wine in its own right rather than just a second wine of Cos d'Estournel. Drink from 2025."
- RV, Wine Enthusiast

"93–95. Barrel Sample. Made from selected parcels, this is a wine that has its own style, generous and ripe with just a backbone of tannins. The acidity is right up there with its bright character and blackberry juice flavors. The core is firm and dark, showing its aging potential."- RV, Wine Enthusiast

- Reviews** *"46% Merlot, 44% Cabernet Sauvignon, 6% Cabernet Franc, 4% Petit Verdot. 30% new oak. IPT 57. Dark crimson. Very dark. Very fragrant - almost Cabernet Franc aromas. Round and flattering - very smart texture. Lovely top tip for early-maturing wine. GV? "*
- JR, JancisRobinson.com
- "Very good crushed berry fruit and a much more elegant style than before. A polished wine with depth and spice, silky texture and exotic spices; very well made. (SS)"*
- SS, Decanter.com
- "Medium-bodied, plummy, soft, early drinker, with hints of cocoa and juicy red fruits. The wine is already approachably elegant and should be delicious on release."*
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com
- "Medium-bodied, approachable and elegant in style with an open, polished, sweet, black cherry core of fruit. This is going to be good to drink while waiting for its big brother, the Grand Vin, to mature. 12.9% alcohol. The wine was made from a blend of 46.2% Merlot, 44% Cabernet Sauvignon, 5.8% Cabernet Franc and 4% Petit Verdot."*
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com
- "Deeply coloured; reddish purple at the edge; opaque at centre; pretty and ripe; focused; cherries; nice spices and black fruits too; very appetizing; nice entry; more concentration clearly but with charm and harmony; lots of grip and chew here. Length. [46% Merlot, 44% Cabernet Sauvignon, 6% Cabernet Franc, 4% Petit Verdot, 13.1% alc, TA 3.0, pH 3.75, IPT 57, 30% new oak yield 44hl/ha]. Drink 2023-2030. Tasted Cos 4/4/16. 91-93"*
- JW, winewordsandvideotape.com
- "Not before time, Cos has gone back to its classic style. The second wine suffered slightly from the rains that hit St. Estèphe late in the season in terms of fruit weight, but has good backbone and structure and a refreshing, medium-bodied finish. Drink: 2020-25"*
- TA, timatkin.com
- "Bright and fragrant the nose has freshness and discreet spice. Depth on the palate the rich ripe black fruits are supported by firm but ripe tannins. The fruit at the back is fresher a bramble and bilberry mix bright on the finish just a slight lack of depth."*
- Derek Smedley MW
- "A delicious, balanced, serious Pagodes with 46% Merlot in the blend; the rest of 44% Cabernet Sauvignon and 6% Cab Franc. Round, upfront and quite forward with cedar, cassis and blackberries. 13% alcohol which is quite low this year. 61% selection this year so a high proportion of Pagodes. Well-made and ready to drink young."*
- JCL, asianpalate.com
- "The 2015 Les Pagodes de Cos is a very serious second wine, especially in this vintage, where so many Saint Estèphes are on the lighter side. Plush, deep and enveloping, within the mid-weight style of the year, the 2015 Pagodes possesses lovely depth, texture and resonance. Black cherry, plum, licorice, tobacco and menthol wrap around the racy finish. All the elements are in the right place. This is very nicely done. The blend is 46% Merlot, 44% Cabernet Sauvignon, 6% Cabernet Franc and 4% Petit Verdot. 2020 – 2030"*
- AG, Vinous
- "A big, enveloping wine, the 2015 Pagodes de Cos wraps around the palate with serious depth and intensity. The flavors are rich, voluptuous in this bold Saint-Estèphe. Mocha, black cherry, plum, licorice and menthol meld into the voluptuous, creamy finish. This is a highly appealing second wine from Cos. The blend is 46% Merlot, 44% Cabernet Sauvignon, 6% Cabernet Franc and 4% Petit Verdot. (AG)"*
- AG, Vinous

Reviews *“The second wine of the estate is the 2015 Pagodes de Cos and it too is an open-knit, medium-bodied, charming red that offers impressive notes of ripe cherry and currant fruits, underbrush and dried flowers. A blend of close to 50% Merlot and the balance mostly Cabernet Sauvignon, it has fine tannin, solid balance, and the depth to evolve gracefully for 10-12 years. 2018 – 2030”*
- Jeb Dunnuck

“Quite a lot of Merlot (from older vines) from Cos went into Pagodes this year so it is more serious version of a second wine than others in Saint-Estèphe. The tannins are a little more pronounced and keener and this in turn make the palate fascinating and in need of time to settle. This is a good wine but it’s certainly atypical. In spite of the 40-degree heat, the proximity of the Gironde helped enormously to ameliorate the temperature and the fruit remained well-shaded in mid-summer because they didn’t leaf-pluck. The result is one of the longest-lived Pagodes in a long while.”
- MJ, matthewjukes.com
