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## Les Pagodes de Cos 2017

CSPC# 790376

750mlx12

12.0% alc./vol.

<b>Grape Variety</b>	56% Cabernet Sauvignon, 42% Merlot, 1% Cabernet Franc, 1% Petit Verdot
<b>Appellation</b>	Saint- Estèphe
<b>Classification</b>	2nd wine of Ch Cos d'Estournel
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://www.estournel.com/en/cos/wines/#wines-pagodes-de-cos">http://www.estournel.com/en/cos/wines/#wines-pagodes-de-cos</a>
<b>General Info</b>	<p>Chateau Cos d'Estournel 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. Estèphe, as well as grapes from young vines and declassified wine intended for Cos d'Estournel. 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>
<b>Winemaker</b>	Jean-Guillaume Prats - winemaker
<b>Vintage</b>	<p>Moderate stress has a way of sending living things – in this case, vines and people – in one direction or the other. This is the thought that ran through my head following my separate tastings at Cos d'Estournel. Due to its proximity to the Gironde estuary, at least there was no frost this year at Cos d'Estournel to get stressed about. Flowering took place on May 22, which was exceedingly early. In June, there were early signs of water stress and the vines were slowing down and sluggish, according to technical director Dominique Arangoïts. But the vines at this vineyard are now coming in at an average age of 55 years old, which suggests they are capable of managing a bit of water stress. Thankfully, by the end of June, there was enough rain to reinvigorate the vines. This hydric stress appears to have equated to the formation of relatively small, thick-skinned berries in 2017. Thanks to the early flowering, it was an early start to the harvest: September 12. Harvest continued through until the end of the month. Apart from the stress of the rains at harvest to contend with, the Chateau's managing director, Aymeric de Gironde, suddenly upped-sticks and headed over to Troplong-Mondot during harvest.</p>
<b>Vineyards</b>	<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- Estèphe 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'Estournel.</p>
<b>Maturation</b>	Matured in 50% new oak
<b>Tasting Notes</b>	<p>Since its creation in 1994, Pagodes de Cos is made from grapes grown on dedicated plots whose vines are 35 years old on average. The 2017 vintage is characteristically round on the palate but also offers its own unique charm. Silky and immensely fresh, it is a lively, energetic wine with intense fruit. Velvety with a dense mid-palate, it is particularly flavoursome and enticing.</p>
<b>Serve with</b>	<p>The wines from Chateau Cos d'Estournel is best served at 17-18 degrees Celsius. As they continue to warm up in the glass, they will release their full palette of aromas and reveal their most subtle, delicate nuances. Older vintages might need very little decanting, just enough to remove the sediment. Best served with all types of classic</p>



**Serve with** meat dishes, veal, pork, beef, lamb, duck, game, roast chicken, roasted braised and grilled dishes.  
**Production** 16,666 cases made  
**Cellaring** Drink 2020-2024

**Scores/Awards** **88 points** - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - Web Only, 2020  
**92 points** - Lisa Perrotti-Brown, Wine Advocate - March 2020  
**90-92 points** - Lisa Perrotti-Brown, Wine Advocate #236 - April 2018  
**94 points** - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - February 2020  
**92-93 points** - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - April 2018  
**93 points** - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - April 1, 2020  
**92-94 points** - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - April 1, 2018  
**17 points** - Julia Harding, JancisRobinson.com - April 2018  
**90 points** - Jane Anson, Decanter.com - April 2018  
**91 points** - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - April 2018  
**93-95 points** - Tim Atkin, MW - timatkin.com - April 2018  
**14.5 points** - Farr Vintner - April 2018  
**88-91 points** - Derek Smedley, MW - April 2018  
**91 points** - Neal Martin, Vinous - February 2020  
**90-92 points** - Neal Martin, Vinous - May 2018  
**92 points** - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - February 2020  
**88-91 points** - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - April 2018  
**90+ points** - Jeb Dunnuck MW - February 2020  
**17.5+ points** - Matthew Jukes, MW - April 2018

**Reviews** *"On the lighter side, featuring tea, damson plum, blood orange and sandalwood notes mixed with a hint of savory through the finish. Pretty and ready to drink. Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Cabernet Franc and Petit Verdot. Drink now through 2024. 16,666 cases made"*  
- JM, Wine Spectator

*"A blend of 56% Cabernet Sauvignon, 42% Merlot, 1% Cabernet Franc and 1% Petit Verdot, this second wine accounts for about 55% of production. Deep garnet-purple colored, the 2017 Les Pagodes de Cos sashays out of the glass with youthful, presumptuous notes of Black Forest cake, raspberry preserves, cassis and spice cake with nuances of lavender, chocolate box, anise and underbrush. Medium-bodied, the palate has wonderful elegance and precision, with a very finely grained frame and seamless freshness supporting the soft-spoken red and black fruits, finishing with a quiet intensity."*  
- LPB, Wine Advocate

*"This is the second label of Cos d'Estournel, which accounted for about 55% of production in 2017. A blend of 56% Cabernet Sauvignon, 42% Merlot, 1% Cabernet Franc and 1% Petit Verdot, the 2017 Les Pagodes de Cos has a deep garnet-purple color and exuberant notes of crushed blackberries, red currants and cassis with touches of charcuterie, black soil and garrigue plus a waft of lavender. Medium-bodied and very fine-grained, it has great intensity and vibrancy with a good long, fruity finish. When I taste a wine that is, apparently against the odds, an incredible achievement, it fascinates me no end to study the how and the why. I hasten to add, I arrived at Cos d'Estournel for my second tasting of this wine completely unannounced, upon which I was cordially welcomed and invited to taste from the same bottle that a local merchant was sampling. This was tasted fifteen days after my first visit and the wine was looking even more extraordinary, having opened-out just a bit more to reveal glimpses at a vast array of underlying, tightly wound yet seriously intense aromas and flavors. The frame remained as rock-solid as the first time I tasted it; sporting tannins so beautifully ripe they should serve as textbook examples. Here is a wine of incredible grace and depth, which should unfurl slowly, over many years, offering excellent cellaring potential. Yields for the grand vin in 2017 were 43 hl/ha. 60% new oak is being used for the maturation. The 2017-barrel samples I tasted are the final blends and are already composed in the cellar."*  
- LPB, Wine Advocate

*"This shows wonderful depth and richness, yet it's so fresh and vivid with dark berries, dark plums and spice. Full-bodied, balanced and creamy with beautiful flavors and structure. So many spices in this. Only 12% alcohol. Second wine of Château Cos-d'Estournel."*  
- JS, JamesSuckling.com

**Reviews** *“This is a tightly wound second wine with dark-berry, hazelnut and chocolate character. Full body, integrated tannins and a fresh and bright finish.”*  
- JS, JamesSuckling.com

*“This wine has velvet tannins and lusciously ripe black fruits. Despite the tannins, the it is more about fruit and ripeness than about structure. Drink 2022.”*  
- RV, Wine Enthusiast

*“92–94. Barrel Sample. This is a succulent wine, ripe with rich fruit. It is soft, but with a firm core that keeps the structure together. It has the fine juiciness that is typical of this vintage—the tannins take a supporting role to the powerful fruit. This well-rounded wine will be ready from 2022.”*  
- RV, Wine Enthusiast

*“Much more scented than the Goulée just tasted, with lovely dark-red fruits here. Sweet cassis and a light floral note. Delicate but harmonious structure, cool and silky, extremely silky, very fresh, apparently delicate but persistent too. Elegant and fresh right to the finish. Succulent and beautifully balanced.  
Drink 2024-2032”*  
- JH, JancisRobinson.com

*“This is enjoyable right off the bat, with its firm dark chocolate, liquorice and cassis character, joined by licks of gourmet patisserie swirling through - exactly what you expect from Pagodes de Cos, without losing its sense of restraint. I like the subdued power, and it seems more in the style of 2014 than 2015 or 2016. It's a touch austere but appealing, with a sumptuous touch that keeps it in the Cos stable. 60% of production went to the second wine this year, almost entirely from separate plots. Just 20% of the plots are interchangeable between grand vin and second wine, depending on the vintage character. (JA)”*  
- JA, Decanter.com

*“With loads of dark, red berries and spice box notes, the wine is round, and the texture has softness and flesh.”*  
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

*“Inky purple colour. Intense spicy aromas inviting deep fruit. Very intense and creamy textured with soft red and black fruits and rounded tannins. Juicy black fruit. Huge extraction and depth with powerful tannins, rounded black fruit and fresh acidity. Deep and long finish. Very good indeed. **Barrel Sample: 93-95”***  
- TA, timatkin.com

*“Lovely cashmere and silk here. Medium ruby in the glass with an enticing nose of allspice, sweet vanilla and mocha. The fruit on the palate offers red and black fruits with cherries and plums, chalky Medocain tannins and vibrant acidity. The finish is moderate and compact, with elegant summer fruits and a little creamy vanilla.”*  
- Farr Vintners

*“The nose is tight the start of the palate firm the fruit restrained by the tannins. Richer in the middle the powerful mix of black fruits pushes through concentrated rich black fruits at the back the finish closed at the moment the tannins obvious. 2024-33”*  
- Derek Smedley MW

*“The 2017 Les Pagodes de Cos has developed nicely on the nose since I tasted it from barrel: fresh black brambly fruit, hints of oyster shell and brine, something estuarine. The palate is medium bodied with supple tannins and a fine bead of acidity. It is well balanced, straightforward and fresh, with satisfying sapid blackcurrant and black plum notes towards the finish. Give it 18-24 months in bottle, if you can, just to smooth its edges. Drink 2021-2032.”*  
- NM, Vinous

**Reviews**

*“The 2017 Les Pagodes de Cos, which is being matured in 30% new oak (half of the Grand Vin), has a very clean and pure bouquet with black cherries, boysenberry jam and Indian ink. There is certainly impressive intensity here considering this is the deuxième vin. The palate is medium bodied with succulent ripe tannin. It is furnished with pretty blackberry and wild strawberry notes laced with white pepper and a subtle graphite seam. It has good sustain in the mouth with a “Pauillac” inspired finish in terms of discrete austerity and tannic backbone. I admire the focus here and even though there is not huge length this should age well. Tasted twice with consistent notes. 2020 – 2030”*

- NM, Vinous

*“The 2017 Les Pagodes de Cos is dark, supple and wonderfully inviting. Dark plum, chocolate, new leather, licorice, spice and earthy tones give the Pagodes a decidedly somber, dark feel. Plush fruit and ripe, silky tannins add to the wine's sensual, inviting personality. Drink 2020-2030”*

- AG, Vinous

*“The 2017 Les Pagodes de Cos is pliant, supple and quite approachable – in other words everything a second wine should be. Succulent red cherry and plum fruit is pushed forward in this soft, inviting Saint-Estèphe. Floral notes add lift. Hints of chocolate, leather and spice add shades of nuances throughout. In 2017, Pagodes represents 60% of the production. The blend is 56% Cabernet Sauvignon, 42% Merlot, 1% Cabernet Franc and 1% Petit Verdot.”*

- AG, Vinous

*“Deeper ruby-colored and based on 56% Cabernet Sauvignon, 42% Merlot, and 1% each of Cabernet Franc and Petit Verdot, the 2017 Pagodes De Cos is similarly hued to the grand vin and offers classy notes of creme de cassis, red currants, toasted spice, dried tobacco, and graphite. It's rich, medium-bodied, nicely concentrated, yet relatively closed on the palate. Give bottles 2-4 years and enjoy over the coming decade. 90+”*

- Jeb Dunnuck

*“There is much more spice and dark fruit here and this vintage of Pagodes definitely has a mini-Cos feel about it. It is a little more streamlined and a little more discreet and controlled than I was anticipating. A superb effort, the tannins are smart and there is some enviable complexity on the nose. This is a far more detailed wine than I remember in previous vintages.”*

- MJ, [matthewjukes.com](http://matthewjukes.com)

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