

Château Tronquoy Lalande 2016

CSPC# 870072

750mlx12

14.0% alc./vol.

Grape Variety 58% Merlot, 34% Cabernet Sauvignon, 6% Petit Verdot, 2% Cabernet Franc.
Appellation Saint Estèphe
Classification Cru Bourgeois
Website <https://www.tronquoy-lalande.com/en/>
Sustainability Environmental, Green winery.

General Info Chateau Tronquoy Lalande takes its name fittingly from the family that owned the chateau in its formative years, the Tronquoy family. After they sold the estate in 1859, it passed through several owners before becoming part of the well-known Castèjà family holdings, who purchased the vineyard in 1968.

In 2006, Chateau Tronquoy Lalande was purchased by Martin Bouygues and Olivier Bouygues from the Castèjà family. The Bouygues brothers earned their fortune in the telecommunications industry.

For Martin Bouygues and Olivier Bouygues, it was the perfect addition to their portfolio, as they already owned the famed Second Growth, Chateau Montrose, which is also located in the Saint Estèphe appellation. Both transactions for the Left Bank estates took place in 2006.

Chateau Tronquoy Lalande enjoyed a complete, 10 million Euro renovation after it was purchased. This is a fortune when you consider the estate is a Cru Bourgeois and that the wines do not sell for that much money.

That represented a serious commitment to quality! A large portion of those funds was allocated to making Chateau Tronquoy Lalande a responsible, fully, environmental, green winery. They obtain much of their power from geothermal energy. To achieve this for their Left Bank estate, they placed 3,000 photovoltaic panels on their roofs. The construction took 3 years to complete.

The new owners purchased additional vineyard land, increasing the size of the estate. The yields were reduced, and the selection became much, more stringent. All of these changes have clearly helped improve the wine.

Shortly after Chateau Tronquoy Lalande was purchased by the Bouygues brothers, they brought in one of the more popular and revered figures in Bordeaux out of retirement (Jean Bernard Delmas) to manage both, Chateau Montrose, and Chateau Tronquoy Lalande.

Winemaker Jean Bernard Delmas.

Vintage The year started with a relatively mild and wet January and February, with regular and heavy rainfall until March. Cool weather in the following months slightly slowed the vegetative cycle.

The first flowers appeared around 28 May and full flowering took place between 6 and 8 June. As from 17 June, fine weather set in for the summer, without significant rain until September.

Mid veraison was achieved around the middle of August. The 2 rain showers in September relaunched the vine's cycle and the grape ripening process.

The harvest started on 27 September and ended on 15 October. Our micro-plot selection continued, so as to preserve the identity of each sub-plot.

The first vats show great richness in the musts, with rarely achieved aromatic notes. In the cellar, gentle extraction with respect for the fruit has resulted in fine and elegant tannins.

Vineyards With a total of 18 planted hectares of vines, the vineyard is planted to a density of 9,000 vines per hectare. The vines are on average, close to 25 years of age. The terroir is mostly gravel with some clay in the soils. The vineyard is located inland from Chateau Montrose.

The 30-hectare Saint Estèphe vineyard of Chateau Tronquoy Lalande is planted to 52% Merlot, 39% Cabernet Sauvignon, 6% Petit Verdot and 3% Petit Verdot. This



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| Vineyards | represents a large shift in the vineyard since the new owners took control. Now, you find much more Merlot and less Cabernet Sauvignon. |
| Harvest | September 27th – October 15th |
| Maturation | To produce the wine of Chateau Tronquoy Lalande, vinification takes place in 22 geothermal powered, stainless-steel tanks. The tanks allow for a parcel-by-parcel vinification. The tanks were made with a slight pitch or tilt at the bottom of the vat. The purpose is to allow the winemaker to capture more of the press wine. The additional press wine that is recovered utilizing this method is of better quality. The reason behind it is that it does not require mechanical actions to be produced. Gentle actions do produce softer, more elegant wine, which of course lends more softness to Tronquoy Lalande. All of these changes have clearly improved the quality here, giving the wine more finesse, softer, more gentle textures, and much better purity of fruit. On average, the wine is aged in 25% new, French oak barrels for an average of 12 months before bottling. |
| Tasting Notes | The colour is dense. The lightly oaked nose is very expressive and presents good aromatic intensity. The aromas of black fruit and Morello cherry combine with spices and more toasty, bready notes of vanilla and coffee. The attack is clean, powerful, and fresh. The opulent and generous mid-palate reveals notes of ripe fruit and tannins of great finesse. The aromatic finish is well balanced. An exceptional year for Tronquoy-Lalande! |
| Serve with | Tronquoy Lalande is best served with all types of classic meat dishes, veal, pork, beef, lamb, duck, game, roast chicken, roasted, braised, stewed, and grilled dishes. With its spicy character, Tronquoy Lalande also pairs well with a wide variety of Asian dishes. |
| Production | 7,500 cases made |
| Cellaring | Drink 2023-2034 |
| Scores/Awards | <p>92 points - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - Web Only 2019</p> <p>93 points - Lisa Perrotti-Brown, Wine Advocate - November 2018</p> <p>89-91 points - Neal Martin, Wine Advocate #230 - April 2017</p> <p>93 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - February 2019</p> <p>92 points - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - May 2019</p> <p>17.5 points - Jancis Robinson, JancisRobinson.com - January 2020</p> <p>93 points - Panos Kakaviatos, Decanter.com - March 2019</p> <p>93 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - September 2019</p> <p>94 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - April 2017</p> <p>92 points - Tim Atkin, MW - timatkin.com (score only) - January 2016</p> <p>94+ points - Farr Vintner - February 2020</p> <p>92 points - Neal Martin, Vinous - August 2020</p> <p>92 points - Neal Martin, Vinous - January 2019</p> <p>92 points - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - August 2020</p> <p>91 points - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - January 2019</p> <p>92 points - Jeb Dunnuck MW - February 2019</p> <p>93 points - Jean Marc Quarin (score only) - January 2020</p> <p>91 points - Jeannie Cho Lee MW, asianpalate.com (score only) - April 2017</p> <p>92 points - Falstaff Magazine (score only) - June 2017</p> <p>92-93 points - Vert de Vin - April 2017</p> |
| Reviews | <p><i>"This has a fairly intense beam of kirsch, blackberry paste and plum reduction flavors leading the way, supported by a wide swath of loam and tobacco leaf notes. There's a bright chalky hint at the end giving this life while keeping it on the austere side. Should age nicely. Best from 2023 through 2034"</i></p> <p>- JM, Wine Spectator</p> <p><i>"The 2016 Tronquoy-Lalande has a deep garnet-purple color and nose of crushed blackberries and black cherries with herbs, cigar box and damp soil. Medium to full-bodied, it offers good concentration and depth with firm, fine-grained tannins, finishing long and perfumed."</i></p> <p>- LPB, Wine Advocate</p> |

Reviews

"The 2016 Tronquoy-Lalande is a blend of 34% Cabernet Sauvignon, 58% Merlot, 2% Cabernet Franc and 6% Petit Verdot. It has quite a deep and broody bouquet with blackberry, boysenberry and just a hint of blue fruit, gaining in intensity in the glass. The palate is quite firm in the mouth, robust and grippy with tarry black fruit, a pleasant compactness filtering through towards the finish. I would like to see more finesse develop on the finish here, a muscular Saint Estèphe that will doubtlessly age well, but more charm, please."

- NM, Wine Advocate

"The aromas of violets and flowers are impressive in this with dark fruit underneath. Medium to full body, firm and silky tannins and a fresh and bright finish. Shows beautiful depth and resilience. Drink from 2023."

- JS, JamesSuckling.com

"Dark tannins and rich, succulent fruit mark this wine made by the same team as Château Montrose. Black fruits and solid, concentrated tannins contrast with the acidity that still shows through strongly. The wine needs time and will be ready to drink from 2023."

- RV, Wine Enthusiast

"Tasted blind. Ripe and concentrated. Pretty inky tannins and very modern, bright, concentrated fruit. Very appealing even if not that classical. 17.5/20 points"

- JR, JancisRobinson.com

"The wine shows much palate depth and richness, with Merlot coming to the fore. Impressive body but with freshness too, if not among the top wines in terms of racy elegance. I also tasted a 2005, which was impressive but not quite as precise as the 2016 – proof of just how much the estate has improved over the last 10 years."

- PK, Decanter.com

"Earthy, fruity rich, and youthful, this fresh wine offers its dark red fruit, spice, and tobacco leaf shortly after the wine hits the glass. Medium-full bodied, they should be allowed to age for a few years before popping a cork."

- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

"Tempting dark plum, blackberry and earth are available with little effort in this deeply colored, equally luxuriant wine. The fruit is bottomless, the tannins are smooth and there is a plushness, depth, and purity to the fruit I have never seen before at Tronquoy Lalande. The finish has distinct intensity of flavor. Produced from a blend of 58% Merlot, 34% Cabernet Sauvignon, 6% Petit Verdot and 2% Cabernet Franc. The harvest took place from September 27 to October 15. Clearly, this is the best wine ever produced at this estate!"

- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

"Deep ruby purple in the glass. Redolent dark fruits on the nose, with alluring layers of sweet smoke and savoury, toasted spices. The palate is open and expansive - glossy cassis fruit bursts through but is tamed by refined, ripe tannins. There is real depth and power to this wine, with intensely ripe fruit matched by refreshing acidity and a myriad of spices and incense. Long and youthful, this will start to drink well in the next 2-3 years but has ample weight and structure for the long term. An outstanding Tronquoy Lalande."

- Farr Vintners

"The 2016 Tronquoy-Lalande has a concentrated bouquet featuring a more open fruit profile compared to the 2016 La Dame de Montrose, offering blackberry, raspberry and light cassis notes and revealing touches of cedar and incense with aeration. The palate is medium-bodied with supple tannins and a fine bead of acidity, and quite linear, leading into a nicely detailed, quite tensile finish. Another Saint-Estèphe that needs time, but this is a classy number. Tasted blind at the Southwold tasting."

- NM, Vinous

Reviews

“The 2016 Tronquoy-Lalande, picked from September 27 to October 15, is a blend of 58% Merlot, 34% Cabernet Sauvignon, 6% Petit Verdot and 2% Cabernet Franc, matured in 30% new oak. It has a well-defined blackberry, bilberry, cedar, and violet bouquet that gains intensity in the glass. The nicely balanced palate is medium-bodied with firm tannin, gentle grip, and plenty of freshness on the finish. Very fine. Drink 2022-2042.”

- NM, Vinous

“The 2016 Tronquoy-Lalande has turned out beautifully. Dark, supple, and mysterious, the 2016 is quite brooding in this vintage. Black cherry, grilled herbs, plum, chocolate, leather and gravel all run through this virile, potent Saint-Estèphe. The Tronquoy has gained quite a bit of structure and vertical depth in aging, whereas during en primeur it was a more supple wine.”

- AG, Vinous

“The 2016 Château Tronquoy-Lalande checks in as a blend of 58% Merlot, 34% Cabernet Sauvignon, and the rest Petit Verdot and Cabernet Franc, all aged 12 months in 30% new barrels. It offers a ripe, black-fruited, classic Saint-Estèphe profile of blackcurrants, plums, graphite, and tobacco leaf. This gives way to a ripe, rounded, impressively concentrated wine that has sweet tannins and a great finish.”

- Jeb Dunnuck

“Deep dark ruby garnet, opaque core, subtle lightening of the edges, ripe black berries, ripe plums, delicate herbal spices, a hint of nougat. Juicy, elegant, round, and harmonious, very good freshness, mineral, and persistent, ripe cherries in the aftertaste, versatile.”

- Falstaff Magazine

“The nose is aromatic, elegant, racy and offers a fine power/complexity. It reveals notes of cassis, wild raspberry and small notes of blackberry, small wild red berries associated with touches of liquorice / zan, spices as well as a very discreet hint of Cuban pepper (in the background). The palate is fruity, well-balanced and offers a good definition, a good mineral frame, a fine freshness, elegance, finesse, a very fine richness, a beautiful finesse of the grain as well as gourmandize. On the palate this wine expresses notes of blackberry and cassis associated with small touches of fleshy/juicy red berries, hints of violet as well as discreet hints of spices, zan, tonka bean, caramelization (in the background) and a very discreet hint of almond (in the background). Tannins are well built.”

- Vert de Vin
