

Clos du Marquis 2000

CSPC# 811846

750mlx12

12.75% alc./vol.

Grape Variety

68% Cabernet Sauvignon, 24% Merlot, 5% Petit Verdot, 3% Cabernet Franc

Appellation

Saint Julien

Website

<http://www.domaines-delon.com/en/>

General Info

One of the oldest Medoc estates, Domaine de Léoville belonged to some of the wealthiest and most influential noble French families before it was acquired by the Las Cases family. The estate was split up between 1826 and 1840 as a result of the French Revolution. (Expropriation of emigrants' property and constitution of egalitarian redistribution). Château Léoville Las Cases was created, thanks to a kind of birthright, from 3/5 of the original estate and the heart of the domain.

The Grand Vin's current *terroir* has therefore been at the historic heart of the original *terroir* since the 17th century. Pierre Jean, Adolphe and Gabriel de Las Cases were successive heirs to the property until 1900, when Théophile Skawinski purchased a share in the estate and became its manager. Léoville Las Cases has now been managed by the same family since the late 19th century and is today represented by Jean-Hubert Delon, sole owner of the Château and proprietor of Château Potensac in the Medoc and Château Névin in Pomerol.

Created in 1902, the Clos du Marquis has its origins in the "Petit Clos" adjacent to the Château de Léoville, home of the Marquis de Las Cases. The Clos du Marquis comes from the great *terroirs* of the Saint-Julien appellation that were not part of the former Léoville estate.

These *terroirs* are located further west and surrounded by prestigious Crus Classés (Classified Growths) including Second Growths from the Saint-Julien and Pauillac appellations: Léoville Poyferré, Léoville Barton and Pichon Longueville Comtesse de Lalande. The Clos du Marquis thus displays typical Saint-Julien characteristics: structure, complexity, balance, distinction and great ageing potential.

Clos du Marquis has the ability to challenge many other châteaux of the Medoc. Indeed, it is the equal of most 3rd, 4th and 5th Growths and has been an outstanding performer for many years.

Vintage

The vintage 2000 was especially early thanks to rather mild weather at the beginning of the growth cycle. After heavy rain in April and cool weather until mid-June, the summer was then hot and dry up until the harvest. These very good weather conditions allowed us to produce perfectly balanced grapes with extremely rich phenolic components.

Vineyards

As Clos du Marquis hails from a separate vineyard it is a separate cuvée – and not a Second Wine. The grapes are grown in the Petit Clos (Clos meaning an enclosed garden or field) which is surrounded on all sides by other Second Growths. The Petit Clos vineyard is to the south of the Léoville Las Cases Grand Clos vines and covers 12 acres. It is planted with 57% Cabernet Sauvignon, 38% Merlot, 3% Petit Verdot and 2% Cabernet Franc.

Harvest

From 28th September to 11th October 2000

Vinification/ Maturation

At Léoville Las Cases, the wine making remains traditional. Grapes are harvested by hand and fermented in temperature-controlled wood, concrete, or stainless-steel vats of varying size. The stainless-steel tanks range from 40 hectoliters all the way up to 216 hectoliters. The oak vats also range in size from 176 hectoliters up to 270 hectoliters per vat. The oak vats also range in age, with the oldest vats dating back close to 50 years! Malolactic fermentation takes place in tank.

Aged in 40% new oak.

Tasting Notes

The second wine of the St. Julien 'Super Second' Léoville Las Cases from the superb 2000 vintage proved an opportunity to sample the hedonistic flavours of the Grand Vin without the price. An intense, powerful and concentrated wine that is



Tasting Notes	reminiscent of the first growths. A nose of Kirsch, cassis, earth, spices, minerality and vanilla with an intense, soft and textured body of fruit and spice, low acidity and soft finish. The wine is drinking well now but can age for 10 further years.
Production	20,000 cases made
Cellaring	Drink after 2009
Scores/Awards	<p>94 points - James Suckling, Wine Spectator - March 31, 2003</p> <p>Top 100 #14 - Wine Spectator 2003</p> <p>91 points - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #146 - April 2003</p> <p>87-89 points - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #139 - February 2002</p> <p>88-90 points - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #134 - April 2001</p> <p>92 points - Neal Martin, Wine Journal - July 2011</p> <p>92-93 points - Neal Martin, Wine Journal - December 1999</p> <p>91 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - May 2012</p> <p>90 points - Stephen Tanzer's International Wine Cellar - June 2003</p> <p>16 points - Julia Harding, JancisRobinson.com - February 2011</p> <p>16 points - Julia Harding, JancisRobinson.com - January 2005</p> <p>90 points - Jean Marc Quarin (score only)</p> <p>16 points - La Revue du Vin France (score only)</p>
Reviews	<p><i>"The nose shows loads of plum, spice and meat aromas, as well as hints of licorice. It's full-bodied, with firm, yet velvety textured tannins. It's big and rounded. If you can't afford Las Cases, try some of this. Some might call this a second wine, but it comes from a plot of vineyards not deemed worthy of Léoville Las Cases. So, it's like its own estate. Best after 2009. 20,000 cases made."</i></p> <p>- JM, Wine Spectator</p> <p><i>"One of the great sleepers of the vintage and probably the best Clos de Marquis I have ever tasted; this wine could easily compete with many of the vintage's classified growths. Dense, opaque purple-colored, with creme de cassis, vanilla, and cherry notes, medium to full body, an unctuous texture, low acidity, and a more evolved style than its bigger sibling, Léoville Las Cases, this dense, chewy, remarkably concentrated and stylish wine should be at its best between 2005 and 2018."</i></p> <p>- RP, Wine Advocate</p> <p><i>"Clos de Marquis has always been a reference point for excellent second wines. The 2000 exhibits a deep ruby/purple color along with aromas and flavors of cherries and cassis. Its textbook style reveals elegance, purity, and overall harmony. Rich, medium-bodied, and moderately tannic, it will be at its peak between 2004-2015."</i></p> <p>- RP, Wine Advocate</p> <p><i>"The second wine of Léoville-Las-Cases, Clos de Marquis is frequently as good or better than many Medoc classified growths. The 2000 is a blend of 68% Cabernet Sauvignon, 25% Merlot, and the rest Cabernet Franc and Petit Verdot. Its opaque ruby/purple color is followed by a sweet nose of earthy black cherries and currants intermixed with minerals, spice box, and vanilla. There is good underlying acidity, medium to full body, excellent to outstanding concentration, and a structured, moderately tannic finish. It will require 3-4 years of cellaring and should age nicely for 15+ years."</i></p> <p>- RP, Wine Advocate</p> <p><i>"Tasted at Roberson's Las-Cases vertical. The 2000 displays good intensity on the nose: blackcurrant, pomegranate, a touch of raspberry and vanilla. At present, this is more generous than the 2005, although not quite the same definition and breeding. The palate is medium bodied with slightly grainy tannins on the entry, graphite and a touch of tar interlacing the dark fruits. I prefer the finish on the 2005 to the 2000. This is very masculine and punchy at the moment, although doubtless it will mellow with another 3-4 years ageing. Tasted February 2011"</i></p> <p>- NM, Wine Journal</p> <p><i>"Superb when tasted out of barrel. Then after bottling in November 2004. A pure blackberry nose with notes of cassis, violets and super-ripe cherry. The palate is quite tannic, perhaps even a little too sweet. Very opulent and modern in style, but still very well made and hugely enjoyable. Drink from 2006."</i></p> <p>- NM, Wine Journal</p>

Reviews *"This is very open with plum and sweet tobacco notes, and a round and juicy body. Really just starting to open up. (JS)"*

- JS, JamesSuckling.com

"Good full medium ruby. Super ripe, exotic aromas of roasted currant, smoked meat and cocoa powder. Sweet, lush and silky, with compelling depth of texture and an intriguing gamey note. Very long finish features lush tannins. (ST)"

- ST, International Wine Cellar

"Deep crimson. Marked leafy aroma, otherwise quite muted and rather closed. Fresh, velvety and cool on the finish. Surprisingly leafy and a bit flat overall. Not as ripe as I would have expected. (JH)"

- JH, JancisRobinson.com

"Sweet, thick, black cherries. A bit simple and tart, but lots of short-term pleasure. A bit jagged, though pretty good for a second wine (of Las Cases)."

- JR, JancisRobinson.com
