

# Château Gloria 2000

CSPC# 742342

750mlx12

12.5% alc./vol.

**Grape Variety**  
**Appellation**  
**Website**  
**General Info**

65% Cabernet-Sauvignon, 25% Merlot, 5% Cabernet Franc, 5% Petit Verdot.  
St. Julien

<http://www.domaines-henri-martin.com/en/chateau-gloria>

While many Bordeaux Chateaux have long histories in the region, especially in the Medoc, that is not the case with Chateau Gloria. In fact, it's a relatively new estate that when compared to its peers, was born quite recently. You could say, Chateau Gloria dates back to 1903, but that is not exactly the case. The creator of Chateau Gloria, Henri Martin was born in 1903. Martin had a background in Bordeaux wine before his first birthday. His birth took place at a neighboring St. Julien estate, Gruaud Larose. Henri Martin was born on the property. background since the day he was born. Obviously, Henri Martin was destined for life in wine.

During the war, in 1942, Henri Martin purchased 6 hectares of vines located in the Left Bank in the St. Julien appellation. The vines were previously the property of Chateau Beychevelle. Martin made the purchase on the advice of his friend, Jean-Charles Cazes. Cazes is the father of Jean Michel Cazes of Chateau Lynch Bages. That early purchase eventually grew into Chateau Gloria. It took time, but eventually they able to cobble together a total of 48 hectares for Chateau Gloria. Forty years after he created Chateau Gloria, Henri purchased his first 1855 Classified Growth, Chateau St. Pierre, also located in St. Julien. Aside from the classified growth, Chateau St. Pierre, which we already mentioned, they also produce the following wines; Bel Air from Haut Medoc, Pey Martin from St. Julien and Haut Beychevelle Gloria, which comes from St. Julien as well.

**Vintage**

Rumours had been emanating from Bordeaux since the first Merlot grape was plucked from the vine back in mid September. Whispers from some quarters, great proclamations from others, all unanimous that 2000 was going to be something quite special. The weather leading up to the harvest had been perfect and from mid-July to mid-September there was virtually no rain at all. The fine weather continued through to the end of the Cabernet Sauvignon harvest in mid-October with only one day of rain to refresh the vines and momentarily worry the vigneron.

Across the board the wines boast ripe succulent fruit and fine, firm, tannins, with many displaying the structure, depth and length that mark out truly great claret. The wonderful late summer weather seems to have truly, great claret. The wonderful late summer weather seems to have given the Médoc the edge (st Julien is the smallest of the big 4 Médoc communes), producing marginally more complex wines.

**Vineyards**

A vineyard covering 50 hectares, with an average vine age of 40 years, spread across three areas, in the middle of Beychevelle and then in the west and the north of the appellation (bordering Pauillac) on soil made up of Gunzian gravel covering a layer of clay and sand. The grapes are 65% Cabernet Sauvignon, 25% Merlot, 5% Cabernet Franc and 5% Petit Verdot.

**Vinification/  
Maturation**

Once the grapes have been picked by hand, the harvest is vinified in the traditional way in heat-regulated stainless-steel vats, in order to produce truly exceptional wines which can be laid down for a long time. The wine then spends 14 months being aged in casks, with an average of 40% of them being replaced every year.

**Tasting Notes**

65% Cabernet-Sauvignon, 25% Merlot, 5% Cabernet Franc, 5% Petit Verdot.  
Lovely, intense, deep colour. Well-developed bouquet, with hints of chocolate and black cherries. This wine is round and rich on the palate, with good balance and flavour.

**Production  
Cellaring**

20,000 cases made  
Drink 2010-2020



**Scores/Awards** **90 points** - James Suckling, Wine Spectator - March 31, 2003  
**89-91 points** - James Suckling, Wine Spectator - Web Only 2001  
**90 points** - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #189 - June 2010  
**89 points** - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #146 - April 2003  
**87-89 points** - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #139 - February 2002  
**82-84 points** - Neal Martin, Wine Journal - May 2004  
**92 points** - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - March 8, 2012  
**87 points** - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - June 1, 2013  
**16.5 points** - Chris Kissack, The Wine Doctor - May 2004  
**88 points** - Jean Marc Quarin (score only)  
**90 points** - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - May 27, 2013  
**Review Only** - Stuart Rae, Berry & Rudd Wine & Spirit Merchants  
**15 points** - Vinum Wine Magazine (score only)  
**17 points** - La Revue du Vin France (score only)

**Reviews** *"Lovely berry and tobacco and mineral character. Medium-bodied, with fine tannins and a silky finish. First bottle was slightly papery. Best after 2007. 20,000 cases made."*  
- JM, Wine Spectator

*"A pretty, juicy wine, with velvety cherry and toasted oak character. Medium- to full-bodied, with good tannins and a medium to long finish. Score range: 89-91"*  
- JM, Wine Spectator

*"This beautiful Bordeaux fruit bomb offers abundant notes of black currants, herbs, cherries, cedar, and spice box. Fleshy and medium to full-bodied with no hard edges, the 2000 Gloria is a total thrill to consume. Enjoy it over the next decade, perhaps longer."*  
- RP, Wine Advocate

*"An excellent complex, evolved, and deliciously fruity effort, this medium-bodied 2000 exhibits sweet, herb-tinged, cassis fruit, cedar, and spice box notes, along with abundant glycerin and flesh. This well-endowed Gloria should drink well between 2004-2015."*  
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*"First tasted in April 2001 when the nose was muted. Fine tannins but lacks a little depth and harmony. A charming sweet cherry finish with a touch of sandalwood. Tasted again in May 2004. A moderate nose of mulberry and earth - quite Grave-like. The palate is supple with rustic blackberries, earth and a slight coarse texture. Moderate tannins. Not a disaster, just not very engaging."*  
- NM, Wine Journal

*"I arrived in Hong Kong and my girlfriend already organized a dinner at 8 ½ restaurant in Central. This is the only Michelin three-star Italian restaurant on the island. But she has a magnum of 2000 Gloria in hand instead of Italian wine! Who is going to complain? We ordered a grilled rib eye for two to go with our beautiful red. It was Australian grain feed wagyu that had been aged six weeks. It really did melt in your mouth. Served it with a simple spinach salad. Anyway, the wine improved from the minute it was decanted, showing a full and velvety palate with soft textured tannins and wet earth and minerals with plum flavors. There were some dried herbs too. It was round and delicious."*  
- JS, JamesSuckling.com

*"Untypical of Saint-Julien, this wine is solid, chunky, quite foursquare. But it has good punch, richness and depth, along with concentrated black fruits."*  
- RV, Wine Enthusiast

**Reviews** *“Opulent ripe blackberry and currant summer pudding nose. Quite New World upfront stewed style. Needs a bit more subtlety to be typical Bordeaux but very attractive none the less. Drink 2003”*

- Decanter.com

*“A lovely, intense, stylish, minerally St Julien fruit on the nose. Full and textured palate, with a ripe, supple tannic structure. Firm acidity. Complexity of fruit. Certainly, has the edge on the 1999. Nevertheless, not as impressive as many other 2000s I have tasted. Needs five years plus.”*

- CK, The Wine Doctor

*“If you're looking for power, find another wine. This is about finesse, elegance and current drinkability. The nose offers tobacco, black cherry and earthy scents. The palate is refined, soft and already serving the goods. It's probably not going to make it to old age, but there is no rush to drink this before it hits 20.”*

- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

*“A well-aged claret showing cassis notes and secondary bouquet of pencil shavings, herbs and cigar box on the nose. The palate is well balanced, loaded with Asian spices, black pepper. A wine to consume now and over the next 3 – 4 years.”*

- SR, Berry & Rudd Wine & Spirit Merchants

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