
Château Monbousquet 2009

CSPC# 848998

6x750ml

14.2% alc./vol.

Grape Variety

60% Merlot, 30% Cabernet Franc, 10% Cabernet Sauvignon.

Appellation

St. Emilion

Classification

Grand Cru Classé

Website

<http://chateaumonbousquet.com/eng/p/vins>

Sustainability

Château Monbousquet does not carry strict organic or biodynamic certifications. The 2009 vintage was farmed with traditional, intensive vineyard management. Since 2019, the estate has operated under sustainable initiatives like HVE (Haute Valeur Environnementale) Certification, focusing on soil preservation and reduced chemical inputs.

General Info

Chateau Monbousquet is another St. Emilion estate with a long history in the appellation that can trace its history all the way back to 1540. At the time, Monbousquet belonged to François de Lescours, before it became the property of the well-established De Carles family.

In fact, Monbousquet remained in the hands of the de Carles family for almost 150 years. The beautiful, classically styled chateau was built in 1648 by Jacques de Geres. The chateau is now the private home of Gerard Perse and Chantal Perse along with the rest of the Perse family.

In 1993, the Querre family sold Chateau Monbousquet to Gerard Perse and Chantal Perse for \$9,000,000. Chateau Monbousquet was the first vineyard purchase by Gerard Perse. Little did he, or we know, it was not going to be his last purchase. The first vintage of Chateau Monbousquet for Gerard Perse was the difficult 1997. I have never seen a bottle, but I have been told that at best, there was only 1 or 2 barrels produced out of the entire harvest! To keep that in perspective, that means somewhere between 300 and 600 bottles were made that year.

Shortly after Gerard Perse obtained Chateau Monbousquet, he began renovating the estate. The entire 32-hectare vineyard of Monbousquet was analyzed and drained. This limited rises in the water table during prolonged wet spells in future vintages.

Next, they completely rebuilt the winemaking facilities and cellars at Chateau Monbousquet. Gerard Perse also constructed an entirely new barrel aging cellar for his Right Bank estate.

In February 2013, Gerard Perse sold a portion of Chateau Monbousquet to a large, anonymous, French, pension fund. The sale was motivated by French tax laws.

This allowed his daughter Angelique and her husband, Henrique Da Costa to eventually take over all the Perse owned wineries which include Chateau Pavie, Chateau Bellevue Mondotte and Chateau Pavie Decesse. as well as their estates in the Cotes de Castillon appellation.

Winemakers

Michel Rolland

Vintage

The 2009 growing season in Bordeaux was exceptionally warm and sunny, marked by near-perfect conditions for ripening. A mild spring was followed by a long, dry, and consistently warm summer with excellent sunshine and beneficial temperature drops at night, culminating in a legendary, opulent, and fruit-forward vintage.

The specific weather patterns that shaped the renowned Château Monbousquet 2009 included:

- Spring: Began with a cold, dry winter, transitioning into a mild and wet spring that provided essential water reserves.
- Summer: From mid-June through August, the region experienced warm, sunny, and largely dry weather. The temperature was ideal—warm enough to achieve high sugar levels and perfect ripeness without experiencing heat spikes or drought stress.

Significant differences between warm daytime temperatures and cool nighttime temperatures helped retain essential acidity in the grapes, balancing the rich, plush fruit characteristics that define the estate's style



Vineyards	The 32-hectare Monbousquet Saint Emilion vineyard is planted to 60% Merlot, 30% Cabernet Franc and 10% Cabernet Sauvignon. This shows a change in the vineyards since it was first purchased by Gerard Perse, with more Cabernet Franc, and less Merlot in the vineyard. The vines are planted to a density of 5,500 vines per hectare. The average age of the vines is 40 years. The terroir of sand, clay and gravel soils is not the best in St. Emilion. The vineyard can be divided into three sections. For the red wines, you find more sand and clay in the north and more gravel with sand in the south. However, Gerard Perse gets the most out of their terroir. In part, intentionally striving for low yields is one method to increase concentration and improve quality.
Harvest	A glorious stretch of weather in late September and early October allowed the estate to pick their grapes (a Merlot-dominant blend with Cabernet Sauvignon and Cabernet Franc) at optimal, rich phenolic maturity. Yields 28 hl/ha
Winemaking	To produce the wine of Chateau Monbousquet, vinification takes place in a combination of small, temperature controlled stainless steel vats and French oak tanks. Malolactic fermentation takes place in barrel. The wine of Chateau Monbousquet is aged in 60% new, French oak barrels for 18-24 months. 18-24 months in new oak barrels with racking every 3 months. Not fined nor filtered.
Tasting Notes	Deep garnet coloured, the 2009 Monbousquet opens with intense scents of cigar box, new leather, espresso and Chinese five spice with a core of prunes, mulberries and baked cherries plus touches of garrigue and pencil lead.
Serve with	Chateau Monbousquet is best paired with all types of classic meat dishes, veal, pork, beef, lamb, duck, game, roast chicken, roasted, braised, and grilled dishes. Chateau Monbousquet is also good when matched with Asian dishes, hearty fish courses like tuna, mushrooms, and pasta.
Production	Approx. 7500-8300 cases made annually
Cellaring	Drink 2014 -2030
Scores/Awards	94 points - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - March 2012 93 points - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate - March 2012 92-94 points - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate - April 2010 86-88 points - Neal Martin, Wine Advocate - April 2010 94 points - Lisa Perrotti-Brown, Wine Advocate - March 2019 95 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - January 2019 89-92 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - March 2019 16 points – Jancis Robinson, JancisRobinson.com - April 2010 16.5 points - James Lawther, Decanter.com - April 2010 91 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - September 2019 91 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - July 2011 90-92 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - June 2010 93 points - Tim Atkin, MW - timatkin.com - April 2010 90 points - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - November 2010 93 points - Jeannie Cho Lee MW, asianpalate.com - March 2010 87 points - Jean Marc Quarin - March 2010 94 points - Peter Moser, Falstaff Magazine - February 2013 16.5 points - La Revue du Vin France - May 2010 17.5 points - Bettane & Desseauve - May 2010
