



DOMAINES DELON

CHÂTEAU LÉOVILLE LAS CASES
CLOS DU MARQUIS - CHÂTEAU NÉNIN - CHÂTEAU POTENSAC

GRAND VIN DE LÉOVILLE DU MARQUIS DE LAS CASES - 2018



precipitation, giving a perfect maturity.

The wines of the 2018 vintage offer a beautifully accomplished maturity and stand as promises of a very long ageing potential. They are powerful, exceptionally structured and full bodied, complex and opulent but perfectly balanced, with an outstanding freshness and a glorious finesse.

NOTES DE DÉGUSTATION / TASTING NOTES

VVWINE.CH / ADRIAN VAN VELSEN

19,5+/20

Leuchtendes Rubin. Sehr tiefe Nase, konzentriert, schwarze Kirsche, Johannisbeere, Brombeere, Rauch, darüber florale Noten, getrocknete Rosen. Der Gaumen ist straff, sehr gradlinig, konzentriert, strukturdominiert, viel Gerbstoff, markante Säure, die Frucht ist pur, rein, sehr saftig, das ist wie Beeren zerknacken auf der Zunge. Der Abgang ist vielleicht das Spektakulärste an diesem Wein, er hallt sicherlich 2-3 Minuten nach. Ein grossartiger Las Cases der unbedingt reifen muss. 2030-2050+.

(April 2019)

ANTHOCYANES / YOHAN CASTAING

98-100/100

BETTANE & DESSEAUVE

19,5-20/20

"CHAMPIONS LEAGUE" : 1st wine named

Deux échantillons dégustés à deux moments et dans deux lieux différents, deux certitudes : le vin est un sommet absolu à Bordeaux par son incroyable harmonie, diversité aromatique, dégradé tannique, toucher de bouche. Du moins à notre goût qui sera largement partagé. Mais pourvu que les bouchons ne trahissent pas...(Avril 2019)

DECANTER / JANE ANSON

98/100



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2018 is another vintage where it's pretty much impossible to find fault with Las Cases, and where you get a kick of happiness from tasting it. Owner Jean-Hubert Delon compares the 2016 to the 1961 and the 2018 to the 1959 - let's all check back in a few decades to see if that's true! But where the 2016 was monumental, this has a subtlety that's rarely seen in such a young LLC. It's not that you'd call this approachable but you rarely see this level of plush density to the fruit at this stage. There's a civilised quality to the structure that makes you think, just maybe, the 2018 will be at optimum drinking before the 2016. You're still getting the complex cigar box and cassis aromatics, with deep, rippling black fruits on the palate accompanied by a cassis and liquorice whoosh and the layering up of dense but fine tannins. It demonstrates precise balance and an exceptionally long finish. All in all, this is a standout St-Julien. I'm pretty sure that I've never given a drinking window this early for LLC at En Primeur, which says something. Drinking Window 2028-2048.

(April 2019)

FALSTAFF / PETER MOSER

100/100

Tiefdunkles Rubingranat, opaker Kern, violette Reflexe, zarte Randaufhellung. Zarte Edelhölzwürze, feines schwarzes Waldbeerkonfit, ein Hauch von Lakritze und Brombeeren, facettenreiches Bukett. Kraftvoll, extraktsüße, reife Supertannine, mineralisch und sehr lange anhaftend, tolle Frische, reife schwarze Kirschen, wird längere Zeit auf der Flasche brauchen, Riesenpotenzial, ein Wein de Garde.

(May 2019)

JACQUES PERRIN

98-100/100



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JAMES SUCKLING

99-100/100

OMG. This shows amazing depth of fruit and density. Full-bodied and so layered with incredible fruit and power. Blackberries. Blueberries. Violets. Hints of dried flowers. Fantastic fruit and tannins, yet agile and energetic. (...). (April 2019)

JANCIS ROBINSON / JULIA HARDING

18,5/20

Black core with narrow purple rim. A moment of hush needed here. So dark and so intense but also with incredible beauty in its restraint. Silky even with so many layers of tannin. pH 3.65 - quite a miracle in 2018. So dry but so not drying. The freshness from both the pH and the tannins. So fine, it just slides across the palate even if the tannin level is high. A wine of great power and restraint, and tannic finesse. Opens to a tiny note of wild herbs even though it is perfectly ripe, more aromatic as it opens. Drink 2030-2050. (April 2019)

JEB DUNNUCK

98-100/100

A candidate for the wine of the vintage is the 2018 Léoville Las Cases. My notes on this incredible wine are laced with expletives that I, unfortunately, can't repeat here. Safe to say, however, it's one of the greatest young Bordeaux I've been lucky enough to taste. (...) It offers a massive bouquet of crème de cassis, lead pencil shavings, crushed violets, tobacco, and a liquid rock-like minerality. Pure magic on the palate as well, with full-bodied richness, building structure, and a seamless, weightless, yet powerful mouthfeel, it has everything you could want from a wine. It has the purity and balance to drink well in 7-8 years (I wouldn't hold it against you if couldn't wait that long) and



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will keep for 50 years or more. (...). (May 2019)

LE POINT / JACQUES DUPONT

18/20

MATTHEW JUKES

19,5+/20

REVUE DU VIN DE FRANCE

19-20/20

Jamais un vin de cette propriété n'a été aussi dense et massif. Un bloc de fruit et de tannins soutenu par une acidité bien calée. D'une persistance interminable. Combien de temps faudra-t-il pour qu'il se fonde ? (Avril 2019)

THE WINE CELLAR INSIDER / JEFF LEVE

98-100/100

With all its fresh fruits and leafy notes, this wine reminds me of walking into a forest after a massive rain fall. Add to that a bushel of ripe fruit, tobacco and a smoky campfire and you get the idea. The wine is powerful, dense, full-bodied and intensely concentrated. The fruit has so much lift, it's hard to believe this is over 14% in alcohol! Mouth-filling, fresh and spicy, the peppery Cabernet Sauvignon melds strength with vigor, purity and length and the wine settles in for a finish of over 50 seconds. The tasting I cannot wait to experience in a few years pairs the 2018 with the 2016 in blind conditions! (April 2019)

THE WINE DOCTOR / CHRIS KISSACK

98-100/100

It starts slowly with a very pretty nose, with rose petals



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first, along with a gentle gravelly minerality, while behind that there are some notes of black plum and black olive, adding to the multilayered character of the wine. The palate is simply brimming with confidence, at first showing a sinewy and substantial character, albeit with a richly polished substance, the overall impact very elegant and poised. Later in the middle it shows building substance and depth, with an underpinning of attractive energy. This feels powerful, yet it also feels complete, classic, poised and elegant. Although it has a rather subtle and understated start, this is just so delicious, so perfumed, and it is so clearly a fantastic grand vin, its freshness and poise calling to mind a brighter and fresher vintage such as 2016 rather than the warm and heady summer and autumn seen here in 2018. (April 2019)

WEIN GABRIEL / RENE GABRIEL

19/20

WEINWISSER

20/20

WINE ADVOCATE / LISA PERROTI BROWN

98-100/100

'We produced great Cabernet Franc this year,' Directeur Général Pierre Graffeulle told me during my visit to Léoville Las Cases. Even though only 3% of the press wine was added back, he was also absolutely glowing about the quality of this too. And he should be the finished blend for the 2018 Léoville Las Cases is yet another triumph for this great estate. Composed of 80% Cabernet Sauvignon, 11% Cabernet Franc and 9% Merlot, harvested September 15 to October 4 with yields of 35.5 hectoliters per hectare, it has 14.49% alcohol and will be aged in barriques, 90% new.



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Very deep purple-black in color, it is a little closed to begin, slowly emerging from the glass to reveal subtle woodsmoke, violets, tilled soil and underbrush scents over a core of warm cassis, wild blueberries and redcurrant jelly plus hints of rare beef and iron ore. Full-bodied, rich, super concentrated and bursting with latent energy, this is an atomic bomb waiting to go off in your mouth. It has a rock-solid foundation of firm, very ripe, very finely grained tannins and bold freshness supporting the muscular fruit through the epically long, amazingly nuanced finish. Simply breathtaking. (April 2019)

WINE CHRONICLES / PANOS KAKAVIATOS

97-100/100

2018 suits this estate, which can seem steelier from barrel in cooler vintages. Better perhaps than the superlative 2009. The alcohol is just under 14.5% with high tannins. (...). Fine Cuban Cigar. Very long on the finish and veritable velvety lift. There is such density and yet fine finesse and lift. You get a sense of pure red, crystalline fruit, then tobacco, fine Cuban, and density as well as lift, as the alcohol is buffered by excellent acidity. Indeed, the finish is marked by gorgeous orange peel freshness. □ This could shut down, as the tannins are there □, owner Jean Hubert Delon stressed. (□). He recalls smelling the 59 in the vat room as a child, and the 2018 reminds him of that.

WINE ENTHUSIAST / ROGER VOSS

96-98/100

It is the tannins that mark out this powerful wine, presenting a fine balancing act between a firm structure and rich dark fruit flavors. It is the epitome of elegant Saint-Julien, with a welcome mix of weight and freshness. (April 2019)



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WINE SPECTATOR / JAMES MOLESWORTH

97-100/100

This is backward and dense, with thickly layered plum, blackberry, fig and blueberry reduction flavors wrapped liberally in warm ganache and melted licorice notes. A long echo of smoldering charcoal emerges at the very end. There's a lot to resolve here as the rich and austere sides are still melding, but the extra amplitude doesn't distort anything; it just all goes to 11. (April 2019)

YVES BECK

98-99/100

(...) Bouquet intense et complexe aux multiples facettes. Notes épicées où je relève des parfums d'Earl Grey et de graphite, suivies de fèves de cacao et de menthe poivrée. Finalement je relève des effluves de myrtilles qui complètent ce bouquet exceptionnel. Mise en bouche élégant, subtile. Le vin se révèle lentement et est doté de tannins puissants, parfaitement intégrés qui montrent leur puissance tout en fin de bouche. La structure est en retrait mais assure parfaitement les arrières. Une fois de plus, Las Cases parvient magistralement à faire cohabiter la puissance et la finesse. Une grande réussite. 2028-2053.