



CHATEAU PICHON LONGUEVILLE
COMTESSE DE LALANDE



PRIMEURS 2016

LE MILLESIME / THE VINTAGE

Chers Amis,

Quel plaisir de partager avec vous ce millésime 2016, que nous avons vinifié et assemblé avec tant de bonheur ! Et pourtant, nous revenons de loin ! 2016 nous a une fois de plus offert l'opportunité de vérifier que notre métier de vigneron est une école d'humilité, à la merci de Dame Nature.

Cela a commencé avec tout ce qu'un vigneron déteste : un hiver doux et un printemps très pluvieux propices à un développement exubérant de l'oïdium et du mildiou, rinçant nos espoirs de faire un beau vin. Mais après la pluie ... le beau temps, qui permet aux étapes-clefs du cycle végétatif de la vigne - floraison, nouaison, véraison - de se dérouler finalement dans des conditions idéales.

Sans avarice en attention particulière et en soins adaptés, nos vigneron ont ainsi pu travailler jusqu'à la récolte, chaque parcelle comme si chacune d'entre elles était un jardin.

Hors de question de gâcher toutes ces énergies par une cueillette précipitée ! Comme en 2014 et 2015, nous voulions prendre le temps de récolter chaque parcelle à l'optimum de sa maturité, quand le fruit est encore frais et les tanins si soyeux : au final, une longue vendange d'un mois jusqu'au 20 octobre sous une météo exceptionnelle.

Après les premiers mois d'élevage en cuves et en barriques, les Merlots se montrent fruités et poudrés, les Cabernets francs élégants et racés, les Petits Verdots sauvages et impétueux. Enfin, les Cabernets-Sauvignons se révèlent superbes de complexité, d'équilibre et d'une rare ampleur.

Notre nouveau cuvier, outil précieux, nous permet de vinifier chaque parcelle indépendamment. Sur notre palette, chacune est une teinte unique qui vient enrichir l'assemblage ; avec subtilité et précision, chacune joue sa partition de soliste, mais se fond dans l'orchestre pour interpréter une œuvre puissante, émouvante, charnelle, étirée à l'infini et qui nous rappelle quelques très grands millésimes de Pichon Comtesse (1982, 1989, 1996...).

Après un 2014 expressif et gourmand, un 2015 riche et complexe, 2016 nous offre un très grand millésime, puissant, profond et d'une grande élégance.

Bonne dégustation.

Dear Friends,

What a pleasure it is to share with you this 2016 vintage, which we have vinified and blended with so much happiness.

However, we've come a long way! 2016 has once again reminded us that our job as a wine maker is a lesson in humility, we are at the mercy of Mother Nature.

This vintage began with everything a winemaker dreads: a mild Winter followed by a rainy Spring, conditions which strongly favour the development of diseases such as odium and mildew, washing away our hopes of making a good vintage. But after the rain ... the good weather, which allowed the development of the vine at the key stages of its cycle - flowering, fruit set, veraison - to take place in ideal conditions.

Our vineyard workers were also able to work on each plot with due care and attention as if each one of them was a garden, right up to the start of the harvest.

Out of the question to waste all this energy in a rushed picking! As in 2014 and in 2015, we wanted to take time to harvest each plot at the peak of optimal ripeness, when the fruit was still fresh and the tannins so silky: in the end, a long harvest lasting a month and finishing on the 20th of October with superb weather throughout.

After the first months of ageing in tank and in barrel, the Merlot was soft and fruity, the Cabernet Franc elegant and lively, the Petit Verdot wild and impetuous. Lastly, the Cabernet Sauvignon full of complexity, well balanced with a rare fullness.

Our new, invaluable vathouse allows us to vinify each plot separately. On the palate, each one has a unique tone which together enrich the blend; with subtlety and precision, each plays its part as a soloist, but melt into one orchestra to interpret a powerful, moving, fleshy piece of work with infinite possibilities and which reminds us of three other great vintages of Pichon Comtesse (1982, 1989, 1996...).

After a 2014 vintage expressive and delicious, a 2015 rich and complex, the 2016 follows up with a wonderful vintage, powerful, rich and with great elegance.

Enjoy your Tasting.

NICOLAS GLUMINEAU

DONNEES TECHNIQUES / TECHNICAL DATAS



Millésime / Vintage 2016 :

75% Cabernet Sauvignon
21% Merlot
4% Cabernet Franc

- Alcool / Alcohol 13 % Vol.
- Elevage / Barrel Aging 18 mois / months – 50% bois neuf / new oak
- Garde / Aging potential 35-40 ans / years
- Viticulture raisonnée / Integrated viticulture
- Vinification classique en cuves inox / Classical vinification in stainless steel vats

REVUE DE PRESSE / PRESS REVIEW



Antonio Galloni
2016 Bordeaux: It's Now or Never, Baby (Apr 2017)

CHATEAU PICHON LONGUEVILLE COMTESSE DE LALANDE 2016

"is a must have" – "One of the wines of the vintage"

97-100 PTS

A deeply emotional, moving wine, the 2016 Pichon-Longueville Comtesse de Lalande is simply extraordinary. The tannins are nearly buried by the sheer intensity of the fruit, while the 100% new oak is remarkably well integrated at this stage. Dark, powerful and brooding, the 2016 possesses remarkable polish for such a big wine. The purity of the flavors is simply captivating. Scents of graphite, smoke, leather, tobacco and menthol soar from the glass, enhancing a core of deep, plush, dark fruit. All the elements fuse together in a wine of nearly unparalleled beauty. Although not inexpensive, Pichon-Lalande is arguably the single finest relative value in age-worthy wine in Bordeaux right now. Readers should do whatever they can to pick up the 2016. It is without question one of the wines of the vintage and potentially a legendary wine in the making. Tasted three times.

Decanter

Jane Anson

CHATEAU PICHON LONGUEVILLE COMTESSE DE LALANDE 2016

98 PTS

Beautiful mix of power and restraint that you can almost reach out and touch. The extraction is so silky that the effect is a wine that seems endless...



Neal Martin –erobert.com
Wine Advocate – 230 Issue 27th April 2017

CHATEAU PICHON LONGUEVILLE COMTESSE DE LALANDE 2016

96-98 PTS

The 2016 Pichon-Longueville Comtesse de Lalande is a blend of 75% Cabernet Sauvignon, 21% Merlot and 4% Cabernet Franc (compare that to the 2010 that had 66% Cabernet Sauvignon, for example--that should give you some pointers). The alcohol level is 13.32% and a pH of 3.76. I tasted from a new oak barrel and the final blend will include around 60% new wood and 40% one year old, which is something I took into account. It has a very succinct bouquet, one that is almost understated at first, gradually unfolding with blackberry, cedar and graphite scents, in the vein of say the 1986 or 1996 Pichon Lalande of the past. The palate is very well balanced and what I appreciate here is that it is still as much identifiable as Pichon Lalande as it is a Pauillac and a 2016. There is that touch of roundness imparted by the Merlot, even though the Cabernet dominates the blend, surely the terroir sculpting the wine. It gently builds in intensity, maintaining freshness, a gentle but insistent grip towards the finish and a very long aftertaste. This is probably just a notch up on the outstanding 2015 Pichon-Lalande, a Rolls Royce with a purring engine. 2025 2060.



Yves Beck, Beckustator

CHATEAU PICHON LONGUEVILLE COMTESSE DE LALANDE 2016

98–100/100 PTS

75% Cabernet Sauvignon, 21% Merlot, 4% Cabernet Franc

Rouge grenat aux reflets pourpres. Quelle intensité olfactive et quelle complexité! Effluves de groseilles, framboises, mûres et graphite. A l'aération je relève également de violette et de la réglisse. La mise en bouche est dense, vive et puissante. Le corps est crémeux et doté d'une belle intensité aromatique qui reflète bien les caractéristiques olfactives. Les tannins se révèlent lentement, tardivement en fin de bouche et sont bien intégrés. Ils s'accordent bien de la structure qui octroie du jus et une élégante fraîcheur. Finale fruitée et persistante. Un grand vin. 2023–2051



Chris Kissac – The Wine Doctor

A superb vintage, with top quality wines (11/04/2017)

CHATEAU PICHON LONGUEVILLE COMTESSE DE LALANDE 2016

97-99/100 PTS

The *assemblage* here proves that although Cabernet Sauvignon has done so well in this vintage, it is not an absolute requirement to stuff your blend with it in order to make a great wine. The picking here started on September 20th, and finished on October 20th. This makes four weeks of picking, much longer than previous, as before Nicolas Glumineau's arrival the job would usually be done in ten or fifteen days. The long picking is all about getting Cabernet Sauvignon with ripe pips, which Nicolas believes is the difference between wine that is good, and wine which is great. In 2016 he has settled on a blend featuring a 'mere' 75% Cabernet Sauvignon, backed up by 21% Merlot and 4% Cabernet Franc. It offers up dark fruit on the nose, all black plum, damson and blackcurrant, a very pure style, classic, a fruit-driven Cabernet Sauvignon character. Otherwise it feels a little introverted, although there is no denying the scented violet and limestone nuances. It is a nose defined by its aromatic purity, freshness and intensity. The palate is composed, fresh, very pure, very elegant, dense and composed, yet it remains detached, elegantly aloof, with a wonderful tannic energy. A wine of delicious depth, composition, elegance and dark energy. Coming out of its shell, it begins to reveal the flavours of black olive, dried black fruits, currants, plum cream and flowers, with a wonderful balance, and very fine ripe tannins at the finish. It just feels so complete, so dark, yet so fresh, with ripe tannins providing a hidden framework. This is stunning, with fantastic potential. Tasted twice.



James Molesworth

CHATEAU PICHON LONGUEVILLE COMTESSE DE LALANDE 2016

95-98 PTS

Light savory and tobacco notes peek out from the core, but a ball of cassis and blackberry fruit is still coiled up with the strong iron spine. This is to be expected. Very pure, with a long finish. Risk-free cellaring.—*J.M.*

IZAK LITWAR- 2016 Bordeaux
Great Vintage yet again for Bordeaux

CHATEAU PICHON LONGUEVILLE COMTESSE DE LALANDE 2016

98+ PTS

Then Grand Vins. IPT (Index PolyphenolTotal) was very high in 2016, reached 81 compared with 74 for 2015. **2016** was a showcase, an incredibly styled wine and a hit. 75% Cabernet Sauvignon, 21% Merlot and 4% Cabernet Franc. Impressive nose of blueberry essence, very precise and focused, velvety texture, extremely sophisticated and rich, awesome depth and length. Masterpiece of Nicolas Glumineau!



Panos Kakaviatos

CHATEAU PICHON LONGUEVILLE COMTESSE DE LALANDE 2016

96-98+ PTS

A special wine surpassing both the excellent 2014 and 2015 vintages. The 75% Cabernet Sauvignon was picked comfortably late, remarked director Nicolas Glumineau, because it ripened slowly and surely over the long Indian Summer, recalling certainly the superb 1996 vintage. But 2016, 20 years later, has greater density and evident juiciness, as the 21% Merlot was very successful, he added. It felt so fresh and powerful at the same time, so wonderfully juicy and substantial on the layered palate, leading to a finish marked by stunning floral elegance. A full-bodied wine yet with such feminine charm. I did not want to spit. There is a real character-driven tannin, with a glorious full bodied aspect, along with long length. The 13.3% alcohol is balanced by excellent, bright acidity. The substantial tannin – more than in 2010 – was ripe and smooth. Verily a “super second”.



James Suckling

CHATEAU PICHON LONGUEVILLE COMTESSE DE LALANDE 2016

96-97 PTS

Linear and racy with ultra-fine tannins and a gorgeous center palate. Full-bodied, tight and so polished. The classicism and beauty are exceptional. Love the texture. Better than 2015?



CHATEAU PICHON LONGUEVILLE COMTESSE DE LALANDE 2016

96-98 PTS



André Kunz
The Swiss Wine Journal & new BX Total

CHATEAU PICHON LONGUEVILLE COMTESSE DE LALANDE 2016

20/20 PTS

Le plaisir à le savourer pourrait faire de lui le successeur du 1982, mais avec plus de densité et de concentration.



René Gabriel
Bordeaux 2016: Ein grosses Jahr der Extreme

CHATEAU PICHON LONGUEVILLE COMTESSE DE LALANDE 2016

19.5/20 PTS

Profond pourpre et dense. Quel parfum de cassis et de myrtilles! Puis réglisse et coco, avec des notes de chocolat émergentes, et malgré la densité des arômes, l'équilibre reste parfait. Un palais puissant avec beaucoup de charme, des tannins à parfaite maturité, et une explosion de fruit de myrtille et de minéraux.

Le tout abouti en une finale interminable de mûres et un crescendo, sans pareil.

Pichon Comtesse surclasse donc Mouton Rothschild et se retrouve en 3^{ème} place juste après Lafite et Latour. A maturité, il conservera sa note maximale. 2025-2050



Rolf Bichsel, Barbara Schroeder
Vinum Extra - Königlicher Wein, demokratisches Jahr

CHATEAU PICHON LONGUEVILLE COMTESSE DE LALANDE 2016

19.5/20 PTS

Précis, immense richesse aromatique, des tannins soyeux, grande densité et longueur, un superbe vin et une autre étape marquante dans les dernières années de ce domaine d'exception. 2024 à 2040



LE FIGARO – Frédéric Durand-Bazin

CHATEAU PICHON LONGUEVILLE COMTESSE DE LALANDE 2016

19.5 PTS

Nez de petits fruits rouges mûrs, pointe vanillée. Bouche gourmande, fruitée, graphite, sapide, tannins ronds et enrobés, finale très longue, très joli toucher de bouche, belle matière.

CHATEAU PICHON LONGUEVILLE COMTESSE DE LALANDE 2016

18.5/19 PTS



Olivier Poels

Bordeaux 2015, Un millésime d'exception.

CHATEAU PICHON LONGUEVILLE COMTESSE DE LALANDE 2016

18.5/19 PTS

Le cru est à son sommet : nous n'avons jamais trouvé autant d'éclat et de race dans un Pichon Comtesse à ce stade. Serré, profond, mais irrésistiblement sensuel, il déroule en bouche des flots de saveurs et de tanins ultra-civilisés.