

*« This is a sexy, juicy Croix
with a rather flamboyant nose and touches of exoticism. »
Matthew Jukes, April 2018*



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**LA CROIX
DUCRU-BEAUCAILLOU
2017
P R I M E U R S**

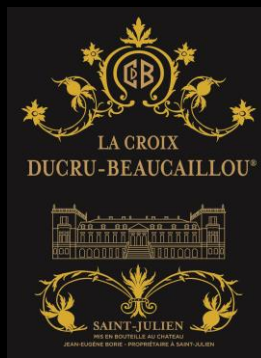
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*« This is an impressive wine, ripe and energetic,
with deliciously silky-velvety tannins. Very good indeed »*

Chris Kissack, April 2018

« Au palais, le vin est séduisant. Beaucoup de race. »

Yves Beck, Avril 2018



La Croix Ducru-Beaucaillou 2017 Ratings

Critics	Publication	Rating
James Suckling	<i>Jamessuckling.com</i>	92-93
Lisa Perrotti-Brown	<i>The Wine Advocate</i>	89-91
Jeb Dunnuck	<i>JebDunnuck.com</i>	90-92
Jane Anson	<i>Decanter</i>	91
Chris Kissack	<i>Winedoctor</i>	92-94
James Molesworth	<i>Wine Spectator</i>	89-92
Roger Voss	<i>Wine Enthusiast</i>	93
Julia Harding	<i>Jancisrobinson.com</i>	16,5
Jeff Leve	<i>The Wine Cellar Insider</i>	91-93
Yves Beck	<i>Yvesbeck.com</i>	92
Markus del Monego	<i>Tastingbook.com</i>	92
Antonio Galloni	<i>Vinous</i>	90-93
Neal Martin	<i>Vinous</i>	90-92
Rebecca Gibb	<i>MW</i>	92
Matthew Jukes	<i>Matthewjukes.com</i>	17
Yohan Castaing	<i>Anthocyanes</i>	91-93



La Croix Ducru-Beaucaillou 2017

The story:

This Grande Réserve is produced on the portion of Ducru-Beaucaillou situated in-land, in the heart of the Saint Julien Appellation, on the Günz Terroir situated on the south slope that face the “Mouline” stream. Our labors in the vineyards, as well as those in the vat-house and cellars, reflect our unequivocal ambition to produce the very finest wines.

Cellar Master Tasting Notes (March 2018):

Color : deep crimson violet

Nose : powerful, taut, with hints of black fruit and plums

Palate : imposing structure, with great freshness, hint of very polished tannin, attractive elegance, very sound.

The blend:

- **58 %** Merlot Noir
- **39 %** Cabernet-Sauvignon
- **3 %** Petit Verdot

Meteorology:

Winter was cold and dry, spring has been totally the opposite, hot and rainy.

In April, the tendency changes again with an alarming lack of rain and hot temperatures. A serious period of frost (April 27,28 and 29) caused damage according to the terroir : the terroirs of Beaucaillou, located just above the estuary, were once again (cf. 21 April 1991) spared from a particularly biting cold (-5°C in St. Laurent).

The summer was rainy at times but overall dry.

The vintage was early but at the end of a fine and dry summer the September rains give a new life to the vines, completing the ripening of the grapes

The grapes harvested had perfect technological ripeness and very high phenolic potential, because of the previous three months climatic conditions.

Our commitment:

The sample shown was taken from the final selection carried out in the first quarter of 2018.

*This Grande Réserve 2017 will be aged for **12 months** in Bordeaux barrels, **60% new**, the rest in barrels which have been used for only 12 months.*

The barrels are of certified French oak, aged naturally outdoors for a guarantee minimum of three years.

Regular topping up during the first six months, rackings from the bottom of the barrel every two or three months for a total of four rackings.

Sterile bottling under inert gas. First choice natural corks 49 mm.

vinous (90-93)_{pts}

Ducru-Beaucaillou 2017 La Croix Ducru-Beaucaillou

Saint Julien, Beychevelle, Bordeaux

Red wine from France

Drinking window:

The 2017 La Croix Ducru-Beaucaillou is loaded with dark stone fruit, grilled herb, lavender and torrefaction notes. Powerful and dense, with serious richness, La Croix is anything but an easygoing second wine. In 2017 La Croix is built on a core of Merlot rather than Cabernet, which likely accounts for the wine's rich mid-palate and fleshy feel. The blend is 58% Merlot, 39% Cabernet Sauvignon and 3% Petit Verdot.

Antonio Galloni. Tasting date: April 2018

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2017 Ducru-Beaucaillou • La Croix de Beaucaillou

Rating

(89 - 91)

Release Price

NA

Drink Date

NA

Reviewed by

 [Lisa Perrotti-Brown](#)

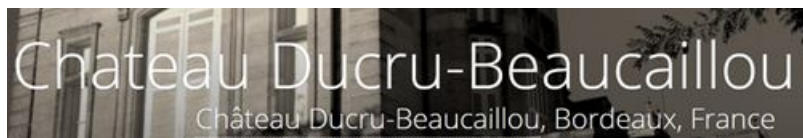
Issue Date

27th Apr 2018

Source

[236, The Wine Advocate](#)

This is not a second wine per se, as it consistently comes from a separate vineyard in Saint-Julien. The blend is usually around 60% Cabernet Sauvignon, but this year it has a high percentage of Merlot: 58%, with 39% Cabernet Sauvignon and 3% Petit Verdot. Medium to deep garnet-purple colored, the 2017 La Croix de Beaucaillou has quite a spicy nose sporting cloves, anise, black pepper and fenugreek with a core of crushed blackberries and black currants plus wafts of underbrush and potpourri. The palate is medium-bodied with firm, grainy tannins and great freshness supporting the vivacious fruit, finishing long and earthy.



LA CROIX DUCRU-BEAUCAILLOU 2017

By Markus Del Monego

Dark purple red with violet hue and black core. Very expressive fruit, blackberries, ripe plums, hints of black cherries. Restrained roasting aroma and hints of mild spices in the background. On the palate well structured with excellent balance, ripe tannins, fine acidity and lingering dark berries in the finish. Excellent length.

92



matthewjukes

THE BORDEAUX REPORT

2017 EN PRIMEUR

La Croix Ducru-Beaucaillou (Ducru-Beaucaillou)

(58 Merlot, 39 Cabernet Sauvignon, 3 Petit Verdot) | 60% new oak for 12 months | 13.68% alc. | 75 IPT

This is a sexy, juicy Croix with a rather flamboyant nose and touches of exoticism. It really works in this vintage and rather than trying to maintain a Cabernet dominance, the Merlot looked good enough to carry the wine on its own. **17**

vinous (90-92) pts

Ducru-Beaucaillou 2017 Croix de Beaucaillou

Saint Julien, Bordeaux

Red wine from France

Drinking window: 2021 - 2035

The 2017 La Croix de Beaucaillou sees 60% new oak for 12 months, with a fairly high IPT of 75. It has a ripe and generous bouquet of blackberry, fresh fig, cedar and crushed violets that blossom in the glass. The palate is medium-bodied with supple tannin, a fine bead of acidity, that structure making its presence felt towards the finish that exerts an insistent grip. As such, this will probably require three or four years in bottle just to soften the edges.

Neal Martin. Tasting date: April 2018

BORDEAUX V17

REBECCA GIBB MW

Chateau Ducru-Beaucaillou

La Croix
- 2017

Unusually Merlot takes the lead in this wine this year rather than Cabernet Sauvignon. Rich and expansive, round and ripe with nicely integrated spice and vanilla. An abundance of mouthcoating tannins with fine acidity. 58% Merlot 39% Cabernet Sauvignon and 3% Petit Verdot.

92_{/100}

WINE ENTHUSIAST

By Roger Voss

La Croix Ducru-Beaucaillou 2017 Barrel Sample (Saint-Julien)

93
POINTS

92–94. Barrel Sample. This wine, from a dedicated parcel of Ducru-Beaucaillou, is rich and structured with solid tannins. The tannins meld with ripe black plum and berry flavors offering a rich intensity.



By Yohan Castaing

Ducru- Beaucai...	La Croix	Saint- Julien	2017
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91-93

Fruits noirs, de belles épices nobles, maturité "al dente". Juteux, légèrement charnu, de la structure dense avec de beaux tanins sur l'allonge. Le petit verdot marque un peu en fin de bouche. Aérien également. Le merlot enrobe moins que d'habitude. Pour les 10 prochaines années. Une réussite.

Yves Beck

LA CROIX DUCRU-BEAUCAILLOU 2017

92/100

Dégusté le 13.04.18 par Yves Beck

Pourpre violacé. Bouquet expressif, marqué par des notes de réglisse et de mûres. Attaque friande, charmante. Au palais, le vin est séduisant. Il a une touche suave, de la race et des tannins qui se révèlent en fin de bouche. Beaucoup de race. Un vin qui mérite de l'épanouissement mais que l'on pourra déjà savourer sur le fruit, dans sa jeunesse. 2022–2035 **92/100**

La Croix Ducru-Beaucaillou 2017: This second wine comes largely from vines just inland of those that feed into the estate's *grand vin*, and the picking dates are the same. In this vintage it also includes a little Merlot that was declassified from the *grand vin* vineyards. During the sorting Bruno Borie says he and his team eliminated less Merlot than Cabernet Sauvignon, to my surprise, and this combined with the addition of the declassified fruit means the blend is Merlot-rich this year. Alongside 58% Merlot there is 39% Cabernet Sauvignon and 3% Petit Verdot, when Cabernet Sauvignon would usually dominate this *cuvée*. The alcohol is 13.68%, total acidity 3.46 g/l and the IPT 75. It has a dark and smoky nose of black olive and black raspberry. The palate shows a lovely broad and supple character, with great freshness, but also a surging backbone of ripe, polished, velvety and concentrated tannins. The overall effect is bold and substantial. This is an impressive second wine, ripe and energetic, with deliciously silky-velvety tannins. Very good indeed. 92-94/100 🍷

Wine Spectator

By James Molesworth

**CHÂTEAU DUCRU-BEAUCAILLOU St.-Julien La Croix Ducru-
Beaucaillou 2017 Score: 89-92**

Solid, with a fresh beam of plum, black currant and anise flavors riding along a racy graphite edge. Clear and focused. Not big but a textbook St.-Julien.—*J.M.*

LA CROIX DUCRU-BEAUCAILLOU ST.-JULIEN 2017

Thursday, April 5, 2018

Country	France
Region	Bordeaux
Vintage	2017

Score
92-93

This is very fresh and minerally with a salty and oyster shell character. Full body, tight and bright. Plenty of currant flavors too.



By Julia Harding MW

16.5

Ch Ducru-Beaucaillou, La Croix Ducru-Beaucaillou 2017 St-Julien

No frost – protected by the river. 58% Merlot, 39% Cabernet Sauvignon, 3% Petit Verdot – usually majority Cabernet Sauvignon. Merlot is on gravel and it had great freshness, says owner Bruno Borie. pH 3.74, TA (sulphuric) 3.46 g/l, IPT 75. Will be aged 12 months in French oak, 60% new.

Deep crimson. Again that scented cherry fruit that I tasted in Lalande Borie with just a hint of char. Savoury as well as sweet-fruited – definite red fruit on the silky mid palate. Firmer on the finish but lots of fruit in the middle and a long, juicy, fresh finish. Fine tannins and just a hint of chocolate-sweet tannins on the finish.

(JH) 13.68%

Drink 2024-2035

Decanter

Château Ducru-Beaucaillou, La Croix Ducru Beaucaillou, St- Julien 2017



Tasted by Jane Anson, (at Primeur week tastings in Bordeaux, 09 Apr 2018)



The Merlot here is grown on sandy-gravel soils and brings both freshness and structure. There's good balance, plush autumnal berry fruits and lovely spice, supported by well placed, delicate tannins. It's a clear Médoc twist on the varietal, even though this is a little lusher and more approachable than in recent years where Cabernet Sauvignon has been higher in the blend - last year it was at 66%, but vintage conditions in 2017 affected some of the crop. It's a little different in expression from 2016, but is an extremely high quality, great drinking wine. 3.74pH. IPT 75.

Drinking Window 2025 - 2038

JEB DUNNUCK

2017 La Croix Ducru-Beaucaillou

Tasting Notes

90-92

TASTING DATE

04/23/2018

A blend of 58% Merlot, 39% Cabernet Sauvignon, and 3% Petit Verdot, 60% new oak, the deep ruby-colored 2017 La Croix Ducru-Beaucaillou from the charismatic winemaker Bruno Borie is another elegant, seamless wine from this vintage. It's certainly a high-quality second wine. (It's more like a second cuvée as it comes from a designated sector of vines.) Crème de cassis, crushed flowers, violets, and forest floor notes all flow to a medium-bodied, silky 2017 that has fine, fine tannin and plenty of length. Drink it while you wait on the Grand Vin.

THE WINE CELLAR INSIDER

By Jeff Leve

2017 La Croix Ducru-Beaucaillou – Dried flowers, cocoa, plums, cherry and cassis create a wine that's fruity and fresh, sweet and round and light on its feet. The finish of licorice and ripe, red berries is easy to like and already delicious to drink. From a blend of 58% Cabernet Sauvignon, 39% Merlot and 3% Petit Verdot, the wine reached 13.68% alcohol and is aging in 60% new, French oak barrels.

91-93



LA CROIX
DUCRU-BEAUCAILLOU®



SAINT-JULIEN

MIS EN BOUTEILLE AU CHATEAU

JEAN-EUGÈNE BORIE - PROPRIÉTAIRE À SAINT-JULIEN