



March 2018

# Château Malartic-Lagravière Red 2015

## Classified Growth of Graves in Red and in White Appellation Pessac-Léognan (A.O.C.)

### Vintage

#### Uniformity and perfect weather conditions for a huge vintage.

The cold, wet winter was followed by a historically warm, dry spring until the end of July. Some welcome rain contributed to a perfect development of the ripening phase in August.

There was a magnificent period of Indian summer weather. A few spells of rain in early September and mid-October did not harm the grapes' excellent state of health and the steady progression in their degrees of ripeness. The red grapes' harvest started on September, 21st but most of them were picked between September, 29th and October, 7th. The Cabernet followed from October, 12th in radiant sunshine.

Uniformity and perfect health are the vintage's key characteristics. This result is a truly sublime expression of Malartic's mosaic of terroirs. Each plot has been able to reveal its full personality. The rich aromatic palette has been enhanced by a soft and tailor-made ageing that reinforced the expression of a very nice complexity.

#### 2015, an impressive Malartic !

#### Harvest period

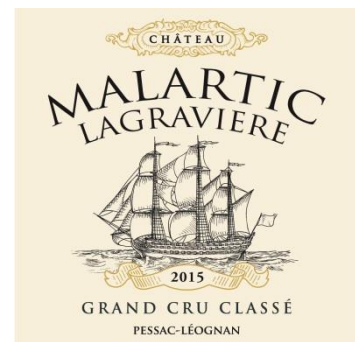
Merlots	From 21 september to 7 october 2015
Cabernet-Sauvignon	From 12 to 15 october 2015
Cabernet-Franc	8 october 2015
Petit-Verdot	8 october 2015

#### Blend

Cabernet-Sauvignon	53 %
Merlot	35 %
Petit-Verdot	7 %
Cabernet-Franc	5 %

#### Technical data

Total area (A.O.C.)	53 hectares
Area in red (A.O.C.)	46 hectares
Geology	Well-drained gravels and clay gravels on shelly limestone and clay subsoil
Grape varieties	45% Merlot - 45% Cabernet-Sauvignon 8% Cabernet-Franc - 2% Petit-Verdot
Density of plantation	10 000 plants / ha
Average age of the vineyard	31 years old
Pruning method	Guyot double
Average yield	43 hl/ha
Harvest	Hand picking - Sustainable farming - High Value Environmental certification*
Vinification	Thermoregulated stainless steel or oak vats
Fermentation	About 30 days - 28 to 30° C
Ageing	Traditional on fine lies in French oak barrels - New oak 80%
Ageing period	18 months
Oenologist Consultants	Michel Rolland



\*(HVE, level 3 (the highest) since 2015. A unique reference of environmental quality, prioritizing biodiversity inside and all around plots.)



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## **Château Malartic-Lagravière Rouge 2015**

### **Press Release**

#### **Antonio Galloni – Vinous - February 2018**

**96+** The 2015 Malartic Lagravière is just as fabulous from bottle as it was from barrel. Rich, voluptuous and dramatic, it captures all of the natural intensity of the year. Black cherry, plum, mocha, chocolate, licorice and French oak build into a crescendo of stunning aromas, flavors and textures. This is in an especially dark, sumptuous style, but it all works beautifully. The 2015 was positively thrilling each of the three times I tasted it. 2023 - 2035

#### **James Suckling - jamezsuckling.com – February 2018**

**96** Deeper wine from the get-go with dark violets, mocha, cassis and blackberries. The palate has suave, smooth and sturdy tannins and terrific length. Very polished and seamless with flavors of fresh black cherries, blackcurrants and blue plums. Best from 2022.

#### **Roger Voss – Wine Enthusiast – January 2018**

**96** Full of black-currant flavor, this firm wine has structure and a rich texture. Its bolstering tannins and vibrant acidity mark out an age-worthy selection. Spice tones and a dry core set the stage for a slow development into an even more complex and fulfilling wine. Drink from 2025.

#### **Neal Martin – The Wine Advocate - February 2018**

**94** The 2015 Malartic Lagravière has enjoyed a fine run of form in recent vintages. This is a blend of 52% Cabernet Sauvignon and 35% Merlot with smaller portions of Petit Verdot and Cabernet Franc. It has a comparatively flamboyant bouquet for the appellation with scents of raspberry, crushed strawberry, cedar and a touch of graphite that lends it a Pauillac-like veneer. The palate is medium-bodied with fine tannin, crisp acidity, more black than red fruit infused with pencil lead and smoke. It fans out wonderfully toward the finish, completing a wonderful Malartic Lagravière that will age with panache. Anticipated maturity: 2020 - 2045.

#### **Stephen Brook - Decanter - January 2018**

**94** Michel Roland is the consultant, so Merlot plays an important role. The blackcurrant nose oozes charm. Rich but understated, oaky and textured, with a spicy complexity that leads to a poised finish. Drink 2020-2035 Alc 14%

#### **Lisa Perrotti-Brown - robertparker.com – February 2018**

##### **92 Top 40 Bdx Red wine Bargains for 2015 (under \$50)**

Aged 18 months in French oak barrels, 80% of which were new and 20% one-year-old, the 2015 Malartic Lagravière is a blend of 53% Cabernet Sauvignon, 35% Merlot, 5% Cabernet Franc, and 7% Petit Verdot. Deep garnet-purple in color, it has notes of crushed black currants, fresh black berries and black raspberries with hints of tar, dried herbs and garrigue. The palate is medium-bodied, energetic and refreshing in the mouth with firm, grainy tannins and an uplifting finish. 2019 – 2033

#### **James Molesworth - Winespectator.com - March 2018**

**92** A slightly high-pitched style, with a mix of red currant and raspberry fruit laced with rooibos tea and blood orange notes. A good snap of licorice adds weight on the finish, showing a flash of tar. Has sneaky depth and should evolve well in the cellar. Best from 2020 through 2028. 10,000 cases made.



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**Jeb Dunnuck - Jeb Dunnuck.com - Novembre 2017**

**92** The 2015 Malartic-Lagravière is also terrific and comes from a 46-hectares vineyard in Léognan. Made from 53% Cabernet Sauvignon, 35% Merlot and the rest Cabernet Franc and Petit Verdot, it offers a smorgasbord of aromatics including red currants, ripe cherries, cassis, licorice, toasty oak, and spice. With full-bodied richness, building tannin, and a rounded, sumptuous style, as well as a great finish, it's going to benefit from several years in the cellar and keep for 15-20 years. Tasted three times.

**Olivier Poels – RVF Hors série - Novembre 2017**

**17,5** Malartic-Lagravière 2015 impressionne par sa puissance, sa densité, la belle maturité de son fruit qui demeure vibrant. Impressionnante finale explosive.

**Yves Beck - Le carnet de dégustation d'Yves Beck - Février 2018**

**94** Pourpre aux reflets violets. Bouquet complexe, aux notes fruitées et épicées. Beaucoup de finesse, agréables effluves de baies noires. Attaque friande et fruitée. Au palais, le vin est crémeux et doté d'une structure qui lui confère de la fraîcheur et du caractère. Elle soutient parfaitement le caractère aromatique jusqu'en fin de bouche. Les tannins sont denses et bien intégrés. Finale fruitée et persistante. Un vin gourmand mais également puissant, doté d'un excellent potentiel de garde. Bravo. 2023-2040

**Guide Bettane & Desseauve 2017**

**17,5 - 18** Puissant

**Panos Kakaviatos - www.wine-chronicles.com - June 2016**

**92 94+** Somewhat roasted on the palate, just after having assessed the brighter Olivier, so here we have a riper style, with oak evident but never aggressive. Let's talk about seduction and solid expression at the same time, shall we? I would have liked just a bit more freshness to increase a notion of elegance, but barrel ageing will soften things out, and it will be a darn tooting, delicious wine!

**Jeannie Cho Lee - The Pan - June 2016**

**94**

**Sylvie Tonnaire - Terre de Vins - Mai 2016**

**18 Coup de cœur.** Dès le nez, le vin joue dans la cour des très grands. Entre délicatesse framboisée, cerise noire épicée et accents de truffe noire, on plonge littéralement dans le verre. Parmi les plus belles réussites de l'appellation, une vraie ballerine.

**Rolf Bichsel Barbara Schroeder - Vinum - Mai 2016**

**17** Gut gebaut, kompakt, dicht, hoher, aber nicht übertriebener Extrakt, frisches, fruchtiges Finale; durch und durch gelungen.