



June 2018

Château Malartic-Lagravière Red 2017

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

Vintage

An early and challenging 2017 vintage, in which the Malartic teams rose to the occasion!

Climatic conditions were marked by **historic frosts** in late April, that impacted especially the second wines. Fortunately, this was followed by some excellent spring weather, resulting in a fast, uniform and **beautiful flowering mid-May**. The late spring with a heatwave period was followed by an uneven summer but this promoted excellent ripening.

We approached the harvest early September with optimism. The whites, with great concentrations and nice freshness, showed **superb aromas**.

The reds quickly followed two weeks later (14 September to 3 October): This harvests required a **responsive approach**: relatively early and intense, but calm. The changeable weather forced a day-to-day monitoring but without ever overwhelming us.

Despite low volumes, the grapes had ripened very well, thanks to the careful selection work carried out after the frost by our team.

For the whites, the aromatic profiles are superb; the wines show a crisp line of acidity, good tightness and a pleasant sappiness, with plenty of fruit and a good quality framework.

The Malartic reds also present beautiful aromatic concentrations, with delicious fruitiness accompanied by a pleasant freshness, a sure sign of balance. The tannins are ripe, with a velvety, rounded texture. **Overall, the impression is of superb complexity and depth.**

Harvest period

Merlots	from September, 14h to 20 th 2017
Cabernet-Sauvignon	From September 26th to October 3 rd 2017
Cabernet-Franc	September 26th 2017
Petit-Verdot	September 26th 2017

Blend

Cabernet-Sauvignon	65 %
Merlot	30 %
Cabernet-Franc	2 %
Petit-Verdot	2 %

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	22 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 45%
Ageing period	in progress
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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Press Release

wineenthusiast.com – Roger Voss – 2017 Barrel Sample – April 2018

94-96 Barrel Sample. An impressively concentrated wine this is full of rich tannins and dark black plum notes. Its structure and smoky character meld with rich black fruits and spice flavors; this is a wine for aging. Drink from 2024.

jamesuckling.com – James Suckling – Bordeaux En Primeur 2017 Review – April 2018

92-93 A firm and silky wine with a creamy freshness and firm tannins. Dark berries and wet earth. Medium to full body. Linear and tight.

Decanter.com – Jane Anson – Bordeaux En Primeur 2017 – April 2018

93 A carefully extracted, well-constructed palate delivers a sense of finesse and freshness. The fruit is not particularly expressive on the attack - you need to sit down with this for a while and wait, allow those retracting tannins to soften and unwind. Eventually, a gorgeously pure expression of cassis comes curling through, with liquorice and woodsmoke notes rounding things off. Needs time.

thewinecellarinsider.com – Jeffe Leve – 2017 Pessac Leognan Tasting Notes, Harvest info for Red and White Wine – April 2018

92-94 The wine opens with the warm toke of a luxurious cigar brushed with graphite and rich with dark fruits. Silky textures, round and with verve on the palette, the wine is polished and juicy. Here, the wine is all fruit and lift with creamy but lively tannins. Using almost 40% less new oak than the previous vintage, the fruit demonstrates its charms early on. Produced from a blend of 65% Cabernet Sauvignon, 30% Merlot, 3% Petit Verdot and 2% Cabernet Franc, the wine reached 13.5% alcohol. The higher portion of Cabernet Sauvignon is due to the frost, which damaged mostly Merlot vines. The harvest took place from September 14 to October 3.

mybettanedesseauve.fr – Bettane et Desseauve – Primeurs 2017: Les meilleures notes de Bettane+Desseauve pour les Graves et le Sauternais – Avril 2018

17,5-18 Notre meilleure note de dégustation à l'aveugle cette année, dans cette appellation, confirmée une seconde fois au château. Remarquable finesse, texture d'une élégance superlative. Rétro-olfaction fraîche sur un menthol de premier grand cru. Bravo.

winespectator.com – James Molesworth – 2017 Bordeaux Barrel Tastings – April 2018

90-93 Juicy, with a supple feel to the cassis and cherry compote flavors. Offers a bright iron note, fresh acidity and a long, polished finish.

robertparker.com – Lisa Perrotti-Brown – 2017 Bordeaux En Primeur – The Vintage Divergence – April 2018

89-91 The tentative blend of the 2017 Malartic Lagraviere is 65% Cabernet Sauvignon, 30% Merlot, 3% Cabernet Franc and 2% Petit Verdot. Deep garnet-purple colored, it is a little closed, offering hints of tar, tilled black soil and yeast extract over a core of blackberries and warm red plums plus a waft of bay leaves. Medium-bodied with a good amount of elegant red and black fruits plus delicately played chewy tannins and a lively backbone, it finishes on an earthy note.

Vinous.com – Antonio Galloni – 2017 Bordeaux: The Heart of the Matter – May 2018

90-93 The 2017 Malartic Lagravière is dense, powerful and explosive. Succulent dark cherry, raspberry jam, chocolate, sweet spice and heavy toast notes give the 2017 its extroverted, racy personality. Malartic Lagravière is one of the more flamboyant wines readers will taste in 2017. Tasted four times.



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Vinous.com – Neal Martin – The F-Word: Bordeaux 2017 – May 2018

90-92 The 2017 Malartic Lagravière Rouge has a precise and focused bouquet with blackberry, briary and mineral scents that gain intensity with aeration. The palate is medium-bodied with firm, grippy tannin. This is a more masculine and structured Malartic-Lagravière that might lack the sophistication of recent vintages but delivers fine depth towards the finish. Hopefully the élevage will soften up the edges to make this more approachable by the time it is bottled.

jebdunnuck.com – Jeb Dunnuck – 2017 Bordeaux: A good yet irregular vintage – April 2018

89-91 I was able to taste the 2017 Château Malartic-Lagravière two times and it showed consistently on both occasions. Sporting a deep, inky color as well as terrific notes of blackcurrants, black cherries, tobacco leaf, and bouquet garni, it's medium-bodied, moderately concentrated, charming, and impeccably balanced. It's going to drink nicely in its youth yet keep for a decade or more as well.

tastingbook.com – Markus del Monego – En Primeur Tasting Vintage 2017 – April 2018

93 Dark purple red with violet hue and black core. Well concentrated nose with aroma reminiscent of blackcurrants, elderberries and hints of dark chocolate. On the palate well structured with firm tannins, full-bodied character with elegant fruit and convincing length.

Vert de Vin – Jonathan Choukroun Chicheportiche – Bordeaux En Primeur 2017 – Avril 2018

94 Le nez est aromatique, élégant et harmonieux. On y retrouve des notes de cassis juteux, de mûre charnue et plus légèrement de baies charnues associées à de petites touches de réglisse, de vanille, de toasté, de graves/minéralité ainsi qu'à une très discrète pointe de baies noires, à une subtile pointe de thé et à une très discrète pointe de fleurs/lys (en fond). La bouche est fruitée, équilibrée et offre une jolie rondeur, du gras, une bonne définition, de la minéralité racée, une bonne fraîcheur, une jolie précision, du volume, de la jutosité ainsi qu'une trame acide. En bouche ce vin exprime des notes de cassis charnus/juteux et de mûre juteuse associées à de petites notes de toasté de toasté, de noisette, de vanille ainsi qu'à une subtile pointe de caramélisation, de chocolat (en fond). Les tannins sont un peu fermes et très légèrement poudrés.

bmybordeaux.blogspot.fr – Christer Byklum – 2017 Primeur Pessac-Léognan – April 2018

92-94 Ruby. Cassis, blueberries, anise, spices and minerals nose. Fresh acidity, ripe tannins, fruity, spices, anise, detailed, minerals, long.

La Revue du Vin de France – Olivier Poels – Dégustations Primeurs 2017 – Mai 2018

16,5-17,5 Le cru maintient une bonne vitesse de croisière. 2017 est encore une très belle réussite, avec un vin d'un profil défini et droit. Belle qualité de tanins au grain fin et jolie allonge. Il devrait encore prendre de l'étoffe à l'élevage.

jancisrobinson.com – Jancis Robinson.com – Bordeaux 2017: Pessac-Leognan and Graves reds – April 2018

16,5 Deep crimson. Dark, nicely dusty cassis. Dark chocolate and graphite finesse. Dry, fine tannins with the graphite freshness marked on the finish. Elegant, if not charming at the moment. Attractive restraint. (JH)
Drink 2023-2032

matthewjukes.com – Matthew Jukes – The Bordeaux Report 2017 En Primeur – April 2018

16,5+ The tannins are a little too fierce and the fruit is a little too timid, but this is a lovely wine and I like the flavour of the fruit and the length. If the tannins calm down, and I have a feeling that they will, this will work out to be a genial, medium-weight and nicely perfumed wine.



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Terre de Vins – Yohan Castaing – 2017 Millésime Courage – Avril 2018

90 Nez fumé, un peu épices avec quelques touches de verdeur. Bouche moyennement dense, des tanins serrés, de l'allonge certes mais un vin qui reste sur la retenue.

lesechos.fr – Gérard Muteaud, Jean-Francis Péresse – Notre sélection des meilleurs Bordeaux 2017 – Avril 2018

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idealwine.net – Angélique De Lencquesaing – Primeurs 2017: nos coups de cœur à Pessac-Léognan – Avril 2018

Atteint à 50% par le gel, tant en rouge qu'en blanc, le Château Malartic-Lagravière tire malgré tout remarquablement son épingle du jeu. Les merlots ayant souffert au moment de la vendange, l'assemblage octroie une part supérieure au cabernet sauvignon cette année (65%). Le 2017 qui devrait être prêt relativement rapidement se caractérise par un fruit tendre. L'ensemble est doté d'une belle tension et d'une agréable fraîcheur.