

CHATEAU LAROQUE

SAINT-ÉMILION GRAND CRU CLASSÉ

2016

*Since the 12th century, Château Laroque has occupied an historical terroir,
a mix of limestone rock and fine clays, superbly located on the slopes
and high point of the plateau of Saint-Emilion.*



TERROIRS	Plateau made up of chestnut-coloured and red clays over asteria limestone with east-facing terraces and west-facing slopes of very chalky, fine blueish clays.
VINEYARD	61 hectares (151 acres) of old vines from massal selections - Merlot and Cabernet of over 50 years old.
HARVEST	Manual harvesting on a plot-by-plot basis according to terroir and ripeness. The Merlot was picked on 13 and 14 October, and from 17 to 22 October. The Cabernets on 22 October.
BLEND	95% Merlot, 4.5% Cabernet Franc and 0.5% Cabernet Sauvignon
YIELD AND SELECTION	48hl/ha, with painstaking selection of 47% of the grapes and juices to go into the First Wine
SECOND WINE	Les Tours de Laroque
ANALYSIS DATA	ALC: 14.35° - pH: 3.38
VINIFICATION	Vat-filling using gravity flow and whole uncrushed berries. Plot by plot vinification in small capacity concrete vats. Gentle extraction via a mix of punching down of cap and pump-overs. Protective macerations aiming for more flesh and salinity.
AGEING	Reductive ageing on fine lees partially in barriques and partially in large French and Austrian oak casks (50% of new wood). 1st racking after 4 to 6 months ageing (before the summer); the 2nd one year later, before the bottling. Bottled from 2 to 6 July 2018.

CONTACT

CHATEAU LAROQUE A member of the Association des Grands Crus de Saint-Emilion

The Beaumartin family (owners) - David Suire (manager)

33330 Saint-Christophe des Bardes – France. + 33 5 57 24 77 28 . contact@chateau-laroque.com . www.chateau-laroque.com



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COMMENTS IN THE PRESS

DECANTER – JANE ANSON / 93

“This is an attractive wine with darkly spiced fruits and good acidity that's just giving out the right amount of mouthwatering tension. **I'm not sure I've tasted a better example of this wine.** The blend is 95% Merlot, 4.5% Cabernet Franc and 0.5% Cabernet Sauvignon. Drinking Window 2027 -2050.” – April, 2017.

JEAN-MARC QUARIN / 92

“Le meilleur jamais fait ! Voici le deuxième millésime complet de David Suire. Couleur sombre, intense, belle et pourpre. Nez intense, fin, fruité, frais et mûr. Charnu et fondant dès l'entrée en bouche, le vin se développe moelleux, caressant, avec du goût, de l'énergie et une longue finale séveuse et parfumée aux nuances d'agrumes. 2016 est donc **le Laroque le plus complet et le plus charnu que je connaisse. Bravo !**” – Avril 2017.

JAMES SUCKLING / 93-94

“A very long and intense red with blackberries, blueberries and blackcurrants on the nose. Medium to full body, firm and silky tannins and a long finish.” – April, 2017.

THE WINE DOCTOR – CHRIS KISSACK / 93-95

“The estate has an impressive 61 hectares of vines, although this cuvée is a hard selection, taking just 47% of what was picked. David Suire, who is making the wine here now, reports the season started with an early budbreak, but a later harvest, ten days past the norm. For the Merlots the harvest was on October 13th and 14th, and then from the 17th to the 22nd, this comprising 95% of the blend. This was followed by the Cabernets, also on October 22nd. This 5% includes 4.5% Cabernet Franc and 0.5% Cabernet Sauvignon. The yield was 48 hl/ha. The 2016 Laroque has a beautiful nose, with very pure fruit, fresh and bright, perfumed with struck limestone, rose petals and peony. This has far more interest than I ever recall finding in Laroque before now. It has quite a saturated hue as well. The palate is fresh, pure, with a creamed-fruit concentration, sweet and dark plum, ripe and pretty, underpinned by ripe tannins. It is fresh, pure, bright, with creamed fruits, silky ripe tannins, and fresh acid lift. This is very impressive, and it has some length and sweetness of character as well. Those perfumed aromatics are very promising. This is **surely the best Laroque I have tasted.**” – April, 2017.

THE WINE CELLAR INSIDER – JEFF LEVE / 92-94

“With a worthy depth of color, this wine reveals dark berries, earth and licorice in the fragrance. The fruit is sweet and juicy. There is complexity and vibrancy with a long, persistent boysenberry and black cherry finish. The wine was made with 95% Merlot, 4.5% Cabernet Franc and 0.5% Cabernet Sauvignon, reaching 14.5% alcohol with a pH of 3.35. This is the second vintage for Laroque with David Suire, the new director who has achieved great success in his efforts here.” – April, 2017.

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WEINWISSENER – TJARK WITZGALL / 17,5

“Sattes Purpur mit violetterm Rand. Dichtes Kirschbouquet und rote Johannisbeere im Duft. Im engmaschigen Gaumen mit viel Schattenmorellensaft, geradliniger Struktur und aromatischem Finale. Auf dem Weg zur nächsthöheren Note. Ein echter Geheimtipp! 2025-2036.” – April, 2017.

REVUE DU VIN DE FRANCE / 16,5-17/20

“Race, finesse, tension : un résumé du millésime sur le plateau calcaire. 95 % merlot : « Le cépage a été brillant cette année ». L'harmonie précoce de la pulpe et de la droiture de l'axe tannique s'affiche en effet avec éclat. Dans la géographie du goût de Saint-Emilion, **la finesse et la saveur déliée, « calcaire »**, situent ce vin plus près du village qu'il ne l'est réellement.” – Avril 2017.

VINIFERA - JACQUES PERRIN / 92-94

“Le nez se développe sur des notes très fruitées, de cerise et de mûre notamment. Entrée en bouche pulpeuse. Souple et charnu, il finit sur un tanin savoureux, au fruité croquant. La persistance est douce et laisse une empreinte fraîche. **Très jolie réussite pour cette propriété** dirigée depuis deux ans par David Suire qui y accomplit un travail remarquable.” – Mai 2017.

BERNARD BURTSCHY / 17

“La robe est sombre avec des arômes fins et floraux. Le vin est suave, charmant, tout en douceur, très élégant, raffiné. **Une grande réussite, très « vin du plateau »**.” – Avril 2017.

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