

Château Mouton Rothschild 2021

CSPC# 756553

750mlx3

13.1% alc./vol.

Grape Variety 89% Cabernet Sauvignon, 10% Merlot, 1% Cabernet Franc
Appellation Pauillac
Classification First Growth. Premier Grand Cru Classe in 1855 & in 1973
Website <http://www.chateau-mouton-rothschild.com/>
Analysis pH: 3.73 IPT: 59
Sustainability While respecting the best that tradition and ancestral know-how have to offer, Baron Philippe de Rothschild constantly seeks to innovate within a sustainable development framework.

Château Mouton Rothschild bears witness to that commitment to modernity with its new vat-house, inaugurated in June 2013. Its gravity-feed design and French oak vats, of different sizes and fitted for the first time in the World with transparent staves, enable the winemakers to observe the fermentation process and optimise grape selection at harvest-time and on blending.

General Info Château Mouton Rothschild, owned by Baroness Philippine de Rothschild and her children, is regarded as one of the world's greatest wines. The story of Mouton Rothschild is that of a magical combination of soil, climate, and devotion of one man, Baron Philippe de Rothschild (1902-1988), Baroness Philippine's father. In 1853, Baron Nathaniel de Rothschild, from the English branch of the family, bought Château Brane-Mouton and immediately renamed it in Mouton Rothschild. Baron Philippe de Rothschild, when he took over the estate in 1922, decided to devote his life to it and to make Mouton unique, producing the very best wine. In 1924, he was the first to introduce entire chateau bottling. In 1926, he built the majestic 100-metre barrel hall. In 1945, to celebrate the liberation of France, he had the idea of crowning the label of that year's vintage with a V for Victory. Since then, a different label is created for each vintage by famous painters. In 1962, he opened the Museum of Wine in Art. In 1973, he obtained the revision of the 1855 classification so that Mouton would be officially recognized as a First Growth.

About the Label The Japanese artist Chiharu Shiota has created the original artwork *Universe of Mouton* for the label for the 2021 Château Mouton Rothschild.

In her drawing, the fragile silhouette of a human figure faces gorgeous, generous nature. It is not the center of attention but seems small compared to the environment. It is as though the figure is holding onto the balance between nature and humans. Its grip cannot be too tight, or the thread will break, nor too loose or else the cloud will blow away and the connection will be broken.

Chiharu Shiota was born in Osaka in 1972 and is currently based in Berlin. Shiota's inspiration often emerges from a personal experience or emotion which she expands into universal human concerns such as life, death, and relationships.

"When I visited Château Mouton Rothschild, I was very inspired by their relationship with nature. They depend on the weather and do not interfere with mother nature. They accept the conditions in which the grapes grow. I think Mouton is holding on to the balance of human and nature." - Chiharu Shiota

Winemaker Philippe Dhalluin

Vintage After a mild and wetter-than-average winter, budbreak took place early and evenly in late March. This was followed by a very dry April, including a significant cold spell, fortunately without incidence on our vineyards thanks to the influence of the nearby Gironde estuary. May brought cool and damp weather which slowed vine growth. Flowering consequently took place within the average dates and in excellent conditions resulting from a marked rise in temperature. Unsettled and stormy conditions from mid-June to mid-July activated mildew, which remained virulent until the end of veraison. Fortunately, draught in August and early September halted the disease, while the resulting water stress improved the quality potential of the grapes grown on our gravel soils. This period was crucial for the maturity of the pips, the development of the tannic structure and the appearance of fruit aromas and flavours. Despite a severe threat of disease at the approach of harvest, the quality of our terroir combined with an alert, responsive and cohesive team of pickers working at a sustained pace enabled us to bring in a healthy



Vintage	crop at optimum maturity. The 2021 vintage having matured in conditions more typical of northerly latitudes, shows a return to the classic equilibrium of vintages from a generation ago, yielding fresh, well-balanced and well-structured wines that will reveal their full complexity with time.
Vineyards	The Mouton vineyards incorporate 75 hectares of typical gravelly soil over a base of sand, clay, marl and limestone. They are situated on a mound or <i>motte</i> at an altitude of approximately 40 metres, dizzying heights for the flat and undulating land of the Medoc. It is widely thought that <i>motte</i> is the origin of the name Mouton, the local Bordeaux dialect providing us with as many words for mound, hill or hillock as there are perhaps fish in the <i>Gironde</i> . It does not derive, as some rather unkind individuals have postulated (I say unkind because the accusation brings rural, rustic tones), from the French for sheep, <i>mouton</i> , although this might be suggested by the grazing pasture that abuts the estate. The vines are 80% Cabernet Sauvignon, 10% Cabernet Franc, 8% Merlot, 2% Petit Verdot, planted at a density of 8500 hectares, with an admirable average age of around 50 years.
Harvest	Harvested from 25 September to 6 October
Maturation	Once harvested, fermentation is in 225-hectolitre vats of wood, with a maceration of 15 to 25 days. Then comes up to 22 months in oak before bottling.
Tasting Notes	The wine is dark red with a lustrous purple hue. The intense and elegant nose displays seductively scented blackberry and blackcurrant aromas, combined with floral touches of iris set off by touches of spice and cedarwood. A luscious, succulent attack leads into a beautifully balanced, fresh, and harmonious palate on which bigarreau cherry flavors are enfolded in a structure of sapid, patrician tannins. Sustained by an attractive minerality, the long, lingering finish reveals spicy fresh fruit notes.
Serve with	Chateau Mouton Rothschild is best served at 15.5 degrees Celsius, 60 degrees Fahrenheit. The cool, almost cellar temperature gives the wine more freshness and lift. Chateau Mouton Rothschild is best paired with all types of classic meat dishes, veal, pork, beef, lamb, duck, game, roast chicken, roasted, braised, and grilled dishes.
Production	Approx. 20,000 cases annually
Cellaring	Drink 2031-2061
Scores/Awards	<p>94 points - William Kelley, Wine Advocate - February 2024</p> <p>95-96 points - William Kelley, Wine Advocate - April 2022</p> <p>91-93 points - Lisa Perrotti-Brown, The Wine Independent - May 2022</p> <p>96-97 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - May 2022</p> <p>95-97 points - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - June 2022</p> <p>17.5+ points - James Lawther, JancisRobinson.com - May 2022</p> <p>96 points - Georgina Hindle, Decanter.com - March 2022</p> <p>95 points - Jane Anson, janeanson.com - May 2022</p> <p>95-97 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - May 2022</p> <p>97 points - Tim Atkin, MW - timatkin.com (score only) - April 2022</p> <p>94-96 points - Thomas Parker, Farr Vintners - April 2022</p> <p>94 points - Neal Martin, Vinous - February 2024</p> <p>93-95 points - Neal Martin, Vinous - May 2022</p> <p>96 points - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - February 2024</p> <p>94-96 points - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - May 2022</p> <p>95 points - Jeb Dunnuck MW - March 2024</p> <p>93-95 points - Jeb Dunnuck MW - June 2022</p> <p>19.5 points - Matthew Jukes - August 2022</p> <p>97 points - Jean Marc Quarin (score only) - April 2022</p> <p>95 points - Peter Moser, Falstaff Magazine - May 2022</p> <p>98 points - Vert de Vin - July 2022</p> <p>96 points - Bettane & Desseauve (score only) - May 2022</p>
Reviews	<p><i>"The 2021 Mouton Rothschild unwinds in the glass with rich aromas of dark berries and minty cassis mingled with espresso roast, dark chocolate, smoked meats, and toasty new oak. It has taken on weight with élevage in barrel, exhibiting a full-bodied, rich, and layered palate that's impressively muscular and multidimensional, with a deep core of fruit and plenty of sweet, powdery structuring tannin, concluding with a long, discreetly carnal finish."</i></p> <p>- WK, Wine Advocate</p>

Reviews

"The 2021 Mouton Rothschild is a terrific wine in the making, unfurling in the glass with aromas of cherries and wild berries mingled with notions of violets, espresso roast, pipe tobacco and mint. Medium to full-bodied, deep, and seamless, it's a layered, enveloping wine that's ample and concentrated, with succulent acids, melting tannins and a long, resonant finish. A blend of 89% Cabernet Sauvignon, 10% Merlot and 1% Cabernet Franc that attained 13.1% alcohol, this is a demonstrative, sensual Mouton that's the fruit of extreme selection, and that may well make my score seem conservative with further élevage. Bravo to the talented Jean-Emmanuel Danjoy and his team."

- WK, Wine Advocate

"The 2021 Mouton Rothschild is composed of 89% Cabernet Sauvignon, 10% Merlot, and 1% Cabernet Franc, harvested from 25 September to 6 October, and aging in 100% new oak. Deep purple-black colored, it needs a little swirling to unlock classic notions of warm cassis, pencil shavings, and ripe black plums, leading to hints of lavender, cracked black pepper, and crushed rocks. Light to medium-bodied, the palate is tightly wound with layers of black fruits and mineral undertones, framed by fine-grained tannins and bags of freshness, finishing on a lingering iron ore note. pH 3.73. IPT 59."

- LPB, Wine Independent

"A firm and compact Mouton with a powerful tannin frame for the vintage, yet it remains fine and precise as it opens to a velvety texture. Black fruit with tar, pencil lead and tobacco. Driven and firm. A little angular and tight at the moment."

- JS, JamesSuckling.com

"95–97. Barrel Sample. Big, rich, and sumptuously smoky, this has density and power. Its blackberry tones are structured, with a core of tannins. This very fine wine has all the classic attributes of a Mouton, just slightly lighter."

- RV, Wine Enthusiast

"89% Cabernet Sauvignon, 10% Merlot, 1% Cabernet Franc. Cask sample. Blackcurrant and cranberry notes indicate the dominance of Cabernet in the blend. Meaty but fresh on the palate, the tannins silky and dense. Plenty of substance here, the fruit generous, the tannins firm, providing length on the finish. Rich, within the context of the vintage, but fresh at the same time. Looks to have staying power. (JL) 13.1%. Drink 2030 – 2050."

- JL, JancisRobinson.com

"Gorgeous deep pink, purple rim to the glass. The nose is bright and intense, heady with perfumed aromatics and edges of graphite, cocoa, and sweet red cherries. Such clarity on the palate, excellent tension from the get-go with beautifully expressed cherry and strawberry fruit that has a soft, ripe fleshy core. The tannins are fine but plentiful, coating the mouth providing the structure and frame. This has such a sense of quiet confidence - it's not shouting so much but gently showing off its many layers of fruit, acidity, minerality and freshness. This really grows on you, expanding and deepening as the flavours travel across the palate, coming in waves. Understated and introverted at the moment but still harmonious and classy. I love it."

- GH, Decanter.com

"Jewel-ruby in colour, crystalline reflections. This is less exuberant than a usual Mouton, more of a classic Pauillac with intensity and depth through the palate. Plenty of grip and length, with rich layers of raspberry and blackberry fruits and curls of gunsmoke, liquorice and cocoa bean, giving hints of a more generous wine that should be released further over ageing. Focused and supple. 100% new oak. 3.73pH, 59IPT, 41hl/h yield. Harvest September 25 until October 6. The first vintage, where it was Jean-Emmanuel Danjoy from beginning to end, after Philippe Dhalluin's retirement. 41% of overall production in Mouton. Strong candidate for an upscore in bottle."

- JA, janeanson.com

Reviews

“Deep garnet with purple accents around the rim. Asian spice, cedar, tobacco leaf, cocoa, licorice, flowers, and blackberries, with black cherry and light notes of espresso show up with ease on the nose. The wine is full-bodied, with incredible polish, plushness, and supple textures, yet it remains classic in style and character. Balanced on the corners of freshness, length, character, and complexity. This is not a Mouton Rothschild that is about concentration, flamboyance, and power. Instead, it is focused on its purity, energy and refined, silky tannins. It is also not a vintage that will demand decades to develop into maturity. It should be gorgeous to drink with perhaps a decade of age and will evolve for at least 2-3 decades after that with ease. The wine blends 89% Cabernet Sauvignon, 10% Merlot and 1% Cabernet Franc, 13.1% ABV. The harvest took place September 25, finishing October 6. Drink from 2030-2060.”

- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

“The yield here was a fairly normal 40 hl/ha in 2021 but a strict selection process has resulted in 20% less grand vin than last year. The blend is 89% Cabernet Sauvignon, 10% Merlot and 1% Cabernet Franc. Deep purple colour. Pure cassis fruit wafts from the glass with incense, Chinese five spice, cedar and bonfire smoke. The palate is sinewy and chewy, plentiful Cabernet tannins offering a bold structure for the vintage. Pencil shavings add a savoury note to fine black fruit on the palate, which is layered, long and linear. This is a deep, brooding iteration of 2021 and is a vin de garde. Very long on the finish. This may well be a conservative score - there is clear potential, but the wine is quite folded in on itself for now.”

- TP, Farr Vintners

“The 2021 Mouton-Rothschild, matured in 100% new oak for 18 months, has a "serious" Cabernet-driven bouquet, just as it had out of barrel. Graphite-infused black fruit mixes with tobacco and touches of incense, the latter a feature that I did not notice previously. The palate is medium-bodied with pliant tannins. Silky smooth in texture, it has indeed gained a little weight, especially toward the back. Possessing very pure fruit and harmonious with a linear yet elegant finish, this is a classically styled Mouton-Rothschild that will age with grace.”

- NM, Vinous

“The 2021 Mouton Rothschild marks a return to the classic style of this First Growth after three hot vintages. Unsurprisingly, the Cabernet Sauvignon takes control and expresses cigar smoke and graphite aromas. This is very well defined, yet examining the wine over several minutes, I was searching in vain for that "magic touch" exuded in recent vintages. The palate is beautifully-knit, quite edgy on the opening, comparatively slender and markedly sapid. Unapologetically linear on the finish, it is as if the growing season snipped off the frills that defines a great Mouton-Rothschild. This is a very fine First Growth, yet I hope it just gains a bit of weight and, to use a more accurate word, "presence", during the remainder of its barrel maturation.”

- NM, Vinous

“The 2021 Mouton Rothschild is gorgeous, just as it was en primeur. A wine of stature and vertical build, the 2021 is wonderfully poised from the outset. Beams of tannin add to an impression of explosive lift. Touches of mocha, spice, new leather, cedar, and blood orange begin to emerge with a bit of time in the glass. The Grand Vin is pretty imposing at this stage. I would not be in a rush.”

- AG, Vinous

“The 2021 Mouton Rothschild is a potent, tightly wound Pauillac that will need a number of years to come together. Driving in its intensity, with searing tannins, the 2021 comes across as a bit severe today, with less of the charm and sensuality that is such a Mouton signature.”

- AG, Vinous

“As to the Grand Vin 2021 Château Mouton Rothschild, this beauty is in the running for one of the wines of the vintage, and it brings more depth, richness, and texture than just about anything else in the Médoc. A blend of 89% Cabernet Sauvignon, 10% Merlot, and 1% Cabernet Franc that was brought up in new barrels, it sports a dense purple/plum hue as well as powerful aromatics of spicy black fruits, leafy tobacco, graphite, and freshly sharpened pencils. Medium to full-bodied on the palate, it has a building, layered mouthfeel and impressive concentration and intensity in its aromas and flavors, velvety tannins, and gorgeous finish. You'd be hard pressed to know this came from a challenging vintage. It's going to take at least 5-7 years to hit the early stages of its prime drinking window and will evolve gracefully over the following 20-25 years. Bravo. For tech geeks out there, this hit 13.1% alcohol, has an IPT of 59, and a pH of 3.73.”

- Jeb Dunnuck

Reviews *“The 2021 Château Mouton Rothschild is terrific, and while it plays in the more medium-bodied, elegant style of the vintage, it’s perfectly balanced and has plenty of richness as well as texture. A blend of 89% Cabernet Sauvignon, 10% Merlot, and the rest Cabernet Franc, brought up in new barrels, it’s a charming, balanced, elegant, forward Mouton.”*

- Jeb Dunnuck

“This is a captivating Mouton, and the perfume alone is enough to stop you in your tracks. Exotically nuanced with chypre, fresh tobacco and spices leading the way, this aromatic fanfare does an extraordinary job of offsetting the simply epic fruit notes. The ‘anti-fruit’ balances perfectly the super-luxe Cabernet-dominant juiciness making it seem less exuberant and more innately sophisticated. There is no wine in the world like Mouton, and there is no flavour in 2021 like this wine. The stars have aligned here, and beyond the arrestingly pure Cabernet comes deliciously toothsome tannin. Super-fine, rhythmically abrasive, and amazingly classy, I could eat these tannins off a spoon, they are so hedonistically appointed. This is a wine built from the tannins up, and yet it is not a skyscraper, nor is this a skyscraper vintage. It is a thrillingly complex and labyrinthine creation with so many twists and turns of flavour, and none of them flashy or ostentatious, that it keeps you guessing from the start to the very end. It is an old soul in a young body or old vines in a new wine. It is also the epitome of the vintage itself – a triumph. 19.5.”

- Matthew Jukes

“Deep dark ruby red, opaque core, purple tints at the rim. Fine noble wood spices, black forest berries, cassis, hints of candied orange zest, cloves; a classic bouquet. Juicy, elegant, ripe cherries, fine, silky tannins, mineral and fresh, a balanced wine, already accessible, shows finesse and good length.”

- PM, Falstaff Magazine

“The nose is elegant and shows concentration (in precision), straightforwardness (in delicacy), finesse, depth and a certain concentration. There are notes of bright/juicy blackcurrant, fresh/pulpy raspberry and more lightly violet plum combined with hints of lily, cherry blossom and delicate floral/complex notes, subtle hints of lily blossom, cherry blossom, racy minerality, discreet hints of toasted almond and nutmeg. The palate is fruity and demonstrates an acidic structure, juiciness, good definition, a nice complexity, sapidity, a nice elegance in its classicism, a sense of uprightness in a sense of detail, a certain gourmandize, an acidic structure, tension in minerality, finesse, some straightness in delicacy/precision, a little stretch. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy cherry, juicy violet plum and, more slightly, violet, combined with touches of fresh/pulpy cherry as well as fine points of tonka bean, cardamine, liquorice stick, lily flowers, racy minerality, and discreet hints of cocoa. Fine chewiness on the finish/persistence. The tannins are soft, precise, and appetising. Such finesse and balance!”

- Vert de Vin
