Château Pédesclaux 2016

CSPC# 866177 12x750ml 13.3% alc./vol.

Grape Variety Appellation Classification Website

48% Cabernet Sauvignon, 45% Merlot, 4% Petit Verdot, 5% Cabernet Franc.

Pauillac

5th Grand Cru Classé

https://www.chateau-pedesclaux.com/en/

Sustainability Starting in 2019, 100% of their vineyards were farmed organically.

Since the Lorenzetti family acquired the estate in 2009, respect for the land and for the environment have been at the heart of their approach to viticulture. Once they had restructured the vineyards and acquired several high-quality plots, they introduced exacting and sustainable farming methods to improve the land. By acting as responsible, environmentally aware citizens and by exerting ceaseless effort to improve the flavour of the wines, the Lorenzetti family have been able to highlight the unique character of the Pauillac terroir.

In 2022, Chateau Pédesclaux was certified as being 100% organic.

General Info

Chateau Pédesclaux was created by its namesake, Pierre Urbain Pédesclaux in 1810 when he purchased vineyard land from another Pauillac estate, Grand Puy. The Pédesclaux family were already established in Bordeaux as Negociants when they added winemakers to their resume.

In fact, Edmond Pédesclaux was one of the brokers that helped determine the original 1855 Classification of the Medoc. In 1883, the property was enlarged when the owner purchased vines from the Cruse family, who owned the neighboring estate of Chateau Pontet Canet at the time.

The Pédesclaux family eventually sold their Left Bank estate in 1891 to Count Gastebois. Chateau Pédesclaux passed through numerous owners' hands until 1950 when Lucien Jugla bought Chateau Pédesclaux. At the time of the purchase, Chateau Pédesclaux was in such bad shape from years of neglect, they were not even producing wine when Lucien Jugla took over Chateau Pédesclaux! Jugla was not a wealthy landowner. He worked at the estate for 20 years before he was able to purchase the vineyard. It was under the care of Lucien Jugla that the property and vineyards were slowly but surely restored. It was during the ownership of the Jugla family that the vineyards were planted with such a large proportion of Merlot vines.

In 1965, Chateau Pédesclaux was passed to his five children. Chateau Pédesclaux was modernized over a three-year period, finishing in 2007.

In 2009, the family sold Pédesclaux to Jacky Lorenzetti who already owned Château Lilian Ladouys in St. Estèphe. The transaction was completed with the financial engineering assistance of Vincent Mulliez to whom Lorenzetti has given responsibility for managing the new acquisition, as he did earlier for Lilian Ladouys. In February 2013, Jacky Lorenzetti added to his list of Bordeaux estates when he purchased 50% of Chateau d'Issan in Margaux, a well-known Third Growth chateau. This was followed by obtaining Chateau Lafon Rochet in 2022.

Jacky Lorenzetti enlarged the vineyards of Chateau Pédesclaux with the purchase of 12 hectares situated on the Milon plateau. These Medoc vines are located next to parcels owned by Chateau Lafite Rothschild and Chateau Mouton Rothschild.

Emmanuelle Cruse is the director of Pédesclaux today.

Winemakers Cella

Cellar master: Audrey Ricordi

Oenologist: Eric Boissenot

Vintage

The weather was marked by a rainy winter and spring. This challenging start to the growing season gave way to a hot and extremely dry summer. Fortunately, much-needed rains in September helped the grapes reach full maturity. The harvest took place perfectly, from September 29th to October 18th.



Vineyards

The 49-hectare, Left Bank vineyard of Chateau Pédesclaux is planted to 59% Cabernet-Sauvignon, 36% Merlot, 3% Petit Verdot, and 2% Cabernet Franc. This represents a continuing increase in Cabernet Sauvignon in the vineyards. Over time, it is the goal of the estate to continue increasing the portion of Cabernet Sauvignon in the vineyards and remove more of their Merlot vines.

The terroir of Chateau Pédesclaux is gravel over a clay subsoil. You can look at the vineyards of Chateau Pédesclaux easily if you divide them into 3 main parts. Some of their best parcels are on the slopes close to the chateau. They also have vines due south and west, both of which are next to Chateau d'Armailhac, and another parcel placed not far from Chateau Lynch Bages.

Harvest

The harvest took place perfectly, from September 29th to October 18th.

Vinification/ Maturation

The wines of Chateau Pédesclaux are produced in the following manner: after a 10-day cold soak at 8 degrees Celsius, the juice is fermented in 58 stainless steel tanks that range in size from 50 hectoliters to 150 hectoliters.

The extraction is achieved through délestages and pigeages. Two important changed starting in 2016, vinifying crushed berries and reducing the laceration time has clearly added more definition to the wines.

Malolactic fermentation takes place in a combination of vat and French oak barrels with 30% of the wine going through malolactic fermentation in the barrel.

The wine of Pédesclaux is aged in 60% new, French oak barrels for 16 months. For the first two months of barrel aging, the wine is aged on its lees. On average, Chateau Pédesclaux produces close to 9,000 cases of Bordeaux wine per year.

Tasting Notes

So aromatic with crushed currants, raspberries and blackberries with hints of graphite and lead pencil. Full-bodied and very tight with beautiful tannins and a long, flavorful finish. The tannins really build at the end of the palate. Try from 2024.

Serve with

Serve at 15.5 degrees Celsius, 60 degrees Fahrenheit. The cool, almost cellar temperature gives the wine more freshness and lift. Chateau Pédesclaux is best served with all types of classic meat dishes, veal, pork, beef, lamb, duck, game, roast chicken, roasted, braised, and grilled dishes. Chateau Pédesclaux is also good with Asian dishes, hearty fish courses like tuna, mushrooms, and pasta

Production Cellaring

Approx. 15,000 cases made

Drink 2024 - 2039

Scores/Awards

92 points - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - March 2019

93 points - Lisa Perrotti-Brown, Wine Advocate - November 2019

95 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - January 2019

16.5 points - Jancis Robinson, Jancis Robinson.com - December 2016

94 points - Jane Anson, Decanter.com - October 2018

93 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - April 2020

87 points - Tim Atkin, MW - timatkin.com (score only) - January 2016

94 points - Neal Martin, Vinous - January 2019

93 points - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - January 2019

94 points - Jeb Dunnuck MW - February 2019

93 points - Jean Marc Quarin (score only) - September 2022

93 points - Peter Moser, Falstaff Magazine - June 2017

16.5 points - La Revue du Vin France (score only) - January 2020

17 points - Vinum Wine Magazine (score only) - June 2019