Château Pédesclaux 2019

CSPC# 866177 750mlx12

13.64% alc./vol.

Grape Variety
Appellation
Classification
Website
Sustainability

72% Cabernet Sauvignon, 20% Merlot, 5% Cabernet Franc, 2% Petit Verdot
Pauillac

5th Grand Cru Classé

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

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

Cellar master: Audrey Ricordi

Vintage

Oenologist: Eric Boissenot

After a mild and relatively dry winter, the bud burst is very early. This is followed by a slowdown in the cycle of the vine from April to May, which ends on the weekend of Ascension with a very rapid flowering. This takes place in fantastic conditions. From June 21, dry weather sets in, with two heat waves: from June 26 to 27, and from July 22 to 25. Despite everything, the Médoc remains well protected thanks to the maritime entrances and the proximity of the estuary. The rains at the end of July enabled rapid veraison and those of mid-August led to





ripening in good conditions. The cool nights will preserve the acidity levels, guaranteeing aromatic freshness. While the degrees are balanced, the rains in September contribute to "plump up" the berries, which remain among the smallest and most concentrated observed in ten years at Pédesclaux. The harvest is spread over two weeks (from September 23 to October 05) and allows to capture a vibrant, dazzling fruit, in which each grape variety is sublimated. Already, balance and freshness are the hallmarks of this vintage.

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

Harvest September 23 to October 5.

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

In the unfolding story of Chateau Pédesclaux, 2019 is a vintage that will stand out for its combination of superb fruit and multiple layers of flavor – all thanks to the Cabernets that thrive so beautifully on the legendary gravel terroir of Pauillac. Ten years after the Lorenzetti family bought the property, 2019 will also mark the beginning of Chateau Pédesclaux's conversion to organic farming.

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

Approx. 9,000 cases made

Cellaring

Drink 2024- 2039

Scores/Awards

93-95 points - Lisa Perrotti-Brown, Wine Advocate - June 2020

94 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - February 2022

94-95 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - May 2020

94 points - Jane Anson, Decanter.com - June 2020

93 points - Jane Anson, Insidebordeaux.com - January 2022

93 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - March 2022

92-94 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - June 2020

91-93 points - Neal Martin, Vinous - June 2020

93 points - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - February 2022

91-93 points - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - June 2020

94+ points - Jeb Dunnuck MW - April 2022

93-95 points - Jeb Dunnuck MW - June 2020

92 points - Jean Marc Quarin (score only) - January 2020

92-94 points - Yves Beck (score only) - June 2020

93 points - Falstaff Magazine (score only) - February 2021

96 points - Terres de Vins (score only) - September 2021

94-95 points - Vert de Vin - April 2020

17 points - Vinum Wine Magazine (score only) - September 2020

Reviews

"Deep garnet-purple colored, the 2019 Pédesclaux has a beguiling perfume of violets, warm cassis, preserved plums, and licorice with suggestions of rose hip tea, dark chocolate, kirsch and cinnamon toast. Medium to fullbodied, the palate bursts with vibrant black and red fruits, supported by ripe, finely grained tannins and oodles of freshness, finishing long and fragrant. Gorgeous wine—bravo!" - LPB, Wine Advocate

Reviews

"This is really floral and beautiful with lavender, lilac and blackcurrant aromas that follow through to a medium to full body with firm, creamy tannins and a flavorful finish. It's very racy and refined with structure. Linear. Best after 2024."

- JS, JamesSuckling.com

"This is very structured with a deep, dark palate, showing tightness and reserve. Full-bodied, chewy, and linear. A very classic Pédesclaux with 72% cabernet sauvignon, which is one of the highest percentages ever."

- JS, JamesSuckling.com

"This vintage marks 10 years since Lorenzetti arrived at Pédesclaux and began his transformation of the property. He should be given full credit for his success, and this is a great vintage to get on-board. Almost opposite to the 2nd wine in terms of its blend, this is a full 72% Cabernet Sauvignon, with the lowest amount of Merlot in the estate's recent history (the plantings in the vineyard have halved since he arrived). You see the results in a slight austerity on the approach, as this is a serious wine with savoury, clearly defined cassis and bilberry fruit flavours and a clear layering up of tannins that give it Pauillac bite. 2% Petit Verdot completes the blend. 68% new oak, 3.8pH. Harvest September 23 to October 5. First year also of conversion to organics." - JA, Decanter.com

"Cedar, cigar box, currants, smoke, and tobacco leaf notes are all over the place. The wine hits your palate with a big gulp of chewy, dark red fruits, blackberry, herbs, and cassis. The finish is fresh, fruit-filled, long, and generous with a supple textured endnote. The wine blends 72% Cabernet Sauvignon, 20% Merlot, 6% Cabernet Franc and 2% Petit Verdot. I like how they continue increasing the amount of Cabernet Sauvignon in the blend here. This is a Pauillac on the rise."

- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

"Tobacco leaf, licorice, cedar, and forestry aromatics combine with cassis, red plum, pepper and cherry fruits on the nose. The medium-bodied palate offers a refined, red berry, spice-and-tobacco-tinged experience exuding freshness and purity of fruit. The wine blends 72% Cabernet Sauvignon, 20% Merlot, 6% Cabernet Franc and 2% Petit Verdot. The continually increasing percentage of Cabernet Sauvignon adds more character and complexity that is easy to taste."

- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

"The 2019 Pédesclaux has a clean and crisp bouquet with blackberry, bilberry and light cedar aromas, a discrete floral component that lends a Margaux-like personality. The palate is crisp and slightly chalky-textured on the entry. This is a fine-boned Pédesclaux with gentle grip. Maybe a little sterner than its peers but feels reassuringly persistent. Excellent. Tasted twice with consistent notes."

- NM, Vinous

"The 2019 Pédesclaux is quirky and full of character. It offers a beguiling mix of super-ripe dark fruit and savory Cabernet coupled with accents that offer a striking counterpoint. Black cherry, chocolate, new leather, spice, tobacco, incense, and scorched earth lead into the substantial finish. There's more raciness than finesse in this Pauillac, but it all works well."

- AG, Vinous

"Pédesclaux is terrific in 2019. Graphite, lavender, spice, plum and crème de cassis is all kicked up a few notches in a racy, voluptuous Pauillac that screams with character. The 2019 is a rich, heady wine that will drink well pretty much out of the gate, but it has plenty of underlying structure, too. Impressive."

- AG, Vinous

"A gorgeous wine, the 2019 Château Pédesclaux shines for its pure, elegant, yet concentrated style, and it's certainly one of the finest vintages from this address. Cassis, black cherries, lead pencil, and violet notes all emerge on the nose, and it's medium to full-bodied, with a seamless, elegant mouthfeel, ripe, polished tannins, and a great finish. The purity and finesse are truly something here, and while it already offers pleasure, it deserves 4-5 years of bottle age and will evolve for 20+ years. Rating: 94+. Best After 2026."

- Jeb Dunnuck



Reviews

"A classy Pauillac, the 2019 Château Pédesclaux is going to keep up with the top wines from this address as it has wonderful purity and elegance (which is the vintage) yet backs it up with beautiful mid-palate depth and concentration. Lots of blue fruits, cedary herbs, graphite, violets, and smoky earth notes dominate the bouquet, and it's youthful, tight, and unevolved yet still seamless and incredibly pure. This beautiful wine reminds me of the 2016 with its concentration paired with finesse."

- Jeb Dunnuck

"Dark ruby garnet, violet reflections, subtle lightening of the edges. Fine red forest berry confit, a hint of cherries, mineral touch. Juicy, elegant, pleasant extract sweetness, medium complexity, well-integrated tannins, some nougat on the finish, a versatile food accompaniment."

- Falstaff Magazine

"The nose is fruity, structured, racy and offers a fine straightness. It reveals notes of blackberry, ripe cassis, small notes of wild raspberry associated with small touches of strawberry, griotte, liquorice as well as a subtle hint of blueberry, violet and very discreet hints of tonka bean, cardamom and vanilla/toasted. the palate is fruity, racy and offers gourmandize, juiciness, precision, and a fine grain. On the palate this wine expresses notes of cassis, strawberry, small notes of juicy plum associated with touches of juicy/pulpy raspberry, violet and very fine hints of cocoa, nutmeg, and vanilla. Good length."

- Vert de Vin