

Château Carbonnieux 2015

CSPC# 891906

750mlx12

13.6% alc./vol.

Grape Variety	52% Cabernet Sauvignon, 40% Merlot, 8% Petit Verdot
Appellation	Pessac-Léognan
Classification	Grand Cru Classé
Website	https://carbonnieux.com/our-wines/?lang=en
Sustainability	In 2015 we were accepted in the first ISO 14001 certified Bordeaux EMS (Environmental Management System) association. This integration officially confirms our will to practise the most accurate and sustainable possible agriculture while ensuring the safety of our employees and confirming the identity of our wines.
General Info	<p>Chateau Carbonnieux has a long and extensive history in the Bordeaux wine appellation. In fact, it is one of the oldest estates in the entire Bordeaux wine region with a history dating back to the 12th century! The original chateau was first constructed during the years when the 100-year war was taking place. This is easily noticed when looking at the unique design that includes a myriad of historical features from the time period.</p> <p>Jumping ahead to the modern era for Chateau Carbonnieux, after World War 2 ended, Chateau Carbonnieux was in poor condition. By that time, only 29 hectares of vines were remaining. The original chateau had been uninhabited since the First World War and was also in bad shape.</p> <p>The wine making equipment was in even worse condition. After the Perrin family, headed by Marc Perrin, purchased the property, they renovated the entire estate and replanted a large portion of the vineyard. The cellars were renovated in 1990. Today, Chateau Carbonnieux is managed by his two sons Eric Perrin and Philibert Perrin.</p> <p>Chateau Carbonnieux has nice neighbors. In fact, they are situated close to Chateau Haut Bailly and Chateau Smith Haut Lafitte. The gravel based, Pessac Leognan vineyard of Chateau Carbonnieux is planted to red and white grapes. Interestingly, Chateau Carbonnieux is one of the few Bordeaux vineyards that continue maintaining plantings of all 5 red Bordeaux wine varieties.</p>
Sustainability	Plot management with environmental-friendly farming
Winemaker	Vineyard master: Freddy Flé Oenologist: Andréa Perrin Consultant: Christophe Ollivier
Vintage	The weather conditions for this vintage were extremely favourable for the production of very high quality grapes. The most favourable factor was the absence of rainfall between flowering and véraison in the summer. This resulted in water stress and therefore the formation of small berries, rich in tannins and anthocyanins. After fermentation, all the wines have deep colour; fleshy and powerful on the palate and with black fruit aromas. All the signs of an exceptional vintage. The growth cycle of the vines has progressed magnificently thanks to almost perfect weather at the right time. The budburst was rather late (around 8 April) and very homogeneous, probably due to hot conditions in this period that favoured a continuous flow of sap. The generally sunny spring resulted in a very even flowering around 2 June. This was followed by a warm and dry July, ideal for the early summer tasks (green harvest, de-leaving, disbudding...). Just as the plants could have started to show signs of stress, a good quantity of rain at the beginning of August replenished the vines and resulted in véraison between 7 and 10 August.
Vineyards	Chateau Carbonnieux is planted for the red wine, 47 hectares are planted to 60% Cabernet Sauvignon, 30% Merlot, 7% Cabernet Franc, 2% Malbec, about .5% Petit Verdot and .5% Carmenère. This makes Chateau Carbonnieux one of the few Bordeaux vineyards with plantings of all 6 allowable grape varieties. The Carmenère grapes are a new addition to their vineyard. On average, the vines for the red wine grapes are 32 years of age. 43 hectares are reserved for the white wine grape varieties.



Vineyards	The 90-hectare vineyard of Chateau Carbonnieux is perhaps the largest vineyard in Pessac Leognan. The vineyard of Chateau Carbonnieux is almost evenly split between plantings of the grapes to produce red wine and grapes to make white wine. You can easily divide the vineyard into 3 main sections that is on one large gravel hill. The terroir is gravel, sand, limestone, and clay soils. The large vineyard can be further sub divided into 119 different parcels. There are gravel slopes with elevation that rise to 50 meters at their peak.
Harvest	Merlot from 17/09 to 25/09 Petit Verdot on 21/09 and Cabernet Franc on 25/09 Cabernet Sauvignon from 28/09 to 08/10
Vinification/ Maturation	To produce the red wine of Chateau Carbonnieux, vinification takes place in stainless steel tanks. Malolactic fermentation takes place in tanks. The red wines of Chateau Carbonnieux are aged in 30% new, French oak barrels for an average of 15-18 months.
Tasting Notes	2015 puts smiles on our faces, it is the dream vintage in terms of quality and weather, white and red batches, in barrels today, confirm the promise we had already predicted during the harvest. However, the heat of July prevented the growth of certain berries, and the yields are lower than expected. The tastings of the blends we have just finished suggests a beautiful vintage worthy of the best years.
Serve with	Chateau Carbonnieux is best served at 15.5 degrees Celsius, 60 degrees Fahrenheit. The red wine of Chateau Carbonnieux is best served with all types of classic meat dishes or stewed meat, swordfish, tuna fish, cheese, chocolate desserts.
Production	15,000 cases made.
Cellaring	Drink 2019-2027
Scores/Awards	<p>92 points - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - March 2018</p> <p>90-93 points - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - April 2016</p> <p>92 points - Lisa Perrotti-Brown, Wine Advocate - February 2018</p> <p>91-93 points - Neal Martin, Wine Advocate - April 2016</p> <p>93 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - February 2018</p> <p>94 points - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - April 2018</p> <p>17 points - Jancis Robinson, JancisRobinson.com - April 2016</p> <p>17.5 points - Julia Harding, JancisRobinson.com - November 2017</p> <p>93 points - Jane Anson, Decanter.com - March 2018</p> <p>91 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - May 2018</p> <p>91 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - March 2018</p> <p>90-92 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - April 2016</p> <p>89 points - Tim Atkin, MW - timatkin.com (score only) - April 2016</p> <p>93 points - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - February 2018</p> <p>92 points - Jeb Dunnuck MW - November 2017</p> <p>88 points - Jean Marc Quarin (score only) - January 2016</p> <p>92 points - Peter Moser, Falstaff Magazine - March 2019</p> <p>17 points - La Revue du Vin France (score only) - January 2020</p> <p>17 points - Bettane & Desseauve (score only) - June 2018</p> <p>17 points - Vinum Wine Magazine (score only) - June 2018</p> <p>1 star - Le Guide Hachette des Vins - 2019</p>
Reviews	<p><i>"Offers enticing cassis, raspberry, and cherry paste flavors, showing flashes of mulling spice, sweet tobacco and warm earth. The plush structure gives this a suave and accessible feel through the finish, with a perfumed hint to boot. This should be very charming with short-term cellaring. Best from 2019 through 2027."</i></p> <p>- JM, Wine Spectator</p> <p><i>"Vibrant, with a tangy damson plum note lifting the dark currant and blackberry fruit, while subtle juniper and black tea accents line the finish. Shows good character."</i></p> <p>- JM, Wine Spectator</p> <p><i>"Medium garnet-purple in color, the 2015 Carbonnieux is very earthy with fallen leaves, mossy bark, and damp soil notions with a core of red currants and black raspberries plus a waft of wild thyme. The medium-bodied palate is firm, grainy and fresh with delicate red fruits and an earthy finish."</i></p> <p>- LPB, Wine Advocate</p> <p><i>"The 2015 Carbonnieux has a surprisingly high-toned and opulent bouquet, with kirsch and orange sorbet infusing the cassis and raspberry fruit. The palate is sweet and generous in style, harmonious in the mouth, with</i></p>

- Reviews** *the structure only becoming apparent as it wends its way to the finish. Perhaps it just cuts away a little swiftly, but otherwise this remains a very well-crafted and highly enjoyable Pessac-Léognan.*
- NM, Wine Advocate
- "The dark berry and iodine aromas are fascinating with bark and black tea undertones. Medium to full body, juicy fruit, and a savory finish. Hints of tobacco and chocolate. A longtime favorite. Drink in 2020."*
- JS, JamesSuckling.com
- "The firm tannins in this wine are dense and concentrated, ripe rather than dry. The fruit and juicy acidity give the wine richness and crispness at the same time. It has a great future."*
- RV, Wine Enthusiast
- "Very deep crimson. Intense, brooding nose. Pretty dry but well constituted. Dry finish. Quite ambitious. Seems pretty Cabernet."*
- JR, JancisRobinson.com
- "Deep crimson. Finest of tannins framing dark, elegant fruit. Complete and refined, subtle but with the promise of a long life. Savoury, rocky graphite finish. (JH) 2022 – 2035."*
- JH, JancisRobinson.com
- "This delicious wine impressed during en primeur, and still does - it's one of the best wines ever produced here, with succulent, fleshy but restrained black fruits and good balance. It's not one that you will have to wait forever to uncork."*
- JA, Decanter.com
- "Medium bodied, energetic, soft, earthy expression, that already shows an elegant, easy to drink charm. The finish delivers ripe, sweet, red berries and tobacco. This will be a pleasure to well early in life, yet it can be aged for more complexity."*
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com
- "Medium bodied, fresh, lively expression with soft tannins and a smoky bright red berry and earthy character that will drink well early in life."*
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com
- "Finesse, charm, and soft, polished, fresh, ripe, smoky, dark, red fruits make this medium-bodied wine quite the treat. "*
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com
- "The 2015 Carbonnieux is impressive. Dense and powerful in the glass, with layers of fruit and insistent, driving tannins, the 2015 has a lot to offer. Black cherry, smoke, scorched earth, licorice, cedar, and game fuse together and all the elements are very nicely balanced in this impeccable Pessac-Léognan."*
- AG, Vinous
- "The 2015 Château Carbonnieux is made from 52% Cabernet Sauvignon, 40% Merlot, and the rest Petit Verdot that spent 18 months in 30% new barrels. Classic notes of black cherries, ground herbs, licorice, and hints of earth all emerge from this medium-bodied, concentrated, structured Pessac that has ripe tannin and a good finish. It's backward and tight and needs 4-5 years of bottle age but should last for two decades. 92+."*
- Jeb Dunnuck
- "Dark ruby garnet, violet reflections, subtle lightening of the edges, delicately cocoa, tobacco-spice, fine nougat, ripe dark berries, delicate balsamic touch. Medium complexity, ripe cherries, touch of red berries, somewhat brittle tannins, astringent on the finish, needs some more time."*
- PM, Falstaff Magazine