

Château Beau-Séjour Bécot 2021

CSPC# 848990

750mlx6

14.3% alc./vol.

Grape Variety	<i>85% Merlot, 13% Cabernet Franc, 2% Cabernet Sauvignon</i>
Appellation	Saint Emilion
Classification	Premier Grand Cru Classe B in 2006.
Website	http://www.beausejour-becot.com/
Sustainability	Under the visionary leadership of Julien Barthe, Château Beau-Séjour Bécot has embraced modern winemaking techniques while remaining firmly rooted in tradition. Julien's commitment to sustainable viticulture and a deep respect for the land has led to organic farming practices in the vineyards
General Info	<p>Situated on the St Martin de Mazerat plateau, immediately to the west of the old town, Beau-Séjour Bécot lies in the very heart of Saint-Emilion.</p> <p>This historic vineyards of Chateau Beau-Sejour Bécot have a long and interesting history. Beau-Sejour Becot began life as an estate owned by the monks of St. Martin Abbey in St. Emilion. The monks managed the Bordeaux vineyards at what later become Chateau Canon. They also watched over the vines that were used to eventually create Beau-Sejour Becot.</p> <p>Beau-Sejour Becot found its name in 1787 with the help and idea of a member from the Figeac family. General Jacques de Carles, who was part of the Figeac family, said the estate should be called Beau-Sejour Becot. The name stuck! Skipping ahead over 100 years, Pierre-Paulin Ducarpe split the Beau-Sejour Becot vineyards between his two children, giving the chateau, plus other structures along with half his vineyards to his daughter. After she married, she took her husband's name, Duffau-Lagarosse. That marriage gave birth to what we now know of as Chateau Beausejour-Duffau-Lagarosse.</p> <p>In 1924, Chateau Beau-Sejour became the property of Doctor Jean Fagouet. Michel Becot, whose family lived in St. Emilion since 1760 owned Château La Carte since 1929. In 1969, the Becot's purchased Beau-Sejour, renaming it Beau-Sejour Becot. In 1979, the Bécot family enlarged Beau-Sejour Becot with the purchase of 11 acres of Bordeaux vineyards on the Trois Moulins plateau. Since 1985, the property has been managed by his sons, Gérard, and Dominique. Gerard's daughter, Juliette Becot is involved in running Beau-Sejour Becot, as well as the family's other properties in St. Emilion and Cotes de Castillon.</p> <p>Michel Bécot retired in 1985, turning over the management of the chateau to his two sons Gérard and Domonic. Juliette rejoined them in 2001.</p>
Winemakers	Thomas Duclot consultant.
Vintage	2021, the year of cold and quickly applied decisions. The heavy rain of winter and spring filled the soil at high speed. Beau-séjour Bécot had to closely monitor his vineyard to protect it from diseases such as mildew. But also the frost at the end of April which caused enormous damage to Saint Emilion. This is why candles were lit for three nights in order to record the temperature on the ground near the vines and buds of this 1er grand cru classified "B". Thanks to this teamwork and the unique terroir, the Beau-Séjour Bécot harvest was well protected despite everything. The harvest began in the second half of September and stretched out to gain some sunshine.
Vineyards	Situation: on the western plateau of Saint-Emilion, in the old parish of Saint-Martin de Mazerat. Surface area: 16,52 ha. Whole estate: 18,50 ha. Soil: chalk with fossilised starfish. Grape varieties: 70% Merlot, 24% Cabernet Franc, 6% Cabernet Sauvignon.
Vineyards Harvest	Planting density: 6,600 vines per hectare. Average vine age: 40 yrs.
Fermentation	Manual harvest from September 21 - October 12
	To vinify the wine of Chateau Beau-Sejour Becot, the grapes are table sorted three times. A portion of the grapes are whole berry fermented. Vinification takes place in stainless steel tanks ranging in size from 80 to 100 hectoliters following a 4-day cold maceration. Microbullage is performed during fermentation. Malolactic fermentation takes place in barrels with the first four months spent on the post-malo lees. The wine of



Maturation	Chateau Beau-Sejour Bécot is aged in 65% new French oak that comes from five different coopers, and 35% in tanks, amphorae, and casks. The wine is aged in barrels for 16 months. Michel Rolland is the consultant.
Tasting Notes	Harvest of Merlots from September 21 to October 8 and Cabernets from October 10 to 15. Wonderful burst of black fruit, blackberry, blackcurrant, violet and a touch of lilac and black cherry. Purity and sharpness. What pure, clean aromatic precision! Straight mouth, magnificently tense, structuring length, hyper-precise tannins for a Beau-Séjour Bécot very close to its terroir and with remarkable airy freshness. This vintage, unlike solar vintages, leaves this vintage without any filter and surely remains one of those which most express the Beau-Séjour Bécot terroir. Magnificent in its purity and limestone precision.
Serve with	Chateau Beau-Sejour Bécot is best served with all types of classic meat dishes, veal, pork, beef, lamb, duck, game, roast chicken, roasted, braised, and grilled dishes. Chateau Beau-Sejour Bécot is a perfect match with Asian dishes, hearty fish courses like tuna, mushrooms, and pasta as well as cheese.
Production	7,700 cases made
Cellaring	Drink 2027-2055
Scores/Awards	<p>95 points - William Kelley, Wine Advocate - February 2024</p> <p>93-95 points - William Kelley, Wine Advocate - April 2022</p> <p>90-92 points - Lisa Perrotti-Brown, The Wine Independent (score only) - May 2022</p> <p>93-94 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - May 2022</p> <p>95 points - Georgina Hindle, Decanter.com - March 2022</p> <p>96 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - March 2024</p> <p>94-95 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - May 2022</p> <p>91-93 points - Neal Martin, Vinous - May 2022</p> <p>95-97 points - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - May 2022</p> <p>92-94 points - Jeb Dunnuck MW - June 2022</p> <p>95 points - Jean Marc Quarin (score only) - April 2022</p> <p>96-97 points - Terres de Vins (score only) - April 2022</p> <p>98-99 points - Vert de Vin - July 2022</p> <p>94-95 points - Bettane & Desseauve (score only) - May 2022</p>
Reviews	<p><i>“The 2021 Beau-Séjour Bécot has realized all the potential it showed from barrel, unfurling in the glass with aromas of wild berries and plums mingled with notions of violets, lilac, forest floor and spices. Medium to full-bodied, deep, and pure, with a fleshy core of fruit that's framed by supple, polished tannins and bright acids, it's seamless and sensual, concluding with a long, mouthwatering finish. As readers may remember, it was cropped at 35 hectoliters per hectare, delivering a blend based on Merlot with some 13% Cabernet Franc and 2% Cabernet Sauvignon in a supporting role.”</i></p> <p>- WK, Wine Advocate</p> <p><i>“Aromas of deep berry fruit, dark chocolate, subtle spices, and dried flowers introduce the 2021 Beau-Séjour Bécot, a medium to full-bodied, velvety, and seamless wine that's lively and layered, with a deep core of fruit, ripe tannins, and a long, saline finish. Cropped at 35 hectoliters per hectare and based on Merlot with some 13% Cabernet Franc and 2% Cabernet Sauvignon in a supporting role, its quality reflects a growing season of relentless efforts and the impact of extra sorting equipment rented on the eve of harvest. Fully four hectares of Beau-Séjour Bécot are lying fallow, and two more, recently replanted (with massale selections), are entering production only this year. That amounts to huge restructuring for an estate that only amounts to 22 hectares, sitting on Saint-Émilion's limestone plateau, and it will be fascinating to see the results. What has transformed this estate since 2018, however, has just as much to do with a change of approach in the winery and cellar as it does a change in the vineyards. Long but gentle macerations, more judicious extraction, and a much defter touch with the choice of new oak are delivering wines of much greater finesse and complexity, without any loss of intensity, and the quality of this superb terroir is at last front and center in the glass. The 2021 vintage is the result of very exigent sorting and attention to detail in the timing of the harvest, and it has all the makings of one of the Right Bank highlights of the year.”</i></p> <p>- WK, Wine Advocate</p> <p><i>“Lots of blue fruit with violets and a hint of boysenberry. Medium body integrated and fine tannins and a cool, linear finish. Solid length and brightness.”</i></p> <p>- JS, JamesSuckling.com</p> <p><i>“Rose-edged raspberries on the nose with blackcurrant leaf, soft herbal, and earthy tones too. Gently floral and perfumed – so welcoming. Direct and streamlined on the palate with gently chalky/creamy tannins that are so integrated they just glide across the tongue settling around the mouth giving a salty tang to the juicy</i></p>

Reviews *red and black fruit. Such a lovely freshness; this is delicate in terms of texture and overall frame but well positioned and expressive, benefiting from racy acidity and fruit density. It's harmonious and balanced with such detail on the palate giving transparency of the vintage, the terroir, and the grapes. Confident and finessed: a distinguished 2021 that will give a lot of drinking pleasure. 3.5pH. 32hl/ha Drinking Window 2026 - 2045."*
- GH, Decanter.com

"Licorice, cherries, flowers, cocoa, oceanic nuances, and hint of cigar wrapper aromas crowd into the perfume. On the palate, the wine expresses purity, energy, grace, and lift. The tannins are silky, the character is refined, relaxed, and most importantly, there is a gorgeous sense of purity in the red fruits that you sense in the mid-palate, all the way through to the elegant, long, energetic, sensual finish. The wine blends 85% Merlot, 13% Cabernet Franc, and 2% Cabernet Sauvignon. This is a major success for the vintage. Drink from 2025-2050."
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

"Flowers, cherries, licorice, leafy herbs, spice, tobacco leaf and dark chocolate create the perfume. On the palate the wine is lush, soft, fresh, clean, and most importantly, the wine expresses a gorgeous sense of purity in the red fruits that you sense in the mid-palate, which carries all the way through to the elegant, fresh, vibrant, long, energetic, sensual finish. The wine blends 85% Merlot, 13% Cabernet Franc and 2% Cabernet Sauvignon, 13.5% ABV. The harvest took place September 21 - October 12. Drink from 2025-2050."
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

"The 2021 Beau-Séjour-Bécot was picked September 21 to October 15, almost a whole month, with crews working half-days to pick at optimal maturity in each parcel. Yields were 33hL/ha, and the wine matured in 55% new oak, 25% amphora and 20% used barrels for a planned 16 months. Tasted twice; the first sample was a bit bashful, but the bottle poured at the château was much better. It has a mixture of red and black fruit, dried rose petal, bergamot, and a touch of chalk. The palate is medium-bodied with fine definition, a fine level of acidity (pH 3.5) and mineral-laden red fruit. It shows fine transparency and appreciable energy and tension."
- NM, Vinous

"The 2021 Beau-Séjour-Bécot is one of the most elegant wines I have ever tasted here. Pliant and deep, with striking depth, the 2021 is outrageously beautiful. All the elements come together so effortlessly. Dark fruit, mocha, spice, licorice, and incense all build in the glass. The creamy tannins are impossibly refined for the year, while the finish is eternal. The 2021 is a real stunner. Readers won't want to miss it!"
- AG, Vinous

"I loved the 2021 Beau-Séjour Bécot. This is just straight-up class with its ripe red plum and bright cherry fruit as well as mineral-laced aromatics of tobacco leaf and flowers. Medium-bodied on the palate, it has the freshness and purity of the vintage, terrific balance, ripe yet certainly present tannins, and a great finish. It's a beautiful wine in the making."
- Jeb Dunnuck

"A lovely powerful nose (with finesse), nicely racy and revealing intensity with accuracy, mastery, elegance, harmony, straightforwardness with elegance and a certain strength of limestone. There are notes of bright wild blackberry, dark berries and a hint of limestone combined with hints of graphite, spice, wild strawberry and fine peppercorns, lily, and a subtle hint of cardamom and almost camphor. The palate is beautifully managed, balanced, racy and reveals freshness, tension, accuracy, juiciness, a nice acidic backbone, a fine "infusion" side, a nice finesse of the grain as well as a mastered power. On the palate, this wine expresses juicy/pulpy blackcurrant, juicy/pulpy cherry and slightly juicy/fresh dark berries notes combined with fine touches of bright wild strawberry, fine hints of liquorice, bourbon vanilla, a subtle hint of juicy/pulpy blueberry as well as discreet cardamom and an imperceptible hint of tobacco, cinnamon, and oriental spices. The tannins are well conducted, elegant, mellow, and sapid. Good length and persistence. Subtle and meticulous in its freshness and gourmandize/generosity."
- Vert de Vin