

# Château Canon La Gaffeliere 2021

CSPC# 848991

750mlx6

13.5% alc./vol.



<b>Grape Variety</b>	45% Cabernet Franc, 35% Merlot, 20% Cabernet Sauvignon
<b>Appellation</b>	Saint Emilion
<b>Classification</b>	Premier Grand Cru Classé B
<b>Website</b>	<a href="https://www.neipperg.com/medias/fichiers/ANGLAIS/canon-la-gaffeliere/FT%20CLG%202021%20GB.pdf">https://www.neipperg.com/medias/fichiers/ANGLAIS/canon-la-gaffeliere/FT%20CLG%202021%20GB.pdf</a>
<b>Organic</b>	Organic Certified by FR-BIO-10, since 2014. The viticultural practices over at Château Canon La Gaffelière are all about sustainable farming. Here, organic compost is used with a mixture of regular ploughing to help with aeration. The grapes are 100% Organically Certified, and some of the oldest vines on the property are 80 years old.
<b>General Info</b>	<p>The von Neipperg counts are descended from a noble line dating back to the Holy Roman Empire. This family has contributed great soldiers and illustrious diplomats throughout the centuries. Responsible for numerous military exploits, the family's long history is grounded in their attachment to their land. In fact, the Counts von Neipperg have been making fine wine there since the 12th century.</p> <p>In 1985, Stephan von Neipperg was officially named estate manager and proceeded to make in-depth changes at Canon La Gaffelière. He started by making a complete analysis of data concerning his vineyard and then drew logical conclusions of what needed doing. His collaboration at a later date with e also contributed to Canon La Gaffelière's reputation around the world.</p>
<b>Winemaker</b>	Stephan von Neipperg
<b>Vintage</b>	<p>For Bordeaux, the vintage is defined by two opposing climatic factors:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1) Tumultuous weather conditions during the first half of the year, with frost, heavy rainfall, and cooler than average summer temperatures. A warm winter and early spring prompted early budbreak, which resulted in vines that were vulnerable to frosts, and May and June saw downpours of rain which created significant mildew pressure.</li><li>2) An extraordinary end to the growing season, when the sun finally made an appearance in late August and an anticyclone weather system brought calm, fine weather to what had been chaotic conditions. Doom-mongering meteorologists forecast storms at the end of September into October, but these largely didn't materialise and those who were prepared to ride out the weather were rewarded with grapes attaining full ripeness and the choice of when to pick in late September for Merlot and October for Cabernet Sauvignon.</li></ol>
<b>Vineyards</b>	The 19.5-hectare vineyard has a complex, outstanding terroir of clay-limestone and clay-sand soil. The topsoil is primarily sandy, increasingly so as one moves away from the slope. The vines, an average of 45 years old, are deeply rooted in the soil and absorb all the goodness in the terroir. They are mostly replaced individually rather than plot by plot (which maintains the average age). The last major replanting dates back to 1986. Mass selection is practiced. This is especially useful in order to perpetuate the precious old Cabernet Franc vines. It not only maintains the vineyard's genetic heritage, but also its unique balance
<b>Harvest</b>	By hand, into small crates to avoid bruising. Harvested 28 <sup>th</sup> September to 14 <sup>th</sup> October. A yield of 30 hl/ha
<b>Vinification/ Maturation</b>	Fermentation in wooden vats for 29 days. Extraction by pneumatic pigeage (punching down the cap). Ageing in new oak barrels (40%) on the lees for 15 months. No fining.
<b>Tasting Notes</b>	Aromatic and harmonious, but very tightly wound, 2021 from Château Canon-La-Gaffelière is full of refined dark fruit flavours, floral notes, mint and crushed rock aromas. Deeper, truffle and incense aromas develop on the palate. Well knitted together and balanced, it has bright acidity and a spicy, peppery finish.
<b>Serve with</b>	Serve with all types of classic meat dishes, veal, pork, beef, lamb, duck, game, roast chicken, roasted, braised, and grilled dishes.
<b>Production</b>	4,000 cases made.
<b>Cellaring</b>	Drink 2024-2035
<b>Scores/Awards</b>	<p><b>92 points</b> - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - April 2024</p> <p><b>93-95 points</b> - William Kelley, Wine Advocate - April 2022</p> <p><b>91-93 points</b> - Lisa Perrotti-Brown, The Wine Independent - May 2022</p>

**Scores/Awards** **94-95 points** - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - May 2022  
**95 points** - Georgina Hindle, Decanter.com - March 2022  
**94 points** - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - March 2024  
**93-95 points** - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - May 2022  
**91 points** - Neal Martin, Vinous - February 2024  
**91-93 points** - Neal Martin, Vinous - May 2022  
**96 points** - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - February 2024  
**94-96 points** - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - May 2022  
**93-95 points** - Jeb Dunnuck MW - June 2022  
**18+ points** - Matthew Jukes - August 2022  
**88 points** - Jean Marc Quarin (score only) - April 2022  
**93 points** - Peter Moser, Falstaff Magazine - May 2022  
**95-96 points** - Vert de Vin - July 2022  
**95 points** - Bettane & Desseauve (score only) - May 2022

**Reviews** *"Shows gently mulled plum and blackberry fruit flavors that have good flesh and energy, while savory and sous-bois accents peek in throughout. Maintains enough juiciness through the finish too, letting the fruit play out in an unencumbered manner. Drink now through 2035. 4,000 cases made."*  
- JM, Wine Spectator

*"The 2021 Canon la Gaffelière is beautiful, bursting from the glass with aromas of rose petals, lilac, sweet berry fruit, burning embers and warm spices. Medium to full-bodied, seamless, and elegant, with a fleshy core of fruit, lively acids, and beautifully refined tannins, it's the highlight of the von Neipperg portfolio this year. Cabernet Franc, as usual, takes the lead."*  
- WK, Wine Advocate

*"Medium to deep garnet-purple in color, it sashays out of the glass with a lovely perfume of violets, Sichuan pepper and dried herbs, leading to a core of redcurrant jelly, cassis, and stewed red plums. The light to medium-bodied palate is delicately played, with a light chew of tannins and soft-spoken fruit, finishing savory."*  
- LPB, Wine Independent

*"Lovely, perfumed character with cherries, spices, and flowers. Medium-bodied, firm and polished with solid tannins and a fresh finish. Pure. Light coffee and walnuts. Well crafted."*  
- JS, JamesSuckling.com

*"This has a gorgeous herbal-fruity nose, scented, fresh and lively with raspberry leaf. Impactful on the palate straight away - the fine-grained tannins hit the mouth and expand slowly alongside the liquorice spice and dark berry fruit with violet aromas. It's direct and linear at the moment, taut, and driven in one line. You feel it's coiled up ready to spring with strawberry fruit and the Cabernet aspects coming through. It's delicately textured, the mouthfeel is light and bouncy while the flavours slowly expand vertically. Touches of sweetness, bitterness and minerality appear, adding interest from start to finish. I love the clarity you get. Impactful and full of complexity. Will be lovely to taste this in bottle. 5% more Cabernet Franc and 5% Cabernet Sauvignon than usual as some Merlot was lost to frost and mildew. A production of 98% grand vin."*  
- GH, Decanter.com

*"Elegant, refined, supple and fresh, initially you notice its bouquet filled flowers, dark cherries, spearmint, flowers, red fruits, and spices. The palate is already offering its array of sweet, red berries, with their chalky accents. All of the oak has completely integrated leaving you with the vestiges of supple-textured, red fruits, spices, salt, and crushed stones. Utilizing 45% Cabernet Franc, 35% Merlot and 20% Cabernet Sauvignon, it is interesting to note this blend represents the highest portion of Cabernet used in the history of the estate."*  
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

*"On the nose you find cigar wrapper, spearmint, flowers, leafy herbs, red fruits, and spices. Fresh, crisp, elegant, bright, chewy, and chalky on the palate, this is what modern classic Bordeaux is all about. The wine finishes with sweet, red fruits before moving to the intense minerality and spicy notes in the backend. 13% ABV. Yields were only 30 hectoliters per hectare due to frost and mildew. The harvest took place, September 28 - October 14. Drink from 2025-2048."*  
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

## Reviews

*“The 2021 Canon La Gaffelière has a satisfying bouquet that has much more fruité than the Clos de l'Oratoire, displaying scents of red plum, wild strawberry, violet and white flower. Its aromatics are not intense, but this has commendable presence. The palate is medium-bodied with pliant tannins, finely balanced though relatively light compared to fellow vintages. It reveals a dash of cracked black pepper toward the finish.”*

- NM, Vinous

*“The 2021 Canon La Gaffelière was picked September 28 to October 14 at 30hL/ha and contains a little more Cabernet Franc this year (45%). It has an elegant, pure bouquet, unfurling to offer dark cherries, incense, and violet aromas; the new oak (40%) is well integrated. The refined, understated palate is quite mineral-driven, featuring black truffle and ground black pepper and turning spicy toward the finish. Displaying fine complexity, this Canon-la-Gaffelière should give 15–20 years of drinking pleasure.”*

- NM, Vinous

*“The 2021 Canon-La-Gaffelière is gorgeous, but it is also very closed today. I view that as a positive for its long-term prospects, but readers need to be patient here. The 2021 is a super-classic Canon-La-Gaffelière redolent of strong floral and mineral accents. Its energy and sheer breeding are truly remarkable. I can't wait to taste it with bottle age. Bright saline notes extend the long, beautifully persistent finish. The 2021 was aged 40% in new oak, 20% in tank and the remainder in used oak and 400-liter barrels. This really pulses with energy.”*

- AG, Vinous

*“The 2021 Canon La Gaffelière is striking. Aromatic and expressive, with no hard edges, the 2021 impresses with its balance and overall harmony. All the elements are so nicely integrated. Crushed red berry fruit, white flowers, mint, rose petal and orange zest all race through this super-appealing, mid-weight Saint-Émilion. The 2021 is so well put together. It's such a sensual wine.”*

- AG, Vinous

*“One of the gems out there, the 2021 Château Canon-La-Gaffelière is well worth seeking out. Giving up ample blue fruits, medium to full-bodied richness, ripe tannins, and complex, pure aromatics of violets, iron, and tobacco, it shines for its balance and elegance while bringing terrific depth of fruit. Count me impressed.”*

- Jeb Dunnuck

*“There is a balance between the piercingly fresh perfume with violets and fresh tobacco tones and the severely tense, mineral-drenched finish. In between, there is a silky luge of plum fruit that races across the palate. I do not doubt that this mid-palate will build and build, and, as I taste and swirl, I can unlock tightly bound fruit notes that will relax over time and add flesh and silkiness to the whole. Beautiful and restrained, this is a hidden gem in 2021 and a wine that demands time, and this sets it apart from the hordes of more forward candidates.”*

- Matthew Jukes

*“Dark ruby red fading to purple at the rim. Fine herbal savouriness, black cherries, delicate tobacco, nuances of blackberries. Medium complexity, red cherries, slender and lively, salty minerality, lemony touch on the finish, red berry aftertaste; an animated food companion.”*

- PM, Falstaff Magazine

*“The nose is elegant, racy, distinguished and reveals a fine grain, a nice finesse in its power. There are notes of wild blackberry, bright blue berries and more lightly of fleshy/juicy wild strawberry combined with delicate notes of violet, cherry blossom, a subtle hint of bergamot and salinity. The palate is fruity and reveals juiciness, smoothness, a mineral backbone, a nice work of bitter taste, a fine unctuousness, finesse, and a nice purity of fruit. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of roasted cherry, pulpy/sparkling raspberry and, more slightly, juicy blackcurrant, combined with hints of juicy/ripe red berries, fine nuances of lily, blueberry, as well as delicate notes of nutmeg, liquorice, and a very discreet hint of caramelisation and salinity.”*

- Vert de Vin