

Le Dragon de Quintus 2019

CSPC# 866182

750mlx6

15.0% alc./vol.

Grape Variety

86% Merlot, 14% Cabernet Franc

Appellation

Saint-Emilion

Classification

2nd wine

Website

https://chateau-quintus.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/Fiche-technique_Quintus_2019_EN.pdf

Sustainability

The continuous work of all the Quintus teams committed to this environmental approach has been rewarded by the estate obtaining dual certification: High Environmental Value (HEV) since 2018 and ISO 14001 since 2019, within the collective framework of the first association for the EMS (Environmental Management System) of Bordeaux wines.

The aim of the teams is to enhance the remarkable terroir of Quintus, by assisting and protecting its ecosystem without ever altering its expression by intervening excessively. Their philosophy is therefore one of a reasoned and adapted approach to the terroir of Quintus.

General Info

Chateau Quintus did not take its name from a previous owner like so many chateaux in St. Emilion. That's because the rebirth of the estate, and its new name, officially came into being in 2011.

This took place after being purchased in May 2011, from Count Leo de Malet-Roquefort, the owner of La Gaffeliere, by Domaine Clarence Dillon, who also owns Chateau Haut Brion and Chateau La Mission Haut Brion in Pessac Leognan.

Previously known as Chateau Tertre Daugay, the new owners chose to rename the estate Quintus, because it is considered the fifth Bordeaux wine owned and produced by Domaine Clarence Dillon.

Quintus is translated from Latin into the number 5. Many ancient Roman families named their fifth child Quintus. As the Romans were the first people to plant vines in Saint Emilion, and this is the 5th winery for the company, the name is quite fitting. At the time of the purchase by Domaines Clarence Dillon, the vineyard of Quintus was 15 hectares. However, that changed in 2013 when it was announced that the vines from Chateau L'Arrosee would be merged with Quintus, creating a much larger vineyard that was now almost double the original size. The vineyard was once again enlarged with the purchase of Chateau Grand Pontet in 2021.

2011 was the debut vintage for Chateau Quintus and Le Dragon de Quintus. When Chateau Quintus was originally offered for sale with its first vintage produced from the new owners, the price almost tripled from all previous vintages. The market did not take well to the massive jump in price.

Winemakers

Claude Diligeart, Cellar Master

Vintage

The winter of 2018-2019 was mild and dry. Cool temperatures in spring slowed down vine growth. Flowering took place in ideal conditions, without coulure (shot berries) nor millerandage (abnormal fruit set). Storm Miguel swept across the Nouvelle-Aquitaine region on the 7th of June, although our grapes were fortunately spared. Heavy, regular rainfall was conducive to vegetative growth, leading the vines to develop an impressive leaf canopy. The rain came to a sudden halt on the 22nd of June, and a series of successive heatwaves ensued.

July was the third hottest in history after 2006 and 2013, with temperatures reaching a record-breaking 42°C on the 23rd. Fortunately, rain fell on the 26th, followed by cool nights in August, propitious to the synthesis of anthocyanins. Veraison (colour change) was slow but uninterrupted. September was marked by fine, dry, and sunny conditions, interspersed by welcome rainfall. Thanks to this ideal spell of weather, all the grape varieties were harvested at peak ripeness and at a leisurely pace.

Vineyards

The 45-hectare Saint Emilion vineyard of Quintus is planted to 67% Merlot and 33% Cabernet Franc. The vineyard has a terroir of clay and limestone soil. Located on the far, southwest, of the plateau, the vineyard has elevations that reach 62 meters at its peak. The vineyard of Quintus has two different types of limestone in the soils. The best part of their terroir is on the limestone slope, which is used for Quintus. The



Vineyards	vines at the bottom of the slopes are reserved for their second wine. The small amount of Cabernet Sauvignon previously planted here was ripped from the vineyard and replaced with Cabernet Franc. On average, the vines are more than 30 years of age. However, a portion of the original vines is old. Some of their oldest vines are close to 100 years of age!
Harvest	From the 19th of September to the 9th of October
Vinification/ Maturation	<p>A stringent selection within plots is made when the harvest is picked by hand. Only absolutely perfect grapes will reach their final destination: the vats. Winemaking is done in wooden and in stainless steel vats, with gentle extraction carried out by pumping over.</p> <p>At Quintus, blending know-how is taken to its peak: plots are harvested and vinified according to a selection within each one: at the top, in the middle and at the foot of the slopes. Each vat is blind tasted, to allow for fully focusing on the senses. Mariette Veyssière, Estate Manager, and Claude Diligeart, Cellar Master, provide their awareness and knowledge of Saint-Emilion's terroir, assisted by Domaine Clarence Dillon's team.</p> <p>Once the blending is finished, the wine is placed in barrels (33.5% new). Maturation in French oak will enable the wine to develop and become clearer. The wine's tannins will be smoothed patiently over a period of twelve to eighteen months.</p>
Tasting Notes	<p>Le Dragon de Quintus is the second wine of Château Quintus. The name originates from the dragon statue that towers above the magical terroir of Saint-Emilion, perched high upon the promontory, where the estate is located. Beautiful dark red colour. Initially intense, fruity, and refreshing, the nose gains complexity with aeration, revealing discreet hints of oak alongside very ripe black fruit aromas. Starts out fine and elegant on the palate, becoming full-bodied with relatively long and concentrated tannins, accompanied by fruity notes. This Dragon is definitely well-balanced and delicious.</p>
Serve with	Best served with all types of classic meat dishes, veal, pork, beef, lamb, duck, game, roast chicken, roasted, braised, and grilled dishes.
Production	Approx. 8,000 cases made annually
Cellaring	Drink now through 2032.
Scores/Awards	<p>90 points - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - March 2022</p> <p>90 points - William Kelley, Wine Advocate - April 2022</p> <p>91-93 points - Lisa Perrotti-Brown, Wine Advocate - June 2020</p> <p>94 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - February 2022</p> <p>93-94 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - May 2020</p> <p>93 points - Georgina Hindle, Decanter.com - January 2022</p> <p>91 points - Jane Anson, Insidebordeaux.com (score only) - January 2022</p> <p>90 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - March 2022</p> <p>89-91 points - Neal Martin, Vinous - June 2020</p> <p>88-90 points - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - June 2020</p> <p>93 points - Jeb Dunnuck MW - April 2022</p> <p>89 points - Jean Marc Quarin (score only) - January 2020</p> <p>93 points - Vert de Vin - April 2020</p> <p>88-90 points - Bettane & Desseauve (score only) - July 2020</p>
Reviews	<p><i>"This fresh and pure version has refined edges, thanks to subtle chalky minerality, with a gentle core of damson plum and dark cherry fruit that glides through easily. Features an incense hint that swirls on the finish. Merlot and Cabernet Franc. Drink now through 2029."</i> - JM, Wine Spectator</p> <p><i>"The 2019 Dragon de Quintus has turned out nicely, delivering a generous bouquet of rich, plummy fruit and creamy new oak. Medium to full-bodied, ample, and fleshy, it's seamless and polished, with its sweet core of fruit framed by ripe tannins and succulent acids, concluding with an expansive finish. As usual, this bottling tends to derive from lower-lying parcels on deeper, sandier soils than those that inform the grand vin."</i> - WK, Wine Advocate</p> <p><i>"The 2019 le Dragon de Quintus is a blend of 86% Merlot and 14% Cabernet Franc, harvested from the 19th of September to the 9th of October. The estimated alcohol degree on the label is 15%. Deep garnet-purple colored, it rocks up with open-knit notes of stewed plums, fruitcake and blackberry preserves with touches of garrigue, cloves and pencil shavings. The full-bodied palate is simply bursting with spicy black fruit preserves, framed by ripe, rounded tannins and bold freshness, finishing with a lingering peppery kick. This is a very different style from the grand vin—but seriously good in its own right!"</i> - LPB, Wine Advocate</p>

- Reviews** *“Beautiful aromas of blackberries and blackcurrants with licorice and tile, following through to a medium to full body with fine tannins and a delicious, creamy finish. So attractive. Second wine. Best after 2025.”*
- JS, JamesSuckling.com
- “A firm, silky red with blackberry and blueberry character and lots of earth and spice. Its full-bodied with juicy tannins. Lots of spice at the end.”*
- JS, JamesSuckling.com
- “Bramble berries on the nose, quite rich. Lovely texture, bright, bold, and charismatic - great charm, this shines bright in the glass and on the palate, lovely and round full of rich flavours with enough body and structure to give good mouthfeel without being too heavy right now. On the right side of elegant with a lovely purity of cherry and strawberry flavours. This has some bite and chew too. Good plushness but still with purity of flavour. Not massively complex but delivers a good punchy wine. Confident. 86% Merlot and 14% Cabernet Franc. Drinking Window 2023 - 2035.”*
- GH, Decanter.com
- “Forward, fresh, soft, and silky, this elegant, spicy, cherry, and red plum filled wine already delivers layers of sweet, ripe cherries and plums. The wine is a blend of 86% Merlot with 14% Cabernet Franc. Drink from 2022-2032.”*
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com
- “The 2019 Le Dragon de Quintus is lively and boisterous on the nose with plenty of brambly red fruit, briary and light rose petal aromas. The palate is medium-bodied with blackberry and red plummy fruit, a little “chunky” but very fresh with a surfeit of joie-de-vivre on the finish.”*
- NM, Vinous
- “The 2019 Le Dragon de Quintus is an attractive second wine. Crushed flowers, mint, sweet red berry fruit and spice notes are all laced together in this racy, mid-weight Saint-Émilion. The 2019 needs time to come together, as some angular contours remain. The Dragon is made mostly from the lower slopes on the property, where the extreme heat of the vintage was impossible to fully escape.”*
- AG, Vinous
- “The second wine of Château Quintus, the 2019 Le Dragon De Quintus offers a rich, ripe style that carries beautiful black raspberry and chocolate-covered cherry fruits as well as medium to full-bodied richness, supple, sweet tannins, loads of mid-palate depth, and a great finish. It's a terrific second wine that's going to represent a great value. It should keep for a solid decade or more”*
- Jeb Dunnuck
- “The nose is elegant, fine, delicate, racy and offers a small racy power (in control). It reveals notes of pulpy blackberry, small pulpy/juicy black fruits, small notes of cornflower, lily associated with touches of juicy/pulpy blueberry, hints of fleshy strawberry as well as small hints of toasted, nutmeg, sweet spices, graphite, a very discreet hint of Cuban pepper, ripe almond, and an imperceptible hint of tonka bean (in the background). The palate is fruity, well-balanced and offers a juicy/finely acidulous frame, elegance as well as a beautiful suavity, a beautiful finesse of the grain, silkiness, sapidity, delicacy, a good definition, and a bright/juicy fruit. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy cassis, juicy blackberry, small notes of bright raspberry associated with small touches of bright blueberry, lily, violet as well as small hints of toasted, caramelization, cardamom, sweet spices, very fine hints of black tea, tonka bean and bourbon vanilla. Good length.”*
- Vert de Vin
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