

# Château Meyney 2018

CSPC# 749586

750mlx12

14.5% alc./vol.

**Grape Variety**  
**Appellation**  
**Classification**  
**General Info**

42% Cabernet Sauvignon, 40% Merlot, 18% Petit Verdot  
St.-Estèphe  
Cru Bourgeois

Château Meyney is located in St. Estèphe and is owned by Dmes. Cordier. The 49-ha property produces on average 30,000 cases per year. Located in the east of the St. Estèphe appellation, next to Château Montrose, Meyney has a similar climate to that enjoyed by the Médoc: maritime, with the Gironde estuary and the Bay of Biscay combining to act as a climate regulator and the coastal pine forests sheltering the vines from the westerly and north-westerly winds.

Meyney is classified as a Cru Bourgeois.

The history of Château Meyney dates back to at least the 17th Century (although it is almost certainly much older) and was originally the site of a convent entitled the *Prieuré des Couleys*, occasionally also referred to as the *Couvent des Feuillants*. For much of the 20th Century the estate was part of the Cordier portfolio, quietly turning out good value wines, many of which were of remarkably high quality. No doubt this was in part due to the skill of Georges Pauli, better known for his sterling work at Gruaud-Larose, another Cordier property, who from 1978 oversaw the activity in the *chai* at Meyney.

As such the estate eventually came under the umbrella of Cordier-Mestrezat when the two *négociants* amalgamated. Here it formed part of a small portfolio of top estates also including Grand-Puy-Ducasse and Rayne-Vigneau. Over the years there have been many interested parties, most recently including the Vignerons de Val d'Orbieu, a leading Languedoc co-operative, who held a significant share in the business. In 2004 the Mediterranean investors sold out, and Cordier-Mestrezat saw some fresh and seemingly much needed investment from the French bank Crédit Agricole. This famous French financial institution acquired more than 400 hectares of vineyards, including Meyney, in exchange for 95 million Euros, leaving Cordier-Mestrezat one of the few debt-free businesses in Bordeaux. Today Meyney is thus under the ownership of *Crédit Agricole Grands Crus*, alongside Ducasse, Rayne-Vigneau and a handful of Cru Bourgeois estates also acquired by the French bank.

**Winemaker**

Hubert de Boüard, consultant

**Vintage**

Although the start of the year brought a great deal of rain and created a surplus of water throughout the Bordeaux wine region, summer 2018 will be remembered for its incredible heat! The radiant and spontaneous smiles on the faces of our staff were the most obvious sign of the confidence and enthusiasm for this vintage. The first clip of the secateurs set the tone! The grape harvests were accompanied by lovely sunshine to the delight of the grape pickers and our permanent staff. Although the Merlots had already brought a smile to our faces, the Cabernets proved to be even more magnificent, confirming the exceptional potential of the vintage.

2018 will be great, even prodigious...

Bud Break: around April 18th, 2018

Flowering: around May 25th, 2018

Ripening: around July 30th, 2018

**Vineyards**

The Meyney vineyard is in a single plot, covering an impressive 51 hectares of the St-Estèphe appellation, adjoining those of near neighbours Montrose and Phélan-Ségur. It enjoys an attractive position on gravel ridges overlooking the Gironde, beneath which is a mix of iron-rich blue clay and sand, over calcareous bedrock from a depth of about two metres. It is planted with 56% Cabernet Sauvignon, 26% Merlot, 9% Petit Verdot and 9% Cabernet Franc, although there has been a replanting scheme ongoing in recent years, replacing the oldest vines, aimed at reducing the percentage of Cabernet Franc. They have an average age of about 35 years although this may fall a little with the ongoing planting, with a density of up to 7500 vines/ha. Once intensively fertilized, this is no longer the case, the soil left un nourished and merely ploughed each quarter to aerate it,



<b>Vineyards</b>	although some lesser sections are interplanted with grass and are thus left untouched. The estate is moving towards a system of minimum intervention viticulture.
<b>Harvest</b>	Merlot: from September 24th to October 2nd, 2018, Cabernet Sauvignon: from October 2 <sup>nd</sup> to 12th 2018 Petit Verdot: October 4th 2018
<b>Vinification/ Maturation</b>	After hand harvesting, meticulous sorting, the grapes were vinified according to a plot-by-plot approach. Alcoholic fermentation was carried out after a few days of cold soak-maceration. For some of the wines, malolactic fermentation was carried out in new barrels. All of the first wine is matured in French oak barrels (35 % new barrels)
<b>Tasting Notes</b>	Château Meyney's vineyard is planted of 65% Cabernet Sauvignon, 25% Merlot and 10% Petit Verdot, on a perfectly-drained gravel soil that provides ideal conditions for grapes ripening. This unusually high share of Petit Verdot explains a particular trait of the wines, which regularly show notes of leather and musk after a period of time. The wine is full-bodied, well-rounded, and structured. After ageing, the wine displays the remarkable charm of the best Saint-Estèphe: complexity, balance, and harmony.
<b>Serve with</b>	Chateau Meyney is best served at 15.5 degrees Celsius, 60 degrees Fahrenheit. The cool, almost cellar temperature gives the wine more freshness and lift. Meyney is best served with all types of classic meat dishes, veal, pork, beef, lamb, duck, game, roast chicken, roasted, braised, and grilled dishes. Chateau Meyney is also good with Asian dishes, hearty fish courses like tuna, mushrooms, and pasta
<b>Production</b>	16,665 cases made
<b>Cellaring</b>	Drink now-2030
<b>Scores/Awards</b>	<p><b>89 points</b> - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - Web Only 2021</p> <p><b>90-93 points</b> - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - June 2019</p> <p><b>89-91+ points</b> - Lisa Perrotti-Brown, Wine Advocate - April 2019</p> <p><b>95 points</b> - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - March 2021</p> <p><b>95-96 points</b> - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - March 2019</p> <p><b>94 points/Cellar Selection</b> - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - January 2021</p> <p><b>16.5 points</b> - Jancis Robinson, JancisRobinson.com - February 2022</p> <p><b>16 points</b> - Julia Harding, JancisRobinson.com - April 2019</p> <p><b>94 points</b> - Jane Anson, Decanter.com - April 2019</p> <p><b>94 points</b> - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - March 2021</p> <p><b>93-95 points</b> - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - April 2019</p> <p><b>92+ points</b> - Farr Vintners - April 2019</p> <p><b>91 points</b> - Neal Martin, Vinous - March 2021</p> <p><b>91-93 points</b> - Neal Martin, Vinous - November 2019</p> <p><b>93 points</b> - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - March 2021</p> <p><b>91-94 points</b> - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - April 2019</p> <p><b>93 points</b> - Jean Marc Quarin (score only) - March 2019</p> <p><b>94-95 points</b> - Vert de Vin - April 2019</p> <p><b>17 points</b> - La Revue du Vin France (score only) - January 2022</p> <p><b>17-18 points</b> - La Revue du Vin France (score only) - April 2019</p> <p><b>17 points</b> - Vinum Wine Magazine (score only) - September 2021</p>
<b>Reviews</b>	<p><i>"Pliant, with a touch of softness (for St.-Estèphe) along the edges, as a mix of dark tobacco, bay, and warm earth hints blend with dark plum and black currant fruit. An echo of cedar lingers on the finish. Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, and Petit Verdot. Drink now through 2030. 16,665 cases made."</i> - JM, Wine Spectator</p> <p><i>"Pure and direct, featuring damson plum and cherry fruit flavors streaming through, laced with tobacco and chalk notes. Good, streamlined finish. Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, and Petit Verdot. Score Range: 90-93"</i> - JM, Wine Spectator</p> <p><i>"The deep garnet-purple colored 2018 Meyney gives up blackcurrants, blackberries, and plums on the nose with earth and spices plus fried herbs and lots of oak. The big, full-bodied palate has some promising fruit but is a bit hard and oaky. Barrel Sample: 89-91+."</i> - LPB, Wine Advocate</p>

- Reviews** *“Blueberry, blackcurrant, clove, dark chocolate, praline, and gravel on the nose. It’s full-bodied with firm, fine-grained tannins. Focused, chewy, and layered. Fantastic effort here. Try from 2025.”*  
- JS, JamesSuckling.com
- “A very dense yet tight and focused red with blackcurrants, blackberries and hints of spices and walnuts. Full-bodied, very compact, and long. Intense finish”*  
- JS, JamesSuckling.com
- “This estate, whose magnificent vineyards slope down to the Gironde estuary, is situated between two classed growth properties. This wine, rich and structured, powered by solid tannins as well as serious black fruits and youthful juicy acidity, is going to take its time to mature. Wait to drink until 2027”*  
- RV, Wine Enthusiast
- “Tasted blind. Lifted, silky mineral nose. Sweet ink sensation and some greenness. Pretty austere. Definitely will always need some chewy food! 14.5%. Drink 2030 – 2045”*  
- JR, JancisRobinson.com
- “Barrel sample. Black core with deep purple rim. Very oaky on the nose, sweetly toasty as a counterpoint to stony, dark fruit. The oak really dominates the palate, the tannins thereby thickened, like thick chocolate. Chewy finish but it does have enough freshness. Drink 2025-2035.”*  
- JH, JancisRobinson.com
- “It’s clear that this is hugely concentrated, as is the Montrose right next door, but there’s also beautiful juice and freshness underneath the black fruits and the powerful grip. Tannins, acidity, and fruit: it’s all there. This is great quality and should be long-lived, with a rich palate, evenly balanced and austere in all the right places. Another good vintage at this increasingly impressive property.”*  
- JA, Decanter.com
- “Smoke, espresso, spice box, black cherry, tobacco, and blackberries create the perfume. Round, rich, lush, supple textured red fruits taste and feel great on the palate and in the finish. This is so good now and it is only going to get better from here as it should offer up to 2 decades of pleasure. Fans of Meyney should be all over this. The wine was made from blending 42% Cabernet Sauvignon, 40% Merlot and 18% Petit Verdot.”*  
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com
- “Clearly a contender for the best vintage of Meyney ever produced, this wine has a fabulous depth of flavor, concentration, silky soft tannins, perfectly ripe dark, spicy, fresh fruits, length, and an expansive finish. The wine was made from blending 42% Cabernet Sauvignon, 40% Merlot and 18% Petit Verdot.”*  
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com
- “Very deep in colour, with a rich, ripe cassis nose that is accented with sage and clove. The palate is bold and rich in tannins, but they are ripe and refined, making this surprisingly elegant. The cool but creamy cassis on the palate adds to the fine poise in this wine, which is perfectly proportioned and long, with depth on the finish that is pure rather than expansive. Long and fine, this should be one of the value picks for the vintage.”*  
- Farr Vintners
- “The 2018 Meyney has opened up slightly on the nose since I tasted it from barrel, gradually revealing attractive scents of brambly black fruit, raspberry, Indian ink and hints of sage and clove. The palate is medium-bodied with fine-grained tannins, well-judged acidity, and plenty of graphite toward the finish, which just needs to develop more precision. This feels a bit blocky at the moment, but I am sure it will eventually come round. Drink 2023-2040.”*  
- NM, Vinous

**Reviews**

*“The 2018 Meyney is very closed and backward on the nose, possibly due to the oak becoming more prominent at this stage during its élevage. The palate is medium-bodied with grippy tannins, fresh in the mouth with a linear, tobacco and graphite-tinged finish. All the component parts are here, but it’s very tight and I am sure it will need several years in bottle. Could this be the best value in the appellation this year? I’ll leave it to tussle out with Lafon-Rochet. 2023 – 2040.”*

- NM, Vinous

*“The 2018 Meyney is every bit as impressive as it was en primeur. Technical Director Anne Le Naour has done a terrific job in reining in some of the excess weight and power of previous vintages, but without sacrificing richness. Classy and layered, Meyney boasts fabulous depth and tons of character. Ripe red/purplish fruit, spice, blood orange, smoke and incense are some of the many aromas and flavors that mesh together. The 2018 offers striking immediacy, but also has enough structure to develop well in bottle for 15-20 years, maybe more. The 2018 Meyney is a wine of immense pleasure. Best of all, it is a tremendous value.”*

- AG, Vinous

*“The 2018 Meyney is powerful, dense, and super-expressive. Gravel, game, scorched earth, smoke, licorice, incense, and spice infuse this potent, virile Saint-Estèphe. The fruit profile and oak integration point to a transition towards a less extracted style. Even so, there is plenty of the richness readers have come to expect from Meyney. Tasted two times. (AG)”*

- AG, Vinous

*“The nose is elegant, aromatic and offers a beautiful definition as well power but full of finesse. It reveals notes of fleshy/fresh blackberry, fresh strawberry and small notes of violet associated with small touches of cherry, vanilla, hints of racy minerality as well as discreet hints of Cuban pepper, grilled bread, and spices. The palate is fruity, fresh, well-balanced and offers a juicy/mineral frame, a beautiful suavity, a beautiful material, tension, a beautiful structure/power (but full of finesse/tension) as well as a good definition. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/fresh cherry, juicy/fresh raspberry and small notes of juicy/fresh red fruits associated with small touches of flowers, juicy/pulpy cassis, graphite as well as fine hints of vanilla, a very discreet hint of dry almond and caramelization. Tannins are elegant, finely firm, and well-built. A fine chew on the finish. Gourmandize and a fine sapidity on the finish/persistence. Good persistence.”*

- Vert de Vin

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