

Château Pape Clément 2022

CSPC# 891904

750mlx6

14.0% alc./vol.

Grape Variety

60% Merlot, 40% Cabernet Sauvignon.

Appellation

Pessac-Léognan

Classification

Grand Cru Classe Graves

Website

<https://bernard-magrez.com/en/>

Analysis

pH: 3.70

Sustainability

Terra Vitis Label and HVE3 Label (high environmental value 3rd level)

General Info

The red wine of Château Pape Clément is a classified growth. The vineyards were first planted in the 13th century by Bertrand de Goth, the youngest son of a noble family from Bordeaux. He was elected Pope in 1305, during the reign of Philippe le Bel, and took the name of Clément V. Château Pape Clément belonged to the Archbishop of Bordeaux until the French Revolution. Wine has been made here continuously for 7 centuries. Château Pape Clément is one of the brightest stars in the extensive range of vineyards Bernard Magrez owns worldwide. Based in Bordeaux, the great owner has made quality his personal battle, his strength in facing the increasing competition in the wine business. Hence, the care lavished on this land exceptional qualities of which have made Pessac's reputation for over seven centuries. Pruning and leafing according to unusually demanding standards, hand destemming, vinification, and maturation in accordance with the strictest rules, all implemented so that Nature can freely express the best she has to offer. With his grand Cru Classé de Graves, Bernard Magrez gives us a rare elegance and strength which reminds us how unequalled the Bordeaux tradition remains. The production of the white Château Pape Clément has been increased some years ago. It is in general dry, rarely heavy, with spicy notes which are typical for graves from Pessac.

Winemaker

Julien Vilaud. Michel Rolland consults.

Vintage

A mild, wet winter gave way to a warm, dry spring, despite an early frost spell. The summer was sunny and dry.

Vineyards

The vineyards today account for 32.5 hectares of the Pessac-Léognan *vignoble*, with three distinct *terroirs* across the estate as a whole. Over a limestone bedrock which originated in the Oligocene and Miocene eras, there are the gravels that typify the region as a whole, as well as areas of clay and sand. The vineyards to the west are sandier, with a deep seam of gravel, whereas those to the east have an increasingly significant amount of clay, and those to the north of the estate the soils are particularly thin and poor. The red vines, which cover 53 hectares, are 51% Cabernet Sauvignon, 46% Merlot, 2% Petit Verdot, 1% Cabernet Franc. Here knowledge of the *terroir* is important, as the former variety is planted mainly to the gravelly areas whereas Merlot is selected for those soils with more clay. The majority of these vines have more than 27 years of age, and many are over 40.

Harvest

The 2022 Pape Clément was picked 7-27 September at 35hL/ha.

Winemaking

Manual plot-by-plot harvest in crates. First sorting in the vineyard. Manual grape-by-grape sorting on the table. Filled into oak vats from 30 to 70 hl by gravity. Pre-fermentation maceration at a low temperature of 8 ° C. Fully manual punching down. Maceration time of 30 days. Direct flow into barrels and French oak casks by gravity. Malolactic fermentation in barrels (2/3 new oak and 1/3 of one previous wine)

Maturation

matured for a planned 18 months in 90% French oak and 10% in the foudres introduced in 2018

Tasting Notes

With their smoky and spicy bouquet, the red wines are of an admirable quality and a very characteristic softness. The wine is both concentrated, fine and harmonious, with an aromatic palette as wide as it is precise. The depth and length in the mouth are exceptional. Quality of the *terroir*, sustained efforts and dynamism have borne fruit bringing Pape Clément to a level very close to that of the premiers crus.

Serve with

meat dishes, veal, pork, beef, lamb, duck, game, chicken, roasted, braised and grilled dishes

Production

23,800 cases made

Cellaring

Drink 2028-2040



Scores/Awards **94 points** - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - May 2025
97 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - January 2025
16 points - Jancis Robinson, JancisRobinson.com - April 2023
95 points - Georgina Hindle, Decanter.com - May 2023
94 points - Jane Anson, janeanson.com - March 2025
95 points - Jane Anson, janeanson.com - May 2023
97 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - March 2025
95 points - Tim Atkin, MW - timatkin.com - April 2023
95 points - Neal Martin, Vinous - February 2025
97 points - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - February 2025
95 points - Jean Marc Quarin - April 2023
96 points - Peter Moser, Falstaff Magazine - January 2023
93 points - Vert de Vin - April 2023
96 points - Alexandre Ma MW - November 2024
19 points - Vinum Wine Magazine - August 2023
