

Vieux Château Certan 2022

CSPC# 123967

750mlx3

14.4% alc./vol.

Grape Variety	75% Merlot, 20% Cabernet Franc, 5% Cabernet Sauvignon.
Appellation	Pomerol
Classification	unclassified
Website	http://www.vieuxchateaucertan.com/vieux_chateau_certan_uk.html
Analysis	pH: 3.78 TPI/IPT: 80
Sustainability	Vieux Château Certan is the result of a very special eco-system in which the soil, the vines and the climate blend harmoniously together to produce exceptional wine. Alexandre Thienpont practices 100% sustainable vineyard management farming techniques at Vieux Chateau Certan. While the estate is clearly a traditional winery, they embrace modern technology. For example, utilizing infrared cameras that are placed on tractors that allow for precise picking of single rows and even individual vines. That is a lot of work when you consider they have about 70,000 vines!
General Info	The Vieux Château Certan estate, which in 1745 already figured on Bellayme's famous map under the name of "Sertan", is located in the heart of the Pomerol plateau. Covering 14 hectares (35 acres) in one single block, the Vieux Château Certan vineyard is the fruit of a century of painstaking work and careful decision-making.
Winemaker	Alexandre and Guillaume Thienpont
Vintage	The end of winter, marked by mild and dry conditions, favored an early bud burst at the end of March. The mild weather recorded at the beginning of April stretched into a hot and dry summer season, which the vines resisted. A beneficial rainy spell in mid-August boosted ripeness. Harvested at the beginning of September at optimal maturity, the berries, despite their small size, revealed a great vintage, seductive in its concentration and balance.
Vineyards	The 13.5-hectare Vieux Chateau Certan vineyard is located in the center of Pomerol, on the plateau. When you arrive at the junction where the estate rests, you are truly at the cross streets that could easily be renamed to the center of the heart and soul of Pomerol. Directly across the street is Chateau Certan de May and just down the road you'll find Petrus. Vieux Chateau Certan has a terroir of clay and gravel soil. Vieux Chateau Certan is one of the largest vineyards in the Right Bank that are planted in one single block of vines. The Vieux Chateau Certan vineyard in total is divided into 23 separate parcels. The vineyards of Vieux Chateau Certan are planted to 65% Merlot, 30% Cabernet Franc and 5% Cabernet Sauvignon with vines that average 50 years of age. However, there is one very old plot of Merlot that was planted all the way back in 1932, making it one of the oldest parcels in the Pomerol appellation. Alexandre Thienpont is responsible for changing the makeup of the vineyards as well. He removed the Malbec and reduced the amount of Cabernet Sauvignon in the vineyards, while adding more Merlot and Cabernet Franc. Unlike the vineyard farming practices used in the 1960's and 1970's, today, no pesticides of any type are used on the vines. Alexandre Thienpont practices sustainable vineyard management techniques.
Harvest	The harvest took place September 6 - September 21. Yields were 35 hectoliters per hectare.
Vinification/ Maturation	The grapes are picked by hand and sorted meticulously at the end of each row of vines. After a gentle crushing, they are put into oak vats, by variety. Those vats destined to make up the blend of the Grand Vin are run off into 75% new French oak barrels and aged for 18 months.
Tasting Notes	Alexandre described VCC 2022 as having the elegance of the 2019 with the structure of the 2020.
Serve with	meat dishes, veal, pork, beef, lamb, duck, game, chicken, roasted, braised, stewed, and grilled dishes.
Production	Approx. 3,000 cases made annually
Cellaring	Drink 2030-2055



Scores/Awards **98 points** - William Kelley, Wine Advocate - January 2025
99 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - January 2025
18 points - James Lawther, JancisRobinson.com - May 2023
98 points - Georgina Hindle, Decanter.com - January 2025
98 points - Georgina Hindle, Decanter.com - May 2023
96 points - Jane Anson, janeanson.com - May 2023
100 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - March 2025
100 points - Neal Martin, Vinous - February 2025
100 points - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - February 2025
96 points - Jean Marc Quarin - April 2023
100 points - Yves Beck - December 2024
100 points - Peter Moser, Falstaff Magazine - January 2023
