

1995 CDW Château Haut Brion Pessac-Leognan 1er Grand Cru Classe

History of Chateau Haut Brion

The history of Chateau Haut-Brion is perhaps the most important of all for the wines of Bordeaux, if not the entire world of fine wine. It is an estate that has innovated and broken new boundaries while establishing Bordeaux's reputation as the world's most prestigious grape growing and wine making region. Today, the vineyards of Pessac-Leognan have been enveloped by the suburban sprawl of Bordeaux, creating a somewhat bizarre environment compared to the more rural splendour of other famous appellations across the rest of France. It all started back in the early 1300s, just down the road from Haut Brion at what is now Chateau Pape-Clement, when this northerly part of the 'Graves' region (named because of the gravelly soils) was planted to the vine by Pope Clement V. It was over two hundred years later that Haut-Brion was planted, but the man that did it (Jean de Pontac) would create an estate that would go on to change the world of wine forever and dictate the fortunes of the surrounding area.



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Retail Price: \$ 1606
(Price subject to change without notice)
Product # 513101
Release Date: Oct. 4, 2018
Classics

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Haut Brion Pessac-Leognan
1er Grand Cru Classe

Technical Information:

Harvest Dates: From September 11th to 26th
Blend : Merlot Noir : 48 % ;
Cabernet Sauvignon: 43%; Cabernet Franc: 9%.
Yield: 71 hl / ha
Percentage of production: 57%
New barrels: 75%
Alcohol: 13 %
Bottling date: From June 23rd to July 10th 1997
Production: 18475 cases of 12 bottles

Tasting notes:

The characteristic of this wine is its harmony between the very soft and very fine structure and the complex aroma given by the earth of the “Graves”. There is a lot of charm in this bottle which should be consumed either in the next few years or be kept in the cellar as the wine will age remarkably.

The Climate:

1995 was a precocious year. The winter was mild and the spring hot and dry. The bud burst and the flowering were precocious and homogeneous. June, July and August were characterized by hot temperatures and no rain. Some of the vines with superficial roots as for young vines suffered from dryness. The harvest was perfectly ripe and sound although September was cooler than usual and rainy in the middle of the month.

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ACCOLADES:

Rating: 96 points

Reviewed by Robert Parker

The result is a deep ruby/purple-colored wine with a tight but promising nose of burning wood embers intermixed with vanilla, spice box, earth, mineral, sweet cherry, black currant, plum-like fruit, medium to full body, a high level of ripe but sweet tannin, and a finish that goes on for a good 40-45 seconds. This wine is just beginning to emerge from a very closed state where it was unyielding and backward. Anticipated maturity: 2006-2035. Jan 2003—The Wine Advocate

Rating: 18.5/20

Reviewed by Jancis Robinson

Just lovely wine, and the only one that was not dominated by a single variety, being a Cabernet/Merlot blend. Excellent lustrous, nuanced ruby.... Clearly a very fine mature wine. Strong licorice notes (Haut-Brion ‘warm bricks’ earthiness?). For a second I wondered if it was a 1998 Hermitage. Very complex spread across the palate. Feb 2013