

Château Labégorce 2017

CSPC# 813885

750mlx12

13.0% alc./vol.

Grape Variety
Appellation
Classification
Website
General Info

46% Cabernet Sauvignon, 40% Merlot, 8% Cabernet Franc, 6% Petit Verdot.
Margaux

Cru Bourgeois Exceptionnel as of the 2003

http://www.labegorce.com/labegorce/public_html/index.php?lang=en

Labegorce, like many chateaus in Bordeaux, takes its name from one of the estates early owners, the Grosse family who held an interest in the land that dates back all the way to the 14th century. For centuries prior to the French Revolution, Chateau Labegorce was a massive estate. In fact, it was one of the bigger properties at the time in the Medoc. The lands of their Margaux estate was ordered to be divided. This division created three separate estates. This included, Chateau Labegorce, what later became Labegorce Zede and the tiny property L'Abbe Grosse de Grosse. However, the vineyards of Chateau Labegorce remained the largest of the three Margaux properties.

The chateau of Labegorce remaining on the property was constructed in 1821. Chateau Labegorce passed through a myriad of owners before it was most recently bought by the Perrodo family in 1989. Hubert Perrodo fell in love with Bordeaux and especially the Margaux region. While wine held a big interest for Perrodo, his real interesting in Bordeaux came after spending time in the appellation enjoying polo matches that were held at Chateau Giscours, also located in Margaux.

Perrodo set out with the goal to reunite all three pieces of the original Labegorce estate. He purchased L'Abbe Grosse de Grosse in 2002. However, Hubert Perrodo was only able to buy the chateau and some land. The vineyards were sold to Chateau Margaux. He completed the final piece of the puzzle when he bought Labegorce Zede in 2005. Sadly, Hubert Perrodo was killed in a skiing accident the following year.

Today, the Left Bank estate of Chateau Labegorce is managed by Perrodo's daughter, Nathalie Perrodo. Nathalie also manages the families other Medoc Bordeaux property, which is also located in the Margaux appellation, Chateau Marquis d'Alesme.

Winemaker
Vintage

Marjolaine de Coninck.

2017 Margaux is the first appellation in the Left Bank to show frost damage. Some estates lost a good percentage of their crop. Others lost between 10-20% of their harvest. 2017 Margaux is a winemaker's vintage. The terroir, picking dates and choices in the cellar set the tone for the vintage. There are several good wines. But the wines are not at the level of the stunning 2015 vintage, or 2016. In Margaux the vintage started off with an early budbreak. Because Margaux is such a large appellation with terroirs that vary in quality, several vineyards were struck by the frost. The overall style of the successful wines displays soft tannins, freshness and purity, over concentration and riper, darker fruits. Margaux, which is prized for its aromatic qualities' shines in this department, with strong floral and red fruit notes. Alcohol levels are also lower than you find in more recent years like 2016 and 2015.

Many 2017 Margaux wines will offer pleasure in their youth, which is a good thing, because that will allow consumers to wait while their 2015 and 2016 wines evolve in the cellar.

Vineyards

The former 36-hectare Bordeaux wine vineyard of Labegorce is now 53 hectares and remains situated on the plateau just north of the town of Margaux, across the road from Chateau Lascombes. Delphine Kolasa is the director of communications for this Medoc property. Chateau Labegorce is planted to 55% Cabernet Sauvignon, 40% Merlot, 3% Cabernet Franc and 2% Petit Verdot. The vines are planted to a density of 9,000 vines per hectare. On average the vines are 25 years of age. However, there are old vines at Chateau Labegorce. A sizable portion of the vineyard was planted during the 1950's and there is a section of vines that is over 100 years of age! The terroir of Chateau Labegorce is composed of mostly sandy, gravel with some sand mixed with limestone in the soil.



Vinification/ Maturation	Vinification takes place in a combination of cement and stainless-steel vats. Malolactic fermentation takes place in barrel. The wine is aged in 55% new French oak barrels for an average of 15 months. There is a second wine, Zede de Labegorce. The average annual production of Chateau Labegorce is 12,000 cases per year.
Tasting Notes	With its vibrant expression, richesse and the complexity of its aromatic palette, the Chateau Labegorce 2017 reveals the purity of fruit, while the palate already displays a delicate tannic structure with fine grains. An excellent vintage for Chateau Labegorce.
Serve with	meat dishes, veal, pork, beef, lamb, duck, game, roast chicken, roasted, braised and grilled dishes. Chateau
Production	9,000 cases made
Cellaring	Drink 2022-2032
Scores/Awards	92 points - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - March 31, 2020 90+ points - Lisa Perrotti-Brown, Wine Advocate - March 2020 92 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - February 2020 91 points - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - April 1, 2020 16+ points - Jancis Robinson, JancisRobinson.com - October 2019 15.5 points - Julia Harding, JancisRobinson.com - April 2018 92 points - Jane Anson, Decanter.com - April 2018 92 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - April 2018 93 points - Neal Martin, Vinous - February 2020 93 points - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - March 2020 93 points - Jeb Dunnuck MW - February 2020
