Château Potensac

2024



TERROIR

Located on the elevated slopes of Ordonnac, north of Saint-Estèphe, Potensac benefits from a distinctive terroir of clay-gravel hilltops resting on a limestone subsoil, a particularly rare feature in this part of the Médoc. This geological combination promotes drainage, concentration, and natural freshness. The vineyard s relative altitude also allows it to capture the tempering influences of the Gironde estuary to the east and Atlantic Ocean to the west, bringing beneficial freshness and balance to the wines in warm vintages. The old Cabernet Sauvignon and Cabernet Franc vines, some more than 100 years old, thrive in ideal conditions here to produce well-structured, profound wines with excellent ageing potential.

VINTAGE 2024

The 2024 vintage began with a rainy winter, which helped to fully replenish the soils. Spring brought high mildew pressure, requiring quick, responsive vineyard management. Despite a cold and wet start to the season, the dry and relatively warm summer allowed for steady, even ripening of the grapes. Potensac's deep-rooted soils maintained good water balance, protecting the vines from excessive stress. Veraison unfolded under favorable conditions, and harvest was conducted using a careful and precise selection method. The Merlots are fresh and juicy, while the Cabernets impress with structure and aromatic expression. 2024 is a vintage shaped by precision and perseverance, showcasing the strength of the terroir and the skill of the team.

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Blend : 45 % Cabernet Sauvignon, 33 % Merlot, 22% Cabernet Franc
Harvest period : From 28th September to 7th October 2024
Alcohol degree : 12,9 % - pH : 3,68 IPT : 74

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TASTING NOTES

91-93/100

ALEXANDRE MA

Among Médoc's 2024 vintage wines, Château Potensac stands out as a true benchmark. Despite the 2024 vintage leaning towards a more elegant style, the wine's delicate tannins on the finish are truly captivating'achieving remarkable texture without the need for excessive depth. The charming aromas of iris and hawthorn blossom mingle with vibrant red cherry and red plum, bringing a fresh and lively character to the fore. The mastery of its top-tier winemaking team is undeniable, making this one of the most compelling expressions of Médoc in the 2024 vintage.

90-91/100

BETTANE & DESSEAUVE/MICHEL BETTANE

Un vin bien structuré, à la fois élégant et frais, doté d'un joli volume en bouche et d'un bel équilibre.

91/100

DECANTER/GEORGINA HINDLE

Cabernet heavy aromas on the nose - blackcurrant leaf, cherries and plums with some wild strawberry touches. Tannins are prominent but they melt into the sides underpinned by chalky, liquorice-edges putting the minerality at the fore also. Salty, graphite, pencil lead and cool blueberries. This has structure and sinewy muscle but keeps a focused frame. I like this, it's stylish with plenty of personality and enough frame to be filling. Really good. Second vintage with so much Cabernet. 60 year old average age of the vines. Ageing 15% new barrels for 12 months.

15/20

EDITIONS FERET

92-93/100

EXTRAPRIMA/THOMAS BOXBERGER

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92/100

FALSTAFF/PETER MOSER

Dark ruby, opaque core, purple reflections, delicate edge brightening. Delicate notes of plum,a hint of blackberry confit, subtle herbal savouriness underneath. Juicy cherry fruit, fresh structure, mineral, fine sweetness on the finish, salty, already easy to drink.

92-93/100

JAMESSUCKLING.COM/JAMES SUCKLING

A scented, mineral nose, showing red berries and cherries. Lighter this year on the medium-bodied palate, this has firm tannins tightly wound into the less intense red fruit. Quite juicy and refined. Elegant. Likely to be a very well-balanced and drinkable wine.

15,5+/20

JANCIS ROBINSON/JAMES LAWTHER

Fragrant nose with a minty freshness. Lighter in fruit weight but structured, the acidity also present. Grainy finish. A bit taciturn at the moment but should come together.

89/100

JANE ANSON

Sappy acidities, bright and vivid red fruits but a touch leafy, which brings things to a close more swiftly than the past excellent few vintages at this property. 15% new oak. 3.68 pH. 35 hl/ha. 12.2% press wine. Harvest 27 September to 2 October Mikaël Georges technical director, 35hl/h yield. This is the lowest amount of Merlot to date in this wine, a reflection of the reworked vineyard. There is still a 2nd wine at Potensac, but sold in bottle only.

89/100

JEAN-MARC QUARIN

Beau rouge sombre, aux reflets noirs. Nez un peu discret, au fruité mûr. Bouche juteuse, fondante, savoureuse, un poil vive dans la persistance (plus haut pourcentage de cabernet franc et cabernet sauvignon). L'élevage le fondra.

88-90/100

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JEB DUNNUCK

The 2024 Château Potensac is 45% Cabernet Sauvignon, 33% Merlot, and the rest Cabernet Franc, resting in just 15% new barrels. Ripe red and blue fruits, graphite, crushed stone, and some subtle tobacco and herbal notes all give this a classic Cabernet feel, and it's medium-bodied, with a juicy, elegant mouthfeel, present tannins, and a good finish.

90-91/100

LE FIGARO/ELLA LISTER

Chaleureux et gourmand comme une tarte à la confiture de mûre, le bouquet ne manque pas de caractère avec des notes épicées, poivrées et un fruit élégant, espiègle (prune, framboise). Une matière apaisante en bouche, porté par des tanins satinés, expressifs, sur la finale.

93-94/100

LES ECHOS/BERNARD BURTSCHY

17,5+/20

MATTHEW JUKES

There is a sense of tartness and tension from the front of the palate all the way through the experience, and the result is a hard and raw wine with great ingredients, but it presents an awkward and ungainly stance on the palate now. Will it find equilibrium' I am a fan of this estate, and I wish it well. While this 2024 may seem too brittle and angular to find genuine balance in the long run, it could turn the corner. A slightly higher proportion of Cabernet is used in this vintage, resulting in increased spice and minerality. The limestone soils are visible, and these will dissolve in the barrel over time. So, while this is a discordant wine today, it stands a decent chance of finding harmony.

91-92/100

REVUE DU VIN DE FRANCE/OLIVIER POELS

C'est un Potensac serré et sérieux, marqué par des cabernets (sauvignon et franc). Le vin est droit et doté d'une belle allonge et de tanins musclés qui lui garantiront un bon potentiel. À ouvrir d'ici cinq ans.

92/100

DOMAINES DELON

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TASTETAINMENT/MARKUS DEL MONEGO

Dark purple colour with violet hue and almost black core. Precise nose with freshness and charming fruit, blackcurrants, blackberries and hints of raspberries in the background. Fine toasting and elegant mild spices. On the palate well structured with ripe yet firm tannins, fine fruit, elegant spiciness and very good length.

93-94/100

TERRE DE VINS/MATHIEU DOUMENGE

Une signature très cabernet(s) à Potensac : 45 % sauvignon, 22 % franc, le solde en merlot. On aime cette combinaison précise, qui allie race, allonge et finesse, un caractère médocain qui sait se montrer caressant et séveux, porté par une arête acide et une définition de tanins qui jugulent la chair ferme. Bravo !

88-90/100

THE DRINKS BUSINESS/COLIN HAY

Lovely dark plum and bramble fruits. Crunchy, pure and nicely focussed. A lovely mouthfeel and I really like the shapely flow of the wine over the palate. Grippy tannins form and mould (rather than sculpt) the lifted finish. There's just a hint of dryness on the finish (note the IPT at 74) but this is very well done. In the context of the vintage there's a lot of wine here for the money.

88-90/100

THE WINE ADVOCATE/WILLIAM KELLEY

A blend of 45% Cabernet Sauvignon, 22% Cabernet Franc and 33% Merlot, the 2024 Potensac exhibits notes of cherries, cassis and pencil shavings, followed by a medium to full-bodied, lively palate with good density and sweetness of tannin. It will, however, require some patience.

90-92/100

THE WINE CELLAR INSIDER/JEFF LEVE

Tobacco, cedar, underbrush, and red currants pop in the nose. On the palate, the wine is juicy, crisp, and crunchy, with a zesty, lively, bright, character to the red pit fruits on the palate, and in the finish. The wine was produced from blending 45% Cabernet Sauvignon, 33% Merlot, and 22% Cabernet Franc.12.9% ABV. Drink from 2027-2040.

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88-90/100

THE WINE DOCTOR/CHRIS KISSACK

The vineyard here has contracted in recent years, with much of the recently planted Merlot having been pulled up again. This leaves a blend which is 45% Cabernet Sauvignon, 22% Cabernet Franc and 33% Merlot, from vines aged 60 years on average. The yield here was 35 hl/ha, and picking was relatively late, starting September 28th, important in this vintage. A fine aromatic profile here, pure and fresh, with crushed chalk, red cherry and a little tobacco. The palate shows a fresh, pure and finely focused core of fruit, with a rich wrapping of dry tannins which feel savoury and reflective of the vintage, but are ripe and well knit. This has a really charming style, and the ripeness of grip is admirable. The alcohol is 12.9%.

87-89+/100

THE WINE INDEPENDENT/LISA PERROTTI-BROWN

Deep garnet-purple colored. Rocks up with open-knit scents of crushed cranberries, red cherries, and fragrant soil, followed by hints of dried herbs and graphite. The light-bodied palate is crisp and sprightly, delivering sour cherry and herbal flavors with lightly chewy tannins, finishing with a lively lift.

89-91/100

VINOUS/ANTONIO GALLONI

The 2024 Potensac is laced with hints of cedar, tobacco, dried herbs and leather. The 2024 shows good aromatic presence and fine depth, especially for the year. Clean saline notes extend the finish. As is so often the case, Potensac is an under-the-radar gem.

86-88/100

VINOUS/NEAL MARTIN

The 2024 Potensac was tasted twice. The first time, it came across a little green. The second tasting, at the château, was far better, with red berry fruit, incense and a touch of pencil box in the background. The palate is medium-bodied with powdery tannins, balanced with just a slight attenuation towards the finish. Give this two or three years in bottle.

89-91/100

VINUM/ADRIAN VAN VELSEN

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Parfum frais et minéral, baies noires ; en bouche, élégant, avec finesse et raffinement, des tanins de très belle qualité, une belle fluidité et une bonne longueur, finale sur une agréable amertume.



17,5/20

WEINWISSER/TJARK WITZGALL

Bouquet intense, cassis, graphite, cardamome et tabac blond. En bouche, une texture souple, droite et juteuse, avec un extrait sableux et une structure bien définie. Finale concentrée, finement aromatique, sur les baies bleues, le graphite et une astringence délicatement friable. Un Potensac sérieux cette année. À déguster entre 2029 et 2045.

WINE SPECTATOR/JAMES MOLESWORTH

The 2024 Château Potensac Médoc has a nice racy feel, with a note of wet stone along with lively savory and rosemary hints amid damson plum and black cherry fruit. It has good tension, understated energy and will likely surprise a few folks if they age it eight to 10 years. This is always a sneaky good wine.

93-94/100

YVES BECK

Que d'énergie et de fraîcheur dans le bouquet de Potensac ! Les notes crayeuses vont de pair avec les intenses notes de baies noires et de menthe. Salin en attaque, le vin cumule vigueur et tempérament. D'excellente définition, il peut se targuer de son énergie et de sa structure incisive. Encore une grande réussite à Potensac ! Un Must-Have incontournable. Il y a du muscle, mais également de la chair et de la longueur. 2029-2049

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