

Le Petit Lion

du Marquis de Las Cases

2025

TERROIR

The Grand Enclos de Las Cases is blessed with a very complex terroir. Mostly made up of Quaternary gravel on a sandy-gravelly and clayey-gravelly subsoil, we also find clays of varying depths and compactness, sometimes even outcropping. The proximity of the Gironde is responsible for this great diversity of soils, created over the geological periods by successive superimpositions. In addition, the river generates a very specific microclimate which allows the grapes to ripen very early and protects the vineyards from frost.

VINTAGE 2025

The 2025 vintage at Las Cases is defined by a warm, sunny growing season, tempered by the natural influence of the Gironde Estuary. For Le Petit Lion, the second wine of the estate, the Merlot vines are central to the wine's identity each year, and the 2025 vintage once again highlighted their importance. Located along the northern and eastern borders of the vineyard, near Pauillac and the Gironde, these Merlot plots benefited from excellent exposure and the moderating freshness of the estuary. Careful vineyard management throughout the growth cycle, including higher trimming to provide additional shade, helped protect the fruit and maintain balance. The Merlots reached excellent maturity, bringing richness, roundness, and vibrant fruit, while the Cabernets contributed depth, precision, and refined structure. The result is a serious, vibrant, and harmonious 2025 second wine, combining ripe fruit, freshness, and the signature expression of the Las Cases terroir.

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Blend : 49 % Cab. Sauvignon, 48 % Merlot, 3% Cab. Franc

Harvest period : From 5th September to 20th September 2025

Alcohol degree : 13,6 % - pH : 3,50 IPT : 71



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TASTING NOTES

92-94/100

ALEXANDRE MA

Le Petit Lion 2025 carries a sense of unadorned sincerity. Notes of iris, tamarind candy, and sandalwood powder rise eagerly, appearing especially bright and direct under the lift of high acidity. On the palate, graphite-like tannins emerge quietly, fine yet never intrusive, providing the necessary structure while allowing 'Le Petit Lion' to retain its poise and confidence.

92-93/100

BETTANE & DESSEAUME

Tout en finesse et en race de terroir, il évoluera naturellement plus vite que le grand vin tout en conservant beaucoup d'élégance.

94/100

DECANTER/GEORGINA HINDLE

Wildly fragrant, inky, blue fruit, tobacco almost headily perfumed. Pure and juicy, so approachable and accessible straight away with a bouncy element to the fine tannins and plump yet super bright fruit. The Cabernet brings a touch of backbone just straightening things out to the long finish, giving an undercurrent of structure and subtle power. But overall this is relaxed and super charming.

94/100

FALSTAFF/PETER MOSER

Deep dark ruby garnet, violet reflections, delicate edge brightening. Ripe plum fruit, a hint of figs, dark wild berry fruit, delicate herbal spice. Juicy, fine heart cherry fruit, lively structure, integrated tannins, black cherries on the finish, mineral-salty aftertaste.

92-93/100

FINE WINE GUIDE/GIUSEPPE LAURIA

A dense bouquet reveals notes of freshly picked black berries, complemented by delicate smoky and tobacco nuances as well as floral hints of wisteria and iris. On the masculine palate, the wine impresses with plenty of juicy, spicy extract and a pronounced texture, supported by a



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tightly woven tannin framework. The concentrated finish is marked by dark berry contours and captivating fruit. A clear improvement over the previous vintage.

93-94/100

JAMESSUCKLING.COM

Chalky, pulpy and well framed, with aromas of red berries, chocolate and wet stones. Medium-bodied with fine tannins. Velvety at the center, with a long, flavorful, lively finish.

16.5/20

JANCIS ROBINSON/JAMES LAWTHER

More precision than in the past. Fragrant with finely textured tannins. Fresh but not for the long haul.

94/100

JEAN-MARC QUARIN

Couleur rouge sombre, intense et belle. Nez très aromatique, au fruité mûr, évoluant subtil et complexe dans le verre. Minutieux en entrée de bouche, très aromatique au milieu, avec une texture grasse qui tient tout le long du déroulé, le vin fond, juteux, noble et sophistiqué. Joli éclat fruité en finale.

91-93/100

JEB DUNNUCK

A juicy, lively wine, the 2025 Le Petit Lion is the third vintage vinified at the new winery and is based on 49% Cabernet Sauvignon, 48% Merlot, and 3% Cabernet Franc that's being raised in 27% new barrels. The nose offers ripe red and blue fruits, flowers, violets, and a wonderful, almost Pauillac-like graphite character. Medium-bodied on the palate, it's balanced and lively, with ripe tannins, juicy acidity, and outstanding length. It checks in at 13.6% alcohol with a pH of 3.5.

91-93/100

LE FIGARO/ELLA LISTER & BEATRICE DELAMOTTE

Un bouquet intense aux arômes de fruits noirs denses, de canneberges juteuses et d'égantier, saupoudrés d'épices et de poivre blanc. Gourmande, ample, dense et concentrée, la bouche s'appuie sur des tanins robustes mais veloutés, avant une finale juteuse et minérale.



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16/20

LE POINT/JACQUES DUPONT & OLIVIER BOMPAS

49% cabernet-sauvignon, 48% merlot, 3% cabernet franc. Framboise, bouche fine, très fruitée, on retrouve une framboise dominante, de l'éclat et de la séduction.

94-96/100

PAOLO BARACCHINO

92-94/100

THE DRINKS BUSINESS/COLIN HAY

This is the third vintage made in the new chai, with the capacity to vinify with much more precision. I love the bulby, intense florality of this. Peonies and parfumeur's essences of the same. A narrow frame ratchets up the sense of concentration and intensity, bringing all of the essentially dark fruit together. Both svelte and luminous, this is excellent.

91-93/100

THE WINE CELLAR INSIDER/JEFF LEVE

Vivid, bright, crisp, fresh red fruits create the core of the wine in the nose, and on the palate. The medium-bodied, lifted, red berry finish is clean, sweet, and juicy. Drink from 2029-2040.

89-91/100

THE WINE DOCTOR/CHRIS KISSACK

Lovely purity on the nose, dark, focused and heady, with black violets and griottes. This translates onto a dark, focused and very pure palate, the floral dark fruits resting on a frame of dry and integrated tannins. This has a real sense of delineation and drive, the structure giving an electric energy to the end of the palate. A very smart finish too, laced with tannin. Well done. This is the third vintage to be vinified in the new facility serving Léoville-Las-Cases, it is a blend of 49% Cabernet Sauvignon, 3% Cabernet Franc and 48% Merlot, making use of the estate's new micro-vinification facilities (the number of vats now raised from 40 to 120).

90-93/100

THE WINE INDEPENDENT/IVAR BJURNER



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Pleasant fruit driven nose, round and pleasing with notes of plums and red berries. The taste is fresh, juicy and peppery and even though there is a soft round Merlot like, juicy and crunchy layer on top of the wine, you are not in doubt that this is Cabernet based.

92-94/100

THE WINE PALATE/LISA PERROTTI-BROWN

Deep garnet-purple colored, the 2025 Le Petit Lion du Marquis de Las Cases shimmies out with ready-to-go notes of crushed black and red currants and mulberries, plus nuances of iris, crushed rocks, and mint tea. Medium-bodied, the palate is lively with a fine-grained texture and bright black and red fruit flavors, finishing with a minty lift. The blend is 49% Cabernet Sauvignon, 48% Merlot, and 3% Cabernet Franc. It has a pH of 3.5 and the alcohol is 13.6%. The wine is aging for 14 months in French barriques, 27% new.

91/100

TIM ATKIN/ROD SMITH

91-93/100

VINOUS/ANTONIO GALLONI

The 2025 Le Petit Lion is a bold, juicy wine. Dark-toned fruit, rose petal, lavender and mocha all take shape in the glass, framed by soft contours that wrap it all together in style. This Merlot-driven Saint-Julien is all charm, but is also has plenty of depth an underlying structure.

90-92/100

VINOUS/NEAL MARTIN

The 2025 Le Petit Lion was picked at 23 hl/ha and matured in 27% new oak, with a slightly higher percentage of Merlot this year, which is now split into three tanks in the new winery. This needed a few swirls just to "calm down" in the glass, cohering with black plum, violet and light minty aromas. The palate is medium-bodied with quite a precocious entry, although alcohol is 13,6%. Smooth towards the finish, with a dab of licorice that lingers on the aftertaste. Fine.

94/100



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VINUM/ADRIAN VAN VELSEN

Reiffruchtig, vom Merlot geprägt, Kirschen Cassis, getrocknete Minze; am Gaumen saftig, frisch, rund und voller Charme, man möchte gleich schlucken, die Tannine sind stets präsent jedoch nie zu dominant; im Abgang feinwürzig und ungemein frisch. Ein grosser kleiner Löwe.

18/20

WEINWISSENER/TJARK WITZGALL

Dicht verwobenes Bouquet, schwarze Johannisbeere, Heidekraut, Kirschtobak und edle Cassiswürze. Am komplexen Gaumen mit cremiger Texture, engmaschigem Tanninkorsett, energiegeladener Rasse, durchtrainiertem Körper. Im konzentrierten, aromatischen, langen Finale Kirschhaut, eine dunkle Mineralität und feinmehlige Adstringenz. Besticht durch beeindruckende Präzision.

89-91/100

WINE ADVOCATE/WILLIAM KELLEY

The 2025 Le Petit Lion benefits from Las Cases's new winery, which for a few years now has permitted sub-plot selection for the grand and second wines instead of an all-or-nothing selection, and more old-vine Merlot is ending up in this bottling. Offering up notes of sweet cherries and minty berries, it's medium- to full-bodied, fleshy and supple, with good persistence on the finish.

95-96/100

XL-VINS/XAVIER LACOMBE

95-96/100

YVES BECK

Fin et précis, le bouquet révèle de filigranes nuances d'élevage, une touche de menthe poivrée, puis de manière plus soulignée, des parfums d'iris et de baies noires. Dense en attaque, le vin est imposant tant par sa sérénité que par son expression fruitée et sa sapidité. Les tannins aux grains fins confèrent une puissance bien encadrée, tandis que l'acidité assure un caractère vif et saillant. Un vin précis, rafraîchissant, subtil et puissant. Il est enthousiasmant et annonce avec ferveur son grand frère !



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