



Château Puybarbe Short Technical + Wines



Château Puybarbe is located in the heart of the appellation of “Côtes de Bourg”. Three parallel lines of hills, along the Gironde estuary (just opposite the Margaux appellation in Médoc) gave this wine region its nick name of “Small Switzerland of Bordeaux”. The estate Château Puybarbe is located on the highest point of the third ridge line and offers a unique panorama that extends to Bordeaux embracing the whole Bourg area.



Vineyards were planted in the Roman times on the hillsides, but the oldest proof of winegrowing activity in Puybarbe dates from 1895, through an act of sale of the property. The Orlandi family has owned the estate since 1952 and the process of change of ownership of the Chateau to Riku and Anna Väänänen was agreed in the fall 2017 and finalized in October 2018.

Vineyards

The vineyard has gradually been expanded in a continuous search for coherence and high quality terroirs. Each new plot is planted with the best suited grapes with respect to the soil. Vineyards, 36 hectares today, planted for 78% with Merlot grapes variety and for 15% with Cabernet Sauvignon and few hectares of Malbec and Cabernet Franc. The average age of the vines is about 27 years, oldest vines 75 years.

Environment

Château Puybarbe has started implementing, since year 2016, an environment management system leading to the HVE (High Environmental Value) certification, obtained in July 2017, and acknowledged by the HVE logo on the bottle back label. Château Puybarbe does not use any herbicides and only nature based composted fertilizers.

Cellar

A modern winery was inaugurated for the year 2001's harvest. It integrates many technical advances, at the service of a traditional know-how respectful of the grapes and the wine, and a clear vision of high quality, with the objective to be one of the best producers in AOC "Côtes de Bourg".



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« **Château Puybarbe is located in the heart of the appellation** »

On the highest point of the third ridge line

The winemaking

The grapes, already de-stemmed and cleaned by the harvester, when reaching the winery are further sorted out mechanically using an automated sorting table, transported into the vat by a belt elevator, lightly crushed at the top of the later, before falling into the vat. This process preserves the berries integrity and avoids their oxidation before they fall into the vat. The fermentation cycle follows. It is piloted by a temperature control system, which brings a more rigorous approach in the conduct of the macerations and fermentations, in view to extract all the potential of the grape: its aromatic richness, its colour intensity, and the strength of its phenolic structure. The overall fermentation cycle includes a cold maceration of 4 to 5 days followed by the alcoholic fermentation of 8 to 15 days and a subsequent maceration for a total fermentation period of 17 to 25 days depending on the year.

Ageing

Batches of selected merlot and cabernet-sauvignon wines are aged between 10 to 18 months in oak barrels, from three different coopers, of “white” to medium heating in order to preserve the grape fruit flavour while bringing soft woody aromas to the nose and palate. The blending takes place at the end of the ageing period, based on tasting, in search for aromas, structure, complexity, and suppleness.

We strive for quality in each of the category. This is attested by the different awards obtained by our wines.

LE GUIDE
HACHETTE
DES VINS





Côtes de Bourg

Our wines

We produce well-balanced wines that express their terroir mixing tradition and modernity. We strive for highest quality in each category, attested by the various awards obtained by our wines.



Château Puybarbe

Côtes de Bourg - 2014

A full-body wine elaborated from a selection of our best wines, and aged 16 to 20 months in French oak barrels. Merlot 80% - Cabernet Sauvignon 15%, with small percentages of Malbec and Cabernet Franc. The 2014 vintage was awarded the Gold Medal from the "International challenge" wine contest in Bordeaux, 2016, and one-star in Hachette Guide 2017.

Year:
2014



"The dark robe with youthful hints announces a powerful nose, blending a strong toasted oak and very ripe red berries, almost jammy. The palate takes over, warm and round, tasty, supported by strong woody and spicy tannins that should refine fairly quickly."

Hachette Guide

Le Guide Hachette des Vins 2017



"This is a ripe wine with nice, bold fruit, with a decent amount of flavour on the palate, and a robust, no-nonsense finish too. A nice surprise, this is an honest wine with full flavour and a nice life ahead."

Matthew Jukes - Rating 15,5/20
January 2018



Overall the best rating of Côtes de Bourg "Primeurs": "Floral, soft, supple, fresh, quite elegant, liquoriced, long, fresh and gourmand".

Jacques Dupont - Rating 16/20
Le Point 2228, Mai 2015



Château Puybarbe

Côtes de Bourg - 2015

A full-body wine elaborated from a selection of our best wines, and aged 18 months in French oak barrels. Merlot 54% - Cabernet Sauvignon 42%, with small percentages of Malbec and Cabernet Franc. The 2015 vintage was awarded the Gold Medal from the "International challenge" wine contest in Bordeaux 2016, and 2 out of 3 stars in Hachette Guide 2018.

Year:
2015



"A superb deep and intense colour, dresses this balanced blend between the merlot (54%) and the Cabernet Sauvignon. At the first nose, the sixteen months of barrels are felt through a wood brioche-style and grilled, before the aeration reveals aromas of ripe black fruit. The palate is tender, suave and dense, leaning against superb velvety tannins, although still a little fiery in the finish. The future belongs to him."

2 stars ** & "Coup de Coeur"

Le Guide Hachette des Vins 2019

"This wine has an extraordinary perfume with blackberry fruit which is sweet, ripe and juicy and very elevated. The palate is sleek and honed and velvety and then the tannins zoom in and bring tension, length and structure. A classic balance and showing far more extrovert fruit that I would have imagined at this age, this is a very intriguing wine."

Rating 17+/20

Matthew Jukes, January 2018



"We like this wine's complexity, and its elegant precision on the nose, intense fruit, wonderful mineral notes, subtle oak aromas. The mouth is high, rich and energetic with elegant tannins structure, freshness and persistence. Well-made and harmonious"

Rating 16,5/20 & "Coup de Coeur"

Bettane+Desseuve 2018 Guide



Le Roc de Château Puybarbe

Côtes de Bourg - 2015

Our first medium-bodied wine, aged 10 to 12 months in oak barrels.

Merlot 88% - Cabernet Sauvignon 12%. 2015 vintage was awarded Silver Medals on both the "Bordeaux 2018" and Concours International de Lyon 2018" wine contests.

Year:
2015



Rated 16/20

Rating 16/20

Bettane+Desseauve 2018 Guide



"Lovely red wine with fragrant aromas and lively flavors of dark plum, currants, green olive, white pepper and mineral. Ripe, tangy and vivacious with a long spicy finish. Fantastic balance and brilliant from start to finish. A true gem for the price."

Rating 17+/20

Matthew Jukes, January 2018



"Largely dominated by the merlot (88%), the nose opens without limits on a ripe fruit, and a discreet vanilla and spicy wood. The mouth is ample, rich, round, powerful, built for the guard."

2 stars ** & "Coup de Coeur"

Le Guide Hachette des Vins 2019



Astral de Château Puybarbe

Côtes de Bourg - 2015

Our second medium-bodied wine, Same parcels, same blend as Le Roc but aging with French oak staves for 11 months. Merlot 88% - Cabernet Sauvignon 12% with small percentages of Malbec and Cabernet Franc. 2015 vintage won the Gold Medal in Concours International de Lyon.

Year:
2015



“Astral de Château Puybarbe 2015 has ripe bramble and cassis on the nose combined with some mint as well as vanillin and spice from the oak-aging. Delicious full-bodied wine with abundant fruit and soft acidity, but still quite grippy tannins. There's complexity of aromas and taste that will improve with further aging.”

Rating 16/20
Bettane+Desseauve 2018 Guide



Gaia de Château Puybarbe

Côtes de Bourg - 2016

“Gaia de Château Puybarbe” is our core wine, elaborated and aged in stainless steel vats. It corresponds to a blending of Merlot 88% Cabernet Sauvignon 11%, leading to a medium-body fruity wine. 2016 vintage won Gold Medal in “Bordeaux 2018” contest.

Year:
2016



« The wine has moderately intense ruby red colour. The nose is charming - toasty nose , with roasted coffee and dark cacao, ripe blackcurrants, grilled green cap-sicum and touch of white pepper. The medium-bodied palate is delicate with its round and fruity mouthfeel and gentle satiny tannins. The finish is spicy and fruity with fine tannins and savoury finish. Not a very complex wine, but drinking lovely in its youth and complements various dishes from roasted chicken to grilled veal en-trecote and duck confit. Decant 30 minutes before and serve at 16-17C. Great price value wine from Bordeaux! - JL 88p (1/2019) »

Juha Lihtonen
The Best Scandinavian Sommelier 2003

“Gaia de Château Puybarbe 2016 has some gamey and meaty aromas on the nose complimented by black fruit and hint of smokiness. The palate is dominated by jammy black fruit. Tannins are soft, but still quite grippy, fairly high acidity and warming alcohol balance each other.”