



Between Heaven and Earth



“A solidly made, robust wine”
(Robert Parker - Feb. 2009)

“Top 100 Wines” in 2003 / “Top-Scoring Bordeaux” in 2008
(Wine Spectator)

Château Malescasse
6, chemin du Moulin Rose
33460 LAMARQUE
Tel : 00.33.(0)5 56 58 90 09
Fax : 00.33.(0)5 56 58 97 89
e-mail : chateaumalescasse@wanadoo.fr

Press Kit 2010



Between Heaven and Earth

CHATEAU MALESCASSE



Malescasse always looked at the world in a different way since 1824. At first sight, the architectural authenticity of the chateau is characterized by 8 windows and 8 squares. The impression of a perfect balance is given by 8 other elements placed on the roof and pointing towards the sky. This is not by hazard if each one of these 8 windows offer the spectacle of a garden with a perfect circumference, a vision of a reassuring world. Every single aspect makes the guest feel in a perfect harmony with this environment and points out that Malescasse is between Heaven and Earth...

"Vintage 2009: A true concentrated fruit and an extremely pleasant texture, with fine tannins and an overall quality up to the expectations for this vintage, certainly the most achieved Malescasse over the last fifty years."

Bettane & Desseauve



Between Heaven and Earth

A CONSTANT RESEARCH OF THE HARMONY



It is not a hazard if these 28 pieces of vines, located not far from the “yellow river”, make a wine that carries a so particular glance on the world. All turned towards the chateau, surrounding and protecting at the same time this residence, the vines interact both with the heaven and the earth. Or more precisely with the underground, as the name of Malescasse in the old Medoc language meant. The impressive poverty of these white gravelly soils oblige the roots to get as deep as possible into the center of the earth. This poverty also obliges the vines to reach the sky and to obtain its most favourable influence. It explains why the vineyard is located on the highest point of the commune of Lamarque and takes benefits from a particular radiation which makes the wine so particular.

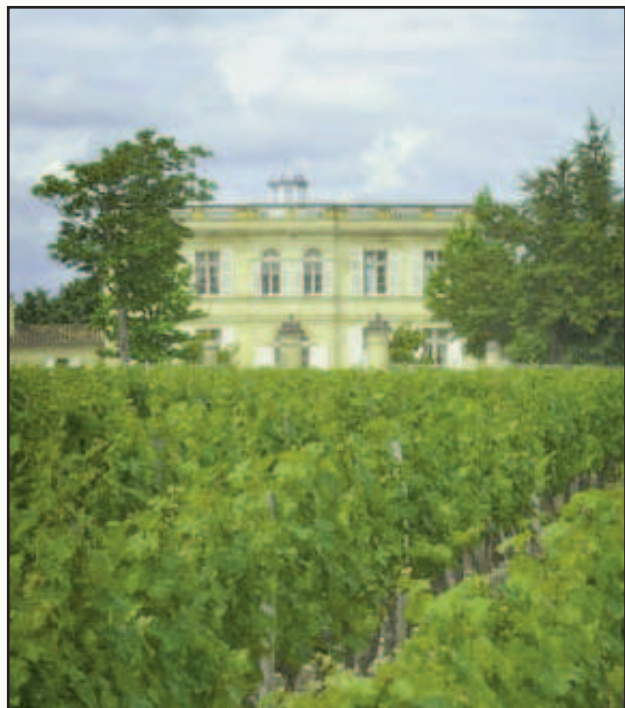
There is no explanation for all this but there is a single atmosphere around and in the chateau. Undoubtedly the proximity of the “yellow river” brings a supplement of plenitude to this place. It is called here “the River” with a sense of moderation and humility. From far away in the mountains, this river rolled the white stones to bring them delicately, following the current, on a soil which was expecting this moment to become Terroir. It was a long time ago, at the beginning of the Quaternary era, and these beautiful gravelly soils which descended from the Pyrenees and the Massif Central, were slowly superposed on the existing base from the Tertiary era. It covered this base with a layer which, in some area, did not exceed a few meters. The vines go through this soil and get, from the old rocks, a necessary humidity which Nature itself can only offer parsimoniously. It suddenly appears that a little bit of the Pliocene era (5 million years ago) runs in the glass...





Between Heaven and Earth

AN EXTRAORDINARY VOYAGE



The visitor who enters in Malescasse will be immediately struck by this unique light. From each side of the alley which leads to the chateau, the vines are always present from North to the South. At sunrise, the light magnifies the river, and at sunset woods are illuminated. An unreal light bathes this site with an incredible softness. From the top of the round turret, the view is extraordinary even if today people do not look for the boats' arrival on the estuary anymore. Only far away the thin silhouette of a bell-tower catches the visitor's eyes. This is a way to add the reassuring impression of a close village rather than just showing an arrow in a remote horizon. Then the guest understands better why the 45th parallel crosses the Haut-Medoc, just a few meters from the Malescasse vineyard. Could all of this explain why it is considered the perfect middle, the place of the moderated climate, a reference for moderation?

The chateau is surrounded by low and upright wine storehouses whose classical beauty pairs magnificently with the greenery, a bit like an island right in the middle of an ocean of vines. This is where grapes become Malescasse by returning the virtues of the balance drawn from a perfectly authentic remained campaign. In this crowned place, men pay homage to the virtues of imitation. A single word may describe all of this: harmony. That is true for its nature, born from a harmonious blend of traditional types of grapes from the Medoc with 88% Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot. The remainder, which makes the difference, is a variation between Petit Verdot and Cabernet Franc.





Between Heaven and Earth

THE WINE BY CHÂTEAU MALESCASSE

Château Malescasse 2009



Down to the smallest detail.

The vineyard surrounding the château is situated on one of the best gravelly hilltops to be found between Margaux and St Julien Beychevelle. This exceptional quality growing area, with deep and well drained soil, enjoys favorable conditions to make a delicate wine: climate tempered by the proximity of the river, a noble "terroir", proven technical input and, most important, the respect and savoir-faire of the specialists. Since 1824, Château Malescasse is aware of the necessity to create complicity between Man and Nature to make a fine wine. The generous Nature in 2009 gave a particularly remarkable expression to this wine.

“Very lively and flirtatious on the nose. Attractive Margaux-like perfume and sweetness. Very sweet.”

Jancis Robinson

A tasting of Château Malescasse 2009

“This wine reveals the identity of an exceptional vintage which gave grapes with profound and subtle aromas. Very early in the season, we noticed that the tasting of this wine revealed a great complexity. 2009 enabled us to make a Chateau Malescasse for an immediate pleasure but also with a remarkable ageing potential. The most beautiful terroirs reveal here at the same time an incredible subtlety and an aromatic depth, as well as a structure built on silky tannins. At present, this Chateau Malescasse continues its ageing in the most perfect rigour and classicism.”

Bertrand Chemin

(Cellar Master at Château Malescasse)



Between Heaven and Earth

THE PETIT VERDOT BY CHÂTEAU MALESCASSE Petit Verdot de Malescasse 2009



The appropriateness of a great grape variety planted on a renowned terroir.

For many years, "parcel by parcel" tastings showed both the power and the elegance of the wines originating from plots planted with Petit Verdot. Therefore the history of a place and the beauty of a great terroir made the idea of this 100% Petit Verdot wine come true. Usually defined as a demanding grape variety, Petit Verdot is radiant with happiness at Malescasse and gives, at each harvest, grapes with a beautiful maturity. Strange phenomenon for certain, it becomes reality in this "Petit Verdot de Malescasse", the pure quintessence of a grape that reveals itself to the world. In the 2009 vintage, which gave to the grapes a remarkable and unique complexity, the Petit Verdot de Malescasse received many laudatory commentaries immediately right after its release during the En primeurs' week in Bordeaux.

"I tasted Petit Verdot 2009 and I
was impressed"

Andreas Larsson – Best Sommelier of the World

A tasting of Petit Verdot de Malescasse 2009

"Delicious fresh notes of morello cherries and blackberries. Very expressive nose, impression of a Corsican bush full of flowers. Delicate fruit, feminine and sensual impressions on the palate. The presence of firm tannins gives the wine a rather complex touch that will ideally pair with food. Strangely enough, that reminds me of Tinta francesa, a French grape dating back to 1756 planted at Quinta of Roriz for the first time. It makes a wine full of freshness, with a beautiful acidity and that gives the impression it will never get oxidized."

Cristiano Van Zeller

(Owner of Quinta Vale Dona Maria in Portugal)