



CHÂTEAU BALESTARD LA TONNELLE

GRAND CRU CLASSÉ
2017

- TASTING BOOK** DARK PURPLE RED WITH VIOLET HUE AND BLACK CORE. DISTINCT ROASTING AROMAS,
MARKUS DEL MONEGO DARK CHOCOLATE, FRESH GROUND COFFEE BEANS, QUITE COMPLEX, SWEET FRUIT, PLUMS
93/100 AND DARK CHERRIES IN THE BACKGROUND. ON THE PALATE, WELL BALANCED WITH TIGHTLY
WOVEN TANNINS, SWEET FRUITS AND CONVINCING LENGTH.
- GILBERT ET GAILLARD** BEAUTIFUL DARK COLOR WITH BRIGHT RED REFLECTIONS. NOSE FULL OF RIPE RED FRUITS,
93/100 GREEDY AND ENGAGING. IN THE MOUTH A VERY NICE TEXTURE, POLISHED TANNINS,
FULLNESS AND VERY HARMONIOUS FRUITY AND WOODY FLAVORS
- VINOUS MAGAZINE** IMPRESSIVE BOUQUET: QUITE INTENSE BUT NOT OVER-POWERING WITH SCENTS OF AT
NEIL MARTIN BLACKBERRY, BOYSENBERRY AND A TOUCH OF IODINE ALL WELL DEFINED. THE PALATE IS
91-93/100 MEDIUM-BODIED WITH SUPPLE TANNIN, A FINE BEAD OF ACIDITY, NICELY INTEGRATED OAK
WITH A SVLTE FINISH. THIS IS THE BEST BALESTARD LA TONNELLE THAT I HAVE TASTED
IN RECENT YEARS. EXCELLENT.
- JANE ANSON** VERY DEEP PURPLE COLOUR. GRASSY AND RICH AROMA. SWEET BUT SOMEHOW PYRAZINE
91/100 AT THE SAME TIME. VERY RICH AND CHOCOLATEY, BUT ROUNDED. RIPE. PERHAPS A LITTLE
WARM.
- BORDEAUX TOTAL** CONCENTRATED, CREAMY, OPULENT BOUQUET, BLACKBERRY JAM, BLACK CHERRIES,
RENÉ GABRIEL GRAPHITE, CHOCOLATE. DENSE, LUSH, HIGHLY EXTRACTED PALATE WITH SANDY TANNINS
17/20 POWERFUL, SWEET AROMATICS, MUSCULAR STRUCTURE, LONG, DRY FINISH.
- MATTHEW DUKES** VERY SPICY, QUITE DENSE AND HARD, THIS IS AN EXTRACTED WINE, BUT IT IS NOT TOO RAW
17.5/20 OR TOO ASTRINGENT AND I FEEL COMFORTABLE ABOUT ITS FUTURE. THE RED FRUIT IS
CERTAINLY POWERFUL ENOUGH TO MAINTAIN DOMINANCE IN THIS WINE.
- LE FIGARO** TASTING OF THE FIGARO VIN EDITORIAL STAFF : FRUITY, JUICY, FRISKY, SPICY, ELEGANT,
16.5/20 SOFT TANNINS.
- JEB DUNNUCK** CHARMING, FORWARD NOTES OF CASSIS, CHERRIES, AND CLASSY OAK EMERGE FROM
87-88/100 THE 2017 CHÂTEAU BALESTARD LA TONNELLE, WHICH IS MEDIUM-BODIED, BALANCED,
AND NICELY TEXTURED. IT'S A CHARMER FOR SURE AND IDEAL FOR DRINKING IN ITS YOUTH.
- JANCIS ROBINSON** DEEP CHERRY RED. SWEETLY FRUITED AND SWEETLY OAKY ON THE NOSE. A CONTRAST
16/20 AFTER THE 2017 PESSACS. BUT THE RIPENESS IS JUST RIGHT. THE TEXTURE IS
CHOCOLATE-LIKE BUT THE PALATE IS LESS LIVELY THAN THE NOSE. FRESH AND FIRM.
A BIT DOUR ON THE FINISH.





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VERT DE VIN THE NOSE IS AROMATIC, GREEDY, RACY, PRECISE AND OFFERS DENSITY, RICHNESS AS WELL AS BALANCED AND OFFERS GOOD DEFINITION, JUICINESS, FINE MINERALITY, FINE ACIDITY, FATNESS, TENSION, PRECISION AND ELEGANCE. ON THE PALATE, THIS WINE EXPRESSES NOTES OF FLESHY BLACKBERRY, FLESHY BLACKCURRANT AND MORE SLIGHTLY FLESHY RASPBERRY ASSOCIATED WITH FINE TOUCHES OF FLESHY RED BERRIES, SMALL HINTS OF SALINE MINERALITY (IN THE BACKGROUND), SUBTLE TOUCHES OF LICORICE, TOAST, VANILLA AS WELL AS A VERY DISCREET HINT OF FLOWERS (IN THE BACKGROUND) AND A VERY DISCREET HINT OF COCOA (IN THE BACKGROUND). THE TANNINS ARE FINE AND A BIT FIRM.

CHOUKROUN C. JONATHAN
93-94/100

VERT DE VIN THE NOSE IS ELEGANT, NICELY RACY AND OFFERS POWER AS WELL AS A LITTLE CONCENTRATION. THIS WINE NEEDS TO BE DECANTED. THERE ARE NOTES OF BLACKBERRY, CASSIS AND MORE LIGHTLY COFFEE COMBINED WITH SMALL TOUCHES OF SMALL BLACK BERRY/BLUEBERRY, VIOLET SICHUAN PEPPER AND BLOND TOBACCO/CARDAMOM. THE PALATE IS FRUITY, JUICY AND OFFERS TENSION, A NICE ACIDIC FRAME, A FINE STRAIGHTNESS, PRECISION AS WELL AS FATNESS. ON THE PALATE THIS WINE EXPRESSES FLESHY/JUICY BLACKCURRANT, FLESHY/JUICY BLACKBERRY AND MORE LIGHTLY BERRY NOTES COMBINED WITH HINTS OF WILD STRAWBERRY, VIOLET, LICORICE STICK AS WELL AS VERY FINE TOUCHES OF VANILLA BEAN AND SPICE. THE TANNINS ARE ELEGANT AND VERY FINELY FIRM. GOOD LENGTH.

CHOUKROUN C. JONATHAN
93-94/100

THE WINE ADVOCATE MEDIUM TO DEEP GARNET-PURPLE COLORED, ITGIVES UP SCENTS OF WARM BLACKBERRIES, STEWED PLUMS AND FRUITCAKE WITH HINTS OF CEDAR CHEST, PENCIL LEAD AND BLACK TRUFFLES. MEDIUM-BODIED, THE PALATE IS WELL-PLAYED WITH A SOFT TEXTURE AND A GOOD CONCENTRATION OF BRIGHT, JUICY FRUIT, FINISHING SAVORY.

LISA PERROTTI BROWN
92/100

SCHWEIZERTSCHE WEINZEITUNG FRUITY BOUQUET, CHERRY LIQUOR, BLUEBERRIES, TOAST. GOD DENSITY, JUICY, YOUTHFUL TANNINS, GOOD ACIDITY, RIPE BLACKBERRIES, GOD LENGHT. MEDIUM-BODIED WITH SUPPLE TANNIN, A FINE BEAD OF ACIDITY, NICELY INTEGRATED OAK WITH A SVELTE FINISH. THIS IS THE BEST BALESTARD LA TONNELLE THAT I HAVE TASTED IN RECENT YEARS. EXCELLENT.

16/20

JANE ANSON GOOD, RICH AROMATICS ARE EVIDENT ON THE NOSE, SHOWING NOTES OF GRILLED OAK AND CLOVES WITH DAMSON UNDERNEATH. THEY HAVE DONE A GOOD JOB HERE, PRODUCING A BROAD-SHOULDERED WINE. IT'S A LITTLE OAK-LED, BUT HAS PERSONALITY AND WELL-PLACED FRUITS, AND THEY HAVE DELIVERED A WINE WITH THEIR OWN SIGNATURE IN A VINTAGE WHERE THAT WAS NOT THE EASIEST OF THINGS TO DO.

90/100





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JAMES SUCKLING
91-92/100

SOME FRESH-EARTH AND MEATY NOTES HERE, AS WELL AS DRIED ROSE AND OAK SPICE. THE PALATE HAS A SMOOTH, PLUSH AND CENTRALLY FLESHY FEEL WITH A SUCCULENT, BLUE-FRUIT FINISH. DRINK OR HOLD. WITH A SVELTE FINISH. THIS IS THE BEST BALESTARD LA TONNELLE THAT I HAVE TASTED IN RECENT YEARS. EXCELLENT.

GUIDE GAULT ET MILLAU
15-16/20

RIPE, A LITTLE BLACKCURRANT. MODERATELY DENSE STRUCTURE, SLIGHTLY ROUGH TANNINS AND A WHOLE WHOSE AROMATICS ARE NOT VERY EXPRESSIVE. STILL CLOSED.

BORDEAUX TOTAL
RENÉ GABRIEL
17/20

CONCENTRATED, CREAMY, OPULENT BOUQUET, BLACKBERRY JAM, BLACK CHERRIES, GRAPHITE, CHOCOLATE. DENSE, LUSH, HIGHLY EXTRACTED PALATE WITH SANDY TANNINS POWERFUL, SWEET AROMATICS, MUSCULAR STRUCTURE, LONG, DRY FINISH.

MATTHEW DUKES
17.5/20

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90/100

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