

# Las Cases

1985

## TERROIR

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Le Grand Enclos de Las Cases renferme un terroir d'une très grande complexité. Issu majoritairement de graves du Quaternaire sur sous-sol gravelo-sableux et gravelo-argileux, on rencontre également des argiles plus ou moins profondes et compactes, parfois même affleurantes. La proximité de la Gironde est responsable de cette grande diversité de sols, créée au fil des périodes géologiques par superpositions successives. De plus, le fleuve génère un microclimat bien spécifique qui permet une maturité très précoce des raisins et protège le vignoble du gel. Ce camaïeu de combinaisons géologiques influe sur le développement de la vigne et sur la constitution des raisins. Ce terroir incomparable offre au grand vin sa personnalité unique.

## MILLÉSIME 1985

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La floraison de 1985 fut normale malgré un début de cycle pluvieux en mai et juin. Le temps fut variable jusqu'à mi août, avec ensuite une sécheresse totale jusqu'à fin octobre. On nota seulement la présence ponctuelle d'un week-end pluvieux début octobre.

## INFORMATIONS TECHNIQUES

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Assemblage : Cabernet Sauvignon 65% Merlot 25% Cabernet Franc 8% Petit Verdot 2%

Date de vendange : Du 30 septembre au 16 octobre 1985

Degré : 12,80 %vol. / Acidité Totale : 3,43 gH<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>/l



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## NOTES DE DÉGUSTATION

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95/100

THE WINE CELLAR INSIDER / JEFF LEVE

One of the stars of the vintage, this is drinking perfectly today. Delivering its wealth of ripe, juicy, crisp, fresh red fruits in its stern, regal, refined, full-bodied character, 30 minutes in the decanter is all this beauty needs to start singing. (February 2020)

98/100

VINOUS / NEAL MARTIN

The 1985 Léoville Las Cases is not just one of the finest vintages from this Second Growth, but one of the high points for the entirety of Bordeaux in this decade. Here it eclipses the 1985 Lafite-Rothschild with ease. It has an exquisitely defined bouquet of red berry fruit infused with crushed stone and pressed rose petals, just like before. Ethereal. The palate is medium-bodied, a perfect marriage of structure and a degree of elegance that maybe the property has not matched before or since. It's so, so harmonious on the finish. An absolute beauty. Tasted at Hameau de Barbaron in Burgundy. (December 2019)

95/100

DECANTER / JANE ANSON

Attractive touch of florality on both nose and palate, with notes of wild strawberry and blond tobacco curling softly out of the glass. Then, underneath, in comes the power, the thrust of a wine that is confident in its tannic structure, and its ability to age. (October 2017)

REVUE DU VIN DE FRANCE

Bien plus ouvert, harmonieux et séduisant aujourd'hui que le 1986, le 1985, certes moins puissant, est arrivé à pleine maturité depuis peu. Les notes de bourgeon de cassis, de tabac, de fougères sont envolées tantes au nez, tandis que l'ensemble en bouche coule avec une harmonie superbe.

ROBERT PARKER

The 1985 is a gorgeously open-knit Las Cases with a sweet nose of lead pencil, sweet black cherries and currants, and a hint of underbrush and new oak. Medium to full-bodied with expansiveness, supple tannins, and



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outstanding concentration, this is a beautifully made wine that still tastes like it is an adolescent and may even have an even greater upside as it continues to age in bottle. The low acidity and sweet tannin, however, suggest it has entered its plateau of maturity. Anticipated maturity: Now-2018

## WINE SPECTATOR

A fabulous wine; one of the first great Las Cases. Full-bodied and rich, with the tannins extremely well integrated into an impressive background of fruit. Give it time.--Cabernet Challenge. Best after 2004.

18,5+/20

## THE WINE DOCTOR / CHRIS KISSACK

Like a few other wines (...) this demonstrates its potential even with its colour, which is red cut through with a purple streak of youth. Stylish, classically styled St Julien fruit with a hard, tarry character. There is a sense of a full, sweet richness to it. On the palate it is clear that this firm, tannic, backward wine is still in the ascendant. Firm fruit and balanced acidity provide the potential for future development.(...). (September 2002)

19/20

## WEIN GABRIEL / RENE GABRIEL

95/100

## JEANNIE CHO LEE



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