

# Las Cases

1998

## 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 1998

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Le millésime 1998 fut caractérisé par un débourrement et une floraison précoce. Le mois d'août, particulièrement chaud et sec, favorisa ensuite la bonne maturation des raisins qui ne fut pas perturbée par les quelques pluies survenues en septembre pendant les vendanges.

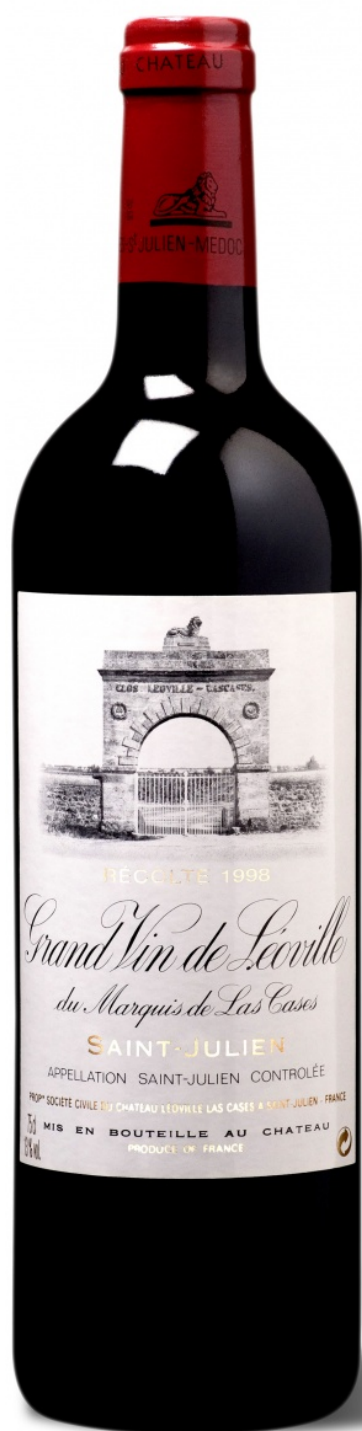
## INFORMATIONS TECHNIQUES

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Assemblage : Cabernet Sauvignon 76% Merlot 15% Cabernet Franc 9%

Date de vendange : Du 23 septembre au 12 octobre 1998

Degré : 12,91 %vol. / Acidité Totale : 3,45 gH<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>/l



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## NOTES DE DÉGUSTATION

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94/100

JAMES SUCKLING

Loads of tobacco and mushroom with some wet earth and currant throughout. Medium-bodied, creamy and juicy with lovely energy. Real Bordeaux here. Savory finish. Drink now. (January 2021)

94/100

WINE ADVOCATE / LISA PERROTTI BROWN

(...). Deep garnet colored with a touch of brick, it delivers pronounced, beautifully pure crème de cassis, blackberry preserves and prunes scents with an undercurrent of cigar box, licorice, pencil lead and hoisin, plus a touch of espresso. Medium to full-bodied, the palate has impressive richness and depth, coating the mouth with velvety tannins and just enough freshness, finishing long and spicy. Still very youthful, this wine is in that sweet spot where it has considerable evolution and yet bags of fruit. Drink it now and for the next 20 years+. (March 2021)

98/100

DECANTER / JANE ANSON

1998 was a late flowering year but the grapes achieved perfect ripeness by harvest time. It's an excellent vintage that's generally known as a Right Bank year, but is more than holding its own over in St-Julien. At this point we are starting to see what a mature Léoville can do: the edges are softening to a russet colour and the cigar-box edge is apparent, alongside notes of hedgerow, undergrowth, rosemary, black cherry, cassis, and a touch of menthol on the finish. (November 2018)

95/100

THE WINE DOCTOR / CHRIS KISSACK

In the glass it displays an impressive hue, surprisingly dark at its core, youthful too, glossy even, and certainly impressive for twenty years of age. There follows a quite classic nose, with maturing Cabernet scents of juniper and bay leaf, underpinned by a little gritty fruit which feels reminiscent of blackcurrant skin. The palate feels gently textured, quite dry in terms of its structure through the middle, showing a little austerity even, with flavours of dry currants and peppered fruits. (December 2018)



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## BETTANE & DESSEAUVE

Absolument complet et typique de ce terroir, avec ses arômes nobles de cèdre et son tannin d'une race inégalable. Peu de vins le dépassent dans le millésime.

## DENIS HERVIER

Vinosité, énergie, superbement classique. Merveilleux de pureté et de longueur, il donne une grande émotion !

## ROBERT PARKER

The 1998 has turned out to be one of the vintage's superb Medocs. It boasts an opaque black/purple color as well as a classic Léoville Las Cases display of lead pencil, gorgeously pure black raspberries and cherries, smoke, and graphite. A broad yet focused entry on the palate reveals firm tannin, medium to full body, superb concentration and purity, as well as a totally symmetrical mouthfeel. Anticipated maturity: 2006-2025

## WINE SPECTATOR

Impressive dark, almost purple color. Intense aromas of crushed blackberries, minerals, mint and currant follow through to a full body, with licorice and berry character and a long, velvety finish. Needs a bit of time still, but very enjoyable already. Very serious for the vintage. '88/'98 Bordeaux blind retrospective (2008). Best after 2011.

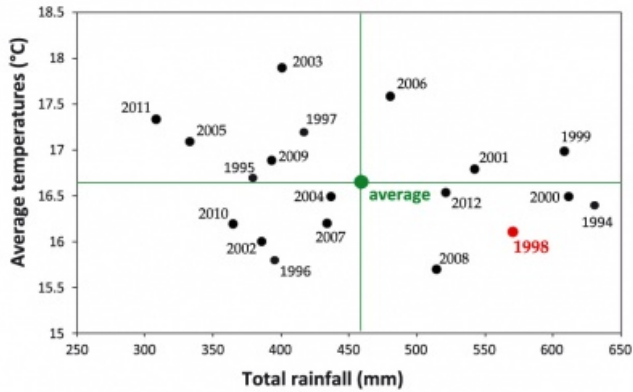


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1998

Comparatif des températures et précipitations sur la période végétative : du 1er mars au 31 octobre



Pluviométrie et températures en 1998

