

Las Cases

2005

TERROIR

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 2005

La vigne débourra début avril, après un hiver sec et plutôt froid. La floraison débuta au cours de la dernière semaine de mai, dans de bonnes conditions, et fut rapide et homogène sur tous les cépages. Les contraintes hydriques s'amplifièrent courant juin, limitant ainsi le grossissement des jeunes baies et entraînant un arrêt de croissance précoce. La véraison fut rapide et homogène puis le raisin continua sa maturation avec un mois d'août encore très sec et ensoleillé mais sans chaleurs excessives. Ces conditions idéales permirent d'obtenir des raisins très concentrés et parfaitement équilibrés.

INFORMATIONS TECHNIQUES

Assemblage : Cabernet Sauvignon 88% Merlot 7% Cabernet Franc 5%

Date de vendange : Du 21 septembre au 7 octobre 2005

Degré : 13,15 %vol. - Acidité Totale : 3,53 gH₂SO₄/l - pH : 3,58 - IPT : 71



DOMAINES DELON

Las Cases

2005

NOTES DE DÉGUSTATION



97+/100

VINOUS / ANTONIO GALLONI

The 2005 Léoville Las Cases is one of the most brooding, potent wines of the year. When will it be ready? The answer is not yet. Although I have had other bottles that have been showier. Inky, powerful and potent, the 2005 is a real showstopper. If opened now, the 2005 needs a good 12 hours in the decanter to start performing well. Over time, the 2005 shows it is just at the very beginning of a first plateau of maturity, with lovely aromatic complexity, layers of radiant fruit and tremendous structure to back it all up. The high percentage of Cabernet Sauvignon (88%) foreshadows the style that has now become the norm. Time in the glass brings out the red/purplish fruit nicely. Still, I would prefer to give the 2005 a few more years in bottle. The 2005 is a must have for readers who love Las Cases. Tasted two times. (April 2021)

98/100

THE WINE CELLAR INSIDER / JEFF LEVE

This is a super wine, that in time, should go up in score. But patience is needed here. Decanted 4 hours, that was not enough to tame the strict tannins. Still, it was impossible not to enjoy the perfectly ripe, regal, red and black fruits, intensity, length and concentration found here. This is what the older British writers called good breed. I get their point, even if the term is archaic. All that being said, perhaps, this will be ready between 2025-2030 for the start of its long, 100 year life. (January 2018)

97/100

VINOUS / NEAL MARTIN

The 2005 Léoville Las Cases is a wine that needs more time. The nose remains broody compared to the 2007, but is an absolute joy, featuring brambly red fruit, tobacco, smoke, morels and light estuarine scents. The palate is medium-bodied with fine tannins that have become more supple over the last couple of years. There is wonderful depth and gentle grip, superb balance and a sense of symmetry on the finish that is quite brilliant. I suspect this will turn out to be one of the chateau's greatest achievements of recent years. (December 2019)



DOMAINES DELON

Las Cases

2005

98/100

WINE SPECTATOR / JAMES MOLESWORTH

Sleek and racy, with black currant and fig fruit laced liberally with a bright iron streak and singed alder notes. This is very tightly coiled, as the fruit seems to be preserved for now, while the cold fireplace character holds sway. A superb energy in reserve gives this more than enough time to wait. Could outlast them all in this vintage. Best from 2025 through 2050. (February 2018)

97+/100

WINE ADVOCATE / ROBERT PARKER

(...) This dense ruby/purple wine has a stunningly pure bouquet of dark fruit, wet rocks, graphite, and subtle background toast/vanillin. Full-bodied, masculine, and very deep and concentrated, this titanic effort is at least 8-10 years away from its plateau of maturity. The Delon family have produced another legend. Anticipated maturity: 2023-2050+. (June 2015)

18++/20

JANCIS ROBINSON

Mid to deep crimson. A stony, mineral undertow on the nose but with lovely lift and haunting scents too. Firm with a very ripe spread of flavours that almost distract from the weight of fine tannins underneath. Unlike some wines, this wears its tannic charge effortlessly. Racy and lifted. A very successful Las Cases. (January 2015)

19/20

THE WINE DOCTOR / CHRIS KISSACK

This has a distinctive nose of sweet black cherry ripened to the point of degradation, overlaid with some more typical aromas of cigar box, and old wooden desks. There is a light sweetness to it as well though, a streak of toffee, as well as hint of rosemary freshness. The palate is very restrained, almost steely in its resolve, with a polished presence and a reserved, savoury presence of fruit. This is a very staid, restrained style, still packed with tannin, the texture slightly austere still, the overall impression being that this is still very much a baby. A long, peppery, tannin-infused finish only reinforces this thought. A classically styled wine, very impressive, and destined for greatness. (...). (January 2015)



DOMAINES DELON

Las Cases

2005

19,5/20

REVUE DU VIN DE FRANCE / OLIVIER POELS

Après une heure de décantation, il se montre encore impénétrable et serré au nez. La bouche est impressionnante de fougue. Les arômes de fruits frais et les tannins tapissent le palais. Doté d'un volume monumental et d'une longueur impressionnante, ce vin peut attendre au moins une décennie. (Novembre 2014)

98/100

WINE ADVOCATE / ROBERT PARKER

Another titanic effort from the Delon family, the 2005 Léoville Las Cases is probably the greatest wine made at this estate since Jean-Hubert Delon's father produced the 1986 and 1996. Only 37% of the production made it into the 2005, a blend of primarily Cabernet Sauvignon with less than 13% Merlot and Cabernet Franc. An inky/ruby/purple color is accompanied by reticent aromatics that, with considerable coaxing, offer up subtle notes of toasty vanillin intermixed with lead pencil shavings, wet rocks, and enormously ripe, intense black cherry and creme de cassis. The wine hits the palate with a full-bodied, layered mouthfeel as well as enormous extract, concentration, and purity. This ageless, monumental claret requires a minimum of 15-20 years to approach maturity, and should last for a half century. It is about as classic a Léoville Las Cases as one will find. Anticipated maturity: 2020-2060 (April 2008)

98-100/100

FALSTAFF / PETER MOSER

Tiefdunkles Rubingranat, schwarzer Kern, violette Reflexe, in der Nase einladende reife Frucht, feiner Nougat, faszinierende Präzision. Am Gaumen transparente Frucht, ein Wein von großer Finesse, Frische und Komplexität, rotbeerige Nuancen, seidig-süße Tannine, herrliche Länge, ein perfekter Wein, der mit knapp 13 % Alkohol auskommt. Grandioses Lagerpotenzial, zweifellos in Premier-Cru-Qualität. (May 2006)

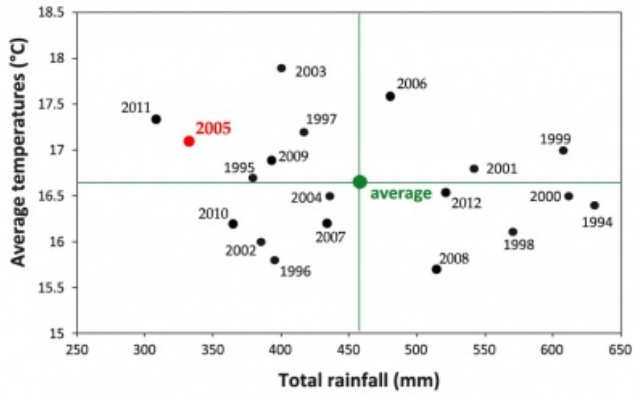


DOMAINES DELON

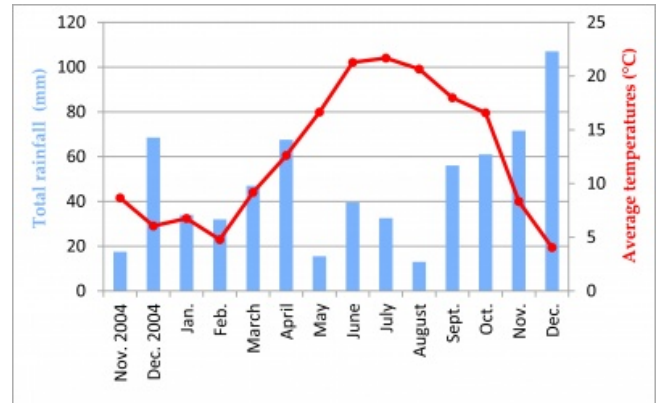
Las Cases

2005

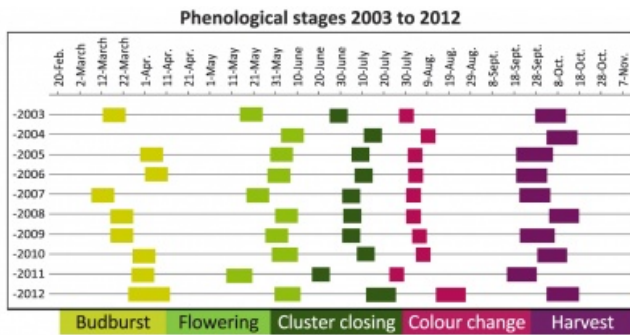
Comparatif des températures et précipitations sur la période végétative : du 1er mars au 31 octobre



Pluviométrie et températures en 2005



Stades phénologiques



DOMAINES DELON