

Château Potensac

1996

TERROIR

Le vignoble du Château Potensac se situe sur l'un des points culminants du nord du Médoc et s'étend essentiellement sur un sous-sol calcaire recouvert de croupes argilo-graveleuses avec une forte proportion de graves, un terroir se rapprochant de l'appellation de Saint-Estèphe. Conduit par la famille Delon (Léoville Las Cases) depuis la nuit des temps, ce cru réputé englobe des parcelles de Cabernet Sauvignon et de Cabernet Franc plantées il y a plus de 75 ans, produisant des raisins parfaitement mûrs et sains.

MILLÉSIME 1996

Suite à une floraison rapide et homogène, 1996 connut un été sans excès de chaleur ni de sécheresse. Les conditions anticycloniques de septembre permirent ensuite l'obtention de raisins, et notamment de Cabernet Sauvignon, d'une extraordinaire concentration, parfaitement équilibrés et très aromatiques.

INFORMATIONS TECHNIQUES

Assemblage : Cabernet Sauvignon 48% Merlot 33% Cabernet Franc 19%

Date de vendange : Du 28 septembre au 12 octobre 1996

Degré : 13,00 %vol. / Acidité Totale : 3,43 gH₂SO₄/l

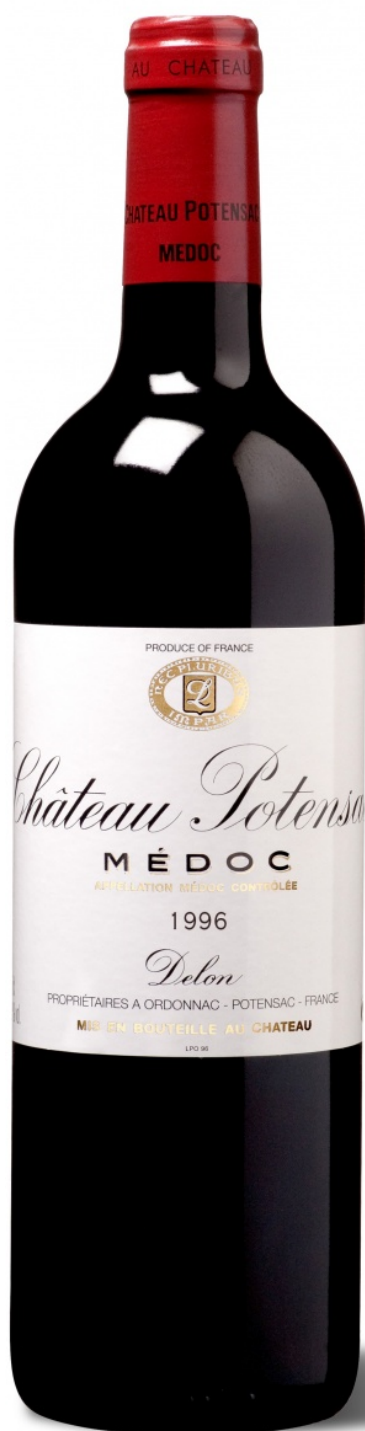


DOMAINES DELON

Château Potensac

1996

NOTES DE DÉGUSTATION



90/100

WINE ADVOCATE / NEAL MARTIN

(...). This vintage has quite a reputation, indeed, at 20 years of age it stands up as one of the over-achievers of the vintage. It has a lively, very pure blackcurrant and bilberry-scented bouquet with crushed stone aromas, very youthful and backward. The palate is medium-bodied with fine tannin, dense tarry black fruit tinged with cedar, a dash of spice towards the structured finish with a lingering saline aftertaste. It will easily give another 10-15 years of drinking pleasure. (October 2016)

16/20

THE WINE DOCTOR / CHRIS KISSACK

This has a surprisingly dark hue, with a thin rim of maturity; I confess I expected something a little more fragile. There are dark, spicy, gravelly fruit-skins on the nose, cherry skin and blackcurrant skin, with smoky-stony freshness and a touch of cinnamon too. The palate is full, cool and reserved, but showing a convincing substance through the middle. This is savoury, a touch peppery even, with a dry but well integrated tannic backbone. As it evolves in the decanter, there is more substance and texture. It has rather a fading, unfocused finish, but plenty of confidence and interest through the middle. Some good ripe tannin in the finish though: this still has potential for the future. Solid rather than complex, although from Ordonnac in the Médoc that is perhaps par for the course. Remarkably, drink or hold. From a 1996 Bordeaux tasting at eighteen years of age. (May 2014)

88/100

WINE SPECTATOR / JAMES SUCKLING

Aromas of raspberry and flowers follow through to a medium-bodied palate, with fine tannins and a tight finish. (2007)

16/20

JEAN-MARC QUARIN

Couleur sombre et légèrement évoluée, nez beau fruité offrant un bouquet de vieillissement sophistiqué d'un style très Médoc. Le vin se montre plus crémeux à l'agitation. Bouche suave, à la fois fraîche et très aromatique. Le vin caresse, s'achève sur une bonne longueur sans aucune dureté tannique.



DOMAINES DELON

Château Potensac

1996

Sans décantation, il est même très bon. (February 2002)

89/100

WINE ADVOCATE / ROBERT PARKER

This is the most amazing wine this estate has ever produced. It rivals the 1982, being even richer and potentially longer-lived. It boasts a dark purple color, as well as sweet, earthy, black currant and cherry liqueur-scented nose. There is terrific fruit intensity and purity, as well as moderate tannin in the medium-bodied, impressively rich finish. This wine should drink well between 2002-2014. A sleeper of the vintage. (April 1999)

17,5/20

JANCIS ROBINSON

(August 2007)

87-89/100

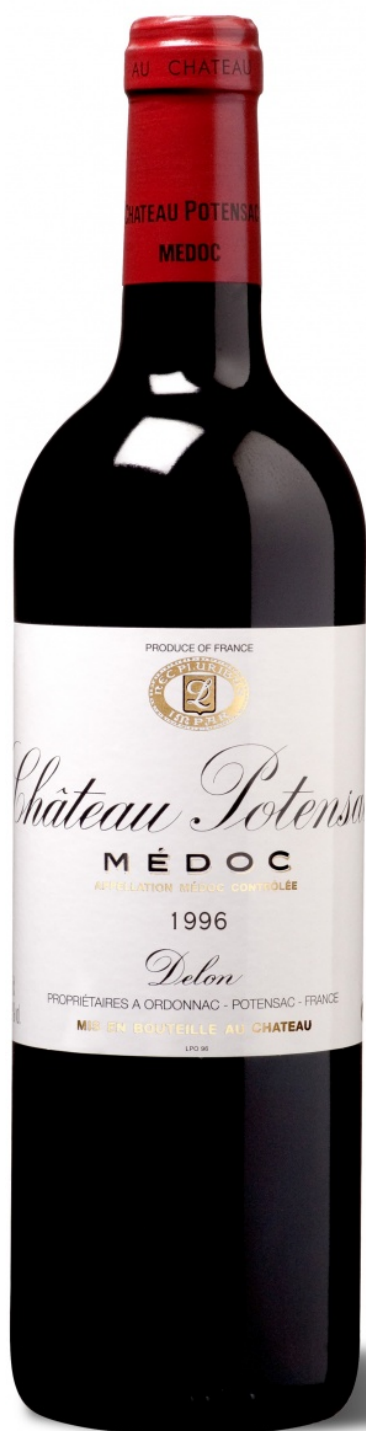
STEPHEN TANZER / VINOUS

Deep ruby-red. Cassis, blueberry, smoke, shoe polish and tobacco leaf on the nose, plus a hint of confiture. Sweeter and denser than the '97; quite Pauillac in style. Finishes with dusty, even tannins. Youthful and strong for this wine. (May 1998)

17/20

REVUE DU VIN DE FRANCE

Guide Vert 2005



DOMAINES DELON