



Château La Prade

FRANCS CÔTES DE BORDEAUX

2017

Dégustations en bouteille

“Deep garnet-purple colored, the 2017 La Prade leaps from the glass with youthful Morello cherries, crushed blackberries and warm plums scents plus wafts of anise and underbrush. Medium-bodied, it has a firm, grainy texture and seamless freshness supporting the earth-sparked fruit, finishing with good length.”

Score: 91/100

Lisa Perrotti-Brown, Wine Advocate, Mars 2020

“A cedary edge to the blueberries with a spicy, earthy note and fresh tobacco leaf, too. The palate has a very elegant, bright and quite crunchy feel with a succulent, red-berry and red-plum finish. Drink over the next five years.”

Score: 90/100

James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com, Janvier 2020

“A sparkle of savory runs through this cassis- and cherry-filled version, with racy, chalky minerality framing the finish. Shows the direct freshness of the vintage, but may be a touch austere for some. Merlot and Cabernet Franc. Drink now through 2022. 1,750 cases made.”

Score: 89/100

James Molesworth, Wine Spectator, Mars 2020

“The 2017 La Prade has a straightforward bouquet of blackberry, melted tar and light tobacco aromas that gradually unfold and reveal commendable definition. The palate is medium-bodied with supple, rounded tannins, plenty of juicy black fruit laced with tar and black pepper, with a harmonious finish. Nicolas Thienpont has crafted a fine Francs Côtes de Bordeaux here.”

Score: 89/100

Neal Martin, Vinous, Février 2020

“The 2017 La Prade is rich and powerful, just as it was from barrel. A rush of blackberry jam, gravel, spice, leather and smoke gives the 2017 its somber, virile personality. Potent in both its fruit and tannic structure, the 2017 could use a year or two in bottle to come together, but I imagine it will always remain a bit rustic. There is no shortage of intensity, that much is clear. Yields are down 50% - 7 hectares in

production, 4.5 were not frosted, but this is rustic. Tasted three times.”

Score: 89/100

Antonio Galloni, Vinous, Mars 2020

“Coming from the team of Nicolas Thienpont, and a blend of 90% Merlot and 10% Cabernet Franc brought up in 50% new French oak, the 2017 Chateau La Prade sports a deeper ruby color as well as a complex, nuanced style in its red and black currant fruits as well as notes of sandalwood, spice, and incense. Nicely textured, balanced, medium-bodied, and with a great finish, it shows a touch more minerality than the Puygueraud and is reminiscent of a Saint-Emilion from the limestone soils on the upper plateau. It’s a terrific wine to enjoy over the coming 7-8 years. Tasted twice.”

Score: 89/100

Jeb Dunnuck, JebDunnuck.com, Mars 2020

« Bouquet intense, juvénile, marqué par des notes fruitées et florales. En bouche le vin est doté d’une belle expression aromatique. Il est idéalement soutenu par ses tannins, qui donne du corps, et par sa rafraîchissante structure. Un vin sapide et juteux. »

Score: 89/100

Yves Beck, Beckustator, Mars 2020

Primeurs

“Owned by Nicolas Thienpont, La Prade’s seven hectares, located at the top of the limestone plateau close to Francs in the Côtes de Franc and the highest in altitude there, saw no frost this year. A blend of 90% Merlot and 10% Cabernet Franc, the 2017 La Prade has pretty scents of warm black plums, black forest cake and lilacs with touches of cigar box and cinnamon. The palate is medium to full-bodied with great concentration and depth, supported by a firm frame of ripe, grainy tannins and seamless freshness, finishing long. Very impressive!”

Score: 90-92+/100

Lisa Perrotti-Brown, Wine Advocate, Avril 2018

“A brightness and beauty with blackberries, earth and hints of salt. Medium body, grainy tannins and a solid direction.”

Score: 90-91/100

James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com, Avril 2018

“Incredibly floral, with ripe cherry, mineral, tobacco and spice aromas and flavors, the 2017 Château La Prade comes from a slightly warmer terroir of limestone soils. It’s rounded and supple on the palate, with terrific fruit, a balanced texture, and ripe tannin. I suspect it will drink nicely right out of the gate. First produced in 2000, this wine comes from clay and limestone soils of the Saint-Cibard commune and is 90% Merlot and 10% Cabernet Franc. It was harvested between the 27th of September and the 3rd of October. 1,750 cases.”

Score: 88-90/100

Jeb Dunnuck, JebDunnuck.com, Avril 2018

“90% Merlot, 10% Cabernet Franc. Almost half the vines were frosted. Sweeter smelling than the Puygueraud just tasted. More red fruit. Smooth and rounded. Lively and with a fine and just mildly chewy texture.”

Score: 16/20

Julia Harding, JancisRobinson.com, Avril 2018

« Un nez un peu plus fermé que Puygueraud, son cousin, épices et graphite. Tension et précision du fruit, tanins précis et sur l’allonge. Une finale fraîche et aérienne. Un vin qui ne s’exprime pas dans l’épate mais dans la précision. Malgré une baisse de 40 à 50% de la récolte due au gel, c’est un très beau La Prade. »

Score: 90-92/100

Yohan Castaing, Anthocyanes / Gault & Millau, Mai 2018

“The 2017 La Prade was spared frost damage this year and was picked between 27 September and 3 October. It has a little more volume and intensity than Nicolas Thienpont’s other Francs Côtes de Bordeaux, Puygueraud. Hints of iris develop with aeration. The palate is medium-bodied with dark berry fruit, slightly rigid tannin, a surprisingly masculine La Prade considering it is a majority Merlot with a linear finish, though it should gain some flesh by the end of its élevage.”

Score: 88-90/100

Neal Martin, Vinous, Mai 2018

« La propriété de Nicolas Thienpont a été épargnée par le fameux gel du mois d’avril. Dans le verre, on retrouve un vin profond et sévère, se démarquant de ses confrères de l’appellation. On apprécie sa fraîcheur acidulée en finale. »

Score : 14-15/20

Pierre Citerne, La Revue du vin de France, Mai 2018

« Nez précis, pur. Il se distingue par sa trame parfaitement ajustée, son caractère ascendant, sa finale longue et stylée, au tanin croquant, d’une très belle tenue. Une belle réussite. »

Score: 91/100

Jacques Perrin, Vinifera, Mai 2018

“Nice healthy colour; ripe fruit; has strength; nicely ripe; quite round and full on the palate; attractive; good finish.”

Score: 88-90+/100

Jeremy Williams, Wine, Words and Videotape, Juin 2018

“Fresh with polished tannins and a sweet, fruity quality in the round finish, this wine will be delicious for at least a decade or longer. If you are seeking value Bordeaux and you’re not familiar with La Prade -- get to know this wine, which is made from 90% Merlot and 10% Cabernet Franc. Sadly, due to the frost, there is 50% less of the normal volume produced here this year.”

Score: 88-90/100

Jeff Leve, The Wine Cellar Insider, Mai 2018

“Dark purple red with violet hue and almost black core Aromatic nose reminiscent of dark berries, e.g. blackberries, dark cherries in the background. On the palate sweet and juicy fruit, ripe tannins, elegant and fresh with good length.”

Score: 89/100

Markus del Monego, Avril 2018

“Bright and fresh, with breezy cherry and cassis notes and light floral and chalk hints on the finish.”

Score: 87-90/100

James Molesworth, Wine Spectator, Mars 2018