

PAPE CLEMENT ROUGE 2022

Pessac Léognan

REVIEWS

97 James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com, February 2025

A very well-balanced Pape Clement showing a solid structure, concentration and length. Fresh and complex, with a fine streak of minerals and aromas of cassis, berries, white pepper and tapenade. Some wood spices, but they're quite restrained. Full-bodied, tight and long. A transparent and complete wine for the cellar. Try after 2028.

95 Neal Martin, vinous.com, February 2025

The 2022 Pape Clément was impressive from barrel. Now that the wine is in bottle, it has evolved a very floral bouquet (strangely, there is a scent that reminds me of walking into the hotel reception of the Mandarin Oriental in Hong Kong, and I don't mean that necessarily in a negative way). Hints of musk, potpourri and bergamot filter through with aeration. The palate is very well balanced with saturated tannins. Mainly black-fruited, it is judiciously spiced and a little chewy toward the finish, where it just needs a little more precision and nervosité. Still, this is a very fine Pape Clément, one that deserves several years in bottle. 2030 – 2065

92/94 Yohan Castaing, Wine Advocate, April 2023

Revealing aromas of blueberries, cassis, spring flowers and toasty new oak, the 2022 Pape Clément is full-bodied, broad and textural, with a rich, layered core of super-ripe fruit framed by liberally extracted tannins that assert themselves on the firm, lavishly oaky finish. This is a flamboyant, unabashedly modern-styled Pape Clément that will need several years in the cellar to blossom. It's a blend of 60% Merlot and 40% Cabernet Sauvignon.

91/93 Thomas Parker MW, Farr Vintners, April 2023

Kirsch, confit fruits and jam on the nose here, together with a heavy wood char. The palate has a little coarse tannin, the extraction full and rich. The fruit is heady and the alcohol a little warming. The wood smoke overlays the fruit in the middle, but underneath there is some polished cassis. Opulent and bonfire-like to the finish, this is a wine that conveys the heat of the vintage.

93/95 Lisa Perrotti-Brown MW, The Wine Independent, May 2023

The 2022 Pape Clement Blanc is a blend of 63% Sauvignon Blanc, 35% Semillon, and 2% Muscadelle with a yield of 35 hl/ha. It bursts with bold notes of apricots, poached pears, and lemon tart, plus wafts of honeysuckle, cedar, and dill seed. The medium-bodied palate is packed with vibrant apricot and pear flavors, with a racy backbone leading to a long, spicy finish.

94 Jane Anson, JaneAnson.com, March 2025

Medium to full intensity ruby in colour, gentle smoke on the nose, along with liquorice and cocoa bean on the opening beats, good length here, perhaps a little tight still at this point but plenty of ageing potential, and an enjoyably fragrant wave of rose petals and orange peel on the finish. Heavy bottle. 35hl/h yield, native yeast fermentation, aged in a variety of differently sized casks and barrels, 75ha estate

16 Jancis Robinson MW, Jancis Robinson.com, May 2023

Cask sample. Quite a change from the excessively concentrated wines of the past, in a vintage that naturally offers concentration! Deep purplish crimson. Rich, ripe nose and then some unintegrated acidity imposes itself. Decidedly unknit at the moment with acidity dominating tannins that are evident only on the very end. Sandy finish. A curious wine that is fresher and less exaggerated than earlier vintages. An attempt to lighten up perhaps?

Drink 2029– 2040

