



PIERRE RAOUX
WINE SELECTION

CHATEAU MARGAUX AOC Margaux 1st Classified Growth



Area of Production

Region:	Bordeaux, France.
Grapes Varieties:	75% Cabernet Sauvignon, 20% Merlot, 5% Cabernet Franc and Petit Verdot for the red; 100% Sauvignon Blanc for the white.
Vineyard Area:	80 hectares for the red and 12 hectares for the white.
Soil/Terroir:	White gravel.
Second Label:	Pavillon Rouge.
Average Production:	12,500 cases (1150 hL) for Chateau Margaux; 16,500 cases (1518hL) for Pavillon Rouge; 3,000 cases (276hL) for Pavillon Blanc.

History

Château Margaux is a Bordeaux wine estate located in the commune of Margaux on the left bank of the Garonne estuary in the Médoc region.

The estate has been occupied since at least the 12th century by a fortified castle known as La Mothe de Margaux and wine under names "Margou" was known in the 15th century.

The lineage of ownership was in a relatively direct path from the Lestonnacs, through the female side, including an alliance of marriage with the Pontac family of Château Haut-Brion in 1654, which became crucial to the inclusion of Château Margaux among the four first growths.

In 1802 the estate was purchased by the Marquis de la Colonilla. The château was torn down and completely rebuilt. During that time, the estate comprised 265 hectares with a third devoted to viticulture, which is nearly identical to the modern layout. It was sold in 1836 to a Spanish nobleman then sold to Vicomte Pillet-Will in 1879, an era that ended in 1920 with the sale to a syndicate.

Large portions of shares in the estate were bought by the Bordeaux wine merchant Fernand Ginestet in 1925. Following the Bordeaux economic crisis of 1973, the Ginestet family were forced to sell Château Margaux.

In 1976, the French grocery and finance group Félix Potin bought the Chateau, headed by Greek André Mentzelopoulos. He transformed the vineyard through restoring the vineyard, cellar, and mansion. In 2003, Corinne Mentzelopoulos bought back the majority stake and became the sole shareholder of Château Margaux.

Winemaking

Progress in winemaking were due to an estate manager named Berlon, who revolutionized techniques of wine-making by introducing novel ideas such as banning the harvesting in the early morning to avoid dew-covered grapes and subsequently dilution. He also acknowledged the importance of soil quality in the various terroir found on the estate.

The dry white Pavillon Blanc du Château Margaux must be sold under the generic Bordeaux AOC as the cultivation of Sauvignon Blanc does not fall under the directives of the Margaux AOC.

