

# REVUE DE PRESSE

## PRIMEURS 2018

# CHATEAU BEYCHEVELLE



MAI 2019

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CHÂTEAU  
**BEYCHEVELLE**  
SAINT ~ JULIEN

## COMPTE RENDU

### 1. *Les réseaux sociaux*

- Instagram:

**Kerry Wines** : “The final visit of the day was to **Ch Beychevelle**. We were greeted by the ever charming Philippe Blanc and ushered into the tasting room to sample this very popular wine, with a loyal following, particularly out East? The 2018 is sublime, very ripe and concentrated, with a spiciness and majestic finish...”

- Blogs :

### L'ASSEMBLAGE

Earlier this month we tasted our way around Bordeaux to assess the 2018 vintage. Fortunately it was a worthwhile trip with many successful wines that transcend classifications and appellations.

Several vineyards were hit by hail and a wet spring into early summer led to an outbreak of mildew, reducing crops drastically. Those practicing biodynamic and organic viticulture suffered especially.

Château Pontet-Canet and Château Palmer reported yields of less than 11hl/ha. Fine dry sunny weather in the second half of the growing season, from mid July into October, helped to save the harvest. Very hot day temperatures in July and August were moderated by cool nights, ensuring good grape acidity levels.

Growers were rewarded with fully ripe healthy grapes, resulting in many superb wines. These were characterised by pure sweet berry fruit, big ripe tannins and moderately high alcohols. The top red growths have made the finest wines, although there are plenty of surprises across the region. We were particularly impressed with tannin management and fruit selection. There is less over extraction nowadays, more precise winemaking and better overall balance. This is an excellent vintage, hypothetically like a blend that presents the classic, pure finesse of the 2016s with the generous fruit opulence of 2009 and the 2015s.

Our highlights are as follows:

- (...)
- **Beychevelle**
- Branaire-Ducru
- Leoville Barton

## **MY BETTANE & DESSEAUVÉ – En 2018, Bordeaux m’a fait un beau cadeau**

(...) La caractéristique du millésime est la saveur de raisins très mûrs, associée à une finale de bouche fraîche étonnante que certains ont attribué à tort à un manque de maturité finale du raisin. Hypothèse sans fondement quand on a vu la maturité des raisins vendangés.

2018, très grand, très original, un équilibre inédit

C’est un grand millésime original à la mesure du changement climatique que nous vivons et qui rend optimiste pour un avenir proche si le réchauffement ne s’accroît pas. On n’a jamais connu un tel équilibre des vins dans le Bordelais.

Ce sont les tannins les plus fins et les plus complexes dont je me souviens pour chacun de ces châteaux ; avec un toucher de bouche et une texture inédits, que je qualifierais de crémeux.

La qualité de texture des plus grands cabernets californiens associée à la pureté et la finesse de fins de bouche des terroirs médocains. »

Ses préférés de la rive gauche

- > **Château Beychevelle**
- > Château Gruaud-Larose
- > Château Léoville-Las Cazes
- > Château Calon-Ségur
- > Château Lafite

## **THE DRINKS BUSINESS**

(...) Léoville-Barton completes the hat-trick of Léoville successes in this vintage, with a wine that is both very true to the style of the property and yet also rather more appealing and accessible at this early stage than is usual. **Beychevelle**, too, continues its rich vein of form.

## **CAVISSIMA – LE BLOG**

(...) Saint-Julien, les vins de 2018 sont plaisants et la hiérarchie semble tout à fait respectée. Les très grands châteaux ont fait de très grands vins, en quantité et en qualité. Point positif, nous dirions que c’est l’appellation qui aura produit les vins avec un degré d’alcool le plus modéré. Mention spéciale aux Châteaux Beychevelle et Gruaud Larose pour leurs vins remarquables par leur qualité, leur finesse et leur précision.

## **VINOUS – Antonio Galloni**

(...) **Beychevelle, Léoville-Barton, Langoa Barton, Lagrange and Talbot** are all superb and well worth considering, as are many of the second wines covered in this article. **Gloria and Saint-Pierre** will absolutely thrill readers on a budget. The only disappointing Saint-Julien I tasted were at Gruaud-Larose. Perhaps élevage will help. We will see.

## INTERVIEW BFM BUSINESS par IDEAL WINE

Chaque année, Bordeaux se pare de ses plus beaux atours pour accueillir les professionnels du monde entier venus découvrir le millésime. L'exercice – ô combien délicat – consiste en quelques jours, à cerner dans les grandes lignes le profil d'une année. Un vrai exercice d'humilité, surtout quand l'on sait qu'il revient à résumer en quelques mots le fruit d'une année de travail dans la vigne et au chai. Angélique de Lencquesaing s'y est essayé au cours de l'émission Intégrale Placement, sur BFM Business, en dévoilant à Cédric Decoeur les premières impressions de l'équipe.

Par idealWine

Le ressenti est un peu plus inégal à Saint-Julien ou à Margaux, même si dans ces deux appellations les réussites sont nombreuses : **Beychevelle**, Branaire Ducru, Léoville Poyferré à Saint-Julien, Giscours, Siran à Margaux.

## ROBERT WHITLEY - BORDEAUX 2018: 20 FAB REDS

BORDEAUX, France - The splendid 2018 vintage of red Bordeaux marks the fourth consecutive very good to outstanding harvest in arguably the world's most closely watched wine region. Given its marginal climate, which is often too cold to fully ripen its red grape varieties, the current streak of above-average vintages is unprecedented in recent decades.

**Chateau Beychevelle**, Saint-Julien -- Rich and powerful with impressive depth and a decadently long finish. Shows ripe black fruits with beautifully integrated tannins and excellent balance. 95-98.

## FRAIZIER'S WINE MERCHANTS

(...) For those with deeper pockets or who would like to own some of the best wines made in recent years you need look no further than St. Julien which has the best wines in 2018. **Beychevelle**, Ducru Beaucaillou, Gruaud Larose, the Barton wines (Leoville and Langoa) and Talbot are all fabulous. Other notable wines from the left bank: From Margaux are Cantenac Brown, Dauzac, Margaux and the outstanding Rauzan Segla.

## GOEDHUIS & CO

(...) Lunch at Ch Rauzan Ségla was followed by a succession of tastings by which you can sample many of the top chateaux under one roof. Highlights included a variety of the top names from St Julien including Ch Léoville Barton, Ch Langoa Barton, Ch Talbot, Ch Branaire Ducru, Ch Leoville Poyferre and **Ch Beychevelle**.

## 2. Les notes

Notes Comparatives – Château Beychevelle millésimes 2010, 2015, 2016, 2017 et 2018

PRESSE	2010	2015	2016	2017	2018
James Suckling	93-94	92-93	94-95	93-94	93-94
James Molesworth - Wine Spectator	91-94	90-93	93-95	90-93	94-96
L. Perrotti – The Wine Advocate	90-92			90-92	94-96+
Neal Martin -	94-96	92-94	96-98	90-92	
Roger Voss - Wine Enthusiast	93-95	92-94	94-96	93-95	95-96
Jeff Leve - The Wine Cellar Insider		92-94	96-98	94-96	96-98
Bettane & Desseauve	17-18	18-18,5	96	16.5 - 17	98
Olivier Poels - RVF	17,5-18	17-18	17-18.5	16-17	17.5-18
Bernard Burtschy		17	17.5	94-95	
Le Point	17	16	16.5		16.5-17
Terre de Vins	17-18	18.5	18		98-99
Jane Anson - Decanter	91	92	94	92	94
Antonio Galloni - Vinous		92-94	91-94	92-95	93-96
Jancis Robinson	17	17	16.5	16.5	16
Jean-Marc Quarin	15,5	16	16,75	16.25	17
Jeannie-Cho Lee	90-91	93	95	92	94
Chris Kissack	16,5-17	15-16	16,5-17	92-94	95-97
Yves Beck		90-93	94-96	93-95	94-96
Jeb Dunnuck				92-94	95-97+
Anthocyanes				93-95	95-97
Weinwisser		17	17	17.5	18

### **3. Les commentaires de dégustation**

#### **James Molesworth – THE WINE SPECTATOR**

Ripe and concentrated, but very sleek, with a remarkably pure beam of cassis and plum reduction flavors. Sweet spice, violet and apple wood notes are thoroughly embedded throughout. Polished and very long.— **94-96**



#### **Roger Voss – THE WINE ENTHUSIAST**

This is a smooth textured, ripe wine that is packed with a black fruit flavor and bold tannins. With its well-integrated structure and density of fruit flavors, it is surely meant for the cellar. **95-96**



#### **Antonio Galloni – VINOUS**

The 2018 Beychevelle is an exceptional, utterly vivid wine. Deep and beautifully layered in the glass, the 2018 has so much to offer. Super-ripe black cherry, crème de cassis, licorice, new oak and chocolate infuse this unctuous, spectacularly ripe Saint-Julien. Beychevelle is exotic, flamboyant and full-throttle, not to mention absolutely stunning. This high presence of Merlot in the blend gives Beychevelle much of its sensuality. What a wine! **93-96**



#### **JEB DUNNUCK**

Showing beautifully both times I was able to taste it, the 2018 Château Beychevelle checks in as a blend of 50% Merlot, 41% Cab. Sauvignon, 6% Petit Verdot and 3% Cab. Franc that's aging in 60% new French oak. This ultra-pure, refined, gorgeously layered Beychevelle offers terrific notes of black cherries, blackberries, cassis, violets, and damp earth. Deep, concentrated, and layered on the palate, it has a thrilling sense of purity and elegance as well as building structure. This is the third vintage vinified in the new cellar, and the 2018 represents a selection of 50% of the total production. It hit 14.5% alcohol with a healthy pH of 3.74 and a massive IPT of 81. Hats off to director Romain Ducolomb for another brilliant wine that I suspect will surpass both the 2015 and 2016! **95-97+**



#### **JAMES SUCKLING**

This is concentrated with a solid core of fruit, yet it's energetic and driven with plenty of pretty and forceful tannins. Dusty texture. Persistent finish. **93-94**



#### **MARKUS DEL MONEGO**

Dark purple red colour with violet hue and black core. Very elegant and expressive character, wonderful fruit, fresh berries, blackberries and blackcurrants, backed by subtle oak and mild spices. On the palate well balanced with splendid fruit, elegant spiciness and hints of roasting flavour, sweet tannins and excellent length. **94/100**



### **Yohan Castaing - ANTHOCYANES**

Iris, un peu rose, des notes de fruits noirs « al dente », et quelques touches d'épices nobles pour un Beychevelle 2018 charnu, dense, avec une grosse charge tannique sans que cela ne soit lourd. Beaucoup de noblesse et du velouté dans ce vin. Un Beychevelle qui fera date dans sa construction et sa pureté. **95-97**



### **Olivier Poels - RVF**

Avec une proportion importante de merlot (50%), le cru possède beaucoup de volume, une bouche charnue et des tanins mûrs et serrés. Un Beychevelle flamboyant et explosif. **17.5-18**



### **Jeff Leve – THE WINE CELLAR INSIDER**

Packed and stacked with ripe black fruit, flowers, thyme, earth, espresso, tobacco, herbs, freshness and density, this is a knockout! The wine is opaque in color with palate staining intensity. The fruit shows a beautiful combination of elegance, concentration, purity and staying power with a finish that does not quit. Made from blending 50% Cabernet Sauvignon, 41% Merlot, 6% Petit Verdot and 3% Cabernet Franc and reaching 14.5% alcohol with a pH of 3.71, the harvest took place September 21 to October 16. 50% of the harvest was placed into the Grand Vin. **96-98**



### **Chris Kissack – THE WINE DOCTOR**

In this vintage this is a blend of 50% Merlot, 41% Cabernet Sauvignon, 6% Petit Verdot and 3% Cabernet Franc, picked at a yield of 55 hl/ha. The grand vin took 50% of the crop, and the declared alcohol is 14.5%. It has a very pure and expressive nose, with dark summer-berry fruits, creamed black cherry and blackcurrant, with the faintest touch of green peppercorn. The palate is seriously rich and broad, with a good weight of fruit, grilled black cherry and black bean, with twists of liquorice, coffee bean and toast, along with a long and peppery finish. Broad, ripe, textured, convincing and brimming with dark and savoury notes, with a rich seam of ripe tannins and peppery energy, and with length too, this is a very fine result. The élevage will be in 60% new oak and 40% second-fill oak, for 18 months. **95-97/100**



### **YVES BECK**

Pourpre violacé. Bouquet complexe révélant son élevage de manière filigrane avec des notes d'iris, de bois de réglisse et de mûres. Caractère friand et élégant en bouche. Le vin combine bien puissance et finesse avec une bonne expression aromatique et des tannins puissants, denses et aux grains fins, soutenant l'ensemble du palais et conférant une bouche suave. Je relève également une belle structure acide qui donne du tonus et qui soutient la finale qui est fruitée et persistante. Un Beychevelle de caractère. **94-96**



### **Jane Anson – DECANTER**

This is a dark, deep colour that perfectly reflects the rich blackberry and bilberry fruits on the nose. I really have noticed that Beychevelle has raised its game over the last few vintages and it's maintaining that step-up here. The 2018 is built to age, and will do so with very little trouble. It has violet edging, a good ripe tannic structure and is full of life. It's rounded in terms of mouthfeel, smoothed out but not knocked off balance by the alcohol.

It may be approachable earlier than usual perhaps, but with class, ambition and St-Julien signature.  
A yield of 55hl/ha, with 50% of production going into the grand vin. 60% new oak. **94**



**Lisa Perrotti – THE WINE ADVOCATE**

The deep garnet-purple colored 2018 Beychevelle wafts sensuously from the glass with fragrant Black Forest cake, potpourri, star anise and black tea scents over a core of black raspberries, warm blackcurrants and kirsch with touches of fallen leaves and lavender. Full-bodied and packed with fragrant red and black fruit layers, it has a firm, velvety texture and fantastic freshness lifting the very long, perfumed finish. Beautiful! Anticipated time in barrel is 18 months, 60% new and 40% second fill. The tentative blend is 50% Cabernet Sauvignon, 41% Merlot, 6% Petit Verdot and 3% Cabernet Franc. **94-96+**



**Michel Bettane – BETTANE & DESSEAUVÉ**

Sublime finesse et chair infiniment délicate dans un corps très généreux, le quadrature du cercle, le plus artiste et le plus complet des beychevelle de l'histoire. **98**



**Jean-Charles Chapuzet – TERRE DE VINS**

Nez ultra-crayeux digne des plus grands champagnes ! L'attaque est explosive, les fruits rouges et noirs tapissent le palais, c'est une grande leçon de pureté. Le vignoble et le millésime ont parlé, on appelle cela les grands terroirs. Beychevelle délivre un très grand 2018 avec un assemblage où le merlot domine . **98-99**



**Jonathan Choukroun-Chicheportiche – VERT DE VIN**

Le nez est élégant, frais, fruité, élégant et offre une jolie finesse, de l'intensité, de la puissance, de la minéralité ainsi qu'une jolie finesse du grain. Un nez joliment profond et « multi-couches ». On y retrouve des notes de mûre charnue, de fraise charnue et plus légèrement de myrtille charnue/juteuse associées à de fines touches de griotte, de camphre ainsi qu'à de discrètes pointes de toasté, de caramélisation et de fève tonka. La bouche est fraîche, fruitée, minérale, équilibrée, très discrètement serrée, racée, élégante et offre une jolie définition, une trame acidulée, de la puissance, de la tension, de la gourmandise, une belle fraîcheur, une jolie suavité, du volume, une bonne finesse du grain ainsi qu'une très belle finesse, précision et élégance. En bouche ce vin exprime des notes de mûre charnue/juteuse, de cassis charnu/juteux et plus légèrement de myrtille associées à de petites touches de framboisie charnue ainsi qu'à des pointes de camphre, de chocolat noir, de café, d'épices et à de fines pointes de caramélisation. Présence d'une très discrète mâche et d'une pointe de noisette sur la fin de bouche. **98**