# Commentaires de dégustation en primeur Château Dassault 2023



## MARKUS DEL MONEGO......94

Dark purple colour with violet hue. Aromatic nose reminiscent of blackberry jam, black cherries, subtle oak and fine toasting. On the palate well structured with ripe tannins, juicy fruit quoting the nose, very convincing length. A Dassault on the elegant side yet with great persistence.

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There have been many changes in the last 18 months : Thomas Duclos has come on board as consulting enologist, and the estate has acquired the vineyards of Faurie de Souchard, wich complements their existing clay terroirs with some of Saint-Emilion's limestone slopes. The result is the 2023 Dassault, a lovely wine evocative of dark cherries, wild berries and licorice. Medium to full-bodied, fleshy and supple, it's beautifully integrated and pure. Harvest lasted for over one month, block by block.

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A young grand cru with blackberry, black-cherry, chalk and stone character. Medium to full body with firm tannins and a long, linear finish. Touch of class here.

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Dassault 2023 annonce un cheminement dont les moteurs sont la finesse et les détails. Il peut compter sur le soutien de son élevage qui partage le terrain avec des nuances de baies noires et de notes épicées. De bonne densité, le vin adopte un profil soyeux et charmant. Ses tannins, aux grains fins, sont de paire avec la structure acide et, à eux deux, ces éléments mènent le vin de l'avant vers des sphères de fraîcheur et de saveurs.

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Du cassis, des notes de fleur mauve, une agréable densité crémeuse : Dassault affirme sa belle évolution de style avec ce 2023 très bien ajusté. Gorgé de fruit, ample sans débord, tenu par un habit tannique sans couture, il déroule une irréprochable buvabilité, un fruit savoureux et désaltérant.

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Château Dassault has shown remarkable improvement over the past two years. After successfully incorporating "gentleness" in the hot vintage of 2022, it has become even more tender and moving in 2023. This wine moistens my palate with a hint of sweetness, then caresses my taste buds with invisible tannins, complemented by raspberries and strawberries' fresh, juicy flavors. At this moment, I have no other demands, nor do I wish to scrutinize its terroir (sandy clay); I simply want to quietly enjoy the gentle affection it offers.

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Very "Dassault" with its dark, plump black cherry fruit which, as ever, is generously enrobed even at this nascent stage with cedar and graphite, a little violet too. Seductive, quite opulent (the mid-palate enriched by the addition of the parcels from Faurie de Souchard), but also restrained and even delicate, with a sinuous quality that I find in many of the leading St Emilions of the vintage. Good choices. Well balanced.

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Medium plus intensity, has the powerful tannins of classified St Emilion, good quality, great depth and manages to pull its foot off the pedal at the right moment. Sage, fennel, black cherry, good quality, slate and cocoa bean, not the heights of 2022 perhaps, overall on the Right bank you see more of a challenges of the vintage but this is very impressive and easy to recommend.

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Dark ruby, deep core, purple reflections, brightening on the rim. Ripe plums and blackberries, dark cherries in the underlay, hints of candied orange zest. Juicy and elegant, finely fruity, a hint of figs, integrated tannins, good freshness, chocolatey finish; a full-bodied food wine with certain ageing potential.

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Ripe red and black fruits, smoky oak, graphite, and some leather notes all define the aromatics of the 2023 Château Dassault, a medium to full-bodied, ripe, textured, straightup sexy 2023 that shines for its purity and balance. It has the vintage's paradoxical mix of ripeness and freshness, quality tannins, and outstanding length. The blend is 73% Merlot, 22% Cabernet Franc, and the balance Cabernet Sauvignon, aging in 50% new French oak, 20% in foudre, 10% in amphora, and the balance in used barrels.

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The 2023 from Dassault presents a rather sweet and expressive nose, with crystalline blackcurrant, bay leaf, violet and black cherry. This feels rather attractive, and the palate is a fresh and formidable delight, first showing a bright, fresh and lightly velvety texture, with breadth and confidence, before then revealing a core of black cherry, toast, liquorice and black olive fruits. There is good structure here, the tannins coursing beneath the salted upper layers, leading into a fragrant and convincing finish. A very promising Dassault this year which seems to have all the right raw materiel in place, the perfumed fruit, tightly knit tannins and fresh acidity all working well together. Tasted three times.

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# SCHWEIZERISCHE WEINZEITUNG......17 / 20