



**LA CROIX
DUCRU-BEAUCAILLOU**

2016

P R I M E U R S





La Croix Ducru-Beaucaillou 2016 Reviews

James Molesworth, [Wine Spectator](#)

« **This is lovely from the get-go. Polished and suave on the finish. »**

James Suckling, [Jamessuckling.com](#)

« **Full-bodied, tightly wound and pretty. Exciting wine. »**

Roger Voss, [Wine Enthusiast](#)

« **It is well balanced ... showing attractive fruit at an early stage. »**

Chris Kissack, [The Wine Doctor](#)

« **An impressive substance, very elegant but clearly rich and full. »**

Jeannie Cho Lee, [Jeanniecholee.com](#)

« **Lovely firm tannins. Full, rich and generous. »**

Jeff Leve, [The Wine Cellar Insider](#)

« **Satiny, slick ... displaying a wine with lift, length and character. The finish has lasting charm. »**

Neal Martin, [Robertparker.com](#)

« **... medium-bodied with quite sumptuous tannin ... great tension ... immense purity »**

Jane Anson, [Decanter](#)

« **Lovely spice. »**

Markus Del Monego, [Tastingbook.com](#)

« **A true Cabernet driven character ... well structured with excellent length, fine spices and ripe tannins. »**

Matthew Jukes, [Matthewjukes.com](#)

« **This is a very exotic and very attractive La Croix. Great focus and also seductively spicy ... this is a modern and succulent wine. Superb glossiness and exuberance mark this as a very fine selection. »**

Olivier Poels, [La Revue du Vin de France](#)

« **Doté d'une matière superbe, avec cette douceur et ce raffinement de texture qui le signent depuis déjà quelques millésimes. Une très belle bouteille à la race digne d'un cru classé. »**

Antonio Galloni, [Vinous](#)

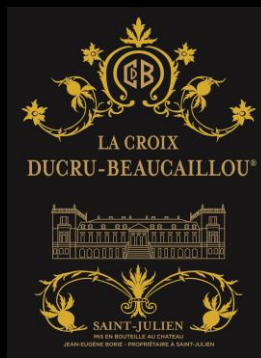
« **La Croix Ducru-Beaucaillou is a wine of pure sensuality. A gracious yet dense wine ... racy, supple ... It is a wine of pure and total pleasure. »**

Yves Beck, [Beckustator](#)

« **Palais équilibré et fruité, doté de tannins parfaitement intégrés, en accord avec la structure. Belle réussite. »**

Bettane et Desseauve, [mybettanedesseauve.fr](#)

« **Notes remarquables de cèdre. »**



La Croix Ducru-Beaucaillou 2016 Ratings

Critics	Publication	Rating
James Suckling	<i>Jamessuckling.com</i>	94-95
Bettane & Desseauve	<i>Bettane&Desseauve.com</i>	95-96
Neal Martin	<i>The Wine Advocate</i>	92-94
Jane Anson	<i>Decanter</i>	92
James Molesworth	<i>Wine Spectator</i>	91-94
Olivier Poels	<i>RVF</i>	16,5-17,5
Roger Voss	<i>Wine Enthusiast</i>	94-96
Jancis Robinson	<i>Jancisrobinson.com</i>	17
Jeff Leve	<i>The Wine Cellar Insider</i>	91-93
Yves Beck	<i>Yvesbeck.com</i>	90-92
Markus del Monego	<i>Tastingbook.com</i>	92
Antonio Galloni	<i>Vinous</i>	90-92+
Jeannie Cho Lee	<i>Jeanniecholee.com</i>	93
Matthew Jukes	<i>Matthewjukes.com</i>	17+
Tim Atkin	<i>Timatkin.com</i>	94
Yohan Castaing	<i>Gault et Millau</i>	16-17.5
Chris Kissack	<i>Winedoctor.com</i>	93-95



La Croix Ducru-Beaucaillou 2016

The Story:

This Grande Réserve is produced on the portion of Ducru-Beaucaillou situated in-land, in the heart of the Saint Julien Appellation, on the Günz Terroir situated on the south slope that face the “Mouline” stream. Our labors in the vineyards, as well as those in the vat-house and cellars, reflect our unequivocal ambition to produce the very finest wines.

Cellar Master Tasting Notes (March 2017):

Color: violet Carmine

Nose: powerful, tight with notes of black fruits and plums.

Palate: masterful structure, nice roundness, very polished tannins, extreme elegance with a stunning final and remarkable length.

Meteorology: 2016: A biblical vintage

In this testing year, we first had the Flood (a wet spring with permanent humidity and temperatures distinctly lower than the average), then the Plagues (attacks of excoriose, then the perfidious mildew and finally a burst of oidium), the time in the wilderness (severe drought) and, finally, the arrival in the promised land for optimum picking, Jerusalem the celestial (the Indian summer suits the vine so well...irrecognisable, generous, haughty).

The Blend:

- **64 % Cabernet-Sauvignon**
- **33 % Merlot Noir**
- **3 % Petit Verdot**

Our Commitment:

The samples tasted during the en-primeur week were taken from the final blend done during the first three months of 2017.

This Grande Reserve 2016 La Croix Ducru-Beaucaillou will mature for 12 months in 60% new oak barrels and the remainder in one year old barrels (12 months). Our barrels are certified French oak, naturally cured in open-air drying parks during a minimum of 3 years.

Regular topping-up is done during the first 6 months of maturation.

The wine is racked through the bung holes every 2 or 3 months and undergoes a total of 4 rackings during its barrel maturation.

Only first quality natural corks are used and measure 49mm in length.

Wine Spectator

By James Molesworth

**CHÂTEAU DUCRU-BEAUCAILLOU St.-Julien La Croix Ducru-
Beaucaillou 2016 Score: 91-94**

This is lovely from the get-go, with notes of warm ganache and incense in front of a core of alluring crushed blueberry, açai and cassis flavors. Polished and suave on the finish.—*J.M.*



By Olivier Poels

16,5-17,5/20 CROIX DE BEAU-CAILLOU Doté d'une matière superbe, avec cette douceur et ce raffinement de texture qui le signent depuis déjà quelques millésimes. Une très belle bouteille à la race digne d'un cru classé.

CROIX DE BEAUCAILLOU ST.-JULIEN 2016

Friday, March 24, 2017



This is very tight and focused with blackberries, blackcurrants and licorice. Lots of crushed stones, too. Full-bodied, tightly wound and pretty. Exciting second wine from Ducru.

Decanter

By Jane Anson

Château Ducru-Beaucaillou, St-Julien, La Croix Ducru



Produced from Gunz gravels on south-facing slopes, with their high iron-oxide content. The blend is 64% Cabernet Sauvignon, 33% Merlot, 3% Petit Verdot, with a 3.65ph and aged in 60% new oak barrels. The grapes were picked from 27th September to 5th October, taking advantage of the first rains of September but not those of October. Here they have the benefits of the fresh air from the Garonne river that Ducru looks out over, so long, slow ripening of the grapes is evident in a cooling, fresh finish that adds lift and juice to the black cherry fruits. Lovely spice evident through the palate also.

Drinking Window 2025 - 2040



By Neal Martin

2016 La Croix de Beaucaillou

Rating:

(92 - 94)

The 2016 La Croix de Beaucaillou is a blend of 64% Cabernet Sauvignon, 33% Merlot and 3% Petit Verdot that is matured in 60% new oak for 12 months and the remainder in one-year-old barrels. It has quite a rich and opulent bouquet, quite glossy with scents of kirsch, crushed strawberry, crème de cassis and a touch of vanilla. The palate is medium-bodied with quite sumptuous tannin counterbalance but a keen thread of acidity (the pH is 3.65). There is great tension here, immense purity with quite a structured, almost flinty finish that is classic in style. Though it is a Deuxième Vin, it deserves several years in bottle.

WINE ENTHUSIAST

By Roger Voss

La Croix Ducru-Beaucaillou 2016 Barrel Sample (Saint-Julien)

95
POINTS

94–96. Barrel Sample. This is a firm, dark wine, with dense tannins. It is well balanced, having the ripe fruit that is the hallmark of this vintage. It comes from a single parcel of Ducru-Beaucaillou vineyards. It is likely to age over the long term while showing attractive fruit at an early stage.



Jeannie Cho Lee
Master of Wine

2016 Chateau Ducru-Beaucaillou La Croix de Beaucaillou

93 points

This is a structured, quite dense La Croix with layered tannins with a long finish. This wine is filled with blueberries, blackberries and tobacco complemented by lovely firm tannins. Full, rich and generous - made from 64% Cabernet Sauvignon, 33% Merlot and 3% Petit Verdot. The alcohol is only 13.4% alcohol with high acidity and delightful freshness.

THE WINE CELLAR INSIDER

By Jeff Leve

2016 **Croix de Beaucaillou** – Satiny, slick, ready fruits loosen your **taste** buds, displaying a wine with lift, length and character. The plums are perfect and the finish has lasting charm. From a blend of 64% Cabernet Sauvignon, 33% Merlot and 0.3% Petit Verdot, the wine reached 13.44% alcohol and is aging in 60% new French oak barrels. 91 – 93 Pts

La Croix de Beaucaillou 2016

By Markus Del Monego

Dark purple red with violet hue and black core. A true Cabernet driven character with fine fruit, blackcurrants and Morello cherries, distinct toasting aroma, fine spiciness in the background. On the palate well structured with excellent length, fine spices and ripe tannins. 92

92p

- Markus Del Monego / Best Sommelier in the World 1998



matthewjukes
THE BORDEAUX REPORT

2016 EN PRIMEUR

La Croix Ducru-Beaucaillou (Ducru-Beaucaillou)

(64 Cabernet Sauvignon, 33 Merlot, 3 Petit Verdot) | 60% new oak | 13.4% alc. | 78 IPT

This is a very exotic and very attractive La Croix. Great focus and also seductively spicy with Asian notes and also coffee and chocolate notes which I think come from the hot summer. Perhaps not everyone's cup of tea, this is a modern and succulent wine and I think that it will do very well. Superb glossiness and exuberance mark this as a very fine selection.

17+

Yves Beck

LA CROIX DUCRU-BEAUCAILLOU 2016

Note: 90-92/100

Pourpre violacé. Bouquet fruité et épicé, complexe. Agréables parfums d'Earl Grey et de cerises. Attaque fruitée, friande, compacte. Palais équilibré et fruité, doté de tannins parfaitement intégrés, en accord avec la structure. Un vin que l'on pourra savourer dans sa jeunesse, une sorte d'ouvreur de piste avant que ne vienne le grand vin. Belle réussite. 2020-2030 **90-92/100**



By Michel Bettane

Château Ducru-Beaucaillou, La Croix de Beaucaillou, Rouge

95-96/100

Notes remarquables de cèdre mais le grand vin lui fait un peu de tort. Si le prix ne flambe pas, ce sera un must.

La Croix de Beaucaillou (St Julien) 2016: Not really the second wine, as this is sourced from vines further inland than those dedicated to the *grand vin*. Vinified as for Ducru-Beaucaillou, including optical sorting. The yield across all three Borie St Julien *terroirs* was 36-37 hl/ha. This is a finished blend comprising 64% Cabernet Sauvignon, 33% Merlot and 3% Petit Verdot, this being the only one of the three Borie St Julien wines to feature this latter variety. The *élevage* is an anticipated 12 months in 60% new oak barrels, the remainder in second-fill wood. The analyses show it has 13.44% alcohol, total acidity 3.51 g/l, pH 3.65 and an IPT of 78. A dark, glossy, black hue with a crimson rim, it is quite saturated in appearance. It has a fresh and pure nose though, perfumed with chalk dust, currants and black olives. A very composed start on the palate, with creamed black fruits, black olives, the freshness and purity continuing through as a theme. An impressive substance, very elegant but clearly rich and full. Substantial, with the saturated fruit, ripe tannic bed and bright acid profile of a much grander wine. Top quality. From my *Bordeaux 2016 primeurs* assessment. 16.5-17.5/20
• 93-95/100 (April 2017) 🔍

<u>La Croix</u> <u>Ducru-</u> <u>Beaucaillou</u>	The 2016 La Croix Ducru-Beaucaillou is a wine of pure sensuality. Silky tannins, soft contours and deeply spiced flavors inform this racy, supple Saint-Julien from proprietor Bruno Borie. A gracious yet dense wine, the 2016 will drink well with minimal cellaring. All the elements fall into place effortlessly. Readers will have a hard time keeping their hands off the 2016. It is a wine of pure and total pleasure. Tasted two times.	(90-92+)	Antonio Galloni
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