

Le Clarence de Haut-Brion



PESSAC-LEOGNAN, BORDEAUX

Millésime 2009

Domein: Château Haut-Brion

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Oppervlakte: 51 ha

Druivensoorten: Merlot
Cabernet Franc
Cabernet Sauvignon
Petit Verdot

Bodem: klei- en zandbodem

**Dichtheid van de
beplanting:** 9 000/ha

**Gemiddelde leeftijd
van de beplanting:** 36 jaar

Vinificatie:

Oogst vond plaats tussen 31 augustus en 6 oktober.

Rijping:

18 à 22 maand op houten vaten. (20 à 25% nieuw)

Alcoholgehalte: 13%

Beschikbare volumes: 0,75L

Verpakking: Caisse Bois 12

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APPELLATION

Millésime 2009

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Cabernet Franc
Cabernet Sauvignon
Petit Verdot

Sol: argilo-sableux

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Âge Moyen des vignes: 36 ans

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Volumes disponibles: 0,75L

Conditionnement: Caisse Bois 12

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SCORES - 2009

1/01/2013 **Wine Advocate (Neal Martin) : 90 / 100**



Served blind at the Southwold 2009 tasting. The Clarence de Haut Brion '09 has a much more timid bouquet with light blackberry and briary fruit, touches of sous-bois and liquorice developing with aeration. The palate is full-bodied with a firm grip. Bold and brassy but still very well balanced with a fresh inviting finish. This is showing better than 12 months ago. Tasted January 2013.

31/07/2012 **Stephen Tanzer's International Wine Cellar (Stephen Tanzer) : 89 / 100**



Dark ruby-red. Blackcurrant, cedar and minerals on the forward nose. Fresh, sweet and smooth on entry, then slightly austere in the middle, with rich black fruit and herb flavors joined by an emerging hint of underbrush. The finish is chewy and moderately persistent. Though Le Clarence has lately been a rather austere wine when young, I'm not sure I like it this time around as much as I did at the Primeurs. I suspect this is in a very closed phase. As the fruit is pure and clean, I am willing to bet it will come around. 89 (+?)points

31/03/2012 **Wine Spectator (James Molesworth) : 92 / 100**



This delivers the textbook profile of the appellation and vintage, with dense but mouthwatering tar, cassis, blackberry, bay leaf and dark cocoa notes all melded together and driving through the grippy finish. Approachable, but better with some time. Best from 2013 through 2023. 6,665 cases made. -JM

29/02/2012 **Wine Advocate (Robert Parker) : 92 / 100**



The second wine, the 2009 Le Clarence de Haut-Brion, is almost as large a cuvee as the grand vin. This 7,000-case cuvee is a blend of 46% Merlot, 39% Cabernet Sauvignon and the rest small quantities of Petit Verdot and Cabernet Franc. Once again the burning ember/scorched earth characteristic that often comes from Haut-Brion is found in the second wine, along with more kirsch and cassis, fewer nuances and less complexity than its bigger sibling. The wine is full-bodied with the minerality offered by this terroir as well as plenty of sweet tannins. This is the finest second wine Haut-Brion has produced since the astonishing 1989 Bahans-Haut-Brion. Enjoy it over the next two decades.

15/02/2012 **Jamessuckling.com (James Suckling) : 95 / 100**



This is very, very Haut-Brion. Perhaps this second wine is like the gran vin in 1995? Full body, with rich ripe tannins, with a silky texture. It is dense and powerful. Long and rich. Better in 2016. Best second wine of Haut-Brion ever? It has just about everything Haut-Brion has in an excellent year like this. Try in 2019.

Le Clarence de Haut-Brion

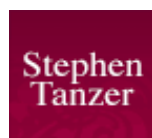
SCORES - 2009

30/06/2010 **Le Figaro (Bernard Burtschy) : 91-93 / 100**



Il s'agit dorénavant du second vin de Haut-Brion. De robe sombre, le nez est discret, puis cassis. En bouche, l'attaque est fraîche, elle est suivie d'une belle longueur, le vin fait patte de velours avec ses 46 % merlot. 39 % cabernet-sauvignon, 13 % cabernet-franc, 2 % petit-verdot.

30/06/2010 **Stephen Tanzer's International Wine Cellar (Ian D'Agata) : 90-92 / 100**



(a blend of 46% merlot, 39% cabernet sauvignon, 13% cabernet franc and 2% petit verdot; 14% alcohol; pH 3.88; 77 IPT) Dark ruby-red. Reticent, brooding nose hints at red cherry, blackcurrant, violet, minerals and cedar. Extremely fine-grained and smooth, with harmonious acidity giving laser-like precision to the red fruit and mineral flavors. Completely devoid of any baby fat, this very pure, classic wine finishes firm, suave and long, with high-quality tannins. Though the '89 remains my favorite Clarence ever (the wine was called Bahans Haut-Brion back then), I think this is Haut-Brion's best-ever second wine. Along with Margaux's Pavillon Rouge, it's also one of the top second wines of the vintage, and better than the grand vin of many estates throughout the Bordeaux region.

28/06/2010 **Wein Wisser (René Gabriel) : 17 / 20**



Der neue Zweitwein von Haut-Brion, der jahrzehntelang Bahans Haut-Brion hiess. 46 % Merlot, 39 % Cabernet Sauvignon, 13 % Cabernet Franc, 2 % Petit Verdot. Delikates Bouquet, schwarze Kirschen, Rosenholz, Havannatouch und schöne Zedernoten. Am Gaumen noch leicht mehlig, viel schwarze Pflaumenschalen und reife Zwetschgen, Schokobitterkeit im aromatischen Nachklang. Zeigt geschmacklich viel Haut-Brion- Reflexionen. 2014-2024

6/05/2010 **Le Point (Jacques Dupont) : 16 / 20**



Nez fermé, tanins gras en milieu de bouche, plein, dense, long, frais, tendu. Belle finale. O=2014 G=12 ans

30/04/2010 **TAST (Bettane & Desseauve) : 18,5 / 20**



A notre sens le plus étonnant des « autres » vins du millésime, avec toute la noblesse de forme, de texture et d'originalité que le « grand » vin mais un peu plus d'accessibilité. Un must pour tous les grands connaisseurs

30/04/2010 **Wine Advocate (Neal Martin) : 88-90 / 100**



Tasted at the chateau. The erstwhile Bahans, this has a touch more depth and breadth on the aromatics compared to the La Chapelle de al Mission, blackberry, graphite, hints of cassis and mint. Nice definition. The palate is medium-bodied with fine tannins, notes of blackberry, graphite, a touch of tobacco leaf, a sprinkle of black pepper, leading to a masculine, quite tannic entry that grips the mouth. Very fine, but it will need more time than most Bahans of the past. Tasted April 2010.

Le Clarence de Haut-Brion

SCORES - 2009

30/04/2010 **Falstaff (Peter Moser) : 92-94 / 100**



Kirschen, reife Zwetschken, feine Gewürze, viel Frucht. Komplex, Bitterschokolade, kraftvoll, zeigt seine Muskeln, präsenste Tannine, sehr gute Länge, für einige Jahrzehnte ausgelegt.

28/04/2010 **Wine Advocate (Robert Parker) : 90-93 / 100**



The second wine, which used to be called Bahans Haut-Brion, is now Le Clarence Haut-Brion. The 2009 is a 7,000-case cuvee made of 46% Merlot, 39% Cabernet Sauvignon, and the rest Cabernet Franc and a tiny dosage of Petit Verdot. The wine has a fabulous nose of incense, burning embers, forest floor, and black cherry liqueur. Fleshy, rich, full-bodied, but not over the top as the minerality and structure move in, this is a super-duper effort, and the greatest second wine made at Haut-Brion since the 1989 Bahans Haut- Brion. It should drink well for 20-25 years. (Tasted once.) Drink 2010-2035. (90-93*) points

28/04/2010 **Periodic Review of Wine (Alan Duran) : 91-93 / 100**

The saturated ruby-purple tinged Le Clarence is one of the finest second offerings from Haut-Brion yet tasted. Its pronounced perfumes offer savory Asian soy sauce, black cherries, crème de cassis, lead-pencil dust, and liquefied-minerals. A substantial wine due to its medium to full-bodied, concentrated, silky-textured gobs of plum, mulberry, and cherry fruit. Make no mistake this Red offers stunning definition, a light-footed appeal, and fabulous seamlessness to its outer-edges. It has much potential considering its beauty. Maturity period. 20161-2028+

9/04/2010 **Wine Spectator (James Suckling) : 90-93 / 100**



Violets and berries on the nose, with just a whiff of cream and vanilla. Full-bodied, with ultrafine tannins and gorgeous fruit. Caressing, silky finish. The renamed second wine of Haut-Brion (used to be Bahans).

7/04/2010 **Jancis Robinson (Jancis Robinson) : 17 / 20**



The renamed second wine of Haut-Brion that was once called Bahans. Deeper, less blue colour than the Chapelle de La Mission. Very subtle nose that pulls you in but doesn't broadcast much. Pretty firm tannins. Really quite severe at this point. Very different from the buxom norm of this vintage. Very dense indeed. This will need a long, long time. Pretty ambitious... (17+) Drink 2020-2032

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SCORES - 2010

31/08/2013 **Stephen Tanzer's International Wine Cellar (Stephen Tanzer) : 89 / 100**



Good deep red-ruby. Herbal blackberry, licorice and gunflint on the nose. Slightly medicinal flavors of dark fruits and licorice show moderate fruit intensity but complex mineral, graphite and cedar elements. The moderately sweet, ripe finish is kept fresh by firm, ripe tannins and juicy acidity. Seems sweeter and sappier than when I tasted it at the Primeurs a couple years ago, but it's still one of the more austere Clarence de Haut-Brions in some time.

1/03/2013 **Wine Advocate (Robert Parker) : 93 / 100**



The second wine of Haut-Brion is now called Le Clarence de Haut-Brion, and the 2010 is among the finest I have tasted there. It is a broad, powerful and more muscular wine than its cross-street rival, La Chapelle de la Mission, but all the same, it is wonderfully fresh and precise, with notes of blueberry and boysenberry as well as hints of smoke and wet stones. Endowed with gorgeous fruit, texture, purity and elegance, this relatively dense second wine demonstrates how draconian the selection process has become for the top estates in Bordeaux in recent years. The blend of this wine is 52% Merlot, 36% Cabernet Sauvignon and the rest mostly Cabernet Franc with just a touch of Petit Verdot. I would expect it to last at least 20 years, which is remarkable. Kudos to the team at Haut-Brion and to the proprietors, the Dillon family, who are now represented admirably and meticulously by Prince Robert of Luxembourg. He has made some changes, and all of them seem to have resulted in dramatic improvements to what was already an astonishing group of wines.

17/02/2013 **Jamessuckling.com (James Suckling) : 94 / 100**



Quite jammy on the nose with lots of fruit. Plums, berries and jam. Full body, with a fluid center palate and chewy tannins. Round and rich. Seems more upfront and friendly than the second wine of La Mission. 52% Merlot, 36% Cabernet Sauvignon, 10% Cabernet Franc, and 2% Petit Verdot. Better in 2018

11/02/2013 **Wine Advocate (Neal Martin) : 90 / 100**



Tasted at Chateau Haut-Brion. I must say that comparing this against the La Chapelle, I find the latter more expressive at the moment, the Le Clarence perhaps riper and a tad more generous, yet without quite the same degree of clarity. The palate is medium-bodied with a ripe, cedar and tobacco infused entry. There is more weight and fruit intensity than the La Chapelle and builds nicely towards an iodine, dark plum and slightly saline finish. I was perhaps expecting a little more after its showing in barrel. Tasted November 2012

Le Clarence de Haut-Brion

SCORES - 2010

31/05/2011 **Wine Advocate (Robert Parker) : 90-93 / 100**



2010 Le Clarence de Haut-Brion: Probably the greatest second wine made at this estate since the 1989 Bahans-Haut-Brion, this blend of 52% Merlot, 36% Cabernet Sauvignon, 10% Cabernet Franc and 2% Petit Verdot reveals elegant minerality along with lots of sweet black cherry and raspberry fruit intermixed with hints of damp earth and forest floor. Medium to full-bodied and lush, it should drink beautifully for 10-15 years. Drink 2011-2026

31/05/2011 **Wine Advocate (Neal Martin) : 92-94 / 100**



A blend of 52% Merlot, 36% Cabernet Sauvignon, 10% Cabernet Franc and 2% Petit Verdot, this has a very different nose to the La Chapelle, the Cabernet very potent here, crushed stones with a hint of graphite. This has more backbone than the La Chapelle, very fine tannins with good acidity, dense blackberry, cassis and a touch of black plum, strict and linear towards the finish which is more masculine than the La Chapelle. Do not overlook this second label. Tasted March 2011.

31/05/2011 **Wein Wisser : 17 / 20**



Sattes Rubin mit lila Reflexen. Dunkle Pflaumen, weicher Nasenansatz. Dunkle Aromatik im Gaumen, schwarze Pflaumenschalen, noble Bitterkeit im Extrakt, wirkt noch leicht mehlig, hat aber gut Anlagen und beeindruckt. 2017-2022

12/05/2011 **Le Point (Jacques Dupont) : 14 / 20**



Fruits noirs, note végétale, fruits rouges, serré, tendu, un peu aride en finale. O=2013 G=10 ans

30/04/2011 **Jamessuckling.com (James Suckling) : 93-94 / 100**



This is a fresh and lively young wine. The second wine of Haut-Brion has a lot of linear richness. I really like the texture of this with super polished tannins and vibrant acidity.

25/04/2011 **The Wine Cellar Insider (Jeff Leve) : 91-93 / 100**



Le Clarence de Haut Brion With 52% Merlot 36% Cabernet Sauvignon, 2% Petit Verdot in the blend, the wine opens with smoke, oak, boysenberry, cassis and earthy tones. Soft cassis, flavors and a long finish make this a strong, surprisingly fresh and ample effort for a second wine. 91-93 Pts

12/04/2011 **Jancis Robinson (Jancis Robinson) : 17 / 20**



52% Merlot, 36% Cabernet Sauvignon, 10% Cabernet Franc, 2% Petit Verdot. Very bright blueish purple. Lighter nose than Chapelle La Mission but very refined and aromatic. Drawing-room refinement, really quite spindly. All frame and not much flesh at the moment. Very, very dry on the finish. There is even a hint of green. Will need quite a time to broaden out. Drink 2020-2032

Le Clarence de Haut-Brion

SCORES - 2010

5/04/2011 **Wine Enthusiast (Roger Voss) : 91-93 / 100**



Smoky acidity and juicy, very fresh fruit. The wine certainly has dry tannins, along with this delicious waft of black berry fruit juice.-R.V.

31/03/2011 **Wine Spectator (James Molesworth) : 93-96 / 100**



This is juicy and still compact, with a big core of plum sauce, pastis and graphite, followed by lots of kirsch and sweet spice on the finish. Still needs to unwind. Tasted non-blind. —J.M.

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Verpakking: 0,75L - Caisse Bois 12/ 1,5L - CB 6

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APPELLATION

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Le Clarence de Haut-Brion



SCORES - 2011

31/08/2014 **Stephen Tanzer's International Wine Cellar (Ian D'Agata) : 87 / 100**

Stephen
Tanzer

Dark ruby. Black cherry, menthol, licorice and cedar on the rather oak-dominated nose. Then tight and on the lean side, showing modest lift and flesh to its medicinal blackcurrant and cedar flavors. Finishes with substantial dusty tannins. As with so many 2011s, I wanted more flesh and fruit; this comes off as rigid and lacking in generosity.(87? points)

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2/05/2014 **Wine Advocate (Robert Parker) : 90 / 100**

PARKER

An impressive second wine, delicious red and black currant, spice box and earth notes intertwined with an underlying floral-like character jump from the glass of the 2011 Le Clarence de Haut-Brion. Complex with silky tannins, medium to full body and a long finish, this sleeper of the vintage can be drunk early on or cellared for 10-15 years.

19/02/2014 **Jamessuckling.com (James Suckling) : 92 / 100**

JAMES
SUCKLING

This is chewy, with dried-berry and stone character, plus hints of hazelnut. Full and juicy with firm tannins. Lasts a long time on the finish. Second wine of La Mission. Better in 2016.

11/02/2014 **Wine Spectator (James Molesworth) : 90 / 100**

Wine
Spectator

Features a tarry frame that holds the core of steeped plum, black currant and blackberry fruit together. The juicy, relatively accessible finish lets briar and tobacco notes fill in, but keeps a polished, refined feel overall. Drink now through 2021.

12/05/2012 **Stephen Tanzer's International Wine Cellar (Ian D'Agata) : 86-89 / 100**

Stephen
Tanzer

(71% merlot, 23% cabernet sauvignon, 5% cabernet franc and 1% petit verdot; 3.69 pH): Deep ruby-red. Raspberry and red cherry aromas and flavors are complicated by cedar and white pepper. Finishes fresh and clean, with fairly smooth tannins and a rising finish that features repeating red fruit notes. But this wine lack the generosity of the best vintages and comes across as austere

Le Clarence de Haut-Brion

SCORES - 2011

30/04/2012 Decanter.com : 17 / 20



Rich, spicy, slightly exotic nose, lovely smooth palate, rich yet restrained. Drink 2016-2028.

30/04/2012 Wine Advocate (Robert Parker) : 89-91 / 100



The 2011 Le Clarence de Haut-Brion is more mineral-based than La Mission's second wine, La Chapelle. The Clarence de Haut-Brion possesses a deep ruby/purple color along with copious notes of black cherries and black currants intermixed with hints of crushed rocks and wet gravel. It's easy to tell it is from the Haut-Brion vineyard. Drink it over the next 10-15 years.

30/04/2012 Wein Wisser (René Gabriel) : 17 / 20



Tiefes Purpur, satt in der Mitte, Granatschimmer am Rand. Wunderschönes Bouquet, viel Lakritze, schwarze Kirschen, ein Hauch Korinthen. Im Gaumen wunderschön ausgelegt, wirkt leicht, aber auch sehr elegant, viel Aromatik bei schlankem Körper. Er zeigt deutliche Aromenreflexionen von seinem grossen Bruder Haut-Brion. 2015-2025

27/04/2012 The Wine Cellar Insider (Jeff Leve) : 88-90 / 100



From an assemblage of 71.5% Merlot, 22.8% Cabernet Sauvignon, 4.5% Cabernet franc and 1.2% Petit Verdot, this wine features a kiss of oak with earth, smoky black cherry, spice and soft textures. This polished, easy-to-like Pessac Leognan has a red berry finish will drink well young. 88-90 Pts

27/04/2012 Wine Advocate (Neal Martin) : 90-92 / 100



The 2011 Le Clarence de Haut Brion is a blend of 71.5% Merlot, 4.5% Cabernet Franc 22.8% Cabernet Sauvignon and 1.2% Petit Verdot representing around 46% of the crop (11% of the crop was declassified compared to 20% in 2010.) The nose shows a little more cohesion and fruit intensity than the La Chapelle de la Mission with ripe blackberry and a touch of Hoi Sin. The palate is medium-bodied with a gentle grip on the entry, fine acidity, the tannins a little "fatter" and "juicier" than the tensile La Chapelle. Good length on the finish. Very fine. Tasted April 2012

20/04/2012 Asian Palate (Jeannie Cho Lee MW) : 89-90 / 100



Supple textured, very elegant wine with dark berries and plum flavours. The tannins are velvety and the finish fairly long. A wine with great detail and good depth of flavours.

20/04/2012 Jancis Robinson (Julia Harding MW) : 16,5 / 20

Drink 2020-2030 71.5% Merlot, 4.5% Cabernet Franc, 22.8% Cabernet Sauvignon, 1.2% Petit Verdot. Deep glowing crimson again. Less aromatic than La Chapelle and darker fruited. Very soft tannins but thicker in texture than La Chapelle, more chocolate textured. Gentler all round though the acidity is still very fresh. Gentle softness on the finish without falling away. Denser in the middle and richer all round, though that may be the lower acidity. (JH) 13.4%

Le Clarence de Haut-Brion

SCORES - 2011

10/04/2012 **Wine Spectator (James Molesworth) : 90-93 / 100**



Offers the racy, taut edge of the vintage, but shows slightly better flesh than its La Chapelle counterpart. In the end, this offers a nice briary edge to its range of red and blue fruits, with a lively iron note on the finish. Tasted non-blind.—J.M.

5/04/2012 **Wine Enthusiast (Roger Voss) : 91-93 / 100**



A very smoky wine, with firm tannins, intense spice and a dry bitter-chocolate character. Its freshness is currently overlain by the wood and fruit tannins. —R.V

1/04/2012 **Jamessuckling.com (James Suckling) : 91-92 / 100**



Lovely second wine of Haut Brion with tobacco, chocolate and dark fruits. Earth too. Full body with fine tannins and pretty finish. Very balanced. Nicely done.