



PRIMEURS 2020

18.5+/20 LP is all about controlled delivery and restraint in 2020. The nose is reticent and measured with fascinating depth and intrigue. This is not a bigger wine than the others in this portfolio, but it is considerably longer! The message is black-fruited and admirably pure, but there is a cloak of tannin around its core which prevents me from getting too carried away. It was worth persisting with my sample bottle because it opened considerably over half an hour and I even went back to it a day later to see if there was even more movement in its flavour. Of course, there was! There is a faint, wild mulberry notes which grows among the blackcurrant and blackberry themes, like ivy up the front of a stately home and this magical component interweaves exoticism and flair among the order and regimented Cabernet notes. All in all, this is a tremendous wine, and I am always in awe of wines that build gracefully and deliberately on the palate ending with a fanfare of class and distinction.

Matthew Jukes - 04.2021

18/20 Couleur noire, aux reflets pourpres. Nez intense, fin, au fruité pur, mûr et légèrement vanillé. Nuances de cerise et de framboise à l'agitation. Complexe. Moelleux et velouté en entrée de bouche, parfumé et fondant au milieu, riche en saveurs, le vin évolue dense et complexe, sur une longue finale sèveuse, avec un poil de bois pour l'instant. Cependant, ce qui reste après l'avoir craché est d'une belle noblesse.

Jean Marc Quarin - 04.2021

96-97/100 Impressive purity of fruit on the nose with crushed raspberries, blackcurrants and blackberries. Some lead pencil, too. It's full-bodied with very polished, intense tannins that go on for minutes. The quality and precision of the tannins are impressive, giving the wine form, energy and equilibrium.

James Suckling - 04.2021

17.5+/20 Dark crimson. Relatively voluptuous nose. Flattering initially but then with quite a charge of inky tannins underneath. Needs time. Notably dry on the finish but with good density. Rather more obviously dry and less flashy than some vintages. Very much made for the long term with a juicy, spicy undertow. Extremely youthful. Unusually, it seems drier than Léoville Barton.

Jancis Robinson - 04.2021

96-97/100 Nez intense sur le cassis et la mûre, notes finement chocolatées où s'invite une pointe de clou de girofle convoquant une magnifique fraîcheur. L'attaque est ample, délivrant des notes torréfiées particulièrement engageantes. L'ensemble est profond, équilibré, digeste, l'élevage enrobe la matière de façon harmonieuse. Le vin poursuit son chemin dans le velours, porté d'un léger gras et de notes exotiques apportées par cet élevage subtil et équilibré. La signature Poyferré est au rendez-vous. Sa finale sapide autant que saline porte tellement de promesses.

Terre de Vins - 04.2021

95-97/100 The grand vin is a blend of 64% Cabernet Sauvignon, 31% Merlot, 3% Cabernet Franc and 2% Petit Verdot. The yields were just over 35hl/ha. It has a dark and concentrated violet-black hue which works its way right out to the rim of the glass. The aromas are leaping from the glass here, with currants, violets, lavender, dark chocolate and slate to the fore, backed up by a subtle thread of high quality barrel spice from the oak. There is a perfumed, cherry blossom edge to it as well. There is no denying the high quality and dark intent of the palate, which begins with a very focused and well-judged texture, silky and well delineated, before it opens to reveal flavours of currants, blackcurrant, slate, violets, graphite and liquorice. The tannins are more restrained than they were in the Léoville Poyferré of a decade ago, when there was a broad and extracted right-bank feel to some releases tasted at the stage, and the wine as a whole is better for it. Today they swirl behind and between the fruit, silky and tightly knit together. It culminates in a dark and focused finish, an intertwining of slate, tobacco, currant and violets, which linger alongside the tannins. This is a top-notch release from the Cuvelier family. Three samples tasted, with consistent results.

The Wine Doctor- Chris Kissack - 04.2021

96-97/100 Il exprime un fruit très mûr mais pas confit. Dense et charnu, avec une bouche retenue, dense, tout en muscle. L'allonge est remarquable, sur des flots de tanins soyeux.

RVF - 04.2021

96-98/100 Superbe définition du bouquet, marqué par le Cabernet avec des notes de cassis accompagnées de menthe, de réglisse et de violettes. Classique touche de graphite. Magnifique densité en bouche où le vin cumule gras, fraîcheur et profondeur. Tannins soyeux et puissants, parfaitement intégrés. Caractère aromatique intense et persistant. Un vin brillant, dense et puissant. 2027-2055

Beckustator-Yves Beck - 05.2021

96/100 Rich and concentrated with violet reflections and a wall of tannins. Well structured, it sets its feet deep in the ground and will need time to soften and develop. Good quality with depth. The tannins are far more present than the alcohol, setting it apart from the 2018. A yield of 35hl/ha. Harvest september 14 to 30. Planted blend (not 2020) 61% Cabernet Sauvignon, 27% Merlot, 8% Petit Verdot and 4% Cabernet Franc.

Jane Anson-Decanter - 05.2021

17/20 À Léoville, on songe qu'un vin produit l'année 2020, ce qui peut se prononcer également 20 et 20, cela peut se traduire graphiquement par une étiquette un peu spéciale et historique. Bonne idée que Sara Lecompte-Cuvelier, la patronne du lieu depuis le départ en retraite de son cousin Didier, compte exploiter. Les vendanges se sont déroulées du 14 au 30 septembre, comme dans la plupart des crus médocains. Vendanges très précoces, ramassées sur deux semaines et un assemblage comprenant 64% cabernet-sauvignon, 31% merlot, 3% cabernet franc et 2% petit-verdot. Nez fermé, réducteur, bouche souple, sérieuse, de la matière, un vin tendu, qui s'ouvre à l'aération, finale sur des tanins pimentés qui renforcent le sentiment de fraîcheur.

Le Point-Jacques Dupont-05.2021

95-97/100 Deep purple-black colored, the 2020 Léoville Poyferré comes bounding out of the glass like an energetic young pup, delivering exuberant scents of crushed black cherries, juicy blackberries and warm cassis, with hints of ground cloves, dark chocolate, lilacs and tilled soil. The medium to full-bodied palate is wonderfully plush, delivering bags of ripe black fruits with a seamless backbone of acidity, finishing long and spicy.

The Wine Advocate-Lisa Perrotti-Brown- 05.2021

94-95/100 Inky; closed to smell, blackcurrant-tight; rich, elegantly “packed” wine, with a perfectly poised, freshly defining acidity and a superfine, velvety tannin, an overall effortlessly harmonious balance; ripe rather than “sweet,” long, graceful, rich, but not heavy, taut, close-grained, freshly ripe blackcurrant and mineral in flavor, very long across the palate, with a wonderful finish of subtle ripe fruit fragrance and fine gravel aromas. Most complete, a real beauty. 2030–50+.

Michael Schuster- 05.2021

97/100 Silky, polished, lusciously textured and rich, the wine pops from the glass with incense, smoked berries, cherry blossoms, creme de cassis, tobacco leaf and blue fruit. Full-bodied, silky and opulently textured, this concentrated wine offers layers of deep, ripe fruits that simultaneously coat your palate, yet feel fresh and vibrant. The flamboyant, seamless finish builds in intensity as it expands on your palate.

The Wine Cellar Insider - Jeff Leve 05.2021

95-97+/100 Cut from the same cloth as the 2016 with its focused, pure, yet concentrated style, the 2020 Château Léoville Poyferré reveals a dense purple color as well as ultra-classic notes of crème de cassis, graphite, toasted spice, and unsmoked tobacco. Rich and medium to full-bodied, it has brilliant mid-palate depth and ripe, velvety tannins, all making for a beautiful Saint-Julien that will benefit from 4-6 years of bottle age and shine for 30-40 years or more. Tasted three times.

Jeb Dunnuck- 05.2021

19/20 Tiefes Purpur mit schwarzer Mitte und zartem lila Rand. Dicht verwobenes Bouquet mit Wildkirsche, edler Cassiswürze und dunkler Mineralik. Im zweiten Ansatz zartes Veilchenparfüm, Schlehensaft und Flieder. Am gigantischen Gaumen mit seidiger Textur, feinkörniges Extrakt, perfekt balancierte Rasse und sehr dichter und muskulöser Körper. Im katapultartigen Finale schlägt der Champion dann zu und endet mit einer Ladung schwarzer Johannisbeeren und tiefschürfender Terroirwürze sowie salziger Adstringenz. Besticht dieses Jahr mit einer unglaublichen Präzision und Raffinesse. Die eiserne Faust im Samthandschuh – Chapeau Sara! Es wird heuer ein Jubiläumsetikett geben! Für mich besser als 2019 & 2018!- 2029 – 2055

Mövenpick Wein - 06.2021

92-94/100 Sara Lecompte Cuvelier, désormais aux commandes de cette propriété familiale, offre aux amateurs éclairés une version traditionnelle mais ô combien élégante de saint-julien. Avec un nez d'épices, de fruits noirs bien mûrs et une bouche charnue, tannique et structurante, ce 2020 devra s'attendre 10 à 20 ans.

Les Echos-Yohan Castaing - 06.2021

95-97/100 The 2020 Léoville Poyferré builds on the success of recent vintages, offering intense yet exquisitely defined black cherries, wild strawberry, cassis and crushed stone aromas. It is high-toned as usual but not quite as hedonistic as the recently tasted 2018. The palate is medium-bodied with supple tannins that belie the backbone of this Saint-Julien. Slightly lactic in texture toward the spicy finish; the oak will be assimilated by the time of bottling, leaving a very suave and sophisticated wine that will give 30-40 years of drinking pleasure. Easily one of the classiest offerings from this Saint-Julien in recent years.

Vinous Media-Neal Martin - 06.2021

95-97+/100 The 2020 Léoville-Poyferré is a powerful, structured wine. In recent vintages, Léoville-Poyferré has been more opulent, but the 2020 shows off a towering, vertical build framed by a soaring spine of tannin. Dark red cherry, pomegranate, cedar and spicebox emerge with a bit of coaxing. Ultimately, though, Léoville-Poyferré is less showy than most Saint-Julien at this stage. I don't expect that will be much of an issue in time. In a word: magnificent. Tasted three times.

Vinous Media- Antonio Galloni- 06.2021

96-98/100 Barrel Sample. Rich, luscious and replete with dark plum and dark chocolate flavors, this wine shows great power as well as aging potential. Its richness is balanced by the fresher edge of acidity that stands the wine in good stead as it ages.

Wine Enthusiast-Roger Voss - 06.2021