

Chateau Troplong Mondot Saint Emilion 2000

Quick Overview

A lovely nose, very ripe, plummy, Dundee cake character. This is very expressive, and it just oozes quality. Gorgeously extracted and composed palate, with a fine texture, unobtrusive, velvety-peppery tannins in a perfectly balanced frame. So complete and delineated. Really divine



The History:

This St. Emilion estate, which dates back to 1745, was once part of the larger domaine that included Château Pavie. A century later it was bought by Raymond Troplong, whose name was added to the label. Later, Alexandre Valette, a Parisian vintner, bought the estate and it remains in his family to date. In 1980, his great-granddaughter Christine took over the estate, which she runs today with her husband, Xavier Pariente. In 2006 the vineyard was selected to Premier Grand Cru Classé status. Thick limestone and dense clay make this vineyard perfect for growing Merlot (which comprises 90% of the vineyards). Wines produced from this estate are powerful and contain complex tannins. The remaining plantings are divided equally between Cabernet Franc and Cabernet Sauvignon. In 1985 the château introduced the second label Mondot, which has gained clout as a grand cru in its own right. More recently Christine Valette has produced a rose called Le Clair de Mondot.



Tasting Notes

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International Wine Cellars: Issue 108

"Good saturated ruby-red. Expressive, thoroughly ripe aromas of blackberry, violet and game. Sweet on entry, then lush and densely packed in the middle, with terrific depth of flavor and backbone. Very ripe yet cool flavors of blackberry, espresso and licorice. A powerfully constituted wine that will need a good decade of bottle aging. But, in contrast to the 2001 and 2002 vintages, here the strong tannins are beautifully distributed and fine. A great success for this chateau."

Jancis Robinson:

"Deep crimson. Very dense. Spicy nose. More dangerous and less concentrated than the Pavie-Macquin. Exotic treacle. Looks relatively youthful. Exotically ripe nose. Voluptuous and only just sufficiently reined-in. Chewy, sandy tannins. Quite painful at the moment. Lots of tannins and acidity. Refreshing without very dry tannins at the finish. Slightly medicinal."

Wine Advocate: 186

"Extremely young with an unbelievable deep purple color, the 2000 Troplong Mondot has hardly budged since I tasted it in 2003. Two recent tastings confirmed that this is the greatest Troplong Mondot between their profound 1990 and more recent vintages such as 2005, 2008, and 2009. Copious chocolate, graphite, blackberry, blueberry, cassis, and ink characteristics are present in this full-bodied, powerful, massive St.-Emilion. While the tannins are noticeable, they are better integrated than they were seven years ago, and the fruit, extract, and richness clearly outweigh the wine's structure. This 2000 will benefit from another 4-5 years of cellaring (longer than I originally predicted), and has at least two decades of drinkability ahead of it."

Wine Spectator:

"Lovely berry, cherry and spice, with hints of mineral. Full-bodied, with fine tannins and a pretty mineral and berry aftertaste. A sexy and refined red. 7,080 cases made."



Awards

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