

SAINT-EMILION GRAND CRU CLASSE

CHATEAU
LA DOMINIQUE
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Millésime 2024

Propriété viticole depuis le XVIème siècle, le Château La Dominique est idéalement situé au Nord-Ouest de l'appellation Saint-Emilion. Propriété de la famille Fayat depuis 1969, le domaine combine judicieusement authenticité et modernité avec son chai contemporain signé par l'architecte Jean Nouvel.

JOURNALISTE	NOTE PRIMEUR	RE- NOTATION	COMMENTAIRE
 Georgie Hindle	93-94		Ripe and concentrated, good forward push here, instantly quite captivating on the palate due to the texture, weight and vibrancy. Lifted and so joyous, definitely not as built or rich as previous vintages but this really works with silkiness, chalkiness and brightness. Good persistence and charm. Stylish. So easy to drink this. Restrained and precise but not too much. Ageing 50% new barrels, 35% one year barrel, 15% amphorae for 14 months.
 James Suckling	93-94		A racy sample for the vintage with blackberry, stone and orange-peel character. Medium-bodied, this has fine tannins and a fresh, linear finish. Bright and polished.
 Colin Hay	92-94+		Quite distinctive aromatically, with quite a pronounced ferrous and saline note to the minerality when tasted both times. It's quite meaty too. We almost have smoky bacon crisps, if you remember those. If you do, you should try them with dark berry and stone fruit — this vintage of La Dominique suggests they go very well together! Plush and quite luscious on the attack, above all when tasted alongside the other grands crus classés, this is very impressive texturally. Ample, plump, succulent and extremely juicy on the refreshing vintage, this is a great success.
JEB DUNNUCK Jeb Dunnuck	92-95		Darker berries, framboise, peppery herbs, and graphite all emerge from the 2024 Château La Dominique, which comes from vines in the northern part of the appellation, very close to the Pomerol border. With medium-bodied richness, a pure, layered, elegant mouthfeel, and ripe tannins, it's a gorgeous wine that has so much to love. I suspect it will benefit from just a few years of bottle age and have a broad drink window. The quality here continues to soar.
 Alexandre MA	92-93		When tasting the second wine, I could already sense the winemaker's precise control over the extraction process. But after experiencing the Château La Dominique, I truly appreciate how Yann and his team have paid such meticulous attention to every detail. In the 2024 vintage, which features higher acidity and more restrained fruit aromas, Château La Dominique showcases a minimalist character. While its signature floral and fruity explosion didn't materialize as expected, the creamy, cheese-like smoothness and the melt-in-your-mouth texture were beautifully preserved. This impressive result is a testament to the winemaking team's formidable skill.

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vinous Neal Martin	91-93		The 2024 La Dominique, matured in 50% new oak, is distinctly fresher on the nose than many of its peers. This is nowhere near as complex as the 2022 yet it conveys brightness and a sense of place. The palate is medium-bodied and fresh, with crisp, ripe tannins and a marine-influenced finish. It's a little reserved in style. This is not a blockbuster and nor should it be. It's just a well-crafted Saint-Emilion that will give 15 to 18 years pleasure.
vinous Antonio Galloni	91-93		The 2024 La Dominique is a very pretty wine for this reemerging Saint-Émilion estate on the Pomerol border. Creamy and textured, with lovely mid-palate presence and bright fruit, La Dominique is quite attractive. Supple contours wrap around a core of red-toned fruit, blood orange, cinnamon and mocha, building into the soft, caressing finish. Production is down about 50% due to drastic selection. Tasted two times.
Forbes Tom Mullen	94+		Buoyant, festive, succulent, fine, light aromas of red and black cherries. Flavors include cassis, chocolate cake. Light as a Fleurie from Beaujolais but with a firm tannic backbone. Easy drinking and well made wine from technical director Yann Monties.
XL vins Xavier Lacombe	94		
Jane Anson	92		Medium intensity ruby, good quality, carefully measured cedar and sandalwood smoke on the nose, not overpowering but adding depth through the mid-palate, which is not always the case in 2024. Acidity kicks up a little high on the finish, but there is real charm here, and chewy tannins on the finish that suggest this can soften further over ageing.
falstaff Peter Moser	92		Dark ruby, opaque core, purple reflections, subtle brightening on the rim. Delicate notes of oak and black berries, tobacco spice, candied orange zest. Medium body, black cherries, fresh structure, preserved lemon on the finish, lingers, good ageing potential.
Jeff Leve	92		Flowers, black raspberries, plums, and a hint of mint impart a unique character to the perfume. Refined, elegant, and fresh, the wine finishes with creamy textures, sweet ripe berries, licorice, spice, and a refreshing touch of mint, along with a hint of espresso. The wine blends 85% 91-93 Merlot, with 15% Cabernet Franc, 13.5% ABV, 3.56 pH. The wine is aged in 50% new, French oak, and 10% amphora. Drink from 2028-2040.

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The Wine Doctor Chris Kissack	88-90		The grand vin from La Dominique presents some smoky and perfumed fruit on the nose, with notes of redcurrant, wild strawberry and toast. The palate opens with a supple and nicely polished style, integrated and correct, with a core of blackberry, raspberry and currant, with a little menthol lift, supported by a fine layer of densely packed and coherent tannins, and nice acidity. This shows lovely harmony and composure, working within the confines of the vintage, the grippy structure evident but polished and ripe, culminating in a sappy finish of plump tannin. This works well and has potential.