

2023 CHÂTEAU BÉLAIR-MONANGE

SAINT-ÉMILION PREMIER GRAND CRU CLASSÉ

Château BÉLAIR-Monange has always been ranked at the top of the Premiers Grands Crus Classés of Saint-Emilion and its origins are very old (apparently back to the ancient Gaul).

JEAN-PIERRE MOUEIX GRANDS VINS



2023 Vintage Blend:	98% Merlot - 2% Cabernet Franc
Vineyard size:	26 hectares (65.5 acres)
Soil Types:	Limestone on the plateau Blue clay on limestone in the slopes
Average vine age:	25 years
Viticulture:	Certified HVE3, Soil tilling (4 ways), Vine growth management adapted to the climatic conditions
Harvest:	Manual harvest. Double sorting: manual and optical
2023 harvest dates:	September 11th to 29th
Winemaking:	In thermo-regulated concrete and stainless-steel vats Gentle & controlled maceration & extraction
Aging:	16-18 months in French oak barrels (50% new)

The 2023 vintage:



After a generally mild and dry winter, punctuated by a few cold spells, the first leaves appeared on the vines on the 31th of March, which falls in line with the past ten years. A homogenous budbreak augured favorably for a promising harvest. In April and May, stormy instability combined with above average seasonal temperatures increased the mildew pressure. However, thanks to the exemplary rapid response of our vineyard teams, these attacks were adeptly countered, saving our entire crop. Flowering started early on the 23rd of May, with large quantities of pollen suggesting a harvest of remarkable amplitude. The summer was unpredictable, with episodes in June of intense storms and high temperatures that were 3°C above the seasonal average. July was relatively cool, with light but frequent rainfall. The vines maintained their lead and véraison got under way, with the first couloured berries appearing on the 25th of July. Green harvesting and meticulous grooming significantly reduced yields to foster ripening and uniformity of the crop. August got off to a fairly cool start before tipping over to an intense heatwave from the 16th to the 24th, followed by a sudden drop in temperature. Hours of sunshine were below expectations, departing from the sunny character of recent vintages. In September, a heat wave struck again until the 11th, giving way to light rainfall, which encouraged full ripening.

JAMES SUCKLING-97 POINTS

#55 IN SUCKLING'S TOP 100 WINES FROM FRANCE 2026

A bright and finely crafted red with blackberry, blueberry, limestone, violet and crushed stone aromas. It's medium-bodied with very silky tannins and a salty and minerally aftertaste that's refined and fascinating. A hint of flowers at the end. This shows the true character of the diverse vineyards of this estate. 98% merlot and 2% cabernet franc. Still tight. Give it two or three years. Best after 2028.

ALSO:

DECANTER-98 PTS, VINOUS-96 PTS, JEB DUNNUCK-94-97 PTS, WINE CELLAR INSIDER-95-97 PTS, WINE ENTHUSIAST-95 PTS, WINE ADVOCATE-94 PTS, WINE SPECTATOR-94 PTS

0 12086 01105 4

Dreyfus, Ashby & Co.
PURVEYORS OF FINE WINES & SPIRITS SINCE 1946