

*Le Pin*

POMEROL

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## **Revue de Presse Le Pin 2023**

### **James Suckling**

99-100

Shows the exotic nature of Le Pin with blackberries, milk chocolate and hints of spices, as well as coffee beans from the ripe seeds in the grapes. It's medium-bodied with focused and creamy tannins. Also plenty of nectarine and clementine character. This is so classic Le Pin at the finish. It lasts for minutes in your mouth. Silky and flavorful. 100% merlot magic.

### **Vinous – Neal Martin**

97-99

The 2023 Le Pin was picked between September 11 and 23 at 39 hl/ha-four pickings according to age of vine and plot. It matured in 65% new oak (this figure has gradually reduced since the 2020 vintage). They had no mildew, due to the free-draining gravel soils, though the Thienponts saw more at l'If. I love this nose. This is so pure and refined, it seems to embrace and gently hug the senses, like your favorite or uncle. It blossoms in the glass to reveal subtle crushed stone and grazphite notes. The palate has unerring symmetry finely chiseled tannins and a linear, penetrating finish that goes on and on. This is one of the best vintages of Le Pin I have tasted from barrel, more serious and more floral than some recent vintages.

### **Vinous – Antonio Galloni**

96-99

The 2023 Le Pin is all sensuality. Rich, deep and explosive, the 2023 possesses notable depth. It is an especially exuberant, dense Le Pin. Dark-toned fruit, iron, leather, scorched earth and incense gradually unfurl in the glass. The long, sustained finish is suggestive of what is certain to be a very bright future. I tasted the 2023 from the en primeur blend and then directly from barrels crafted by Seguin-Moreau, the historical cooper of choice here, and Taransaud, a more recent addition. I found young wines of tremendous freshness and verve. This is a magnificent showing from Jacques Thienpont, Fiona Morrison MW and Guillaume Thienpont.

### **The Wine Independent - Lisa Perroti Brown**

98-100

Le Pin 2023 is 100% Merlot and it has a pH of 3.75. It is aging in 65% new oak barriques and it has a deep garnet-purple color. It is quite shy and whispery to begin, offering glimpses at floral notions of wisteria and red roses, leading to spicy notes of cinnamon and clove, before opening out to a powerful core of wild blueberries, juicy blackberries, and black raspberries, with an underlying waft of forest floor. The medium to full-bodied palate is electric, delivering vibrating notes of black berries and purple flowers, framed by super-fine-grained tannins and amazing tension, finishing on a lingering, ferrous note. Magic!

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## **Jane Anson**

97

Sinew, precision, stunning depths through the palate, less exuberant than some vintages of Le Pin and yet the texture is immediately arresting, with rich peony and iris aromatics, fleshy raspberry and damson fruits but also grip, orange peel, cigar box, tobacco leaf and a languorous stretch out through the palate. 65% new oak (2019 was the last year to be 100% new oak). Yields of 40hl/h, even with a touch of green harvesting, very unusual at Le Pin.

## **Decanter - Georgie Hindle**

97

A floral and opulent nose; irises, and strongly-scented dark fruits - plums, blackcurrants and black cherries. Really very expressive aromatics, opulent and forward. Smooth and silky, really caressing and gentle, smooth and delicate, the power is there underneath but subtly while the ripe dark black and cool blue fruit makes most of its mark. The florality and clear iron (really accentuated in a cool vintage) is fully apparent, minerality is also very present with black sticky, spicy liquorice and graphite. It's a more serious Le Pin, certainly than the 2022, this has muscle but slightly hidden, it's firm and nicely structured but has edges of spice, tobacco and dark chocolate as well as bite and tang but all with an elevated elegance. Serious but sophisticated and confident. Ageing 65% new, 35% once used barrels. Instead of 100%. Extracted one third less this vintage.

## **La Revue des Vins de France - Pierre Vila-Palleja**

97-98

La famille Thienpont, épaulée par Diana Berrouet Garcia, a effectué un travail de fourmi en divisant en onze lots les 2 hectares du cru afin d'en extraire la quintessence de merlot. Ce 2023 respecte le classique moelleux de texture du Pin, bien que nuancé par une fraîcheur d'une rare distinction, ne subissant aucun excès de maturité. Il profite de beaucoup de nuances fruitées, à la fois fraîches et confites. Sa qualité de fruit se traduit par un charme tannique saisissant, élancé et voluptueux, le tout ponctué par une délicate salinité désaltérante et une longueur folle.

## **Bettane Desseauve - Denis Hervier**

97

Aromatique florale complexe, bouche sensuelle et aérienne. On ne sent pas la présence tannique de ce vin funambule à la finale en dentelle qui persiste longtemps. Millésime dans la lignée des vins qui ont fait la légende du cru.

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## **Alexandre Ma**

97-98

The sweetness of Château Le Pin 2023 transcends mountains and crosses seas. Honestly, I've never seen a Château Le Pin as approachable as this in any other vintage. Notes of licorice, cloves, graphite, and iron dust soar alongside the fragrant berries, while the gentle tannins feel like a lover's caress, comforting and gentle. With a milder alcohol content and fully ripe polyphenols, the delicate essence of Château Le Pin becomes even more vivid. As I taste this wine, I envision a coy maiden holding a feather fan, her blossom-eyes peering through, revealing its alluring charm...

## **Jancis Robinson**

17

*100% Merlot. 39 hl/ha. Cask sample.*

Subtle red-berry fragrance. A refined and more discreet Le Pin this year. Sweet and smooth but light of touch and linear as well. No excess. Tannins well integrated.

## **The Drinks Business – Colin Hay**

98-100

Seamless. Poised. Authoritative. Intense. Floral, with peony, wisteria, hyacinth and saffron. Dark berry fruited and enrobed in graphite. And, as it opens so beautifully in the glass, there is more and more cherry stone fruit. Not a massive frame and all the more perfectly spherical for that. Very purple-blue black in its fruit profile. Cool – a mirror pool of freshness, with the glassy, glacial texture that implies. The finest texture on the attack of the vintage. Just magical. Plunge pool. It's like diving into a crystal clear lake at night. Wondrous purity. Really special and utterly sublime with a harmony that is unsurpassed in the vintage. Introvert and introspective, perhaps, but all the more enticing and enthralling for that.

## **Markus Del Monego**

99

Dark purple colour with violet hue and almost black core. Refined nose with ripe fruit, dark berries, plums and hints of raspberries, floral hints in the background, subtle oak and elegant spiciness. On the palate excellent balance and purity, ripe and velvety tannins, sweet fruit reminiscent of black cherries and plums, hints of dark chocolate and a whiff of Vanilla. A wine with excellent precision, elegance and freshness.

## **The Wine Advocate – William Kelley**

94-96

The 2023 Le Pin is another strong effort for this small Pomerol winery, wafting from the glass with aromas of wild berries, violets, exotic spices and creamy new oak. Medium to full-bodied, polished and suave, it's velvety and refined, with attractive purity of fruit, lively acids and a long, gently vanillin-inflected finish. It's the result of multiple harvests, starting with young vines, between September 11 and 23.

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## **Jeb Dunnuck**

94-96

From a tiny parcel of deep, gravelly soils (2-3 meters) on top of clay, the 2023 Château Le Pin is all Merlot that today is raised in two-thirds new oak. This beauty has a gorgeous perfume of spicy red fruits, smoked tobacco, spicy oak, and savory flower and tobacco nuances. This carries to a medium to full-bodied Le Pin that has the château's sexy, seamless mouthfeel, solid ripeness, building, silky tannins, and a kiss of minerality on the finish. It shines for its purity and finesse and has plenty of classic Le Pin magic.

## **Yves Beck**

97-98

La notion de précision n'est plus à démontrer depuis belle lurette à Le Pin. Sur ce millésime, le vin profite du climat tempéré, très bordelais, avec des hauts et des bas, du froid et du chaud, de la pluie et des pics de chaleurs à 37°C. La symbiose entre des notes mûres et la fraîcheur est parfaite. Il affiche également de la minéralité, que l'on retrouve régulièrement à Le Pin, une minéralité qu'il doit à des graves rouges ferrugineuses. Légèrement suave en attaque, le vin affiche une texture soyeuse, élégante, portée par des tannins veloutés qui dévoilent leur puissance avec parcimonie tout en étant de pair avec le caractère vif de l'acidité. Cette dernière assure l'énergie nécessaire pour créer la symbiose nécessaire et le résultat est exceptionnel. Un Le Pin tout en finesse qui se déroule subtilement, qui affiche de la puissance et du tempérament, puis, surtout, de la finesse... encore et toujours !

## **Jean-Marc Quarin**

97

Couleur sombre et intense. Nez très aromatique, fin, fruité et tellement subtil. Notes délicates de fleurs et de truffe à l'agitation du verre. Une délicatesse qu'il conserve en bouche où il se montre suave, ascendant dans son déroulé, profond et presque aérien. Ensemble à l'hédonisme fort, sans rien céder à l'esthétique. De la race.