

# PRESSE CLOS FOURTET 2012



## **The Wine Advocate (Robert Parker)**

**93-95**

The 2012 Clos Fourtet was cropped at 32 hectoliters per hectare and achieved 14% natural alcohol. The final blend was 85% Merlot, 10% Cabernet Sauvignon and 5% Cabernet Franc. It offers an opaque dense purple color along with attractive blackberry, licorice, truffle and cassis fruit notes. It is full-bodied and dense with an authoritative mid-palate, sweet tannin and a layered mouthfeel that builds incrementally into a stunningly long finish. Precocious and charming already, it will drink better at an earlier age than the massive, prodigious 2009. Drink this killer St.-Emilion over the next 15+ years. One can't say enough about proprietor Cuvelier's 50-acre vineyard that has witnessed a profound transformation of quality over the last decade or more. Moreover, Cuvelier recently purchased three neighboring estates that are consistently reviewed positively in this publication, Les Grandes Murailles, Clos St.-Martin and Cote Baleau. These were previously owned by Sophie Fourcade. Interestingly, since these three properties are adjacent or close to Clos Fourtet, I would not be surprised if over the next decade they become incorporated into Clos Fourtet. Another great success for Cuvelier and his state manager, Tony Ballu.

## **The Wine Advocate (Robert Parker) Avril 2015**

**95**

Having just had the 2003 and 2005 from my cellar, I can attest to the magnificent turnaround in quality this famous estate on the eastern side of St.-Emilion has achieved. All of it is attributable to its dynamic proprietor, Philippe Cuvelier. The 2012 Clos Fourtet (usually 85% Merlot and 15% Cabernet Franc) has beautiful blackberry and blueberry fruit and an inky purple color. With flawless integration of acidity, tannin, wood and alcohol, a full-bodied mouthfeel and stunning richness, this is impressive and certainly one of the vintage's top wines. It should evolve beautifully for 15-20 years, and be drinkable in 3-4. Yields were a modest 32 hectoliters per hectare with the alcohol at 14%.



## **Wine Spectator (James Molesworth)**

**92-93**

This is a wine with layers of fruit and firm yet polished tannins. Full body, juicy and rich. It shows outstanding depth for the vintage

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## **Wine Spectator ( James Molesworth ) 05/2015** **94**

Gorgeous, with a pure, unadorned violet aroma giving way to very ripe and stylish plum, boysenberry and blackberry fruit. Offers a suave mouthfeel, with anise and tobacco hints filling the background. A finely stitched chalk note extends the finish. Not shy on depth, and sneakily long. Best from 2017 through 2030. 3,500 cases -JM

## **JAMESSUCKLING.COM** **James Suckling** **92- 93**

This is a wine with layers of fruit and firm yet polished tannins. Full body, juicy and rich. It shows outstanding depth for the vintage.



## **Jean-Marc Quarin** **17 // 94**

Couleur intense et vive. Nez fin et parfumé. Raffiné dès l'entrée en bouche, aromatique au milieu, fondant, suave, ce vin délicieux avance avec beaucoup de goût, du corps vers une finale séveuse au tanin fin. De la délicatesse, du parfum. Un succès.



## **Bettane & Desseauve** **17-17.5**

Prise de bois lacyée, texture remarquablement complète, grande suite en bouche, grande réussite.

## **JancisRobinson.com**

## **Jancis Robinson** **15.5**

Inky with purple rim. Rich, ripe and spicy. More damson than cassis but fresh. Chewy, some oak char, fruit not as rich on the palate as on the nose so finishes a touch too dry/stringy.  
(JH)

## **Andreas Larsson** **95**

Beautiful nose of wild berries, violet and fine spices, rather burgundian texture, soft and velvety with powdery tannin, plenty of fruit and density, excellent purity and length, great wine!

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PRIMEURS  
TV

## Markus Del Monego

95

Dark purple red with violet hue and black center. Very intense nose, complex aromas, dark fruit and slightly exotic spices, chocolate and vanilla. On the palate firm structure, good weight and excellent length. Opulent on the palate with complex flavours. A modern classic.



## La Revue du Vin de France

17,5-18

Assemblage 86%merlot. Nez très vivant, pointu, retenu, qui introduit un vin délicat, hyper raffiné tout en étant gourmand (il rappelle le 2001), en équilibre entre le minéral et les épices, la tension et la finesse. Ce millésime confirme dans le verre le profond travail de fond entrepris dans le vignoble.

Quoi de neuf au château ? La famille Cuvelier a annoncé en mars dernier le rachat de trois propriétés à la famille de Sophie Fourcade, dont l'excellent Clos Saint-Martin et Les Grandes Murailles qui devraient à terme intégrer Clos Fourtet dans un futur classement.

Decanter.com

## Decanter (James Lawther MW)

18 // 93

Expressive red and dark fruit nose. Palate plush, ripe and harmonious. Fresh and long on the finish. Fine grained tannins. Gets the nod over 2011. 17.5/20pts ( 91/100pts)

**Drink:** 2019 - 2030

**Taster:**

Gault&Millau

## Gault & Millau

17,5

Quelle souplesse sur ce millésime en général austère. Les tanins sont fondus, satinés, venant en support à quelques fruits pleins d'éclat et très biens dessinés.

Le Point  
SUPPLEMENT

## Dupont

16/16.5

16/16,5 - Nez f r u i t s noirs assez boise bouche souple et tendre tanique en finale, elle aussi tres fruits noirs Jolis tanins so\eux, dense, bonne longueur

*O = 2017 G = 12 ans*