

# Clos Fourtet

- **Surface area:** 20 hectares (50 acres)
- **Grape composition:** 85% Merlot, 10% Cabernet Sauvignon, 5% Cabernet Franc
- **Soils:** Clay-limestone
- **Average age of the vines:** 25 years
- **Second wine:** la Closerie de Fourtet.



## 2013 vintage

- **Bud-break:** 12th April
  - **Mid-flowering point:** 15th June
  - **Veraison:** 25th August
  - **Harvesting dates:** from 30th September to 14th October
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- **Blend:** 87% Merlot, 6% Cabernet Sauvignon, 7% Cabernet Franc
  - **Yield in 2013:** 18hl/ha
  - **Production:** 20,000 bottles
  - **pH:** 3.48      **Alcoholic degree:** 13.1
  - **Ageing:** 15 months with 60% of the First Wine in new barrels.

# Clos Fourtet



## 2013 vintage

### Weather conditions:

Rain during the winter period replenished the water tables with 380mm (15 inches) falling between October and March. Very little rain fell during the period between 15th February and 15th March, and there was a 20 day period of frosts.

From 10th March to mid-May, we had regular spells of rain. From 26th May to 20th June, heavy rainfall brought 200mm of water. From June 20th on, we had very fine weather with no rain and plenty of sunshine. In September, successive light showers fell during the whole of the month and continued into October.

### Growing season:

Bud-break took place on April 10th, which is very late. The budding was even and of good quality. The flowering process took place in difficult climatic conditions; active vine shooting and very rainy weather caused substantial crop losses through failed fruit setting.

Veraison was completed at the end of August in correct weather conditions. At this stage we cut away any late-ripening bunches in order to equalise the ripening.

The harvest took place during the few days in October without rain.

### Tasting comments:

Clos Fourtet 2013 reveals generous aromas of blackberry and cherry subtly intermixed with floral notes of violets and irises. This elegant wine expresses great purity on the palate; the attack is full, and the tannins are fine and silky. The mid-palate develops delicately towards a saline finish.

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# PRESSE CLOS FOURTET 2013

**Wine Spectator**

**Wine Spectator ( James Molesworth ) 90-93**

Long and racy, with lovely persistence to the chalky minerality and bright, unadorned cassis, damson plum and raspberry fruit flavors. Shows a lovely echo of rooibos tea at the very end.

**NEAL MARTIN**

**Neal Martin 90-92**

The Clos Fourtet has a well-defined, mineral driven bouquet that is reserved at first, but unfolds in the glass - always a good sign at this stage. The palate is medium-bodied with ripe blackberry and raspberry fruit, tensile tannins with a punchy finish. This is one of the better Saint Emilion wines in 2013, no doubt. Tasted April 2014.



**Choukroun Chicheportiche Jonathan 92.5/100**

Le nez offre des notes de cassis, de mûre et de framboise fraîche associées quelques discrètes épices en fond. La bouche est bien structurée, ample, équilibrée, harmonieuse et fraîche. En bouche également des notes de fruits noirs (cassis, mûre) accompagnées de framboise et plus légèrement de notes boisées. Les tanins sont bien menés et bien intégrés. La finale est fruitée, longue et avec quelques tanins.

**Bettane et Desseauve**

**Bettane et Desseauve 92-93/100**

Finement floral, matière remarquable, texture d'une impeccable précision, soutien tannique racé et noble, réussite majeure sur le plateau, une des réussites du millésime.



**Antoine Gerbelle 16.5 - 17/20**

Ce jus, racé offre une tenue sans dureté. C'est un athlète aux muscles longilignes. Sa délicatesse de trame vraiment digne d'un Premier grand cru à la rare « rétro » pinotante sur la framboise. Un grand bordeaux accessible. 87 % merlot. Rendement : 18 hl/ha, dont la moitié dédiée au grand vin.

Nez fruité. Vin soyeux, savoureux, délicieux au toucher raffiné. Corps et longueur moyens 2018 - 2025



**Antonio Galloni, April 2014**

**91-93+**

The 2013 Clos Fourtet opens with beguiling aromatics. Smoke, slate and new leather meld into a core of dark fruit as this sumptuous St. Emilion opens up in the glass. One of the richer, more resonant wines of the vintage, the Clos Fourtet impresses for its volume and pure breadth. The perfumed, limestone-inflected finish is distinctly Burgundian in its essence. The 2013 finishes with notable sweetness and density for the year. There is a lot to like here. Sadly, production is down 50%. The blend is 88% Merlot, 7% Cabernet Sauvignon and 5% Cabernet Franc. Tasted two times. Clos Fourtet showed beautifully both times I tasted it. Last spring, the Cuvelier added Côte de Baleau and Les Grands Murailles, both reviewed separately, to their holdings.

**Wine, Words and Videotape**

**Jeremy Williams April 2, 2014**

**90-92**

Deep and sense; vibrant edge; purity here, plums and black fruits; meaty note; good palate, very nice texture in the middle; nice elegance too. Nice length. Comparisons here with 2008. [87% Merlot, 6% Cabernet Sauvignon, 7% Cabernet Franc, 13.1% alc, 3.48pH 18hl/ha]. Tasted at Clos Fourtet April 2, 2014. Drink 2018-2030. 90-92 [Later note] Deep and saturated look; ripe and attractive aromatics; purity of fruit; unmasked and pure; very cool and attractive; some menthol and pretty intense for the vintage; palate has vibrancy and the fruit again feels pure; filled out in the middle with plenty of extract. Very good effort for the vintage and cleverly judged.



**Bettane et Desseauve Mai 2014**

**17-17,5/20**

**publiées dans Terre de Vins**

Finement floral, matière remarquable texture d'une impeccable précision soutien tannique race et noble, réussite majeure sur le plateau, une des réussites du millésime

**T IM ATKIN MW**

**TIM ATKIN MW**

**94**

I tasted this wine twice during en primeur week and it shone on both occasions. Clay limestone soils and the presence of Cabernet Sauvignon in the blend have both contributed to its impressive structure. Scented, balanced and stylishly oaked with acidity that drives the wine onwards to the finish. 2020-28

*Stephen Tanzer's*  
INTERNATIONAL WINE CELLAR

**Stephen Tanzer**

**89-92**

Good deep ruby. Expressive aromas of blackcurrant, tobacco, mocha, dried flowers, minerals and truffle. Sweet, dense and seamless, with rich, dense, multilayered flavors of red fruits, minerals and flowers. Finishes with suave tannins and an aromatic leafy note. Excellent potential here.

*Jancis Robinson*  
JancisRobinson.com

**Jancis Robinson May 2014**

**16**

Subtle but insistent floral perfume. Clove and oak spice on the palate. Chewy tannins – this is one of the few right bank 2013s that really needs age to soften the structure. Slightly mousy finish. I'm not convinced this is destined for greatness. (RH) Drink 2018-2023