

AWARDS & ACCOLADES

2022 ~ 97 Points. "Darker currants, leafy herbs, graphite, tobacco, and subtle orange zest-like nuances all emerge from the 2022 Château Branaire-Ducru, a ripe, concentrated, flawlessly balanced Saint-Julien. With medium to full-bodied richness, a concentrated, layered mouthfeel, and plenty of tannins, it's another no-brainer of a 2022 that readers will love to have in their cellar. The 2022 is 60.5% Cabernet Sauvignon, 31.5% Merlot, 5.5% Cabernet Franc, and the balance Petit Verdot, aged 18 months in oak." - Jeb Dunnuck, Feb/2025

2022 ~ 96 Points. "Blackcurrants and pencil shavings with such intense but subtle character on the nose. Some crushed stones as well. Full-bodied and dense with layers of polished tannins that are integrated and focused, creamy and caressing. Very long and persistent. 60.5% cabernet sauvignon, 31.5% merlot, 5.5% cabernet franc and 2.5% petit verdot." - James Suckling, Jan/20225

2022 ~ 96 Points. "This is a special, and perhaps pivotal vintage for Branaire-Ducru. While quality has been regularly high over the past 20 years, the 2022 shows extra depth and refinement. There’s no doubt that the vintage’s sometimes opulent, concentrated character facilitates a fascinating juxtaposition with Branaire-Ducru’s typical elegance, but it’s likely that the debut of the property’s new winery (with its increased number of vats to allow for micro-parcellaire harvesting and vinification) played a major role. A fabulously fine yet succulent Branaire-Ducru has resulted, with a billowy, aromatic nose brimming with raspberry, plum and boysenberry. The 2022’s assemblage is 60.5% Cabernet Sauvignon, 31.5% Merlot, 5.5% Cabernet Franc, 2.5% Petit Verdot, reaching an impalpable 14% alcohol. Élevage lasted for 18 months in 60% new oak." - Marc Bouffard - Decanter, Apr/2026

2022 ~ 95-97 Points. "...This feels refined and focused on the nose with plush red berry fruit, dried rose petals and orange rind scents. Classic Branaire. The palate is fresh on the entry with pliant tannins. It's very well structured to the degree that it conveys a sense of symmetry. Lightly spiced toward the finish with notes of graphite lingering on the aftertaste, this represents an excellent Branaire Ducru that will age over many years and will surely appeal to those seeking more classical Saint-Julien. Tasted three times and was more impressive each time. Branaire-Ducru continues its upward trajectory under proprietor François-Xavier Maroteaux. 14.3% alcohol." - Neal Martin - Antonio Galloni's Vinous, Apr/2023

2022 ~ 95 Points. "The 2022 Branaire-Ducru is a dense, plush wine, atypically so for a Saint-Julien that is usually more reserved. Unctuous in feel, with superb balance, the 2022 Branaire-Ducru is quite the extrovert. Soft contours wrap around a core of dark cherry, plum, mocha, new leather, espresso and licorice. Yields were 33HL per hectare, lower than the historical norm here in the upper 30s/lower 40s because of stress on the vines. The 2022 spent 16 months in French oak, with 60% new wood. This is a decidedly exotic Branaire-Ducru. I can't wait to see how it ages. Tasted two times." - Antonio Galloni's Vinous, Jan/2025

2022 ~ 95 Points. "Amix of mulled boysenberry and blackberry fruit, dried violet, iris and lively licorice snap notes gives this a textbook and very aromatic St.-Julien profile. A sleek iron detail courses underneath, allowing the fruit to sail unhindered through the finish, flanked judiciously by singed apple wood. Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Cabernet Franc and Petit Verdot." - James Molesworth - Wine Spectator, Jan/2025

2022 ~ 94-96 Points. "The 2022 Branaire-Ducru is a powerhouse, almost unnaturally so for this Saint-Julien, which is usually a more understated wine. A blast of dark plum fruit makes a pretty strong first impression. Licorice, cloves, spice, menthol and chocolate fill out the layers. Readers should expect a concentrated, virile Saint-Julien with compelling aromatic presence. In this warm, low-yielding vintage, Branaire is quite the brooding powerhouse. It will be interesting to see if more finesse develops in time. Impressive. Tasted two times." - Antonio Galloni's Vinous, Apr/2023



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