

## 2018 CHÂTEAU SÉRAPHINE

### Review Summary



**96 pts** “2018 Château Séraphine (100% Merlot) reveals a vivid purple hue as well as beautiful notes of crème de cassis, blueberries, violets, spring flowers, graphite, and classic Pomerol earthy, tobacco, and subtle herbal notes. Medium to full-bodied, it’s a wine that builds slowly with time in the glass, offering incredible purity, ultra-fine tannins, flawless balance, and the rare mix of power and elegance that categorizes all great wines. Don’t miss it.”

Jeb Dunnuck  
JebDunnuck.com  
March 2021

**95 pts** “After Martin Krajewski sold the Château de Sours, an AOC Bordeaux property, to Alibaba founder Jack Ma, he purchased Château Monbrun and its 5.5 acres in Pomerol in 2016, renaming it Séraphine. His daughter, Charlotte, vinifies this wine on two separate tracks. For one lot, she allows an extended post-fermentation maceration, then takes it through malolactic in new barrels; the wine ages in a mix of old and new barrels for a year. For another lot, she fills a 1000-liter clay amphora with her old-vine merlot, directly off the sorting table, racks it after fermentation and returns it to the amphora to age for a year. Blended together, the wine delivers the sweet ripeness of merlot with a lovely perfume, the texture round and supple, the flavors layered with fruit richness and healthful earthiness. It feels bold, youthful and direct, with the integration that suggests it will age effortlessly.”

Joshua Greene  
Wine & Spirits  
February 2022

**94 pts** “From a nearly three-acre vineyard, this is a dense, powerful expression of Merlot. Layers of black fruits, rich tannins and spice come together with the structure and wood aging to give a wine with considerable aging potential.”

Roger Voss  
Wine Enthusiast  
August 2021

**92 - 94 pts** “...It has a deep garnet-purple color and offers up an expressive nose of baked blackberries, blueberry compote and plum preserves with suggestions of Indian spices, wild sage, damp soil and camphor plus wafts of mocha and smoked

meats. Medium to full-bodied, the palate is packed with black fruit and spicy layers with a gorgeous, velvety frame and plenty of freshness to lift the long, savory finish!"

**Lisa Perotti-Brown**  
**Robert Parker Wine Advocate**  
**April 2019**

**92 pts** "A wine with huge promise here – a lovely fresh elegance holds interest through the palate with touches of licorice root beside the sweet black and brambly fruits. This is only the second vintage under its new name and configuration, but from 35 to 40-year-old vines which help ensure the wine's complexity and depth..."

**Jane Anson**  
**Decanter**  
**March 2019**

**92 pts** "The 2018 Séraphine has developed more precision since I tasted it from barrel, offering well-defined scents of blackberry, raspberry and bilberry; an attractive oyster shell note emerges after 20–30 minutes of aeration. The palate is medium-bodied with grainy tannins, good depth and cohesion, and fine salinity toward the finish. I appreciate the energy of this Pomerol from proprietor Martin Krajewski. The long finish leaves traces of black truffle on the aftertaste. Excellent."

**Neal Martin**  
**Vinous**  
**March 2021**

Garnet/ruby. Not over-extracted. Limpid and glossy. Very pure, lifted, quite vertical nose, with just a hint of Pomerol sweetness. A lovely supremely fresh fruit nose – raspberries, wild strawberries, red cherries, even a hint of redcurrant and a slight hint of Christmas spices. What I really like here is to find these spice-box notes alongside the freshness of croquant red berry fruit rather than the more baked plum/darker berry fruit notes that more usually accompany them. Cracked white peppercorns, even a hint of Szechuan spice and a walnut husk note too. With air, a little cedar starts to reveal itself, hinting at some of the wonders to come with bottle age; frangipane too; and beautiful floral notes. Very lovely. Full and rich on the attack with super-svelte but non inconsiderable tannins. Broad and quite potent but with that signature drive, precision, focus and purity. Lifted and sappy with a lovely juiciness. Tapers beautifully and very slowly towards a long finish, with those cinnamon spice notes and a little ferrous-inflected minerality. Very fine and with very considerable promise, the oak already very nicely incorporated. Needs 10 years really, even although it is gorgeous now. Deceptively powerful with that balance and tension coming from the freshness of the fruit. Distinctive, beautifully marked by its terroir and up there with the leading crus (and micro-crus) of the appellation. Though the motto on the label is 'fatum nostrum est' ('it is our destiny', I think), not much has been left to fate here – there is very fine wine-making and vineyard-management on evidence here.

**Colin Hay**  
**September 2020**