

Château Montus La Tyre & Prestige vertical tasting

Yohan Castaing tastes and rates nine vintages of La Tyre and seven vintages of Prestige, including the inaugural 1985 vintage. These are classy, age worthy wines, he says.



Yohan Castaing
August 31, 2022



Credit: <https://www.brumont.fr/>

Alain Brumont, named the 'hero of Madiran' by Stephen Brook **in a wonderful in-depth article** for **Decanter.com**, is of the most interesting and energetic winemakers in the southwest of France.

Brumont is a tireless lover of the **Madiran** terroirs, and believes more strongly than anyone else that the beautiful hills of his native land can produce great wines.

For several years now he has been accompanied by Antoine Veiry, his stepson and the son of Laurence, his wife. He too is a talented winemaker who is developing the wines of the estate to become more supple, velvety and brighter.

The foundation of Montus' quality is its exceptional vineyard. Year after year, Alain Brumont has endeavoured to select the best terroirs of the appellation, not hesitating to exchange, resell and buy back a total of several dozen plots, according to the qualities of their terroirs over time.

In 1990 he noticed a large 10-hectare slope, totally uncultivated, located on the highest part of the Madiran appellation at an altitude of 260 meters, at the lieu-dit of La Tyre, in the commune of Castelnau-Rivière-Basse.

The plot comprises rounded pebbles over strata of red and variegated clay. Facing south-west and planted only with Tannat grapes, the wines (first released vintage in 2010) produced here express the full potential of the Madiran appellation, with a contemporary vision of viticulture and winemaking techniques.

The Prestige bottling comes from a south-facing 4ha parcel of Tannat, and it spends two years in new oak, bottled without filtration. The same parcel is used for the XL, which can spend up to four years in new 600l barrels.

Both the La Tyre and Prestige wines are incredibly age-worthy, as evidenced at a recent vertical tasting where nine vintages of La Tyre from 2000 to 2018 were tasted, and seven vintages of Prestige, including the inaugural 1985 vintage.


This wine, discovered Brook in his interview, was inspired by Brumont's visit to Bordeaux in 1979. It caused a sensation and his reputation was made.

The most recent wine tasted – La Tyre 2018 – is still in its infancy and will take a decade or more to fully reach its stride.

Château Montus La Tyre & Prestige vertical: 15 tasting notes and scores

Alain Brumont, Château Montus La Tyre, Madiran, Southwest France 2000

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 SINGLE TASTING

95

Tasted by: **Yohan Castaing**
(at Madiran, 01 Jun 2022)
Part of **Château Montus La Tyre & Prestige vertical tasting**
Drinking Window: 2022 - 2037

The 2000 is the first labelled vintage of La Tyre. It exhibits aromas of perfectly ripe dark berries, liquorice, graphite and spices, with elegant herbal notes. Medium to full-bodied, opulent but fresh and linear, the palate is rich and layered, with a racy acidity on the finish. This is a stunning wine that can be aged for another 10-15 years.



Producer	Alain Brumont
Brand	Château Montus La Tyre
Vintage	2000
Wine Type	Still
Colour	Red
Country	France
Region	Southwest France
Appellation	Madiran
Sweetness	Dry
Closure	Natural Cork
Alcohol	13.00%
Body	Full
Grapes	100% Tannat

Alain Brumont, Château Montus La Tyre, Madiran, Southwest France 2001

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 SINGLE TASTING

92

Tasted by: **Yohan Castaing**
(at Madiran, 01 Jun 2022)
Part of **Château Montus La Tyre & Prestige vertical tasting**
Drinking Window: 2022 - 2030


The 2001 La Tyre is a real expression of a 'cold vintage' in Madiran, exhibiting aromas of ash, earth, graphite, dark berries and hot stones. Full-bodied, ample and rich, it possesses racy acids which make it resemble a Cabernet Sauvignon from the Médoc, but with a firmer, more tannic palate. Approachable right now and will drink well for 10-15 years.



Producer	Alain Brumont
Brand	Château Montus La Tyre
Vintage	2001
Wine Type	Still
Colour	Red
Country	France
Region	Southwest France
Appellation	Madiran
Sweetness	Dry
Closure	Natural Cork
Alcohol	13.00%
Body	Full
Grapes	100% Tannat

Alain Brumont, Château Montus La Tyre, Madiran, Southwest France 2002

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 SINGLE TASTING

93

Tasted by: **Yohan Castaing**
(at Madiran, 01 Jun 2022)
Part of **Château Montus La Tyre & Prestige vertical tasting**
Drinking Window: 2022 - 2035

The 2002 La Tyre has a delicate, shy bouquet, with spice, earth, herbs and peppery aromas. The bouquet becomes more fresh and elegant with time. It carries a rich, tannic and full-bodied palate with loads of dark fruits and graphite on the finish. It is a little austere at the moment; another 10 years of cellaring could bring it more grace.



Producer	Alain Brumont
Brand	Château Montus La Tyre
Vintage	2002
Wine Type	Still
Colour	Red
Country	France
Region	Southwest France
Appellation	Madiran
Sweetness	Dry
Closure	Natural Cork
Alcohol	13.00%
Body	Full
Grapes	100% Tannat

Alain Brumont, Château Montus La Tyre, Madiran, Southwest France 2005

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 SINGLE TASTING

91

Tasted by: **Yohan Castaing**
(at Madiran, 01 Jun 2022)
Part of **Château Montus La Tyre & Prestige vertical tasting**
Drinking Window: 2022 - 2030


Exhibiting an attractive nose of black fruit complimented by spices, flowers, earth, elegant herbal notes, and an alluring trace of smoke, the 2005 Montus La Tyre shows, in the contemporary style of Madiran, a gentle evolution of style towards a texture both velvety and fleshy. There is precision and depth on the palate, but also a degree of charm indicating that another decade at least will be necessary before this wine may be fully enjoyed.



Producer	Alain Brumont
Brand	Château Montus La Tyre
Vintage	2005
Wine Type	Still
Colour	Red
Country	France
Region	Southwest France
Appellation	Madiran
Sweetness	Dry
Closure	Natural Cork
Alcohol	13.00%
Body	Full
Grapes	100% Tannat

Alain Brumont, Château Montus La Tyre, Madiran, Southwest France 2006

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 SINGLE TASTING

93

Tasted by: Yohan Castaing
(at Madiran, 01 Jun 2022)

Part of Château Montus La Tyre & Prestige vertical tasting

Drinking Window: 2022 - 2030


In the footsteps of the 2005 vintage, La Tyre 2006 shows an 'al dente' freshness with less ripe grapes but a more charming and bright bouquet of dark berries, blueberry, flowers and cherry aromas. Tense and penetrating, the palate is very fresh, with subtle tannins and a perfectly balanced texture. It's a stunning wine that should be given 5–8+ years of cellaring before drinking.



Producer	Alain Brumont
Brand	Château Montus La Tyre
Vintage	2006
Wine Type	Still
Colour	Red
Country	France
Region	Southwest France
Appellation	Madiran
Sweetness	Dry
Closure	Natural Cork
Alcohol	13.00%
Body	Full
Grapes	100% Tannat

Alain Brumont, Château Montus La Tyre, Madiran, Southwest France 2008

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 SINGLE TASTING

94

Tasted by: Yohan Castaing
(at Madiran, 01 Jun 2022)

Part of Château Montus La Tyre & Prestige vertical tasting

Drinking Window: 2022 - 2035

The 2008 La Tyre offers a lovely bouquet of menthol, flowers, blackberries, blueberries and liquorice aromas. Perfectly balanced, the palate is fresh and delicate, with an elegant yet profound texture. It's fresher and more incisive than the 2006 La Tyre. I like it today, but will be nice for the next 10–12 years.



Producer	Alain Brumont
Brand	Château Montus La Tyre
Vintage	2008
Wine Type	Still
Colour	Red
Country	France
Region	Southwest France
Appellation	Madiran
Sweetness	Dry
Closure	Natural Cork
Alcohol	13.00%
Body	Full
Grapes	100% Tannat

Alain Brumont, Château Montus La Tyre, Madiran, Southwest France 2010

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 SINGLE TASTING

96

Tasted by: [Yohan Castaing](#)
(at Madiran, 01 Jun 2022)
Part of [Château Montus La Tyre & Prestige vertical tasting](#)
Drinking Window: 2022 - 2040

La Tyre 2010 is a textbook wine for Madiran lovers. It has a sumptuous bouquet of dark berries, cherry, flowers and spices, intertwined with a perfectly integrated oaky frame. Medium to full-bodied, the palate is ample and layered, with huge depth and concentration, racy acids and a long, resonant finish. This gorgeous wine is just beginning to hit its stride. Keep it for 10–15 years.



Producer	Alain Brumont
Brand	Château Montus La Tyre
Vintage	2010
Wine Type	Still
Colour	Red
Country	France
Region	Southwest France
Appellation	Madiran
Sweetness	Dry
Closure	Natural Cork
Alcohol	13.00%
Body	Full
Grapes	100% Tannat

Alain Brumont, Château Montus La Tyre, Madiran, Southwest France 2014

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 SINGLE TASTING

92

Tasted by: [Yohan Castaing](#)
(at Madiran, 01 Jun 2022)
Part of [Château Montus La Tyre & Prestige vertical tasting](#)
Drinking Window: 2022 - 2030


The 2012 La Tyre sneaks up on you with fresh, elegant, bright aromas of cherry, dark berries and flowers, intertwined with a delicate oaky frame. Juicy, elegant, and fresh, the palate is medium to full-bodied with supple tannins and a fleshy texture. This is exceptional, in a challenging vintage in the south-west of France.



Producer	Alain Brumont
Brand	Château Montus La Tyre
Vintage	2014
Wine Type	Still
Colour	Red
Country	France
Region	Southwest France
Appellation	Madiran
Sweetness	Dry
Closure	Natural Cork
Alcohol	13.00%
Body	Full
Grapes	100% Tannat

Alain Brumont, Château Montus La Tyre, Madiran, Southwest France 2018

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 SINGLE TASTING

98

Tasted by: **Yohan Castaing**
(at Madiran, 01 Jun 2022)

Part of **Château Montus La Tyre & Prestige vertical tasting**

Drinking Window: 2022 - 2050

The 2018 La Tyre marks an evolution of the style, with a more velvety and fleshier texture with velvety tannins and racy acids. The bouquet, bright and fresh, gradually opens with aeration, and there are touches of blackcurrant, flowers, cherry, and iris aromas complemented by gently toasty notes. It will take time (10–20 years) for this racy thoroughbred to hit its stride. Bravo!



Producer	Alain Brumont
Brand	Château Montus La Tyre
Vintage	2018
Wine Type	Still
Colour	Red
Country	France
Region	Southwest France
Appellation	Madiran
Sweetness	Dry
Closure	Natural Cork
Alcohol	13.00%
Body	Full
Grapes	100% Tannat

Alain Brumont, Château Montus Prestige, Madiran, Southwest France 1985

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 SINGLE TASTING

96

Tasted by: **Yohan Castaing**
(at Madiran, 01 Jun 2022)

Part of **Château Montus La Tyre & Prestige vertical tasting**

Drinking Window: 2022 - 2032


The 1985 Montus Prestige, the first vintage ever produced, delivers a superb complexity and an elegant bouquet with ash, graphite, dark cherry and spice aromas with herbal notes. The palate is medium to full-bodied with racy acids, and a tension and freshness concluding with a mineral finish. This is a quintessential Montus that gives drinking pleasure, now and for the next 5–10 years or more.



Producer	Alain Brumont
Brand	Château Montus Prestige
Vintage	1985
Wine Type	Still
Colour	Red
Country	France
Region	Southwest France
Appellation	Madiran
Sweetness	Dry
Closure	Natural Cork
Alcohol	13.00%
Body	Full
Grapes	100% Tannat

Alain Brumont, Château Montus Prestige, Madiran, Southwest France 1988

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 SINGLE TASTING

92

Tasted by: **Yohan Castaing**
(at Madiran, 01 Jun 2022)
Part of **Château Montus La Tyre & Prestige vertical tasting**
Drinking Window: 2022 - 2030


Less expressive and bright than the 1985, Montus Prestige 1988 stands out for its tobacco, smoky and spicy aromas, with a sumptuous yet classic bouquet. This is a remarkable wine, seamless and layered with powdery tannins and depth. Racy acids bring freshness, and a saline and penetrating final. It's ideal for enjoying over the next 5–8 years.



Producer	Alain Brumont
Brand	Château Montus Prestige
Vintage	1988
Wine Type	Still
Colour	Red
Country	France
Region	Southwest France
Appellation	Madiran
Sweetness	Dry
Closure	Natural Cork
Alcohol	13.00%
Body	Full
Grapes	100% Tannat

Alain Brumont, Château Montus Prestige, Madiran, Southwest France 1989

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 SINGLE TASTING

97

Tasted by: **Yohan Castaing**
(at Madiran, 01 Jun 2022)
Part of **Château Montus La Tyre & Prestige vertical tasting**
Drinking Window: 2022 - 2025

Despite the solar side of the vintage, the 1989 Montus Prestige offers a fresh and bright bouquet with cedar, graphite, spices, blackcurrant and earthy aromas, with a slightly animal note. The palate is perfectly balanced, with a full-bodied texture and supple, layered tannins. This is an irresistibly charming, elegant Madiran from Alain Brumont which may be consumed in the near future.



Producer	Alain Brumont
Brand	Château Montus Prestige
Vintage	1989
Wine Type	Still
Colour	Red
Country	France
Region	Southwest France
Appellation	Madiran
Sweetness	Dry
Closure	Natural Cork
Alcohol	13.00%
Body	Full
Grapes	100% Tannat

Alain Brumont, Château Montus Prestige, Madiran, Southwest France 1990

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 SINGLE TASTING

96

Tasted by: **Yohan Castaing**
(at Madiran, 01 Jun 2022)
Part of **Château Montus La Tyre & Prestige vertical tasting**
Drinking Window: 2022 - 2032


The 1990 Montus Prestige delivers immense complexity and character, in a sunnier style than the 1989 vintage. Complex and profound, the bouquet is dense with spices, earth, liquorice and perfectly ripe blackberries. Medium to full-bodied, it's deep and elegant, with refined tannins, fine concentration, and a penetrating finish. It will evolve gracefully for 5–10 years.



Producer	Alain Brumont
Brand	Château Montus Prestige
Vintage	1990
Wine Type	Still
Colour	Red
Country	France
Region	Southwest France
Appellation	Madiran
Sweetness	Dry
Closure	Natural Cork
Alcohol	13.00%
Body	Full
Grapes	100% Tannat

Alain Brumont, Château Montus Prestige, Madiran, Southwest France 1991

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 SINGLE TASTING

93

Tasted by: **Yohan Castaing**
(at Madiran, 01 Jun 2022)
Part of **Château Montus La Tyre & Prestige vertical tasting**
Drinking Window: 2022 - 2028

The 1991 Montus Prestige is a seriously good wine in the context of the vintage, with a mineral-driven, fruity style and blackberry, liquorice, herbs and cedar aromas. It shows a juicy texture and a medium-bodied, fresh, intense finish. I'd still recommend enjoying it over the coming 3–5 years.



Producer	Alain Brumont
Brand	Château Montus Prestige
Vintage	1991
Wine Type	Still
Colour	Red
Country	France
Region	Southwest France
Appellation	Madiran
Sweetness	Dry
Closure	Natural Cork
Alcohol	13.00%
Body	Full
Grapes	100% Tannat

Alain Brumont, Château Montus Prestige, Madiran, Southwest France 2000

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SINGLE TASTING

96

Tasted by: **Yohan Castaing**
(at Madiran, 01 Jun 2022)
Part of **Château Montus La Tyre & Prestige vertical tasting**
Drinking Window: 2022 - 2030

A stunning Madiran in every sense, the 2000 Montus Prestige reveals a deep, complex and astonishing bouquet of graphite, liquorice, balsamic and cherry, intertwined with perfectly ripe dark berries. A gorgeously fleshy mouthfeel, brimming with energy, lengthening a finish that consolidates its profound substance but also reveals surprising subtlety and delicacy. This vintage joins the ranks of the great ones, and should gain in elegance over time.



Producer	Alain Brumont
Brand	Château Montus Prestige
Vintage	2000
Wine Type	Still
Colour	Red
Country	France
Region	Southwest France
Appellation	Madiran
Sweetness	Dry
Closure	Natural Cork
Alcohol	13.00%
Body	Full
Grapes	100% Tannat