

★ Average with no complaints ★★ We like this wine  
★★★ Good quality and value; Love it! ★★★★★ Outstanding



## CHÂTEAU PALMER

'ALTER EGO DE PALMER' 2003 ★★★★★

BOOZE WINE SHOP \$127

If any château deserves upgrading, it is Château Palmer — for standing out a head above the other Third Growths, so say many Bordeaux enthusiasts. Palmer was a rundown estate when it was purchased by the Sichel negociant family and a group of friends in 1938. The Sichels admitted that it took very hard work and more than 20 years to yield a return on their investment.

Today, 45 ha are planted with 50 percent Cabernet Sauvignon, 40 percent Merlot, seven percent Cabernet Franc and three percent Petit Verdot. Density of planting is 10,000 vines per ha and the fruit is harvested by hand, then vinified in typical Bordelaise style. Alter Ego is Palmer's second wine but producers maintain that Alter Ego is a completely different wine — another interpretation of the terroir and the vintage at Palmer.

**NOTES** Raspberries, hawthorn, musk, plums and blackcurrant. This is enchanting as the fruit is so bright, fresh and the texture, soft with beautiful balance. The wine sings.