



**CHÂTEAU  
PICHON BARON**  
GRAND CRU CLASSÉ EN 1855  
PAUILLAC

**2020 Vintage**

## Château Pichon Baron

Our Grand Vin **Château Pichon Baron 2nd Grand Cru Classé in 1855** comes from the very oldest vines grown on the historic plots of the estate. This authentic Pauillac offers an amazing sensory experience with its black fruit flavours and spicy hints. Château Pichon Baron shows great elegance, intensity and exceptional length on the palate. It is a wine that improves year after year and **can age for over 40 years in the cellar.**

### Vintage Conditions

2020 began with a historically rainy winter followed by a tropical spring. Vigilance was required in soil management and protecting the vines against mildew. Warm, dry weather then led to one of the earliest flowerings on record, two weeks ahead of the norm. The first flowers were observed between 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> May and flowering took place between 15<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> May.

Rainfall stopped at the end of June, giving way to cool, dry weather until the onset of ripening in mid-July.

Mid-veraison was reached between 23<sup>rd</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> July on the earliest ripening Merlot plots and subsequently developed well in warm and dry conditions. Summer brought drought and sporadic heat waves until mid-August, when thunderstorms cooled down excessive temperatures and caused the Merlot grapes to swell. The later-ripening Cabernets remained small until the harvest.

Picking started about ten days ahead of the norm, mostly in sunshine for the Merlots and thundery showers for the Cabernets. The Merlots and Cabernets were tannic and colourful, with acidities and potential alcohol content within normal ranges.





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Ripening took place in hot weather, apart from the second half of August. Thunderstorms of varying intensity, with between 80 and 120 mm of rain, struck Pauillac between 12<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> August, in most cases counteracting the water stress observed in early August. The Merlots once again benefited from the rainfall, with the grapes growing swiftly, unlike the Cabernets.

The harvest took place from 14<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> September for the Merlot and from 22<sup>nd</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> September for the Cabernet-Sauvignon.

### **Blend**

76% Cabernet-Sauvignon

24% Merlot

### **Ageing**

70% in new barrels

30% from barrels of one vintage, for 18 months

