

# CLOS DE L'ORATOIRE

GRAND CRU CLASSE

AOC SAINT-EMILION GRAND CRU

## Vineyard

**Terroir:** Clay-limestone and Fronsac molasse on the upper part of the slope, clay-sand at the foot of the slope.

**Vineyard area currently in production:** 13.07 hectares (32,12 acres).

**Grape varieties:** 80% Merlot, 20% Cabernet Franc.

**Average age of the vines:** 35 years.

## Winemaking

**Harvesting:** By hand, into small crates to avoid bruising.  
Sorting before and after destemming.  
No crushing. The grapes arrive on a conveyor belt.

**Fermentation:** In temperature-controlled wooden vats for 22 to 30 days depending on the vintage.  
Extraction by pneumatic pigeage (punching down the cap).

**Malolactic fermentation and ageing:** In new oak barrels (up to 80%) on fine lees.  
Fining and filtering as necessary, depending on the vintage.

**Duration of barrel ageing:** 18 months.

## Sales

Via the Bordeaux wine trade.



Vignobles Comtes von Neipperg

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## 2015 VINTAGE

### Harvest dates

25/09 to 30/09/2015

### Yield

45 hl/ha

### Vatting

In wooden vats for 30 days. Extraction by pneumatic pigeage (punching down the cap)

### Ageing

In new oak barrels (40%) on fine lees

### Blend

90% Merlot

10% Cabernet Franc



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**Revue de Presse / Press Review**  
**Primeurs 2015**

**Vinous – April 2016**

**92 – 94**

A real stand out, the 2015 Clos de l'Oratoire is powerful yet also wonderfully focused. Beams of acidity and tannin give the 2015 its sense of direction, while expressive floral notes add considerable brightness. The 2015 is intense yet also impeccable in its balance. The purity and breadth of the Merlot is striking. Readers will have to be patient with the 2015, as it is one of the most intense, hulking wines of the year. Tasted two times. (Antonio Galloni)

**Wine Spectator – April 2016**

**91 – 94 (Blind tasted)**

Juicy and balled up for now, with a licorice note coating the plum and raspberry fruit flavors. Has a singed vanilla edge to the finish, though this shows signs of being absorbed by the bright fruit. Should unfurl nicely after the élevage. Likely a solid buy. (James Molesworth)

**Neil Martin – erobertparker.com – April 2016**

**91 - 93**

The 2015 Clos de la L'Oratoire is a blend of 90% Merlot and 10% Cabernet Franc picked between 25-30 September at 45 hl/ha. Matured in 40% new oak, it has perhaps the most reticent bouquet at the moment, yet there is very pure dark cherry and blackberry fruit here, very "cool" aromatically and with several swirls of the glass it begins to find its voice. The palate is medium-bodied with fine grain tannin. There is good density here, very well balanced, very precise with perhaps the best tension on the finish that I have discerned in this particular Saint Emilion. This comes highly recommended. Drink: 2018 - 2032



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René Gabriel – [www.bxtotal.com](http://www.bxtotal.com) – April 2016

**18/20**

Extrem dunkles Purpur mit lila und violetten Reflexen. Viel Schwarzbrotkruste, Rauchnoten, Lakritze und Korinthen im Bouquet vermittelnd, zeigt eine hohe Fruchtreife im Ansatz. Im Gaumen sehr dunkles Fruchtmarm, Schwarzteenoten, wirkt noch streng. Dies vor allem durch seine massive Konzentration. Der Saft kommt dann wohl noch mit dem Ausbau. 2023 – 2038.

Bettane & Desseauve – Avril 2016

**16.5/20**

Rondeur fruitée, générosité du merlot (90 %) mais sans aucune lourdeur, belle maturité en bouche, avec de la fraîcheur et de l'équilibre, fruit très expressif, allonge musclée.



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