

Château Petit-Village 2018

Château Petit-Village is located on the highest part of the magnificent Pomerol plateau, on deep gravel and clay soils in the heart of the appellation. The vineyard in a single plot is shaped like a triangle and well situated to produce high quality wines typical of this exceptional terroir.

Our Grand Vin Château Petit-Village expresses the successful blend of the Merlot, Cabernet Franc and Cabernet-Sauvignon grape varieties.

Blend

72 % Merlot
20 % Cabernet Franc
8 % Cabernet-Sauvignon

Ageing

40 % in new barrels
60 % from barrels of one vintage,
for 15 months

2018 vintage conditions

After a winter with temperatures slightly below the ten-year average and regular rainfall between December and March (just over 500mm), rainy weather continued in March with lower than average temperatures.

Bud break started late, around 10th April, with consistent budding. Flowering started rather early, around 25th May for the Merlot, and took place rapidly.

Late spring and early summer were marked by a significant threat of cryptogamic pressure. The onset of veraison was observed on 23rd July in our Merlot plots, a few days earlier than in 2017. On the other hand, it took longer due to the summer drought. The vineyard's water reserves allowed maturity of the tannins to develop well, despite the water shortage of previous months. Conditions for ripening were ideal thanks to hot days and cooler nights.

Thanks to the ideal weather conditions, the harvest took place smoothly from 19th September to 1st October, with a total of 6 days of harvesting. This year we chose to harvest the Merlot in the mornings only to avoid the high afternoon temperatures.

Our youngest Merlot grapes on the well-drained sandy gravel plots were picked first on 19th and 20th September. We obtained the lowest yields from these plots, due to concentration resulting from dehydration, and flower abortion. Our oldest Merlot grapes on clay gravel deposits were harvested from 24th to 26th September. On these plots the coolness of the clay subsoil offered us slightly more generous yields.

The Cabernet Franc and Cabernet-Sauvignon were harvested on 1st October: again, due to the small size of the grapes, yields were lower than our optimistic forecasts.

