



## ABOUT THE 2019 VINTAGE

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#### **Grand Vin Blending:**

#### **Château Grand-Puy-Lacoste**

**83% Cabernet Sauvignon - 17% Merlot**

Dates of harvest: September, 20<sup>th</sup> to October, 4<sup>th</sup> 2019  
Ageing: In French oak barrels with 75 % of new barrels  
Yield of this vintage: 41 hl/hectare (10 000 vines/Ha)  
Date of blending: December 2018

#### **Second wine Blending**

#### **Lacoste-Borie**

**62% Cabernet Sauvignon - 29% Merlot –  
9% Cabernet Franc**

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GENERAL INFORMATION

Estate total surface: 90 hectares around the Château  
Vineyard surface: 60 hectares in one block around the Château  
Average age of the vines: 38 years  
Soil: Very deep coarse gravel  
Grape Varieties in the vineyard: 75% Cabernet Sauvignon – 20% Merlot –  
5% Cabernet Franc  
Density of plantation: 10 000 vines/hectare  
Rootstock: Riparia gloire & 101.14  
Growing of the vines: Mechanical ploughing of the soil  
Viticulture practices: Spraying kept to the  
absolute effective minimum  
Harvest: Exclusively hand picked  
Grape Selection: Two successive selections before and after  
the de-stemming process  
Vinification: A long period of maceration (about 3 weeks)

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Owner: M. François-Xavier BORIE  
Director R&D: Ms Christel SPINNER  
Cellar Master: M. Benoît ESTASSY  
Vineyard Manager: M. Antonio FLORES  
Consultant Oenologist: M. Eric BOISSENOT  
**Public Relation: Miss Emeline BORIE**

The 2019 vintage may certainly have caused some anxiety for winemakers in early spring, but the magic of the particularly dry, sunny and hot weather which lasted all summer through to harvesttime made this vintage a great success!

It all started with a rather mild but dry winter, marked by a lack of rainfall!

Bud burst was relatively early, around March 20, but this slight advance in the growing cycle quickly lost ground with April and May's unseasonably cool temperatures and heavy rainfall.

Flowering started on May 29 with the Merlots and continued until June 5. This flowering happened in two stages, spread over a week: firstly extremely favourable climatic conditions: good weather, sun, heat and a light breeze, then the weather conditions changed with the arrival of wetter, cooler weather which resulted in irregular flowering and some coulure and millerandage leading to poor fertilization of the grape flower.

This month of June was marked by very large variations in both weather and temperature: the first fortnight saw very cool and rainy weather and the second was very hot with not a drop of rain!

In fact, the vines hardly saw any rain from July to September!

This resulted in a lack of water which had the effect of stopping the vines growing but also ensured that all the plants' energies and focus went into the ripening of the grapes.

The first ripe grapes were seen at the end of July - beginning of August (July 28 for the Merlots from the earliest maturing soils). The onset of ripening was both quick and homogeneous. This happened throughout the very hot days and cool nights. The significant temperature differential between night and day meant that the grapes ripened slowly, retaining a delicious aromatic freshness yet reaching a significant tannic richness.

The end of summer transformed the winemaker into an attentive spectator calmly waiting for the right time and perfect maturity to begin the harvest. The first merlots were harvested on September 20. The harvest was very healthy, the grapes very concentrated; aromatic, with perfectly ripe tannins. The harvest continued slowly but surely and ended on 4th October with the last of the Cabernet Sauvignons showing superb maturity.

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**Grand-Puy-Lacoste 2019** is once again remarkable by the high proportion of Cabernet Sauvignon in its blend: 83% which expresses all the character and typicity of the fine gravel soils of Pauillac.

This wine has an intense purple colour; deep yet bright.

The aromas of powerful black fruits, in particular the bigarreau cherry, explode on the nose, underlining the characteristics of very ripe grapes whilst retaining good freshness. The whole is enhanced with a hint of spice and menthol.

On the palate, the attack is very dense, precise and complex long; an extremely aromatic and balanced mid-palate and finish paired with a bright freshness. The whole is supported by tannins which combine power and elegance already in great harmony.

Once again, we find in this splendid vintage the expression of the great terroir of Grand-Puy-Lacoste expressed in all its richness and complexity. It will undoubtedly be one of the great successes of the property adding to the collection of the great vintages produced here.

## CHÂTEAU GRAND-PUY-LACOSTE HISTORY

The name Grand-Puy («puy» comes from the Latin word podium, meaning hill) describes this vineyard's privileged location overlooking Pauillac, where the château reigns over a sea of vines.

Included in the famous 1855 classification, Grand-Puy-Lacoste has had an important role to play in the history of Bordeaux wine since the early 16th century. It previously belonged to a family who contributed several members to the Bordeaux parliament. They fell in love with the magnificent gravel terroir and were responsible for establishing the wine's fine reputation. They were followed by several other families: the Lacoste (who gave the estate its definitive name), the Saint-Guirons, and the Saint-Legier.

In 1930, the château's history was marked by the arrival of Raymond Dupin, an unusual character and bon vivant who remained the owner until 1978. Shortly before his death, he sold Grand-Puy-Lacoste to the Borie family because he appreciated their rigour and devotion to producing fine great growth wine in the Médoc.

François-Xavier Borie, the present owner, is behind this superb estate's renaissance. He has made major investments and constantly improved the quality of Grand-Puy-Lacoste in order to reflect all the finesse of its great Pauillac terroir.

Grand Puy Lacoste, Classified Growth of Pauillac produces wines with intense colour and powerful but velvety tannins and is considered to be a typical Classic Pauillac.



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