

Château Prieuré-Lichine

GRAND CRU CLASSÉ EN 1855
MARGAUX

2019

PROMISING ALL THE COMPLEXITY OF A GREAT GROWTH



In 2019, the great terroirs of the plots making up the Château Prieuré-Lichine vineyard once again combined harmoniously to produce aromatic, fleshy and velvety wines, of hallmark Margaux style.

Free of major climatic setbacks and with a very welcome episode of weather at the end of the season, the vintage was both generous and of high quality.

A rollercoaster season in a vintage that was full of surprises.

Following a quite mild and dry winter, the 2019 vine cycle at Château Prieuré-Lichine began with a bud-break in normal conditions at the end of March. The potential crop size was large with good, even vine shooting. The few episodes of frost experienced in the Médoc had no effect on the potential volume of the crop.

Particularly rainy spring weather in April and June ensured sufficient water reserves for the vines. Vine disease pressure was at a reasonable level. The flowering process benefited from the good weather conditions. Summer weather suddenly set in at the end of June with a heat-wave, followed by a second and more intense one, around 25th July. Just as the net shortfall in the season's rainfall was starting to challenge the end of the ripening process, a welcome downpour arrived on 22nd September, the trigger for the harvesting to start in the young Merlot vines, whose grapes had now re-swelled thanks to this welcome rain.

Because the plots of the Prieuré-Lichine vineyard are spread across the whole of the Margaux appellation, the ripening and harvesting dates were staggered accordingly over more than three weeks. The health of the grapes was very satisfactory. The last Cabernet Sauvignon, harvested on 15th October, showed fabulous balances.

Promising all the complexity of a Great Growth.

The vinifications went very smoothly with long macerations for the vats destined for the First Wine.

The Merlot was ripe and displayed great roundness on the palate. The Cabernet Sauvignon, which benefited from the mid-September rains by reaching full ripeness levels, offered juicy grapes with noble pedigree that would contribute to perfection their energy and their dense, silky texture in the blend.

Underpinned by the brilliant freshness of the Cabernet Sauvignon, the 2019 vintage affirms a potential for ageing and a capacity to develop over time all the complexity of a Great Growth.

- **OWNERS:** SAS Château Prieuré-Lichine
- **WINEMAKER:** Étienne CHARRIER
- **CONSULTANT:** Stéphane DERENONCOURT
- **TOTAL SURFACE AREA:** 85 ha (212 Acres)
- **AVERAGE AGE OF THE VINES:** 30 years
- **SOIL TYPE:** Günz-area Garonne gravel
- **VINEYARD GRAPE COMPOSITION:**
 - Cabernet Sauvignon: 50%
 - Merlot: 45%
 - Petit Verdot: 5%
- **DE-LEAFING:** On one side of the row in June on Merlots
- **START AND END OF HARVEST:**
 - Merlot: 23th Sept. – 4th Oct.
 - Cabernet Sauvignon: 7th – 15th Oct.
- **HARVEST RECEPTION:**
 - Grapes picked into small crates
 - Vibrating sorting tables
 - Manual sorting and optical line
 - No crushing
 - Gravity flow vat-falling
- **SURFACE AREA OF VINE:**
77.5 ha (191 acres)
- **VATTING PERIOD:** 28-30 days
- **OVERALL YIELD:** 51hl/ha
- **YIELD FOR FIRST WINE:** 45hl/ha
- **BLEND FOR FIRST WINE 2019 VINTAGE:**
 - Cabernet Sauvignon: 62%
 - Merlot: 35%
 - Petit Verdot: 3%
- **AGEING:**
 - 40% new barrels
 - 60 % second fill barrels

Château Prieuré-Lichine, certified High Environmental Value in 2019, is engaged in a sustainable certification procedure.

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