



## 2017 Le Dragon de Quintus

### The weather

Vegetative growth started on the 13<sup>th</sup> of March, then was accelerated by a warm, sunny spring. Two incidents of frost in late April served as a reminder to winegrowers that viticulture is fragile and that nature cannot be tamed.

The water deficit, which reached 50% in July and August, was a distinguishing feature of the vintage. However, thanks to significant rainfall in June, the vines were spared from the drought. Above-average sunshine and a spell of very hot weather (29 days over 30°C), moderated by relatively cool nights (enabling the grapes to ripen without stress) also resulted in favourable winegrowing conditions.

The outstanding fruit is reflected in our wines, which have managed to preserve the freshness vital to the balance we always seek. Weather during the month of September was fine for picking – with the exception of the second week, when it rained, although this precipitation helped the Cabernets to ripen slowly and well.

2017 has all the necessary qualities to become a benchmark vintage.

### A few figures

Harvest dates:	From the 14 <sup>th</sup> to the 29 <sup>th</sup> of September
Blend:	Merlot: 87%
	Cabernet Franc: 13%
Yield:	30.2 hectolitres per hectare
Share of production:	44%
New barrels:	24%
Alcohol:	14.5%
Bottling date:	From April 17 <sup>th</sup> to 19 <sup>th</sup> 2019

### Tasting notes

Deep, intense colour. The initial impression on the nose is relatively intense, before unveiling fruity, rich, and complex aromas with aeration. Just the right amount of oak adds to the aromatic appeal. Starts out smooth on the palate, with a remarkably caressing sensation. The wine then quickly builds up power but not at the expense of balance. The finish is unfailingly good, with just the right amount of substance, making the aftertaste extremely pleasurable.

This well-structured 2017 Le Dragon eagerly invites another sip...