

# Château GRAND-PUY DUCASSE

Vintage 2014

5th Classified Growth 1855, Pauillac



## History

Three large plots in the best parts of Pauillac form the vineyard of this classified growth. This unusual configuration is a direct inheritance from the estate's founder, Pierre Ducasse, an eminent lawyer. In the 18th century he gave a single name to a fine vineyard holding, which was put together through inheritance and purchases.

When he died in 1797, his son, Pierre, inherited a 60-hectare exploitation, named Ducasse-Grand-Puy-Artigues-Arnaud, of which two third were planted with vines. The estate was classified in 1855, under the name of Artigues Arnaud.



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## Terroirs

Garonne gravels and silica, typical of Pauillac, for the Cabernet Sauvignon, and sandy gravels for the Merlot.

The vineyard consists of three large plots in the commune of Pauillac. The vines border those of Mouton, Lafite and Pontet-Canet to the North. In their central part, they cover part of the Bourdieu of Grand Puy, and, at their southern extremity, the Saint-Lambert plateau.

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## Surface of the vineyard

40 ha

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## Planting density

10 000 Vines / ha

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## Average Age of the vines

34 years

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## Mode de culture

Parcel management of soil and vineyard. Certified sustainable farming.

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## Appellation

5th Classified Growth 1855, Pauillac



### *Climatic Conditions*

A wet spring and somewhat overcast summer made increased monitoring of the vineyard's health and a thorough protection of the vines necessary. But sometimes nature offers us an unexpected gift. Persistence and vigilance through to the end of August were generously rewarded with a superb Indian summer that lasted until the end of October. Dry, sunny weather enabled us to wait until all the grapes in our vineyards were perfectly ripe.

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### *Ripening phases*

Mid-flowering : around March 26<sup>th</sup>  
Mid-ripening : around May 26<sup>th</sup>  
Sauvignon: around August 10<sup>th</sup>

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### *Harvest*

From October 1<sup>st</sup> to October 18<sup>th</sup> 2014

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### *Yields*

33 hl/ ha

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### *Winemaking*

After manual harvesting in crates and an initial sorting in the vineyard, the grapes were sorted again using the latest generation optical sorting system. Vinification was carried out in stainless steel temperature controlled tanks.

For some of the batches, malolactic fermentation was carried out in new barrels. All of the first wine is matured in French oak barrels, 30% of which were renewed this vintage.

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### *Production*

100 000 bottles

### *The blend*

50% Cabernet Sauvignon  
50% Merlot

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### *Tasting notes*

This deep red color wine shows intense fruit notes as well as spices aromas.  
The mouth is elegant and expresses noble and silky tannins.  
The finish is powerful and racy - which augurs a long-keeping wine.

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### *Awards & press*

Jane Anson / Decanter : 93  
Wine Enthusiast : 92  
James Suckling : 91  
Wine Spectator : 90  
Bettane + Desseauve : 17.5

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### *Team*

Directeur Général  
Thierry Budin

Directrice Technique  
Anne Le Naour

Oenologue Conseil  
Mr. Hubert de Bouard

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