



# CHÂTEAU POUJEAUX 2017

**OWNER** Philippe CUVELIER  
**MANAGING DIRECTOR** Matthieu CUVELIER  
**APPELLATION** Moulis-en-Médoc  
**SURFACE AREA** 70 hectares (173 acres)  
**SOILS** Günz-era gravel  
**DENSITIES of PLANTATION** 8,333 to 10,000 vines/ha  
**AVERAGE AGE OF VINES** 30 years  
**CONSULTANT** Stéphane Derenoncourt

## ESTATE PHILOSOPHY

As the owners of Château Poujeaux for the last ten years, the Cuvelier family have consistently sought to improve and enhance their Médoc estate. With a highly committed team, their philosophy is to preserve the values of family, people and high standards of quality, while seeking to bring out in the wines the terroir and all its complexity.

The harmony found in the wines of Château Poujeaux is underpinned by a balanced grape composition in the vineyard, vinification of whole uncrushed berries, ageing in barrels, which together produce a wine that is dense, silky, complex and subtle, faithfully expressing its terroir in each and every vintage.

## THE 2017 VINTAGE

**HARVEST** From 18 September to 04 October 2017

**BLEND** 62 % Cabernet Sauvignon - 25 % Merlot - 13 % Petit Verdot

**VINIFICATION** Fermentation of whole, uncrushed grapes in 51 specially-designed small-capacity, temperature-controlled, oak and concrete vats corresponding specifically to individual plots. Extraction via pump-overs and a vatting period lasting 20 to 25 days.

**AGEING** 33% new barrels - 67% second and third-fill barrels; 12 months' ageing.

**ANALYSES** Alc. 13.5° - pH 3.82

**PRODUCTION** 26 hl/ha - 140,000 bottles

## DESCRIPTION OF THE VINTAGE

**IN THE VINES** After a cool, dry autumn, the end of winter weather turned mild and brought about an early budding of the vines which, by the time of the frost on April 27, had reached the stage of 5 to 6 leaves completely opened out. The gravel core of the vineyard was spared the frost, while elsewhere there was a partial loss of future crop with around twenty hectares totally wiped out. Vegetation grew back to produce a second generation which was a month behind the first, non-frost-affected shoots. The flowering was fast and even, thanks to a hot and dry spring. A mild, quite dry summer with wide diurnal temperature variation ensured both a good ripening of the fruit and good quality potential in the frost-damaged vines that had grown back.

**IN THE CELLARS** The crop yields were normal in the non-frost-affected part of the vineyard and produced rich and aromatic grapes. The rest was more heterogeneous and with very low yields. We therefore made a wine that came mostly from the estate's very high quality plots that were spared the frost. The wines offer freshness, concentration and balance with this year the Cabernet Sauvignon and Petit Verdot coming to the fore.

## TASTING NOTES

**COLOUR** A dark, brilliant garnet hue.

**NOSE** Aromas of black fruits with notes of spice. Breed and delicacy.

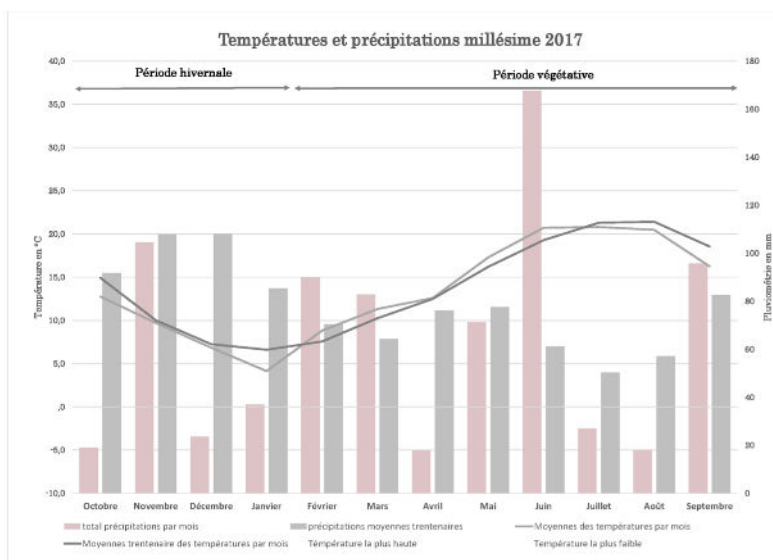
**PALATE** The entry is smooth and round. The wine is dense and fine. The tannins are ripe and sweet in an overall harmoniously balanced wine.

PERSONAL  
COMMENTS



## THE 2017 VINTAGE

2017 was an early vintage in which a spring frost severely damaged the Bordeaux vineyard. After a cold and dry autumn and early winter, the weather turned milder, and rainfall was higher than the ten year average. A mild and very sunny spring was followed by a dry, cool summer.



### VINE CYCLE STAGES AND HARVESTING DATES:

	Bud-break	Mid-flowering point	Mid-veraison	Harvest
Merlot	3 April	27 May	29 July	18 to 27 September
Cabernet Franc	5 April	26 May	02 August	26 September
Cabernet Sauvignon	12 April	28 May	31 July	26 September to 4 October
Petit Verdot	6 April	29 May	07 August	25 to 27 September

### 2017 GROWING SEASON FACTS AT CHATEAU POUJEAUX:

- Early bud-break
- Severe frost on 27 April; the gravel core of the vineyard is spared
- Short, even flowering in hot, dry weather
- Early but uneven veraison in frost-affected plots
- Mild, dry summer with average sunshine hours
- Water deficit in soils at veraison
- Very good ripening conditions (slight water stress, high average and maximum temperatures, wide diurnal temperature variation during second half of August)
- A quite cool September

### CHATEAU POUJEAUX 2017 CHARACTERISTICS:

- Normal yields in the historical high quality core of the vineyard; low yields elsewhere
- Aromatic freshness
- Harmonious, subtle and precise tannic structure
- Good balance and roundness on the palate
- Good length of flavour