

### HARVEST

MERLOT 24/09 -> 05/10 CAB. SAUVIGNON 30/09 -> 08/10

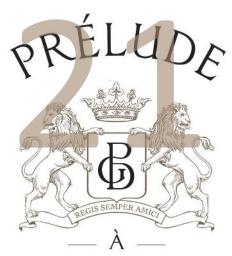
100% manual in crates Aging 14 months in French oak barrels, 15% new wood and 85% wood having already been used for 1,2 or 3 vintages.

### **BLEND**

58% merlot

**42**% cabernet sauvignon

ALCOHOL 13,5% vol



# **GRAND-PUY DUCASSE**

2<sup>nd</sup> WINE OF CHÂTEAU GRAND-PUY DUCASSE, GRAND CRU CLASSÉ PAUILLAC

88-89

James Suckling

PRECISE DEMANDING GRACEFUL 86-88 Jeff Leve

## THE VINTAGE

2021 was more than a "Winegrower's vintage". It was also a vintage that required selective sorting, due to the many challenges it faced.

The weather conditions seriously tested our morale throughout the growth cycle: a very early bud break due to the mild, very wet winter and a summery start to spring were followed by a particularly cool, rainy summer with relatively little sunshine.

While the Merlot was harvested early despite medium anthocyanin, tannin and sugar potentials, the Cabernet Sauvignon once again took the opportunity to give us a very pleasant surprise. Meticulous sorting of the harvest, management of temperatures and maceration times on a batch-by-batch basis, and the rigorous selection of these batches were essential this year, enabling us to produce a precise Grand-Puy Ducasse with delicate notes of cedar.

### THE HISTORY

The second wine, Prélude à Grand-Puy Ducasse, was created in 1955, on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the estate's classification. Château Grand-Puy Ducasse's story began when Arnaud Ducasse bought a "modest" house on the banks of the river in Pauillac in 1675. Little did he know that it would become a large estate that would remain in his family for almost three centuries.

Pierre Ducasse, a lawyer with a passion for wine, considerably extended the land over three parishes - Pauillac, Saint-Lambert and Saint-Sauveur - and three seigneuries: Lafite, Latour and Beychevelle. In 1820, his son built the Château's winery facing the Gironde estuary. At the time, this was a daring decision. Since then, Grand-Puy Ducasse has been the only Château in the area to vinify its grapes in the very heart of Pauillac's town. In 1855, the property was included in the prestigious ranking of classified growths; with 40 hectares of vines spread over 11 different types of soil, its vineyard can be considered as the most representative of the diversity of Pauillac's terroirs. Since 2004, CA Grands Crus, a subsidiary of the Crédit Agricole Group, has embarked on an ambitious optimization plan. The subsequent construction of a new vat room and barrel storage facilities is to complete the "Renaissance" large scale project. The guiding principle of Château Grand-Puy Ducasse and its teams led by Anne Le Naour and Benjamin Cassoulet is to keep pushing rigorous standards even further.

