



GRAND-PUY DUCASSE

2nd WINE OF CHÂTEAU GRAND-PUY DUCASSE, GRAND CRU CLASSÉ
PAUILLAC

89

James Suckling

14

Bettane Desseauve

HARVEST

MERLOT

13/09 -> 22/09

CAB. SAUVIGNON

26/09 -> 03/10

100% manual in crates

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

BLEND

70% merlot

30% cabernet sauvignon

YIELD 50 HI/Ha

ALCOHOL 13 % vol

THE VINTAGE

An exceptionally dry winter and an incredibly mild start to the spring set the tone for a vintage that looked promising. But then, after a few nights of frost, particularly on the nights of 27 and 28 April, it was back to the drawing board! Many vineyards lost almost all of their crop, while others, more fortunate, emerged partially or totally unscathed. The remainder of the spring was exceptionally hot, but the weather in summer was variable. In those vineyards not affected by the frost, they were concerned that the vintage would be very early with small grapes, lacking in juice, and flabby acidity... But heavy rainfall in early September helped to restore balance to the vintage profile.

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.

Thierry BUDIN / General Manager. Anne LE NAOUR / Technical Director
Benjamin CASSOULET / Head of Culture. Cécile BERNIER / Cellar Master

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