

Prélude à Grand-Puy Ducasse

Pauillac

Vintage 2018

Average age of the vines

34 years

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 Du-casse-Grand-Puy-Artigues-Arnaud, of which two thirds were planted with vines. The estate was classified in 1855, under the name of Artigues Arnaud.

Prélude à Grand-Puy Ducasse is the second wine of Château Grand-Puy Ducasse, made with the same care and energy as the first wine but blended with grappes from younger vines.

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.

Appellation

Pauillac

Culture management

Parcel management of soil and vineyard. Certified sustainable farming. Involvement in the EMS (Environmental Management System). Second vintage certified High Environmental Value (HEV) level 3 and ISO 14001.

Surface of the vineyard

38 hectares

Planting density

10 000 feet / ha





Blend

70% Cabernet Sauvignon

30% Merlot

Climatic conditions

Although the start of the year brought a great deal of rain and created a surplus of water throughout the Bordeaux wine region, summer 2018 will be remembered for its incredible heat! The radiant and spontaneous smiles on the faces of our staff were the most obvious sign of the confidence and enthusiasm for this vintage.

The first clip of the secateurs set the tone! The grape harvests were accompanied by lovely sunshine to the delight of the grape pickers and our permanent staff. Although the Merlots had already brought a smile to our faces, the Cabernets proved to be even more magnificent, confirming the exceptional potential of the vintage. 2018 will be big, extraordinary even...

Ripening phases

Bud Break: around April 7th 2018

Flowering: around May 26th 2018

Ripening: around July 31st 2018

Harvest dates

Merlot : from September 19th to 28th 2018

Cabernet Sauvignon: from October 2nd to 10th 2018

Winemaking

After manual harvesting in crates and an initial sorting in the vineyard, the grapes are sorted again using the latest generation optical sorting system. Vinification is then carried out in stainless steel temperature controlled tanks however for some of the batches, malolactic fermentation is also carried out in new barrels. All of the second wine is matured in French oak barrels, 15 % of which were renewed this vintage.

Tasting Note

Prélude à Grand-Puy Ducasse 2018 shows a beautiful rubis color with dark and violet hue. The nose is fruity and slightly spiced which reveals morello cherry notes and red and black berries.

The palate is supple and reminds the intensity of fruits revealed by the nose. Sweet tannins.

L'équipe

Executive CEO and Oenologist

Anne Le Naour

Consultant Oenologist

Hubert de Boüard



CA GRANDS CRUS

Château Grand-Puy Ducasse

4 quai Antoine Ferchaud BP23 - 33250 PAUILLAC

T +33 (0)55 56 59 00 40

www.grandpuyducasse.fr - contact@cagrandscrus.fr