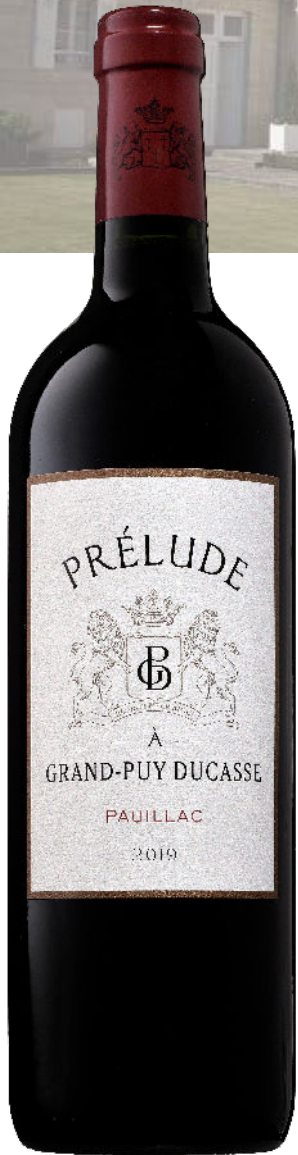


# Prélude à Grand-Puy Ducasse

Pauillac  
Vintage 2019



## 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 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 as the first wine but blended with grapes 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) and certified HEV level 3 and ISO 14001 since vintage 2016.



## Average age of the vines

26 years

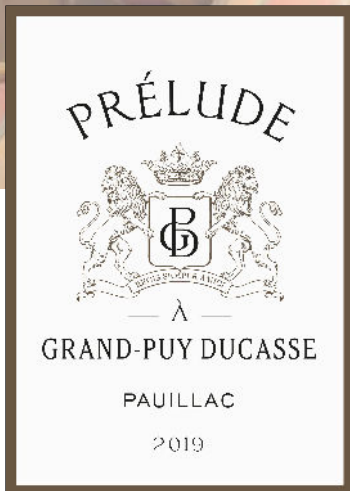
## Surface of the vineyard

40 hectares

## Planting density

10 000 feet / ha

*Blend*  
*51% Cabernet Sauvignon*  
*49% Merlot*



**Climatic conditions**

2019 is a very fine vintage, a solar one! A dry and milder than average winter gave way to a rainy spring with cool nights. Bud burst and flowering therefore came relatively early. The vineyard remained in a very good state of health. As in 2016 and 2018, the summer was characterised by high temperatures, with a few scattered showers (two redeeming spells of rain in July and August). It is a vintage of the climate, as much as of the terroir. The grapes are excellent and with a richness that we would like to find every year...

**Ripening phases**

Bud Break: around March 18th 2019  
Flowering: around May 27th 2019  
Ripening: around July 23th 2019

**Harvest dates**

Merlot: from September 23th to October 2nd 2019  
Cabernet Sauvignon: from October 2nd to 10th 2019

**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 first wine is matured in French oak barrels, 35 % of which were renewed this vintage.

**L'équipe**

**Executive CEO and Oenologist**

Anne Le Naour

**Consultant Oenologist**

Hubert de Boüard

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