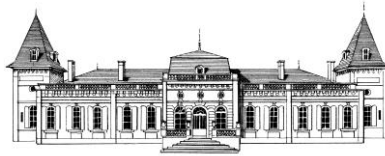


CHÂTEAU
TRONQUOY - LALANDE



SAINT-ESTÈPHE

2018 Vintage

Main characteristics of the Vintage

2018 was marked by atypical climatic conditions. The quality of the terroir allowed the vineyard to resist the pressure from parasites, which was particularly strong this year. The clay gravels of our soils mitigated the effects of the summer drought, while the high temperatures at the end of the season favoured good concentration in the grapes, which revealed all their potential in the cellar.

The year started, indeed, with a rainy winter, one of the wettest in the past 30 years, leading to slightly late bud burst.

Stormy weather in spring strongly encouraged the appearance of mildew. The continuous responsiveness of our teams allowed us to preserve the quality of the bunches and maintain good yields. Only certain Merlot plots were slightly affected by poor fruit set at the time of flowering.

Veraison came early, the sign of an early vintage. It developed in a relatively quick and uniform way.

A heatwave in early August saw the first symptoms of drought, but without water stress thanks to the quality of our terroir's deep clays. Berry concentration increased slowly, in a uniform way. The first maturity analyses led to predictions of a great vintage.

Harvest took place under perfect conditions. In the cellar, the first use of an optical sorting table aided us in selecting the best of the crop. As fermentation progressed, it revealed great richness in the musts. Colour and structure came naturally, leading us to practise carefully controlled extractions.

Period of harvest

From September 18th to October 4th

Blend

Merlot : 51%, Cabernet Sauvignon : 44%, Cabernet Franc : 2%, Petit Verdot : 3%

Tasting notes

Deep ruby colour, dark and intense.

The nose reveals beautiful black fruit notes (blackcurrant, blackberry) accompanied by spicy notes and discreet oak.

Full on the palate, with good aromatic complexity. The tannins are powerful but silky. The long finish, slightly saline, is well balanced.

2018 is a very fine vintage which reveals all the richness of the terroir of Château Tronquoy-Lalande.