

DOMAINE LES CARMELS – LES VENDANGES

AOP : Cadillac-Côtes de Bordeaux

SURFACE OF THE VINEYARD : 7 hectares

DENSITY OF PLANTATION :

- 0.66 ha planted at 3300 trees per hectare and aged of 35 years and more
- 5.77 ha planted at 5500 trees per hectare and aged of 25 years and more
- 0.50 ha planted at 6200 trees per hectare planted in 2018

GLOBAL GRAPE VARIETIES : 66 % Merlot, 17% Malbec, 11 % Cabernet Franc & 6% Cabernet Sauvignon

SOIL :

A view which illustrates the soil of the area and its character was expressed by local people who said “your earth is in love Sophie”. To fully understand this expression one only has to walk around (particularly in damp conditions) to find it clings to you like a lover, literally on your boots! Indeed, the ground is dominant with white, green, red or brown clay elements. But as it is usual in this sector, the soil is extremely varied with limestone zones and other rocky sectors. At any rate, the suitability of the ground to the production of vines was demonstrated as remarkable when, excavating to a depth of 8 meters prior to construction of the wine storehouse, the exposed clay at that depth was observed to be full of roots.

CULTURE :

The domaine is committed to organic approach since 2010, certified by Qualisud. We dedicate lots of our energy to the work of the ground and to control a qualitative grassing which, coupled with clays, takes care to regulate the shoot of the vine. We lead the vineyard in « Bordelaise pruning » and make all the operations in green necessary to obtain high quality grapes (removing the unwanted new shoots, trellising high, thin the leaves and removing green bunches of grapes thinning out the leaves if needed).

LES VENDANGES 2020 BLEND : 65 % Merlot & 35 % Cabernet Franc

GRAPES SELECTION FOR LES VENDANGES 2019 : we selected and harvested by hand 7500 vines with few yield produced by our plot at 5500 vines/ha.

- 3100 vines of Merlot Noir from « La Côte Rotie », a plot of vineyard with rocky clay exposed South
- 1000 vines of Merlot Noir from « Martindoit », a rocky clay plot with a North exposure
- 2400 vines of Merlot Noir from a plot of vineyard with a mix of limestone and clay exposed North
- 1000 vines of Cabernet Franc from a plot called « TerresForte » with heavy clays, limestone and gravel mix

PRODUCTION : 6 100 bottles - 375 magnums - 22 double-magnums

WINE MAKING : the harvest date is defined according to the tasting of berries : September 16th, 2020 for the Merlot and September 24th , 2020 for the Cabernet Franc. The work in our cellar with gravity system is modulated according to the quality of the grapes harvested, and supervised from day to day depending on the tasting. It consists all in all in some unballastings, and a special attention throughout the whole process.

AGEING : the merlot is put into barrels in November and the cabernet franc in sandstone amphorae. It stays for 15 months before bottling.

THE VENDANGES 2020 TASTING PROFIL : exceptional vintage : quantity and quality - creamy texture, silky tannins, elegant acidic streak

DOMAINE LES CARMELS

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