

2016 CLOS CANTENAC

PETIT CANTENAC GRAND CRU



WINEMAKER: Valérie Valmy
REGION: St-Emilion, France
VARIETALS: Merlot (90%), Cabernet Franc (5%), Cabernet Sauvignon (5%)
MATURATION: 12 months in 100% French oak barrels (30% new)
ALCOHOL: 14.0% alc/vol

VINTAGE: The winter of 2015/2016 was the warmest on record since 1900 and also quite wet. After an early budbreak temperatures were mild and flowering was delayed until late May. Rain events caused an uneven fruit set and further slowed things down until the onset of very warm and dry conditions which prevailed for 80 days. A refreshing rain shower slowed things down in mid-September and the first parcels were picked a few days later.

WINEMAKING: The grapes were hand harvested and transported to the winery where some juice was drained in order to concentrate the must. A seven day cold maceration followed to help develop primary fruit aromas. Fermentation lasted five days at medium temperatures with regular pumpovers. The wine then underwent a fifteen day, post-ferment maceration period to further refine the tannins. Malolactic fermentation took place in barrels. The wines were aged for 14 months before bottling.

TASTING NOTES: The wine shows fresh and rich notes of black plums, cassis, raspberry, figs, and fine leather, with hints of ginger and spice and soft vanillary new oak. On the palate, it is full-bodied with firm but carefully weighted tannins on the entry, which become more defined as the wine lingers in the mouth, with dense savoury and earthy characters leading towards a rounded, supple, blackberry and plum finish that displays good restraint and poise.

ABOUT CLOS CANTENAC: Clos Cantenac is a small but seductive 15 acre property with carefully planted vines on an exceptional terroir of deep gravel, sand and clay over limestone situated close to the prehistoric "Megalith de Pierrefitte." This enchanting Saint Emilion vineyard was purchased in January 2007 by Martin Krajewski along with his great friend and wine enthusiast Marcus Le Grice from New Zealand. Clos Cantenac proudly respects both the history and culture of the region to traditionally craft these fine Grand Cru wines.

