

2017 CLOS CANTENAC

LA DEVINE GRAND CRU



WINEMAKER: Charlotte Krajewski
REGION: St-Emilion, France
VARIETALS: Merlot (90%), Cabernet Franc (7%), Cabernet Sauvignon (3%)
MATURATION: 12 months in 100% French oak barrels (10% new)
ALCOHOL: 14.1% alc/vol

VINTAGE: 2017 will go down as the year of the frost, but it is clear that this really was a vintage of haves, have-nots and those somewhere in between. For those vineyards that weren't hit, the grape quality was often excellent. Flowering began in May and was not affected by the heavy rain at the end of June. July was mixed and August was fairly hot and dry. The end result for Clos Cantenac was also a tale of two halves, a much lower production than usual due to the frost but very high-quality fruit that was not affected.

WINEMAKING: The grapes were harvested by hand and immediately sorted and destemmed at the winery. The must was cold macerated for seven days and alcoholic fermentation took five days with regular pumping over. Post ferment maceration lasted 20 days and the wine was then transferred to new and seasoned French oak for 12 months before bottling.

TASTING NOTES: Aromas of ripe damson plums and black cherries are revealed next to more savory notes of forest floor, spice and toasty oak. Hints of licorice, menthol, smoke and leather furthering the spicy aromatics. The palate is soft, supple, generous and well-balanced with an elegant persistency and a freshness on the finish. It will drink well from 2020 and will continue to evolve in the bottle.

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.

