

# 2015 CLOS CANTENAC

## CLOS CANTENAC GRAND CRU



**WINEMAKER:** Valérie Valmy  
**REGION:** St-Emilion, France  
**VARIETALS:** Merlot  
**MATURATION:** 14 months in 100% French oak barrels (40% new)  
**ALCOHOL:** 13.5% alc/vol

**VINTAGE:** 2015 was a wonderful growing year, particularly for those with the ‘terroirs’ that were able to cope with the long periods of drought and high temperatures. Clos Cantenac’s deep rooted vines fared well during the prolonged period of dry from April until August. A couple of small rain events in mid-September refreshed the vines and cleaned the grapes. The quality of the harvest was very high, easily the equal of 2009 and 2010 vintages.

**WINEMAKING:** The grapes were hand harvested and immediately underwent a cold maceration for eight days to develop fruit aromas prior to fermentation. Alcoholic fermentation took place over five days with regular pumpovers. The wine then underwent a 15 to 20 day maceration period to refine the tannins. Malolactic fermentation was completed in oak barrels. The wine was aged for a total of 14 months prior to bottling.

**TASTING NOTES:** Vibrant and hugely appealing nose of fine rich, ripe fruits, with hints of elderberries, praline, violet and cassis like aromas, enhanced by deep and dark spicy notes of cinnamon and pepper. On the palate it displays a beautiful fruit density with succulent, crunchy, bright fruits and black cherries that spread right across the mouth. It is still tightly coiled, but it already shows good weight and a fine structure and is well balanced by the uplifting purity and freshness of the fruit, juicy acidity and fine and velvety tannins.

**CRITICAL ACCLAIM:** 94 pts Wine Enthusiast, 92 pts Robert Parker Wine Advocate

**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.

