

2018 CLOS CANTENAC

PETIT CANTENAC 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 (40% new)
ALCOHOL: 13.5% alc/vol

VINTAGE: 2018 will be remembered as an exceptional year in Bordeaux with a glorious summer that extended long into harvest. However, the year began with many challenges and was initially characterised by a wet winter followed by a seriously cold and damp spring with the threat of mildew from spring onwards the strongest for decades. During this period there were also localised hailstorms in May and July, but the flowering in May and June was largely successful and was followed by good weather with just enough rain in early July to sustain the vines through even the hottest spells.

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 12 months before bottling.

TASTING NOTES: This wine shows a medium dark red color marked by a beautiful and intense Cabernet character. Fresh notes of black plums, black figs, raspberries, and fine leather. The palate is full-bodied with firm tannins on the entry, which become more defined as the wine lingers in the mouth, with dense savoury and earthy characters leading towards a supple, blackberry and plum finish that displays restraint and poise.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM: 89 - 90 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.

