

# 2018 CLOS CANTENAC

## CLOS CANTENAC GRAND CRU



**WINEMAKER:** Charlotte Krajewski  
**REGION:** St-Emilion, France  
**VARIETALS:** 100% Merlot  
**MATURATION:** 12 months in 100% French oak barrels (50% new)  
**ALCOHOL:** 14.0% alc/vol sugar >2.0 g/l

**VINTAGE:** A uniformly warm and sunny summer and stress-free harvest in Bordeaux and with such favorable conditions it was little wonder that the harvest kicked off early. In conclusion, After extraordinary amounts of winter rain followed by a humid early growing season and an exceptionally long, hot, dry summer, which finally produced perfect harvest conditions. The potential for greatness is now clear, although achieving the correct balance was also key to success provided the acidity and structure needed to accommodate the intense fruit and alcohol.

**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:** On the palate it displays a luscious concentrated fine fruit attack with a succulent crunchy florality and waves of dark plums and chocolate that spreads with a generous exaggeration and impressive intensity across the mouth leading to a sleek graphite like finish. It is a deliciously confident and opulent wine of classic structure but with a touch of mystique that promises well for the future. Overall, the vintage has produced a very fine and attractive wine that will continue to develop for many years to come and benefit hugely from careful cellaring.

**CRITICAL ACCLAIM:** 93 pts Decanter, 91-93 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.

