



EDMOND
DE ROTHSCHILD
HERITAGE



2016 CHÂTEAU CLARKE

THE STORY

Château Clarke takes its name from the Irish family who bought this estate in 1771. After more than two centuries of wine growing tradition and successive owners, the property was purchased by Baron Edmond de Rothschild in 1973. The vineyard was completely restructured and massive investments were undertaken in order to renovate buildings and improve wine making and storage facilities. With a passion for excellence and the best things in life, the Baron made Clarke a benchmark for the whole region.

THE VINEYARD

VARIETAL COMPOSITION: 70% Merlot, 30% Cabernet Sauvignon

APPELLATION: Llistrac-Medoc

AREA: 55 ha (135.9 acres)

SOILS : Limestone and clay

VINE DENSITY: 7,000 vines/ha

VINE AGE: 40 years

VINE MANAGEMENT: Natural grass cover, double Guyot

HARVEST: Hand-picking and sorting in the vineyard and again in the cellar prior to destemming (35 pickers)

HARVEST DATES: Merlot from September 29 to October 15; Cabernet Sauvignon from October 13 to October 18

VINIFICATION

FERMENTATION: The grapes are put into vats via gravity flow, followed by cold soaking and fermentation in both oak and stainless steel tanks. Moderate extraction adapted to each vat by pumping over and delestage (rack and return).

AGING: 16 months, 100% in barrels (two-thirds new and one-third second fill)

ALCOHOL : 14.0%

AGEING POTENTIAL: Up to 15 years, suggested drinking window is from 2021 to 2031

TASTING NOTES

A beautiful crimson color with a deep purple rim. The extremely complex nose presents subtly roasted notes with sappy cedar aromas mingled with notes of black currant and cherry. On the palate, there are velvety tannins enhanced by magnificent freshness through to a long, delightful finish.

VINTAGE 2016

"An atypical and outstanding vintage!" - Fabrice Darmaillacq, Technical Director

2016 was a year of contrasts at Chateau Clarke, with extreme weather conditions (a very rainy winter and an extremely dry summer), the major threat from fungal diseases and, above all, an Indian summer beyond our wildest dreams that produced exceptional fruit suitable for making great wine.

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