

TECHNICAL NOTES FOR THE 2005 VINTAGE

2005 will be remembered as a vintage of great quality (...)

Budbreak was normal in early April, after a dry and rather cold winter. April was humid except in the Médoc, May dry and sunny, which encouraged fast and even flowering from the end of May to early June. As the dry weather continued through the month of June, the vines adapted well. The colour came early and consistently. August was dry and windy, hot but not excessively so.

As harvest approached, there was some rain in the first weeks of September, but the first Sauvignon Blanc grapes, harvested on August 25 in the warmest areas of Pessac-Léognan, were exceptionally sweet, fruity and blessed with fresh acidity. From the middle until the end of September, sunny weather returned. The whites harvested around the 20th of September were very clean, and the reds finished ripening in ideal conditions. The Merlots were picked from mid-September until mid-October, and the Cabernets from late September until late October. In brief, consistent ripeness for both reds and whites.

(VINO magazine: June/July 2006)

TASTING NOTES

This is a wine harvested very early for Merlot and Cabernet Franc (5th, 6th, and 7th September) and the 20th of September for the Cabernet Sauvignon. Its expression is classic. In my opinion it will be extremely refined. The 2003, also a great success, is a bit more expressive.

Deep bright purple colour. Nose: clean, intense, fine, fruity, fresh, complex. Very attractive mouthfeel – ravishing! Plenty of body and precise tannins give this wine great charm. Fresh finish, liquorice, complex flavours of cherry and raspberry. What's more, the delicately rich character of the vintage remains on the palate. Very long. A grand success. An extremely elegant wine.

(J. M. QUARIN – Carnets de Dégustations “Bordeaux Primeur 2005” – n° 49 – May 2006)

BLEND

55 % merlot

30 % cabernet franc

15 % cabernet sauvignon

HARVEST DATES

September 5, 6, 7, 2005

September 13, 2005

September 14, 2005

Merlot

Cabernet franc

Cabernet sauvignon