

CHATEAU HAUT-BAILLY

CRU CLASSÉ DE GRAVES

2022

PROPHETIC

The 2022 vintage was marked by extreme climatic conditions, but everything leads us to believe that it announces, or prefigures, the climate that we will encounter in the coming decades. What seems extraordinary today will become tomorrow, if not the norm, at least usual.

While gardens and forests were suffering from heat combined with drought, our vineyards were superb, lush and green! This is due to several factors. First of all, the quality of the terroir and the very nature of the vine, which needs to be under stress to concentrate its energy on producing beautiful fruit. But also, the decisions taken year after year in the management of the vineyard. The choice made at Haut-Bailly of sustainable viticulture by preserving an old vineyard takes on its full meaning in extreme conditions. The deep roots of our vines due to their age and the work done on the soil give them a remarkable capacity for resistance.

CLIMATIC CONDITIONS

The winter was moderately wet and rainfall was mainly concentrated in November and December. Temperatures became very cold but this did not last and February was again mild this year. The buds for the early Merlots first appeared the last week of March.

The Bordeaux vineyards then experienced five intense nights of frost at the beginning of April 2022, which we tackled as a team with the help of frost towers and candles. This frost caused little damage to the Merlot grapes, and had almost no impact on the Cabernet Sauvignon.

The temperatures were summery from May onwards, the hottest recorded since 2011. We were amazed to see a quick onset of vegetation.

The first flowers appeared mid-May. The Merlots finished flowering in a week, followed by the Cabernets. The rainy month of June brought a breath of fresh air to the vegetation.

July was marked in the Gironde by major fires in Landiras and La Teste-de-Buch. In total, nearly 30,000 hectares burned, a record figure since the great fires of 1949. Located far from Léognan, these unfortunate events will have no consequences on our wines.

Temperatures remained high and the rain did not return until August 15th. We experienced five major heat waves from May to September (up to 42°C). 2022 was the hottest year recorded in France since 1947!

HARVEST & WINE

The months of September to November were hot and dry and the harvest began early in ideal conditions: from September 7th to 14th for the Merlots, and from the 19th to 27th for the Cabernet Franc, Petit Verdot and Cabernet Sauvignon.

Our winery, inaugurated at the end of 2020, has been designed and developed to cope with climate change. Our new installations which include cold rooms, a large variety of vats for plot-by-plot vinification as well as an underground maturing cellar allow us to both preserve and refine our fruit and also to create wines that combine power and elegance, density and freshness.

This 2022 vintage is therefore a double satisfaction for us. The satisfaction of having produced a very great wine and the confidence that we will continue to produce them in the years to come.

Harvest dates : 7th to 27th September

Blend Château Haut-Bailly 2022 :

56% Cabernet Sauvignon

37% Merlot

5% Petit Verdot

2% Cabernet Franc

Blend Haut-Bailly•II 2022 :

65% Merlot

30% Cabernet Sauvignon

3% Cabernet Franc

2% Petit Verdot