

ODY  
SSÉE

2023



CHATEAU HAUT-BAILLY  
GRAND CRU CLASSÉ





**Beauty, proportion and truth:  
2023, a renewed sign of our passion for  
justesse - a concept representing both  
balance and precision.**

Beauty is not something to be contemplated: it is something to be experienced and, like a journey to the heart of the self, it allows us to be fully present in the world. The beauty of a great wine cannot be decreed: a living sculpture, it is revealed progressively as it is worked, intensely, from the vineyard to the cellar, by the will of exacting standards.

First the natural beauty of vines draws the key elements of their brilliance from our centuries-old terroir, reflected in the splendour of our grapes.

This is followed by the magnified beauty, fashioned by the hand of man, in the wine-making haute-couture workshop that is our cellar: from the meticulous sorting of the grapes to the maturing process, through all the phases of vinification and blending, it's a veritable work of composition orchestrated by our team.

To make 2023 a success, we needed patience, rigour and confidence, but also a passion for beauty. A great wine is like a legendary perfume: the winemaker uses all his senses in the quest for perfect balance and harmony.

Each vintage of Haut-Bailly is thus the interpretation in time, here and now, of a timeless score: there lies the skillful, delicate and mysterious art of blending, a true expression of the authenticity of the terroir and the complexity of the combinations chosen to signify the purity of style and inimitable elegance of our wines.

May this vintage inspire you, and its intensity delight you, now and in the decades to come!

**Chris Wilmers**

*Chairman of the Supervisory Board, Château Haut-Bailly  
Professor of Ecology, Department of Environmental Studies,  
University of California, Santa Cruz, USA*

**Véronique Sanders**

*Executive President,  
Château Haut-Bailly*





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## WEATHER CONDITIONS & HARVEST

2023

**"What a joy it is to drink this delectable wine!"**

So exclaimed the Cyclops after drinking the cup of wine handed to him by Ulysses to free himself from his grip.

Let us wager that the 2023 vintage will give us the same emotion! The year we spent in the vineyard was a veritable Odyssey: an eventful journey, an adventure punctuated by obstacles that our team's dedication and skills were able to overcome.

After a 2022 vintage which was particularly hot and dry, 2023 began with a cool start. Pruning took place in the depths of winter, sometimes even in the snow.

Frosty spells were avoided at the start of Spring, which was characterised by mild, then warm temperatures. Flowering took place between May 22<sup>nd</sup> and June 10<sup>th</sup> in warm, dry conditions. The months of June and July were tropical, with particularly heavy downy mildew pressure, which the estate's winegrowers managed to contain thanks to their responsiveness and the lessons learned from the 2018, 2020 and 2021 vintages. For the rest of the summer, the vines and winegrowers had to contend with high, and even very high, temperatures from mid-August to the end of September. One could liken it to being in Ithaca, with the green of the magnificent foliage replacing the blue of the Ionian Sea.



2023 was therefore characterised by a wide range of temperatures and a diversity of climatic conditions, comparable to those you might encounter on a long-haul voyage... Such is the Odyssey that this vintage offered us.

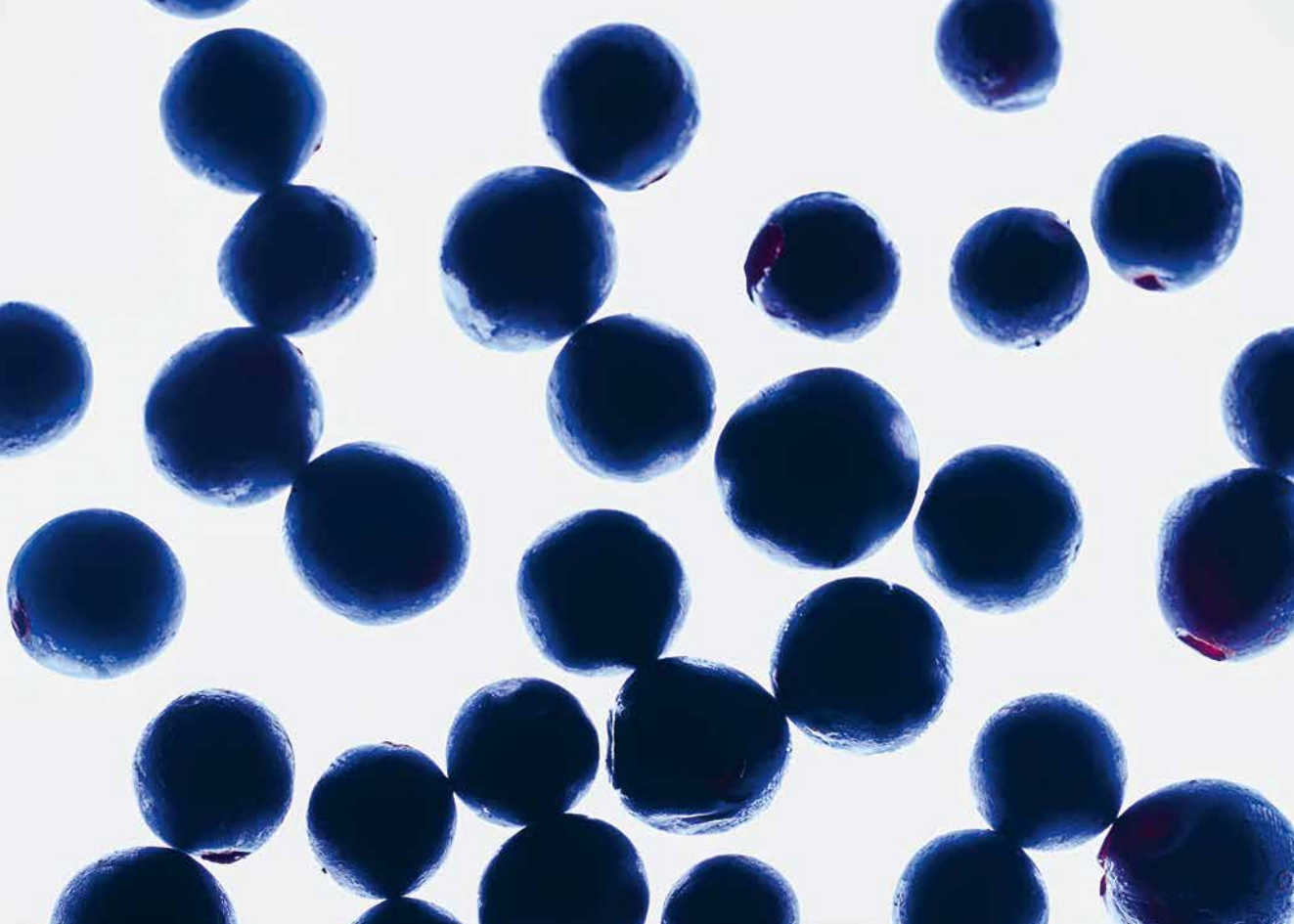
The satisfaction of overcoming adversity is followed by the joy of a wine that is both full-bodied and opulent, fresh and pure, enriched by these varied weather conditions. The Merlots, of a quality at least equal to that of 2022, have the roundness and charm of modernity. The Cabernets have the beauty and purity of classicism. From Antiquity to the present day, this is the journey that the 2023 vintage invites us to take.













## BAKUS, THE WINEGROWERS' COMPANION

2023

Cyclists, pedestrians and visitors passing by Haut-Bailly's vineyards can spot a futuristic machine that passes tirelessly through the rows of vines: it's Bakus, our winegrowers' companion, an assistant that relieves them of the most repetitive soil maintenance tasks. The time saved allows the men and women of the estate to concentrate their *savoir-faire* on more technical projects.

Bakus, electric and therefore as silent as it is carbon-free, facilitates the work of the winegrowers while preserving the essence of craftsmanship and the deep bond between man, earth and wine.



### MADD

Since May 2023, the MADD, *Musée des Arts Décoratifs et du Design*, has been undergoing renovation work. This is the first phase of a major modernisation project. This ambitious project was launched with the support of Robert and Elisabeth Wilmers, who are attached to the architectural character of the site: a former prison, which was still in operation in the early 1960s, and an emblematic Bordeaux site. Pending the reopening, at the end of 2025, the museum team is continuing its activities in schools and throughout the city, and is offering a series of podcasts online, *Sur le fil de la création*, on the theme of creativity.

### CAPC

2023 was the occasion for the Capc, Bordeaux's contemporary art museum, to celebrate 50 years of activities dedicated to contemporary creation. The exhibition *Barbe à Papa*, featuring works by Jesse Darling, the most recent Turner Prize winner, ended on a high note during the *Nuit des Musées*, giving way to a huge installation in the nave by French-Canadian artist Kapwani Kiwanga. The 50th anniversary weekend brought together artists such as Sarkis, Benoit Maire and Raju Rage, as well as former directors, for lectures and performances that drew rapturous applause from the public.





### **PYGMALION**

Launched in 2020 by Raphaël Pichon and Pygmalion, the Pulsations festival is a free space where music and creation intermingle around the classical repertoire, without borders or pre-established codes, in often unexpected spaces in Bordeaux and its metropolitan area, such as Halle 47 in Floirac, with the show *Orphée et Eurydice*. A festival of daring, emotion, surprise and experimentation, Pulsations dares more than ever to push back the boundaries and encourage live performance as it deserves to be celebrated!

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