



# CHATEAU LAGRANGE

GRAND CRU CLASSÉ EN 1855

SAINT-JULIEN

## 2020

### TERROIR

Completely situated in the village of Saint-Julien, the vineyard of Chateau Lagrange represents 118 hectares in red vines, spread over two hills with the slopes directed towards the North and the South, in one block. The subsoil is of clay and limestone and the topsoil is of pebbles and gravel. The climate is temperate and oceanic.

### THE VINTAGE

2020, a unique year in so many ways, will forever remain in our memories. Our work routines were upset by the pandemic and our capacity to adapt to the situation, and stay on track, was essential both for the property and the staff. As in 2019, we had record annual rainfall. The mild winter provoked an early budburst and this advance continued right through to the harvest. The grapes were small, with skins rich in polyphenols. The Merlots are magnificent, boasting an opulence accentuated by the historically low yields. The decision was made to stop for 4 days before picking the Cabernets, to allow the tannins and aromas to develop to perfection : this variety brings power, freshness and length to the wines.



Blend	74% Cabernet Sauvignon 24% Merlot 2% Petit Verdot
Planting Density	8 700 to 10 000 vines / hectare
Harvest	From September 16th to October 2nd 2020 Grapes are hand-picked into individual crates A first selection is done by hand on whole bunches, and a second one grape by grape with an optical camera
Vinification	Plot by plot and intra plot vinification 102 thermo-regulated stainless steel vats for 103 vine plots Variable capacity of the vats : 36 to 220 hl Selection of batch conducted according to the varietal, age of vines, terroir and grapes maturity. Traditional vinification at 26-28 °C during 18 to 25 days Moderate pumping-over every day, or pigeage or delestage Malo lactic fermentation through co inoculation
Average age of the vine	45 years
% of first Label	38%
Barrel Ageing	Blending in January Maturation for 21 months 50 % of new oak barrels Fining in barrel with fresh egg-whites Final blending before bottling
Tasting Window	2025 – 2050

### TASTING NOTE

The 2020 is a vintage of contrasts, a vine grower's vintage. We harvested the smallest crop in 30 years. The extraordinary freshness in this wine, produced in the hottest vintage in modern history, is real proof of the buffer effect of our *terroir*. The precision of the fruit transpires, with lovely notes of black cherry, blackcurrant and liquorice. The tense tannic structure is reminiscent of the great 2010, with a more creamy, smoother mid-palate. A truly classic vintage that will be enjoyable earlier yet maintain a remarkable ageing potential. A focused, finely tuned, expressive wine showing great purity.

