

CHATEAU BOYD-CANTENAC

Grand Cru Classé 1855

MARGAUX

2014 : Climatical conditions of the vintage

If overall, starting April 1st, the temperatures in 2014 were average, the summer was cool, especially August. Then September, but also October to a slightly lesser extent, were sunny and hot. The storm on September 9th, however, brought hail which significantly reduced the harvest. After a mild and rainy winter (January and February were warmer and wetter than average), the month of March was, in the end, average. As a result, the vegetative cycle got off to an early start, with budbreak of the Merlots beginning as early as March 10th (a good 10 days earlier than in 2013). The Cabernets followed suit at the end of the month.

Relatively low temperatures in May slowed down the growth cycle, bringing it in line with average. Mid-flowering of the Merlots was noted on June 6th under favorable skies. Flowering ended before the heavy storms of the last week of the month. June and July (with 15 days of rain in July) were marked by a succession

of rainy periods, and a few very hot days. The first two weeks of August continued in the same vein, but cool, and the first « beautiful » day of August wasn't seen until the 17th.

The second half of August was also rainy, but in particular, it was hot and humid, thus favoring the installment and development of different parasites (mildew, botrytis . . .). Mid-véraison of the Merlots occurred around August 10th, and was complete by August 20th.

Summer finally came in September with temperatures well above average for the month. October, also, was hot, dry and sunny with temperatures reaching 24 and 27°C on several days. This weather continued through to the end of the harvest making it possible for us to pick slowly, allowing the Cabernets all the time necessary to ripen and perfect their tannins. We started the harvest on September 24th and finished on October 23rd, almost a month, which is a record!



The wines, in march 2015

From the very beginning, the Merlots were very round, up front with nice fruit, mature, good concentration but relatively simple, which is often the case on our gravelly soils. The Petit Verdots were massive, while the Cabernets showed finesse, with intense and delicate aromas, good acidity, from start to finish, sometimes with a slight bitterness. The Cabernet Francs were, as they often are, seductive, com-

plex, full, aromatic, intense, elegant and beautifully balanced.

The blends show beautiful color. They are well-balanced, with fine tannins, seductive, ebullient, esurient, with very fresh fruit. Even though the free-run wines have now been in new oak for at least four months, the wood remains discreet.

The Blend 2014

Cabernet sauvignon : 70%
Merlot : 21%
Petit verdot : 6%
Cabernet franc : 3%