Maisons Marques & Domaines





Château de Sales

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Pomerol, France Vintage: 2019

Overview

Built in the 17th century, Château de Sales is largest estate in the Pomerol appellation on the Right Bank. The château possesses exceptional beauty and elegance, and the same is true for its wines as they are the true expression of the Pomerol terroir from which they orginate. Located in the northwest corner of Pomerol, it is the only true château building in the appellation and has been owned by the same family for more than five hundred years.

The soils of Château de Sales are comprised of fine gravel and sand, with clay in some areas and an omnipresence of iron oxide, known locally as "crasse de fer". The vineyard of Château de Sales has a surface area of over 200 acres, with vines covering 116 acres. The vines are an average of more than 30 years old.

Winemaking

After de-stemming and crushing, alcoholic fermentation takes place in concrete tanks equipped with temperature regulation. The wine is then aged for 12-18 months in French oak barrels, of which only one third are new, in order to avoid any aggressive wood flavors and to preserve the brightness of the fruit.

Tasting Notes

A deep garnet red, the wine has a refined nose with elegant light oak and aromas of ripe fruit, especially blackcurrant. Complex on the palate, with black fruit, blackberry and spice flavors, it has silky tannins, good body and lovely balance, ending on a long and harmonious finish of great refinement.

Harvest Notes

Following a mild and humid winter, the vines budded early. Two frosts occurred on May 5th and 6th, but without affecting the vineyard of Château de Sales too much. The unique terroir of the property limited the water stress caused by summer heat waves. The harvest began on September 20th and ended on October 10th, yielding fruit with the promise of a great vintage.

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Varietals: 72.5% Merlot, 15% Cabernet Sauvignon, 12.5% Cabernet Franc New Oak: 15% new French oak barrels, 85% barrels from 1 to 3 previous wines

Aging: 12-18 months in French oak barrels (1/3 new)