

# MAISONS MARQUES & DOMAINES

## CHATEAU HOSANNA



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Pomerol, France

Vintage: 2016

JS	97	WA	95+	V	95+	WE	95
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#### Overview

Château Hosanna, a jewel-like vineyard of just 4,5 hectares, is located in the heart of Pomerol's central plateau, adjacent to some of the most illustrious crus of the appellation: Château Lafleur to the north; Château Petrus to the east; Château La Fleur-Pétrus to the west; Vieux Château Certan to the south.

The vineyard of Château Hosanna has a long and rich history. Prior to its purchase by Ets. Jean-Pierre Moueix in 1999, Hosanna was known as Château Certan Giraud, considered one of the premier crus of Pomerol since the 1950's. It was originally part of the de May family estate, who settled on Pomerol's plateau in the 16th century and planted one of the appellation's first vineyards there.

Only the highest plateau parcels of its previous incarnation were selected to form Château Hosanna. The vineyard enjoys a terroir of red gravel and clay on "crasse de fer" which is known for producing wines of great elegance, complexity, and power. Old Cabernet Franc vines, a significant portion of which date back to 1956, contribute a unique complexity to the cru.

A marriage of intensity, purity and balance, its silky touch has led some to describe Hosanna as the feminine counterpart to Trotanoy.

#### Harvest Notes

The 2016 climatic year was composed of two distinct parts. First, a cool and wet spring with record rainfall (259 mm from April to June, compared to 108 mm during the same period in 2015). A short break from the rain in May allowed for a quick and even flowering. The weather shifted in mid-June, giving way to clear skies and warm temperatures through mid-September. The warm, dry weather that set in over the summer resulted in drought conditions, but vineyards planted on water-retentive soils, such as the deep clay of Pomerol, fared well.

Vineyard work was adapted to the weather: soil tillage was carried out at night in order to limit the impact of heat and drought on the vineyards, and canopy management was tailored to maintain sufficient vegetation to protect the grapes.

The vegetative cycle slowed over the summer months, but rain in mid-september allowed the grapes to reach full maturity. At harvest, the berries were crunchy, gorged with sugar yet fresh at the same time, with intense notes of black fruit, the skins redolent with mild tannins, the seeds crisp.

#### TECHNICAL INFORMATION

**Varietals:** 85% Merlot, 15% Cabernet Franc

**Acres:** 11.1 acres

**Soil Composition:** Blue clay on red gravel on iron-rich subsoil

**Average Vine Age:** 40 years old

**Aging:** 16-18 months in French oak barrels (50% new)