

MAISONS MARQUES & DOMAINES

CHATEAU HOSANNA



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Pomerol, France
Vintage: 2019

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.

Tasting Notes

Château Hosanna 2019 opens on notes of honeyed tobacco, cedar and coffee bean. On the palate, the dense tannins are already silky, the finish long and complex.

Harvest Notes

After a mild winter, spring alternated between sun and rain. Narrowly escaping a frost on April 13th, it was the rain in early June that first influenced the vintage. Indeed, the flowering suffered as a result and Merlot grapes counted an average of just 120 berries (instead of the usual 200). Confirming global warming trends, the summer was exceptionally sunny and warm, just missing the historic record for hours of sunshine set in 2018. On the gravel plateau of Pomerol, hydric stress set in as early as mid-July.

Happily, we received gentle, favorable rain on July 26th (1.4 inches) that set off a quick and even veraison. This moment marked the qualitative turn of the vintage. At the end of August, Merlot grapes weighed 1.2 grams on average (instead of 1.5 grams in a normal vintage), heralding exceptional concentration but low yields: -20% in Pomerol. Graced by fine weather, we harvested optimally ripe grapes at Hosanna from September 20th until October 3rd.

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Varietals: 69% Merlot, 31% Cabernet Franc

Acres: 11.1 acres

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

Average Vine Age: 40 years

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