

# MAISONS MARQUES & DOMAINES

CHATEAU

*Lafleur-Gazin*

Château Lafleur Gazin

## Château Lafleur Gazin

Pomerol, France

Vintage: 2016

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### Overview

Situated on the northern edge of the plateau of Pomerol, nestled between Château Gazin and Château La Fleur-Pétrus, this wine has been produced by Ets. Jean-Pierre Moueix since 1976 for the Borderie family, owners since 1930.

The merlot vines (averaging 30 years of age) are planted on gravel and clay. The cabernet franc is planted on silt soils, which encourage a nuanced and full expression of this varietal's character. The vineyard management and vinification are carried out traditionally and with great care, producing a plump, supple, fleshy wine with ripe fruit and silky tannins.

### Winemaking

In thermoregulated concrete and stainless steel vats. Gentle and controlled maceration and extraction.

### Tasting Notes

Eminently approachable, even in its youth, Lafleur-Gazin is a delightful expression of the lighter style of Pomerol wines.

### 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: 94% Merlot, 6% Cabernet Franc

Soil Composition: 2/3 gravel, 1/3 sand

Average Vine Age: 30 years

Aging: 16-18 months in French oak barrels (30-40% new)

