

MAISONS MARQUES & DOMAINES



Château Pichon Comtesse

Réserve de la Comtesse

Pauillac, France

Vintage: 2020

WE	94	JD	93	D	92	WA	91-93
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Overview

The second growth of Château Pichon Longueville Comtesse de Lalande, the Réserve de la Comtesse, was created and sold for the first time in 1973. Second growths represent between 20 percent and 50 percent of the total production of the Château. From the same soil, the second growth benefits from the technology and reputation of the great wine. The archives kept at Château Pichon Longueville Comtesse de Lalande mention the existence of a second wine as early as the 19th century.

The vast majority of the vineyards are Gunzian gravel mounds of the classic Pauillac composition, with the deep bed of gravel placed over a substrata of clay and limestone. The commitment to sustainable farming practices extends throughout the 220 acres of vineyards, with over 27 acres fully converted to organic viticulture, and 37 acres farmed biodynamically.

Tasting Notes

The nose, like sweet pastries, has notes of raspberry and pink rose. The palate, sensual and light, is at the same time rich, full-bodied and very lively. Aromas of raspberry, frangipane and white flowers are again present.

Harvest Notes

Another very mild winter favoured an early bud break starting on March 20th. April and May were hot but also very wet with rainfall superior to the last thirty years' average. Despite the rainy spells that preceded it, flowering was early and fairly rapid, from May 16th to 26th. After a cool and fairly rainy June, the drought and heat set in for good until mid-August. Careful leaf thinning limited the exposure of the bunches to the sun's heat. The veraison began early, on July 24th, and lasted until August 8th. The rains that followed were enough to preserve the maturity process after the period of hydric stress. The harvest began on September 9th in dry and healthy conditions. Some rainfall accompanied us until the end of the harvest on September 29th, without affecting the superb quality of the grapes.

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Varietals: 47% Merlot, 43% Cabernet Sauvignon, 10% Petit Verdot

Wine Alcohol: 14%

pH: 3.8

Soil Composition: Gravel, clay and sand

Average Vine Age: 35 years

New Oak: 40%

Aging: 12 months