



## Is terroir stronger than climate?

Beyond the unprecedented health and economic crisis, the year 2020 was marked by “extra-ordinary” weather conditions, conferring to the 2020 vintage a real technical style.

After a very mild winter, the 3<sup>rd</sup> mildest winter ever recorded, and a budbreak 15 days earlier, the spring was characterized by high humidity, due to a record rainfall on the weekend of May 10-11<sup>th</sup>. These climatic conditions caused the development of a very virulent mildew on our red grapes.

From mid-June onwards, the weather changed drastically with a very dry summer marked by 8 weeks without rain, something never seen in Bordeaux. The few rains in mid-August were essential to reactivate the ripening of the grapes. This drought had a significant impact on the vines growing on gravels, which gave us small but highly concentrated grapes.

Last, but not least, the early harvest, which started on August 24<sup>th</sup> for the whites, was characterized by an unprecedented heat wave in mid-September. This had the effect of concentrating the grapes even more. For the third time in our history, we finished



harvesting our last Cabernet-Sauvignon in September. The 2020 vintage in red is the first vintage to be entirely vinified in our new vat house and aged in our underground barrel cellar.

Despite the challenging context, the 2020 vintage, characterized by a great elegance and a lovely freshness, stands among the finest vintages of the estate.

*Budbreak: March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2020*

*Flowering: from May 11<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020*

*Veraison: July 7<sup>th</sup>, 2020*



## The 2020 vintage in white

The 2020 vintage in white remained early until the harvest. The harvest started with the Sauvignon on August 24<sup>th</sup>. To keep the freshness and aromatic character of the grapes, we only harvested in the cool morning hours.

Our white terroir, made up of clay and limestone, is a real treasure that allows our vines to withstand excessive dryness during the summer. Thanks to this unique terroir, we produce aromatic and tonic grapes that are essential for white wines with great ageing potential. The wines have fermented in barrels where they are still maturing on the lees.

Very pale in color, the white wine has a nice fruit with notes of white nectarine, yellow lemon and passion fruit. The palate is concentrated, round, juicy evoking flavors of pear and almond. The finish is fresh and tasty.

The balance of our wines is due to the quality of our terroir and to the precision in defining the ideal date for picking, in order to harvest at the optimum maturity.

*Harvest: from August 24<sup>th</sup> to September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020*

*Blending: 68% Sauv. Blanc, 32% Sém.*

*Ageing: 25% new oak*

# The 2020 vintage in red

*Harvest: from September 9<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup>, 2020*

*Blending: 60% Cab. Sauv., 30% Merlot, 10% P. Verdot*

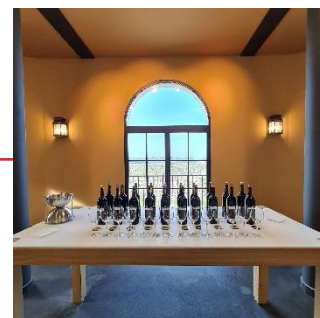
*Ageing: 40% new oak*

Our terroir is made up of a magnificent gravelly hilltop on which the Cabernet-Sauvignon and Petit Verdot grapes express themselves with majesty.

The harvest period took place between September 9 for the first Merlot grapes and September 29 for the last Cabernet-Sauvignon. This is the third time in the history of the Château that the harvest has ended in September. But it is also unfortunately one of our lowest red harvests in the recent history of the estate. Fortunately, these low yields allowed us to obtain extremely concentrated and rich grapes.

We have a wine with a very dark, deep color with purple highlights. The nose is intense with notes of blackcurrant, black cherry and fresh fruits, followed by a touch of licorice and spices. The mouth is fresh with a nice mellowness at the attack. The mid-palate is delightful and juicy with well-rounded and velvety tannins. The finish is fruity with a nice length.

Château Latour-Martillac 2020 is clearly one of the success stories of the estate. A wine of great elegance, both powerful and very aromatic, a wine that will most certainly defy the years.



We will remember for a long time this year 2020 which marked the whole world. This vintage will leave us with intense memories due to the weather conditions encountered this year.

The wines are among the successes of the beginning of the XXI<sup>st</sup> Century, with all the elements that make a great Bordeaux wine: freshness, balance and elegance. The 2020 vintage will naturally stand among the great vintages of Château Latour-Martillac.