



CHÂTEAU HAUT-BAGES LIBÉRAL

PAUILLAC . 5^E GRAND CRU CLASSÉ EN 1855

FACTSHEET

Vintage 2007

The name of Château Haut-Bages Libéral has two roots. The LIBERAL family ran the property in the early eighteenth century. Brokers from father to son, they sold the harvest in the Netherlands and Belgium. Their name adjoining to the topographical designation, earned them to be invited worldwide to the table of political parties of the same name. Over time, these connoisseurs gathered the best soils of Pauillac. Thus, this 5th Classified Growth in 1855 now has half of its vineyards adjacent to Château Latour and the other half behind Château Pichon Baron, on the heights of the locality "Bages", a large plateau in the south of Pauillac.

The property would regain his youth when, in 1960, the Cruse family, owner of Château Pontet Canet, another 5th Classified Growth in Pauillac, acquired the property. The Cruse would launch an extensive program of replanting the vineyard. However, it was in 1983 at the arrival of the Villars family that Château Haut-Bages Libéral really recovered its former glory. Today, the property is run by Claire VILLARS LURTON. She undertook an overhaul of the tool of winemaking and she directs the vineyard management to a sustainable viticulture.

Owner	Claire VILLARS LURTON
Production manager	Stefano RUINI
Winemaking consultant	Michel COUASNON
Surface of the vineyard	30 hectares
Soil	Deep gravels from the Quaternary on limestone-clay substrate
Plantation	70% cabernet sauvignon, 30% merlot
Average age of vineyard	35 years
Density	10 000 plants/ha
Yield	800 g/plant
Growing	Traditional-Integrated wine growing management
Harvest	Hand picking
Vinification	Traditional in stainless and concrete vats, whose volumes are proportional to the plots
Fermentation on skins	18 to 24 days
Blending	65 % cabernet sauvignon, 35 % merlot
Aging	In oak barrels during 16 months. 40% of new oak
Production	120 000 bottles, including the second wine
Second wine	La Chapelle de Bages, la Fleur de Haut-Bages Libéral
Conservation	5 to 30 years



CHARACTERISTICS OF THE VINTAGE

The Winter was mild and dry, suggesting an early vintage. April had unusual warm temperatures, reaching unprecedented ones since 60 years.

2007 let expect a great potential and maturity. But some rains in late May, disrupted the flowering of the merlot and caused a low yield in this variety. There were little sunshine periods in Summer but fortunately September and October were exceptionally hot and dry. What brought back the optimism in the winery.

The health status of the grapes was excellent, which helped the merlot to reach a perfect maturity. As for the cabernet sauvignon, they also took full advantage of this wonderful late season. The grapes were then picked up very ripe with fine tannins and a good concentration of sugar.

The cabernet sauvignon were harvested late and which allowed them to enjoy the mild weather of the late autumn.

TASTING

The 2007 vintage has given elegant wines with cabernet sauvignon of high quality.

The wine shows some red and black berries fruits. A nice structure and freshness. The tannins are getting mellow.

SCORES

René Gabriel— 17

Decanter - 16,5

Jancis Robinson—16,5