

# CHÂTEAU CARBONNIEUX

## Grand Cru Classé de Graves

### Pessac - Léognan

## WHITE 2018



### 2018, The Sun King

#### Climate data

The beginning of 2018 was difficult: a hailstorm on part of the vineyard and heavy rain did not help the flowering. We knew as early as June that the quantities of all the grape varieties would be small. Then, an exceptional summer followed, bathed in endless sun right up to the end of the harvest... The delicious grapes of all varieties arrived at the vats at the peak of ripeness and with an exemplary health quality. The berries were homogenous, dense, with a fine colour and a thick skin. The sun king did a supreme job by giving us magnificent grapes but it was impossible to give us back what the Spring rain had stolen from us. However in spite of the limited quantity, 2018 will be a very great vintage for Carbonnieux!

#### Wine-Tasting

A beautiful pale yellow colour with a slightly green tint. The first nose is fresh, revealing the fine lemon tones of the Sauvignon grape variety in its youth. After aeration, the wine presents the delicate notes of white flowers. On the palate, the attack is marked by an acidity worthy of the great fresh terroirs of the property in spite of a rather warm dry vintage. After, the wine is full round bodied giving a very interesting balance on the palate with aromas of grilled hazelnuts reminiscent of the unctuous Semillon. 2018 has given a balanced wine with a fine concentration of aromas and an outstanding style for the vintage.

#### Innovations

- New vineyard manager, Mr F. Flé, from the Denis Dubourdieu vineyards.
- HVE 3 Label maintained (High Environmental Value Level 3)
- The property is an excellent example of best practices in water consumption (EMS/Bordeaux Environmental Management System)
- New precision tools for tilling (inter-vine ploughing machines...)
- Two rounds of traditional ploughing
- Increasing focus on use of bio-control products

## Appellation

Pessac-Léognan

## Vineyard size for the white

45 ha (112 Acres) surrounding the château.

## Terroir - Soil

Clay-gravel and clay limestone

## Average age of the white vineyard

28 years

## Vineyard Management

Environmental friendly farming for sustainable agriculture.

Member of the ISO 14001 certified Bordeaux EMS Association.

HVE3 certified (High Environmental Value at level 3), 1 organic control plot.

« Cot » or « Guyot-poussart » pruning.

Hand disbudding, de-leafing and green harvest.

Average planting density: 7200 vines/ ha.

Plot management in the vineyard and the cellar until the ageing completion.

## Harvest

Hand picking only.

Berry selection while picking and on sorting table.

Sauvignon blanc from 28<sup>th</sup> August to 7<sup>th</sup> September 2018.

Semillon from 7<sup>th</sup> September to 12<sup>th</sup> September 2018.

## Winemaking - Ageing

Slow and gentle pneumatic pressing under inert gas - whole or destemmed bunches - Cold clarification.

Fermenting and ageing in oak barrels (225 or 400L) and oak vats (30 or 50hL).

25% new oak - 10 months with lees stirring.

## Blending - Alcohol content

70% Sauvignon - 30% Semillon

13,5% Vol.

## Production - Yield

130 000 bottles - 40hl/ha.

Bottled from 4<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> November 2019.

Sold *En Primeurs* through Bordeaux Negociants.

## Second Wines

La Croix de Carbonnieux

Château Tour Léognan



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