

2016



PRESENTATION :

In the Médoc, upon the plateau of Arcins, between Margaux and Moulis, lying upon one of the finest Gunzian gravel hillcrests on the banks of the Gironde estuary, a place which has firmly established the renown of neighbouring estates, Châteaux Chasse Spleen and Poujeaux, we chose to conscientiously breathe new life into an exceptional wine and an outstanding terroir.

THIS VINTAGE:

The first half of the year, with more than 700 mm of rain, was particularly humid and the worst was feared regarding mildew. Luckily, the flowering proceeded correctly between 3 and 13 June, a week later than in 2015, thanks to a brief respite in the rain, and quite uniformly, above all for the Merlots. It was followed by a very long dry period, without excessive heat, leading to worries, despite everything, of too much water stress, especially for the very young vines. The few showers mid-September favoured complete ripening, without threatening the state of health of the crop.

Note that in the 2016 vintage, the weight of the berries was measured at 15 to 30% lighter than in 2015, which may explain the different organoleptic profile of these two years. We should also state that the 2016 harvest was the longest for more than 30 years, allowing all the teams to improve precision in choosing picking dates, and this thanks to a real Indian summer.

HARVEST : 27 September to 20 October

VINEYARD :

- **17 hectares** of vines
- **Soil** : a deep layer of Quaternary Gunzian gravel on the Arcins plateau, near the Gironde estuary, which moderates weather conditions here
- **Planting density** : 10 000 vines per hectare.
- **Average age** of vines: 40 years old.

GRAPE VARIETALS:

- 70% Cabernet Sauvignon
- 20% Merlot
- 10% de Petit Verdot

FINAL BLEND:

- 35% Cabernet Sauvignon
- 65% Merlot

VINIFICATION:

100% manual harvest with sorting on the vine and two sortings before destemming on harvest conveyor. 100% new barrel ageing for 16 to 18 months.

TASTING NOTES:

Very dark colour of very intense deep ruby with some deep purple reflections. Ripe aromas of small black fruit and liquorice dominate, underlined by nice vanilla notes. The palate is full and flavourful with good integration of tannins, already well enveloped. The ageing, which started mid-January, should reveal what promises to be a very fine vintage of Comte d'Arnauld.

NOTES
