

CHATEAU BEAUMONT

2011

HARVEST DATES :

13 to 27 September (8 days)

AREA UNDER VINE :

93,5 ha

FINAL BLEND :

52% Cabernet Sauvignon

45% Merlot

3% Cabernet Franc

PRODUCTION :

37 000 cases

(yield 45 hl/ha)

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

December 2010 and January 2011 were quite cold, with frequent morning frosts and not very high maximum temperatures. After normal levels in February and March, higher-than-average temperatures were then recorded through to June. July, cooler and rainier, allowed the canopy to develop in good conditions, favouring ripening. August and September, slightly hotter than average, were a nice surprise at the end of the season.

2011, with chronic drought until the month of June, did not pose major problems regarding the fight against mildew. Neither did oïdium show any great virulence. Constant vigilance was required concerning botrytis, and precise leaf removal allowed us to keep the crop perfectly healthy. Sexual confusion, which we adopted against eudemis and cochylis, gave perfect protection.

The harvest, starting on 13 September, was the earliest known at Beaumont. It was the second vintage harvested entirely in September, after that of 2003.

The characteristics of this vintage are the "rather more normal" alcohol degrees and total acidity slightly higher than in preceding vintages, which promises good balance for this vintage. The colour is deep thanks to the good extractability of the anthocyanins.

The Merlots are very dark, almost black, fleshy with ripe tannins. The Cabernet Sauvignons, very dark, show clean fruit aromas. Also with very deep colour intensity, their tannic structure is a little tighter than that of the Merlots. The Petit Verdots were harvested at good ripeness. They are highly coloured, fruity and with good tannic structure.

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TASTING NOTES : CHÂTEAU BEAUMONT 2011

GAULT ET MILLAU

Score : 14,5

“Very good achievement. Subtle and full with an ample style on the mid palate, though not at all effusive. Opens with peony and delicate bilberry. Finishes with sweet spice and exotic wood.”