

Château Grand-Portail

La Croix Blanche



VINTAGE	2020
REGION	Bordeaux
APPELLATION	Bordeaux
VARIETAL	95% Merlot 5% Cabernet Sauvignon
ALCOHOL	13.5%
TERROIR	Limestone-clay, alluvial deposits
INFO	50 Ha (120.5 Acres) total vineyard. 6.5 Ha (16.06 Acres) in Escoussans, devoted to "La Croix Blanche" from 3 plots Vinification and aging in stainless steel tanks & 10% in 2 and 3 years old French oak barrels Unfined / Filtered Sustainable Agriculture Practices - HVE 3 farm certified having High Environmental Value.

About the Estate:

Château GRAND-PORTAIL- family estate for generations now run by the young son, Olivier CAILLEUX - is located in Escoussans within the Entre-deux-Mers area but more precisely, in the heart of the small, distinctive and expressive Haut-Benauges appellation. Known to produce excellent dry white wines, this unique niche terroir also produces rare-to-find and remarkable red wines when the vines are planted on the best exposed and higher slopes, reaching here more than 100 meters, with a non-obscured view over the other side of the Garonne River, where lies the appellation of Graves.

Château GRAND-PORTAIL "La Croix Blanche" Bordeaux, is made from a specific and single plot, surrounding an old Christian cross, stopover on the Santiago de Compostelle pilgrimage, also being the highest point of the estate in Escoussans. The vines do benefit there a South, South-West and East exposure on a limestone-clay soil, rich in alluvial deposits. It provides a perfect ripeness for Merlot, predominant in this specific Cuvee.

Château GRAND-PORTAIL "La Croix Blanche" is a pure pleasure, an everyday, attractive "easy drinking" nicely balanced Bordeaux at an incredible value, and so approachable whatever is the vintage. This top value is BTG @ Balthazar NYC.

55% Merlot from "La Croix Blanche" plot, 40% Merlot from "Balaurin" plot, and the little 5% Cabernet-Sauvignon from a clayey east exposure slope & plateau in Soulignac. Olivier Cailleux is of course as glad as we are with this irresistible, flavored & fresh 2020, right after the 2018 & also terrific 2019 Vintages, superb vintages' "trilogy" and still < \$20!

Tasting Notes:

Fresh, ripe and so fruity nose on cassis, plum, ripe Merlot with light tobacco, soft leather and vanilla hints. Appealing & seductive palate with caramel, cassis & chocolate notes, then delivery all the great ripeness and length with peppery touches.

Food Pairing: Pizza, Tomato soup, charcuteries...

Press Review:

Soon to come & Best Buy always

2019 Vint. "A small proportion of oak aging enhances the soft richness of this rounded wine. Juicy black-currant fruits highlight this wine that is ready to drink" Roger Voss 90 Pts - Best Buy Wine Enthusiast