



CHÂTEAU LES TROIS CROIX

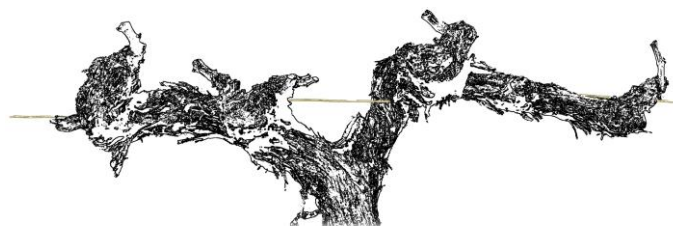
Famille Patrick Léon

LES TROIS CROIX 2015

- Grape varieties:** 87 % Merlot , 13 % Cabernet Franc
- Mid-flowering dates:** May 16 for Merlot, and May 19 for Cabernet Franc.
- Vineyard work:** A first de-leafing by hand on the vine's eastern side was made on all parcels beginning on June 25. A second manual de-leafing on the southern side was made on all parcels beginning on August 21. Green-harvesting for quality and quantity was done on all parcels just before véraison.
- Harvest dates:** Merlot: from September 28 through October 5. Cabernet Franc: October 5 and 6. Manual picking in 10 kg. crates.
- Yield:** 41 hl / hectare
- Vatting:** from 25 to 31 days for the Merlot.
28 to 31 days for the Cabernet Franc.
Daily partial pumping-over and brief punching down in wood vats.
- Aging:** 39% new barrels, 35% one-fill barrels, 16% two-fill barrels, 10% in vats.

The weather in 2015: The winter of 2014–2015 was characterized by average temperatures and abundant rainfall in January. At winter's end, the month of March was still cold but dry. In April, temperatures rose rapidly and were 1.6°C above average. In these conditions, the vine emerged from dormancy late but with ideal weather.

Positive growing conditions continued in May and June, allowing for practically perfect development: the vine grew steadily without problem. Flowering occurred at the beginning of June under ideal weather, allowing for a homogeneous and quick pollination. Summer arrived in a similar manner, with well above-average sunshine in July. Water conditions did not change much: there was little or no rain since spring. August remained hot, and brought several welcome storms as the grapes changed color. The fruit matured with warm, sunny days and cool nights. September continued in the same manner, bringing several sporadic showers which did not tarnish this excellent vintage.



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