



CHÂTEAU  
PICHON BARON

GRAND CRU CLASSÉ EN 1855

## LES GRIFFONS DE PICHON BARON 2017

Pauillac



Les Griffons de Pichon Baron is one of the second wines of the property. Created since the 2012 vintage, it has a pure and direct character.

The grapes which make up this wine's blend come primarily from gravelly plots of land near the Gironde estuary, a good environment for Cabernet-Sauvignon.

Les Griffons offers a vigorous and fresh tasting experience, full-bodied and clean, overflowing with energy.

It can be laid down in the cellar for over 20 years or enjoyed right away.

### TASTING NOTE

Griffons de Pichon Baron 2017 is a dark and intense carmine in colour. The nose reveals notes of fresh red fruits, such as Morello cherry and strawberry. The range of aromas then develops to include the delicate characteristics of mild spices. The palate is velvety, mellow, elegant, fleshy, clean and well balanced. The tannin is supple, juicy and refined, enhanced by very well-integrated, top-quality ageing. As a whole it is approachable, fresh and harmonious. This Griffons is full of charm and has great ageing potential.

Jean-René Matignon - Technical Director - August 2019

Bottling date: June 3rd 2019

### VINTAGE CONDITIONS

2017 was characterised by a dry early winter followed by a rainy February, a very mild spring, a frosty period on 27th and 28th April and a warm, dry summer. Our estates were protected from the frost on the whole. Only a few plots were affected, representing 15% of the total surface area.

Bud break, which started between 25th to 30th March, was steady and consistent. The first flowers could be seen in mid-May on the earliest plots. Early ripening, observed at the end of July, was remarkably consistent.

The moderate summer temperatures limited the risk of water stress and preserved acidity. Finally, fairly dry weather in August helped the grapes to mature.

Cool, damp conditions in the first two weeks of September changed the year's character. The skins started to develop faster, requiring vigilance in monitoring progress of maturity. Close observation of the plots was key to determining the 2017 harvest date.

The earliest plots of Merlot reached maturity, with good phenolic ripeness, in mid-September. The Cabernet-Sauvignon were close to the Merlot and could be harvested immediately afterwards without risk.

### BLEND

Cabernet sauvignon 52%, Merlot 48%

### AGEING

60% in new barrels, 40% from barrels of one vintage for 18 months.



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### HARVEST

The harvest for Les Griffons de Pichon Baron took place on 20th and 21st September with the Merlot grapes and from 27th September to 3rd October with the Cabernet-Sauvignon.

