

Château Pichon Comtesse

Réserve de la Comtesse

Pauillac, France

Vintage: 2018

JS	93-94	WA	92-94+	V	91	WS	90
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Overview

The second growth of Château Pichon Longueville Comtesse de Lalande, the Réserve de la Comtesse, was created and sold for the first time in 1973. Second growths represent between 20 percent and 50 percent of the total production of the Château. From the same soil, the second growth benefits from the technology and reputation of the great wine. The archives kept at Château Pichon Longueville Comtesse de Lalande mention the existence of a second wine as early as the 19th century.

The vast majority of the vineyards are Gunzian gravel mounds of the classic Pauillac composition, with the deep bed of gravel placed over a substrata of clay and limestone. The commitment to sustainable farming practices extends throughout the 220 acres of vineyards, with over 27 acres fully converted to organic viticulture, and 37 acres farmed biodynamically.

Tasting Notes

An enticing nose of blackberry and cedar, with spicy notes of pepper and fresh mint. Delicious on the palate, exhaling raspberry aromas. Equally supple and dense, with pure, fresh fruits. Savoury and with a evolving elegance and long length, thanks to well-integrated tannins.

Harvest Notes

There are vintages that traverse time and remain a true point of reference for our estates. At Pichon Comtesse, 2018 will undoubtedly and in every sense be one of those! A vintage in all extremes, uniting several vintages in one, 2018 is a delight, an enrichment of experience and cultivation of our passion for winemaking, a vector of emotions.

After a cold and wet winter, the bud break was late, around mid-April. A relatively mild April to June allowed for flowering at the end of May, marked by several storms in this period creating an unparalleled pressure of mildew. Pichon Comtesse vineyard, thankfully had little coulure and was spared hail damage. Hot and dry weather from mid-July resulted in a uniform veraison; beginning on July 28th for the Merlot, it finishes on August 14th for the Cabernet and Petit Verdot. From September 13th to October 11th, the harvest was carried out in excellent conditions and each parcel was picked at optimum ripeness.



TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Varietals: 53% Cabernet Sauvignon, 42% Merlot, 4% Petit Verdot. 1% Cabernet Franc
Wine Alcohol: 14%
pH: 3.85
Soil Composition: Gravel, clay and sand
Average Vine Age: 35 years
New Oak: 40%
Aging: 12 months

« Que d'intensité et de caractère dans ce bouquet. Il annonce brillamment le grand vin tout en soulignant l'identité de la Réserve! Agréable fraîcheur variétale en symbiose avec des notes de baies rouges et de réglisse. En bouche le vin est dense, suave en attaque et parfaitement équilibré. Que de puissance et de profondeur dans ce vin qui se positionne parmi les grands vins de Pauillac. » 95 pts by Yves Beck, @beckustator December 2020