

The history of Château La Gurgue is closely linked to the village of Margaux. Successively, two owners of the vineyard raced for the Town Hall of Margaux and won. The first was a wealthy Portuguese banker, Mr. Peixotto. In 1871, he added to the vineyard some beautiful lands, which were located around the Parish of Margaux. Later, another mayor of Margaux, Mr Camille Lenoir became the owner of Château La Gurgue. He gave his name to the Château and enriched it with some valuable plots surrounded by the vineyard of Château Margaux. They are located at Curton, on the best croups of Margaux. The Château then returned to its original name "La Gurgue", which is a locality of the village. Claire VILLARS LURTON is the architect of this revival. Year after year, she works with the upmost delicacy to express in her wine the unique terroir of Château La Gurgue.

Owner	Claire VILLARS LURTON
Production manager	Gérard FENOUILLET
Winemaking consultant	Eric BOISSENOT
Surface of the vineyard	10 hectares
Soil	Deep gravels and coarse sands on limestone
Plantation	47 % cabernet sauvignon, 49 % merlot, 4% petit verdot
Average age of vineyard	30 years
Density	10 000 plants/ha
Yield	1,5 kg / plant
Growing	In the process for organic and biodynamics certifications
Harvest	Hand picking. Main sorting on the plant and additional sorting on table
Vinification	Traditional. In concrete and wood vats whose volumes are proportional to the plots
Fermentation on skins	18 to 24 days
Blending	62 % Cabernet Sauvignon, 32 % Merlot and 6 % petit verdot
Aging	In oak barrels during 12 months. New ones at 20 %.
Conservation	4 to 20 years



CHARACTERISTICS OF THE VINTAGE

Winter was both rainy and dry at the end of the season. From April, the favorable thermal conditions, associated with a correct reloading of water of the soil, contributed to a homogeneous bud bursting. The flowering started at the end of May and was fast with a correct fruit set rate.

Summer became very hot from June 25th and the first phase of the veraison was slowed down by these particular dry conditions. The progression of the veraison was pretty slow during the last days of July. These restrictive hydric conditions associated with a warm thermal context allowed the fruit skins to thicken, to concentrate in tannins and a rapid evolution of the pips. From the end of July, the weather conditions changed radically. Indeed we observed a succession of rainy episodes which finally unblocked the veraison. After that, the sunshine allowed to ripen the tannins in a optimal way. They were very elegant.

2015 is a great vintage. The Merlots were exceptional and the Cabernets were able to ripen until the end and their tannins improved highly in September. The harvests began on September 16th and ended on October 2nd of 2015.

TASTING COMMENTS

The vintage shows all the features of a great wine. A nice nose with a mix of fresh fruits, floral notes and spices. A very beautiful clarity of the fruit. On the palate, the tannins are polished and round. A nice balance between freshness, fruitiness and a silky tannic structure.

The vintage is both elegant and dense. A very beautiful complexity.

TASTING SCORES

Vinum - 16,5	James Suckling - 93 / 94
René Gabriel - 17	Le Point Magazine - 16
Neal Martin - 89 / 91	
Wine Spectator - 88 / 91	