

Château Le Thil

rouge 2016

Pessac-Léognan



8 ha **vineyard** (7 ha Merlot, 1 ha Cabernet Franc) on clay-limestone soil.

Management of the vineyard following our Bio Precision approach.

Yield : 30 hl/ha.

Blend
100 % Merlot

Vinification in the pure Bordeaux tradition, alcoholic fermentation between 26 and 28° C in stainless steel vats with electronic thermoregulation, vatting (fermentation and maceration) for 4 to 6 weeks depending on the quality potential of each vat, malolactic fermentation at 20° C.

Aging in oak barrels from central France for 12 months (30% new wood).

Ultra-modern bottling under neutral gas, without fining, with light filtration if the vintage requires it.

To be enjoyed in 2019 - 2026.

The 2016 vintage:

The year 2016 is a trompe l'oeil year with rather capricious weather which made us fear the worst for the quality of our harvest: early bud burst, flirtation with frost in April, hot and humid May-June with attacks of mildew, hot and dry summer, and finally superb conditions for the harvest. The clay-limestone terroir of Château Le Thil absorbed these climatic excesses very well, limiting water stress allowing a long and complete maturation of the grapes.

We picked these grapes, quite late, at the beginning of October, with very good balance, great concentration, very ripe tannins and great acidity.

We enjoyed picking these perfectly ripe and balanced grapes, in these beautiful climatic conditions...

Comments from Fabien Teitgen, Technical Director

Château Le Thil Rouge 2016 is very dark almost black.

The nose is already quite expressive with an elegant mix of red and black fruits, which reveals itself on swirling with raspberries, black cherries, blackberries, and some more floral notes of violet.

The palate is a signature of this terroir, the tannic structure and the freshness of the clays associated with the maturity and roundness of the southern exposure of the vineyard: the mixture of extremes (cold soil hot exposure) works perfectly this year. The wine is dense, unctuous, charming but also dynamic, long and fresh. The mouth gives us a soft and concentrated sensation at the beginning and this one is excessively long carried by the tannic structure and the freshness of the acidity. The end of the mouth is very long revealing notes of red and black fruits, flowers, sweet spices and in the end a note of chalk.

A very nice wine to drink from 2020.

Primeurs:

Robert Parker's Wine Advocates	89-91
James Suckling	92-93
Decanter	90