

CHÂTEAU DU VALLIER, CADILLAC CÔTES DE BORDEAUX

The DULON family have been winemakers from father to son for more than 250 years. The Dulon family started tending vines and making wine in the 18th century, gradually increasing the land, they had planted with vines. When Michel Dulon inherited the property from his father in 1970, it covered an area of 40 hectares. With his wife Françoise, also, from a family of winegrowers, they developed the family business to reach the present 150 hectares spread over 4 properties: Château Grandjean and Julian in Entre-deux-Mers, Château du Vallier in Cadillac Côtes de Bordeaux and Château Haut Pezat in Saint Emilion Grand Cru. This property was bought in 2004. The 20 hectares are situated on the Garonne's upper hills, on a very famous Bordeaux Terroir.

Varietals: 60 % Merlot
30 % Cabernet Sauvignon
10% Malbec

Bordeaux Terroir: Clay limestone soil

Vinification: Samples of the grapes are taken and tasted to harvest them at their optimal ripeness. To keep the uniqueness of each grape variety and its soil (terroir) the vatting is done separately. Then, there is a first cold maceration to extract the fruit aromas. Afterwards, we do a first long traditional vatting time in thermos regulated tanks, this fermentation is between 18 and 25 days. The final maceration lasts 4 days, to give a good body and make a well-structured wine. The last step is the malolactic fermentation to soften the wine. After all this special process, the wine is aged in French and American oak barrels for 12 months in underground caves.
For a minimum of one year bottle ageing.

Tasting: This Cadillac Côtes de Bordeaux has a deep red color with purple reflections. A nice bouquet rich, with notes of black fruits and vanilla. This Bordeaux is generous and well-structured on your palette. On the palette it is a mouth full balanced with well-integrated smooth tannins and spicy. Offering a long elegant and pleasurable finish.

Awards and Reviews: 2018 Vintage 91/100 Wine Enthusiast "The quality of the vintage shows in this wood-aged wine. Rich black fruits and still-young tannins are combining to give the potential of richness. Jammy Merlot along with Cabernet Sauvignon and Malbec will come together well and the wine should be ready from 2021"

• **Silver Medal Vignerons Indépendants Awards 2020**

Previous Awards: 2016 Vintage

- Gold Medal Bordeaux Awards 2017
- Gold Medal Lyon Awards 2019
- Gold Medal Gilbert & Gaillard Awards 2019
- Silver Medal Blaye Awards 2019

92/100 James Suckling

87/100 Wine Enthusiast

"Made using single-variety vats in the early stage, this is a big, ripe, and fruity wine, with weight and attractive acidity. Its smoky edge and licorice flavors don't mask the black-currant fruit and acidity. Drink from 2021"

