



CHÂTEAU  
PICHON BARON  
GRAND CRU CLASSÉ EN 1855  
PAUILLAC

2020 Vintage

## Les Griffons de Pichon Baron

**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.

### Vintage Conditions

2020 began with a historically rainy winter followed by a tropical spring. Vigilance was required in soil management and protecting the vines against mildew. Warm, dry weather then led to one of the earliest flowerings on record, two weeks ahead of the norm. The first flowers were observed between 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> May and flowering took place between 15<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> May.

Rainfall stopped at the end of June, giving way to cool, dry weather until the onset of ripening in mid-July.

Mid-veraison was reached between 23<sup>rd</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> July on the earliest ripening Merlot plots and subsequently developed well in warm and dry conditions. Summer brought drought and sporadic heat waves until mid-August, when thunderstorms cooled down excessive temperatures and caused the Merlot grapes to swell. The later-ripening Cabernets remained small until the harvest.

Picking started about ten days ahead of the norm, mostly in sunshine for the Merlots and thundery showers for the Cabernets. The Merlots and Cabernets were tannic and colourful, with acidities and potential alcohol content within normal ranges.





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Ripening took place in hot weather, apart from the second half of August. Thunderstorms of varying intensity, with between 80 and 120 mm of rain, struck Pauillac between 12<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> August, in most cases counteracting the water stress observed in early August. The Merlots once again benefited from the rainfall, with the grapes growing swiftly, unlike the Cabernets.

The harvest took place from 14<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> September for the Merlot, on 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> for the Petit Verdot, and from 22<sup>nd</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> September for the Cabernet-Sauvignon.

### Blend

50% Merlot  
42% Cabernet-Sauvignon  
8% Petit Verdot

### Ageing

50% in new barrels  
50% from barrels of one vintage, for 18 months

