



## 2021 VINTAGE

Appellation  
Saint-Émilion Grand Cru

Classification  
1<sup>o</sup> Grand Cru Classé

Vineyard size  
23.5 hectares (58 acres)

Soil Types  
Limestone on the plateau  
Blue clay on limestone in the slopes

Vineyard Grape Varietals  
90% Merlot - 10% Cabernet Franc

Average Vine Age  
25 years

Viticulture  
Certified HVE 3  
"Culture raisonnée"  
Soil tilling (4 ways)  
Vine growth management adapted to the climatic conditions

Harvest  
Manual harvest  
Double sorting: optical and manual

Harvest dates  
September 28<sup>th</sup> to October 2<sup>nd</sup> 2021

Winemaking  
In thermo-regulated concrete & stainless-steel vats  
Gentle, controlled maceration & extraction

Aging  
16-18 months in French oak barrels  
(50% new)

2021 vintage blend  
99% Merlot - 1% Cabernet Franc

Château BÉLAIR-MONANGE

Saint-Émilion Premier Grand Cru Classé

## ■ Château BÉLAIR-MONANGE

Saint-Émilion Premier Grand Cru Classé

Château Bélair-Monange traces its origins back to Roman times. Situated at the highest point of Saint-Émilion's limestone plateau, it has long been considered one of the region's very best crus. In 1850 it was ranked by Cocks & Feret as the leading wine of Saint-Émilion, a position it held well into the twentieth century.

Établissements Jean-Pierre Moueix purchased the iconic property in 2008 and immediately undertook extensive renovations of the vineyard, winery, underground quarries, and château in order to restore the cru to its earlier historic status. Originally known as Château Bélair, the property was renamed following the acquisition; in addition to its literal translation, 'my angel,' 'Monange' was the maiden name of Jean-Pierre Moueix's mother, Anne-Adèle, the first Moueix woman to call Saint-Émilion her home.

Château Bélair-Monange combines the terroirs of the most privileged sites of Saint-Émilion. The limestone from the central plateau parcels offers freshness, minerality, and delicate, lingering aromatics, while the dense, blue clay of the slopes provides intensity, length, and a unique elegance to the wine.

## ■ 2021 Vintage

The 2021 vintage demanded careful attention throughout the year, but the challenge united the vigneronnes and vignerons who produced, thanks to their efforts, a crop of good quality. Fastidious vineyard work, a gentle approach in the cellar, attention to detail and judicious decision-making were key in producing charming, delicate, elegant wines.

The rainy and mild winter brought on an early and uneven budbreak, between March 24<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>. This early development put the young buds at risk of a spring frost, such as the one that occurred during the nights of the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> of April, when temperatures dropped to -3 and -4°C. Thankfully, on the heights of Saint-Émilion, frost is rarely an issue and the vineyard of Bélair-Monange was not affected.

Flowering unfolded very nicely at the end of May, but the heterogeneity from budbreak persisted. June and July were mostly gloomy with a few gorgeous hot and sunny episodes in the middle of each month. Veraison occurred slowly. August was dry and nearly caught up the summer's lack of sunshine.

Once veraison was complete, 70 people 'compensated' for nature's deficiencies: almost 14 000 hours of vineyard work were dedicated to meticulous efforts (secondary shoot removal, leaf-plucking, green-harvest, grooming...). This work allowed us to achieve a homogenous crop of good quality.

Harvest took place from September 28<sup>th</sup> to October 2<sup>nd</sup> under favorable conditions, with optimal maturity reached on most parcels.