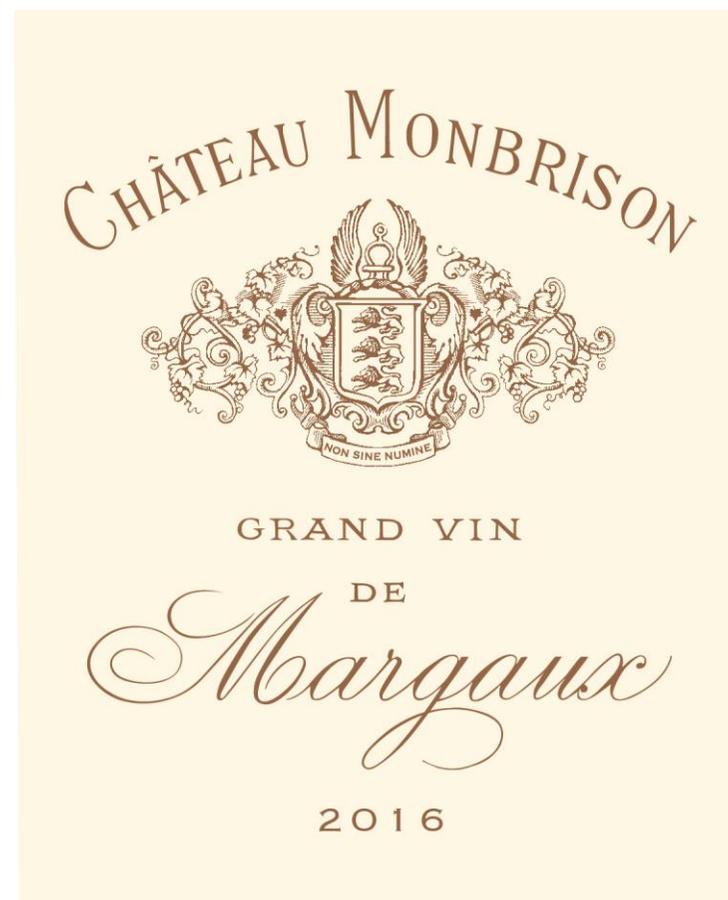


Alcohol abuse is dangerous for your health, please enjoy responsibly.

Blend Monbrison 2016

Merlot	Cabernet Franc	Cabernet Sauvignon	Petit Verdot
Oct. 3rd		Oct. 17th	
49 hl/ha		43 hl/ha	
14.2 % alc.		13.35% alc.	
26 %		74 %	

Notes :



Fineness

Tradition



Character

Elegance

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2016 Vintage

Adaptation, patience et reward

This year, the growth cycle was very long and the weather conditions contrasted.

However, exceptional weather conditions allowed us to wait to harvest ripe grapes and in great sanitary condition. Specifically, a much-desired rain (35 mm on September 13th) has helped the vines leave a water stress status and increased the volume of berries without bursting.

Then, an Indian summer allowed us to wait for a long time for the grapes to ripen in pristine conditions thanks to the alternation of sunny days and cool nights. (Harvest for Merlots from October 3rd and Cabernet-Sauvignons from October 17th)

Bud break was early (mid-March) after a very wet start and not very cold winter.

Cool temperatures resulted in a slow development of the plant but sustained thanks to heavy rainfalls.

Bloom started late May (May 31st), it was fast and homogeneous which was fortunate because the week of June 12th was incredibly rainy.

From June 20th, rainy weather finally came to an end. Then the warm and dry climate settled in.

The vineyard is then thriving as water is available in the ground, sun shines during the day and nights are relatively cool.

The veraison begins on August 3rd and August 4th, a rainfall of 10 mm is profitable for the vine.

Unfortunately, no more rain will show and the water stress will gradually appear until becoming worrying at the beginning of September.

Phenolic maturity took a while to reach but, patiently, we get it after many tastings of berries in the vineyard of Monbrison cradled with sun ... which were excellent moments, because we perceived day after day that we were going toward another great vintage.

We waited until October 3rd to harvest magnificent Merlots. Then, we had to take a break in the pick to reach the quintessence of our Cabernet-Sauvignons ... We picked them from October 17th ... under a bright sun.

The first pump-overs enchanted us ... colors, smells, balances are gathering all in one place ...

This is the reward for everyone who works in the vineyard all year long and who are happy to see that it will be a great vintage.



Laurent VONDERHEYDEN *Owner* - **Marc DAULOUEDE** *Technical Director*