

## TROPLONG MONDOT

1<sup>ER</sup> GRAND CRU CLASSE  
SAINT-ÉMILION

## 2011 VINTAGE

### SAINT-ÉMILION 1<sup>ST</sup> GREAT CLASSIFIED GROWTH



#### SITUATION

THE TROPLONG MONDOT VINEYARD  
COVERS 33 HECTARES (81 ACRES) ON THE  
CLAY-LIMESTONE PLATEAU TO THE EAST  
OF THE VILLAGE OF SAINT-ÉMILION

#### DENSITY OF PLANTATION

6.600 VINES / HA  
5.600 VINES / HA

#### BLEND

89% MERLOT  
2% CABERNET FRANC  
9% CAB SAUVIGNON

#### AVERAGE AGE OF THE VINES

25 YEARS

#### YIELD 2011

41 HECTOLITRES PER HECTARE

#### PRODUCTION AFTER BLENDING

TROPLONG MONDOT: 81 000 BOTTLES  
MONDOT: 28 000 BOTTLES

#### ALCOHOL DEGREE ON BOTTLE:

14.5°

#### SECOND WINE

MONDOT

#### OWNERS

XAVIER PARIENTE  
CHRISTINE VALETTE-PARIENTE

#### CELLARMASTER

JEAN PIERRE TALEYSON

#### VINEYARD MANAGER

RÉMY MONRIBOT

#### SALES & MARKETING

#### MANAGER

MYRIAM RUER

#### VINEYARD MANAGEMENT

Following a geographical survey of the estate's terroirs, viticultural methods were reviewed and greatly enhanced. These included ploughing, cover crop seeding, preparation of fallow soils for vines and a specific protocol for replanting, which have now been adapted to the variations in our soil types and in accordance with our terroirs. In one area, a terroir requires a natural grass cover crop; in another, ploughing is necessary to de-compact the soil. Maintaining soil structure and controlling vine vigour have been made a priority, while for the last ten years or more the use of weedkillers has been totally eliminated. As and when appropriate, the vineyard is drained in order to enhance vine health. Over 4.6 hectares (11.4 acres) of organically-grown vines, the introduction of animal drawn ploughing methods seemed an obvious change to make. Four dray horses have now replaced the tractors, eliminating mechanical vineyard work. Between now and 2012, seven and a half hectares (18.5 acres) will be worked in the same way. De-budding in the spring. Between June, July and August, de-leafing, crop thinning and then a final de-leafing on the other side of the canopy, in order to achieve optimal grape ripening. Carefully thought-out harvesting: the geographical survey has enabled us to choose the picking dates and to do the filling of the vats in accordance with each type of terroir and thus help bring out in each vat the individual character of each terroir.

#### VINIFICATION

The vinification is carried out in small, temperature-controlled stainless steel vats. Traditional vinification or a cold soak prior to fermentation. Pumping over, delestage (rack and return) and pigeage (punching down the cap). A vatting period of 21 to 35 days with or without yeasting. 85% of the fine wine was run off the skins by gravity directly into new barrels and will stay there to age for between 12 and 24 months. Traditional racking through the small bunghole from barrel to barrel. The final blend will be decided at the end of the ageing process. Non-systematic fining before the bottling.

#### THE 2011 GROWING SEASON

2011 brought its own particular weather pattern. Bud-break in the vines was early, starting on March 21; the flowering process was drawn out, after beginning on May 9; and finally veraison was uneven after starting on July 13. Spring was exceptionally dry, and summer was damp and cool. Then amazing weather came along in September with a lovely Indian summer that included some localised rain. The harvest took place on September 15 and 16 for the early-ripening Merlot plots, then from September 19 to 28 for the oldest Merlot parcels, and on October 5 for the Cabernet Franc and Cabernet Sauvignon. 2011 was a great test for vine growers. Those who played a good waiting game made good wine! For winemakers, it was unquestionably one of technical expertise. In all likelihood, this will be one of Saint-Emilion's great classic vintages.

#### TASTING

Superb presentation. Deep and black colour with a violet border. Powerful, winy and classy nose with hints of liquorice, menthol, and black fruit. Concentrated and voluptuous mouth with solid tannins toned up by a nice freshness. Very nice, lively and spiced length. A great wine with a high ageing potential.