



L'Ancien

LALANDE DE POMEROL - VINTAGE 2009



Created by the Count de Kermartin in the mid-19th century, Garraud's vineyards appear in the 1868 edition of Le Féret (Bordeaux wine directory). Léon Nony bought the vineyard in 1939 and started to renovate and expand it. After his death in 1959, his son, Michel, then his grandson, Jean-Marc, continued his work. In the 1990's, the vat room and cellars were completely renovated to incorporate new techniques and the latest thinking in terms of vinification and ageing, while preserving traditional know-how. In 1997, a few high-quality plots were selected to produce a wine in a very low quantity, l'Ancien, which stands at the very top of the Appellation.

SOIL TYPE : Micro-selection from 36 hectares of vineyards planted on the geological prolongation of the Pomerol plateau in varied soils (clay, gravel, clay-silt).

AVERAGE AGE OF VINES : Around 27 years old

PLANTING DENSITY : Around 6.000 vines/ha

VINEYARD MANAGEMENT : Double Guyot pruning, bud removal, sustainable soil enrichment, leaf thinning, green harvesting if necessary, ploughing, managed grass cover, harvesting when the grapes reach perfect maturity, mostly by hand.

ENVIRONMENT : Vine treatments only if necessary (with preference given to more environmentally-friendly products and application methods), effluent treatment, the use of local suppliers when possible, and selective waste management.

VINIFICATION :

Plot selection, sorting of the harvested grapes, full destemming, fully fermented in new French oak barrels in an air-conditioned cellar.



BLEND : 100% Merlot

YIELD : 38 hl/ha

AGEING : 72% in new oak barrels, 28% in 1 year old barrels

DATE OF HARVEST : October 2

WEATHER CONDITIONS :

Temperatures above the 30-year average for May, June and August, followed by a terrific Indian summer. Low rainfall from July to October contributed to an excellent ripening.

TASTING NOTES :

Lovely dark carmine hue. Complex nose of figs and dates, hazelnuts and toasting. Very wide on the palate lying over delicious tannins. The finish is long and warm. Will benefit from decanting.

Best drinking time : 2018 - 2028

PRESS RELEASES (extract) :

. **88-91/100 Jamessuckling.com** : « Blueberry and mineral on the nose. Full-bodied, with velvety tannins and a clean finish. A wine that is nearly always beautiful. » - James Suckling, USA, April 2010.

. **15,5-16/20 Le Point** : « Floral, lively palate, sharp tannins, nice black fruit, very strong potential, plenty of flavors, powerful, lingering, concentrated, real wine for ageing, well-balanced despite a most likely high alcohol content. » - Jacques Dupont, France, May 2010.

. **88/100 guide Gilbert & Gaillard 2013** : « Dark bright red. Closed at first, then opens up to show oaky and smoky undertones. Strong tannic structure, despite the noticeable density of fruit. A concentrated wine made for aging, still very young. » - France, May 2012.

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The abuse of alcohol is dangerous for health. Consume with moderation.

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