

LES TOURELLES DE LONGUEVILLE 2018

PAUILLAC - Second Vin Du Château Pichon Baron

Description

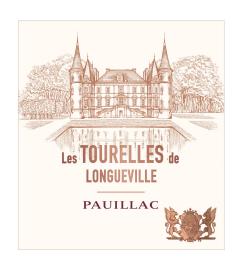
The 14-hectare Sainte Anne terroir ensures production of Les Tourelles de Longueville. This wine is made using grapes from selected plots planted mostly with Merlot giving this wine its own character.

History of the estate

The history of the Pichon family goes back to the Middle Ages. Since then, numerous family members have played a role in the history of Bordeaux. In 1964, Jacques de Pichon, Baron of Longueville, married the daughter of Pierre de Rauzan, who created the estate. Their descendants were thereafter much involved with the Pauillac property. Raoul de Pichon-Longueville built the current Château in 1851. His family lived there until 1933. In 1987, AXA-Millésimes purchased the property from the Bouteiller family, then entirely restored teh property, under the management of Jean-Michel Cazes. The château, an imposing Renaissance-style mansion with spiky corner turrets, was thoroughly restored and furnished in an appropriate midnineteenth-century style. In 1989, an architectural competition for the construction of modern viticultural buildings was organised in collaboration with the George Pompidou Centre in Paris. Today Pichon Baron is world-acclaimed as one of Pauillac's leading estates.

Terroir

The Pichon Baron estate's 73 hectares of very high quality gravelly soil overlook the Latour vineyard. This exceptional land, poor in nutrients and with little excess water, nourishes the old vines sparingly so that grapes are produced in small quantities but are of supreme quality. This is a terroir that can produce the most remarkable wines; the estate has striven to do so with constancy and excellence in line with this vineyard's early history. The Pichon Baron estate team are highly involved in their work. They devote their unswerving commitment and values of excellence and consistency to crafting wines which are ranked amongst the world's finest. Pichon Baron's vineyard is planted 62% to Cabernet Sauvignon, 32% to Merlot, 4% to Cabernet Franc and 2% to Petit Verdot, and has been meticulously divided into separate plots. With consummate craftsmanship each plot receives specific care and attention adapted to its particular profile (soil quality and vine age and variety).



Website

http://www.pichonlongueville.com

Area Grape varieties

73 ha 4% Cabernet franc

2% Petit verdot

32% Merlot

62% Cabernet-sauvignon

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Vinification

Vatting was controlled to keep temperatures below 10°C and ensure progressive extraction in the estate's signature style. Alcoholic fermentation soon started at a moderate rate, enabling progressive extraction during the fermenting phase to suit each variety and each terroir. Temperatures were kept at 25 to 29°C. Maceration lasted from 18 to 23 days. The wine was transferred to barrels by the end of November.

Ageing

70% from barrels of one vintage 30% in new barrels, for 12 months

Blending

6% Petit verdot 8% Cabernet franc 20% Cabernet-sauvignon 66% Merlot

Tasting note

Les Tourelles de Longueville 2018 reveals a wonderfully intense ruby red colour. The nose offers aromas of very ripe red fruit, black cherry and mild spices. The attack is silky, delicate and smooth. The persistent, subtle and intense finish is underpinned by the freshness of the fruit. The tannins are fresh and harmonious. As a whole it is full, opulent and luscious. It is a well-balanced wine, accessible and vigorous, elegant and powerful.



Wine Spectator

90



James Suckling

94



Wine Enthusiast

93



Wine Advocate

90