

# Château Gaby 2011

CSPC# 749554

750mlx12

15.5% alc./vol.

## Grape Variety

80% Merlot, 10% Cabernet Franc, 10% Cabernet Sauvignon.

## Appellation

Canon-Fronsac

## Website

<http://www.chateau-dugaby.com/>

## General Info

The Château du Gaby belonged to the family of Boussiron for over 250 years until 1999 when the area is taken up by Antoine Khayat, who built a new winery, buy additional plots and fully renovated the vineyard and castle. In December 2006, the Canadian David Curl, takes over following a real favorite while visiting the region. The Castle, the exceptional situation, a quality wine and already undergoing a revival, everything is there! David even bought a few acres to get the 16.39 hectares vineyard and therefore with a new and young team in place an ambitious program of investment and rehabilitation is undertaken at all levels with the intention of making Castle Gaby, a reference to the Right Bank. Castle Gaby is now part of a group of five winemakers who created "Expression de Fronsac," whose goal is to raise each of their wines to the top of the hierarchy of the great wines of the right bank of Bordeaux. David Curl also owns Château Moya is located in the Côtes de Castillon, on the heights of Sainte-Colombe.

Just 40km north-east of Bordeaux, Canon Fronsac is located near the picturesque market town of Libourne. Canon Fronsac is also just 15km from its famous neighbours - St Emilion and Pomerol - and is geologically a continuation of the St-Emilion cote or hillside.

Our wines are known for their finesse, concentration and excellent balance of acidity and tannin. While our wines age beautifully over 5-20 years, for those without the patience to wait, they typically begin to show their great charm after 3-4 years.

The climatic conditions of each individual vintage impacts on the final wine although all our wines display the trademark Gaby elegance and finesse.

## Vineyards

The vineyards of Château de Gaby, an area of 16.39 ha is placed on a clay-limestone soil on slopes, predominantly clay. The vines are 85% Merlot, 10% Cabernet Sauvignon and 5% Cabernet Franc. The average age of the vines is 30 to 35 years, despite a significant replanting policy. The size of the vine is mixed Guyot, to maximize the potential and the balance of the vine. The vineyard is in a reasoned, approach is to use pesticides according to climatic conditions. The yield at the Domaine de Gaby is 38 hl/ha

## Vinification/ Maturation

At Chateau du Gaby all our vines are cultivated without recourse to weed killers and only organic fertilisers are used. We have adopted a policy of "lutte raisonnée" or "controlled treatment" to ensure minimum interference with the vines when protecting them from pests and diseases. To produce the finest quality wines, we maintain low yields which are achieved through both winter and summer pruning, bud discard and leaf thinning.

After manual harvest in basket, grapes will be sorted once bay by bay. Stalking is mechanical. The grapes then pass on a vibrating table for a final sorting.

Fermentation takes place in concrete tanks coated with epoxy thermo. The wine then ages in oak barrels (55% new oak, 45% 1-2 yr old barrels) for 12 to 16 months depending on the vintage.

## Tasting Notes

The Château de Gaby show a nose of black fruit, nutmeg and black tea. A vibrant palate with firm tannins and tight. Spherical, fleshy and full-bodied, with exuberant fruit (cherry, fine spices). Final finesse, with a nice balance.

## Production

3300 cases made

## Cellaring

Drink 2013-2022

## Scores/Awards

**90 points** - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - April 30, 2014

**88-91 points** - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - Web Only 2012

**90-92 points** - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #200 - April 2012



**Scores/Awards** **15 points** - Jancis Robinson, JancisRobinson.com - April 2012  
**14.5 points** - James Lawther, Decanter.com - April 2012  
**86-88 points** - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - March 16, 2012  
**Silver Medal** - 4<sup>th</sup> Challenge to the Best French wines for Asia - Hong Kong 2014  
**Silver Medal** - 3<sup>rd</sup> Challenge to the Best French wines for USA - Miami 2013  
**14 points** - Vinum Wine Magazine - April 2012 (score only)

**Reviews** *"The solid core of damson plum, raspberry coulis and blackberry preserves flavors is lined with singed savory, tobacco and charcoal notes. Offers a juicy edge on the finish. Best from 2015 through 2020. 3,300 cases made."*  
- JM, Wine Spectator

*"Youthfully raw, with lots of sweet plum, grape and blackberry jam notes framed by overtly spicy toast. Not as tightly focused as others right now, but the stuffing is there. Score range: 88-91"*  
- JM, Wine Spectator

*"Gaby's new consultant, Dr. Alain Raynaud, has brought the best out of this property, fashioning a sleeper of the vintage. An impressive blend of 80% Merlot and 20% Cabernet Franc, the 2011 Gaby is deep, rich and concentrated. The only other Fronsacs / Canon-Fronsacs with this level of intensity and opulence are La Vieille Cure, Haut Carles and Fontenil. Enjoy this beauty over the next decade."*  
- RP, Wine Advocate

*"Dark crimson. Rather tired, oxidised sample. Lots of acidity and very obvious extraction. Lacks freshness of fruit but this may just be this sample. Drying end."*  
- JR, JancisRobinson.com

*"Reminiscent of Fontenil on the nose. Rather oxidative and disassociated. Fruit is there but it has a drying finish. Drink 2017-2025."*  
- JL, Decanter.com

*"Oak, smoke, red and black fruits with hints of fennel, the medium bodied wine offers soft textures and should be enjoyable on release. The chateau has been increasing the percentage of Cabernet Franc to the blend which adds depth and structure. 86-88 Pts"*  
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

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