
Blanc de Chasse Spleen 2014

CSPC# 743092

750mlx12

12.5% alc./vol.

Grape Variety

60% Semillon, 40% Sauvignon Blanc

Appellation

Moulis-en-Médoc

Website

http://www.chasse-spleen.com/eng_index.html

General Info

Chateau Chasse Spleen was once part of a much larger Haut Medoc estate that sold their wine under the name of Chateau Grand-Poujeaux. In 1822, the Bordeaux wine estate was split as follows; half the property became Chateau Gressier-Grand-Poujeaux and the other half eventually became the foundation for what would become 3 Bordeaux estates, Chateau Maucaillou, Chateau Poujeaux-Theil and of course, Chateau Chasse Spleen.

There are numerous stories trying to explain the name of Chateau Chasse Spleen. The best possibilities are poetic. The first version is, it was due to a visit by Lord Byron in 1821. During that visit, Bryon was so moved, he was quoted, "Quel remede pour chasser le spleen", which when loosely translated means, "what remedy to remove the spleen"? The other equally poetic explanation is attributed to the poem Spleen, whose author Charles Baudelaire also visited Chasse Spleen.

Chateau Chasse Spleen remained the property of the Castaing family until it was sold just before World War 1 to a German family of wine merchants. After the outbreak of World War I, Chateau Chasse Spleen was confiscated as enemy property and sold at an auction in 1922 to the Lahary family. The modern era for Chateau Chasse Spleen starts in 1976 when the estate was bought by the Merlaut family, eventual owners of various Bordeaux wine Chateaux including Gruaud Larose, Ferriere, Citran and Haut-Bages-Liberal.

After changing careers from teacher to winemaker, Jacques Merlaut's daughter Bernadette Villars and her husband took control of Chateau Chasse Spleen. With the famous Professor Émile Peynaud, they brought up the quality of the wines of Chateau Chasse Spleen. Tragically, she and her husband died in a mountaineering accident in the Pyrenees in 1992. The estate is run by her daughter Claire Villars.

Along with Chateau Poujeaux, these are the two best Bordeaux wines of the Moulis appellation in Haut Medoc. The estate also produces a small amount of white Bordeaux wine under the name of Blanc de Chasse Spleen Blanc.

Vineyards

The terroir is gravel, with clay and chalk. A small 2 hectare portion (of the 80 hectares of vineyards) is planted to 35% Sauvignon Blanc and 65% Semillon, for the production of a white Bordeaux wine.

**Vinification/
Maturation**

After harvesting by hand, half of the grapes is pressed directly while the other half is broken stride and then housed in vats for maceration. On lees, 50% in new barrels up to 9 months and 50% in vats.

Tasting Notes

The colour is gold and brilliant. A fine nose with woody aromas, notes of white flowers and fruits (white and lychee). The mouth is rich and full with a pleasant freshness.

Cellaring

Drink 2015-2026

Serve with

St-Jacques roasted. Sea fish. Stir fried chicken with lemongrass.

