

## Château Brown Rouge 2016

CSPC# 813875

750mlx12

14.5% alc./vol.

**Grape Variety**

65% Merlot, 32% Cabernet Sauvignon, 3% Petit Verdot

**Appellation**

Pessac Léognan

**Classification**

Grand Vin de Graves

**Website**

<http://www.chateau-brown.com/index.php?act=,,,,,,en>

**General Info**

Standing at the gateway to Bordeaux, Château Brown stretches between three towns: Gradignan, Villenave-d'Ornon and Léognan. The proximity of these towns gives the estate a mild climate ideal for the ripening of fruit and thus conducive to making high-quality wines. Set in the oldest Bordeaux wine region (the northern Graves) Château Brown is to be found right at the heart of the world-famous Pessac-Léognan appellation. Château Brown, as its name suggests, bears testimony to the close links that have always existed between the Bordeaux region and the Anglo-Saxons. Founded in the late Middle Ages when Aquitaine belonged to England, Château Brown owes its name to the wealthy Scottish wine trader John Lewis Brown, who settled in Bordeaux in the late 18th century. An enthusiast of wines and art, this epicurean passed on not only his name but also his passions to his grandson, the animal painter John Lewis Brown. The owners came and went at Château Brown over the centuries and the estate alternated between glory and neglect. It was not until the late 20th century that the estate was fully restored to its former eminent position under the impulse of Bernard Barthe, the master of the château for the last decade. In December 2004, he decided to place his life's work in the hands of a famous dynasty of wine traders: the Mau family, in partnership with the Dutch Dirkzwager family. Philippe Dulong is the consultant for Brown Blanc.

**Winemaker**

Jean-Christophe Mau.

**Vintage**

"That is a big surprise," said Jean-Christophe Mau of Château Brown in Pessac-Léognan, which produces both white and red wine. "Complicated to explain the volume with the drought. But the previous winter and the spring were very wet in Bordeaux, so the berries were very big for Sémillon and Merlot. For Sauvignon Blanc and Cabernet Sauvignon the berries were smaller but the number of grapes on each bunch was more than usual. As for the acidity, by the time the ripening process started again after the Sept.13 rain, it was too late to destroy all the acidity."

**Vineyards**

The 25 hectare Pessac Leognan, Bordeaux vineyard of Chateau Brown is planted to 65% Cabernet Sauvignon, 30% Merlot and 5% Petit Verdot for the production of red wine. Chateau Brown also maintains small plantings of 4.5 hectares of Bordeaux white grape varieties which consist of 70% Sauvignon Blanc and 30% Semillon. The vineyard is planted to a vine density of 7,200 vines per hectare. The vines are on average, 22 years of age. The terroir is gravel based, with some clay, sandstone and iron deposits in the soil. The Merlot vines are as you would expect, planted in the areas with the most of clay in the soil.

**Harvest**

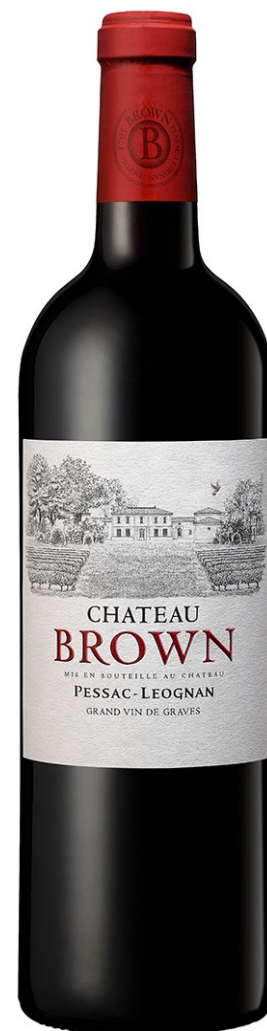
Merlot: from 4<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> of Oct 2016. Cabernet Sauvignon: from 12<sup>th</sup>- 22<sup>nd</sup> of Oct 2016. Petit Verdot: 5th of October 2016. 68% of the harvest went into the 1<sup>st</sup> wine.

**Vinification/  
Maturation**

Pre-fermentary maceration at 6° for around 4 days – alcoholic fermentation in 100 hl stainless steel vats – post-fermentary maceration at 30° for around a week– running-off after tasting each vat – vertical pressing. Malolactic fermentation: one-third in new barrels. Ageing in French oak barrels, 40% in new barrels during 14 month/s

**Tasting Notes**

Generous. This is the perfect word to describe the character of Château Brown Red 2016. A bright vintage, highlighting the Cabernet and Merlot grapes from the Bordeaux Graves region. This harvest boasts the roundness of the 2015 vintage and the depth of the 2014 vintage. Its personality is immediately evident, bursting with fruit, blackcurrant and jammy blackberry, with a more subdued character after decanting. The fruitiness is followed by notes of spice and a wild Cabernet character. The long, tannic finish foretells a great future for this divine wine.



<b>Serve with</b>	Château Rouge Brown is perfect with grilled, roasted or stewed meats. A successful wine & food pairing with our red could be also with some cheeses such as Saint-Nectaire or with a multitude of Asian dishes and fish-based recipes like tuna. Serve with tender meat and seasonal vegetables: Grilled Bazas beef, Gers spring vegetables, a blackberry condiment and garlic chive fritters.
<b>Production</b>	6,158 cases made (79,400 bottles)
<b>Cellaring</b>	Drink 2018-2032.
<b>Scores/Awards</b>	<p><b>92 points</b> - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - Web Only 2019</p> <p><b>92-95 points</b> - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - Web Only 2017</p> <p><b>88 points</b> - Lisa Perrotti-Brown, Wine Advocate Interim Issue - November 2018</p> <p><b>Review Only</b> - Neal Martin, Wine Advocate #230 - April 2017</p> <p><b>90-91 points</b> - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - March 2017</p> <p><b>93-95 points</b> - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - April 2017</p> <p><b>17 points</b> - Jancis Robinson, JancisRobinson.com - April 2017</p> <p><b>92 points</b> - Jane Anson, Decanter.com - October 2018</p> <p><b>90 points</b> - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - April 2017</p> <p><b>15.5-16.5 points</b> - La Revue du Vin France (score only) - June 2017</p> <p><b>Gold Medal</b> - International Wine Challenge 2018</p>
<b>Reviews</b>	<p><i>"A solid, slightly robust style, with waves of dark currant and blackberry paste flavors rolling through, underscored by tar, alder and sweet tobacco notes. A bramble accent is buried deep on the finish, while the tobacco edge lingers. Best from 2023 through 2032. 6,158 cases made."</i> - JM, Wine Spectator</p> <p><i>"This delivers some lovely dark plum and blackberry fruit, backed by black tea hints and an alluring singed alder note buried deep on the finish. Long and caressing in feel. Score range: 92-95"</i> - JM, Wine Spectator</p> <p><i>"The 2016 Brown has a medium garnet-purple color and nose of baked plums, warm cherries, balsamic and spice cake with a waft of hoisin. The palate is full-bodied, rich, plush and spicy with a raisiny kick to the finish."</i> - LPB, Wine Advocate</p> <p><i>"The 2016 Brown was showing some conspicuous oak when I tasted it from a barrel sample, rather occluding the fruit underneath. The palate is medium-bodied with firm tannin that demonstrate good structure, but at this early stage the wood regime seems to be singing from a different hymn sheet to the fruit; as a consequence, it feels rather dry on the aftertaste."</i> - NM, Wine Advocate</p> <p><i>"Tight and tangy red with dark fruit and lemon-rind undertones. Medium body and firm and silky tannins. Shows balance. Should come around nicely."</i> - JS, JamesSuckling.com</p> <p><i>"Owned by the Mau family, this estate has produced an impressive wine in 2016. Ripe in swathes of black currant fruit as well as subtle, elegant tannins, it is going to age well over many years."</i> - RV, Wine Enthusiast</p> <p><i>"Deep brownish (appropriately enough) crimson. Ripe with iodine notes. Pretty snazzy. Very tight on the end but the brightness of fruit promises well. Glamorous."</i> - JR, JancisRobinson.com</p> <p><i>"Beautifully sleek, fresh plum and damson fruit on the nose, and a confidently extracted deep purple colour. The little touch of Petit Verdot is making a clear impact here, with a brush of black pepper spice. Jean-Christophe Mau works with Stephane Derenoncourt as a consultant, and there is a lovely focus in the vibrancy of the fruit, vinified in small stainless-steel tanks. 33% of malolactic takes place in new oak and the rest in stainless steel. The blend here is 50% Merlot, 48% Cabernet Sauvignon and 2% Petit Verdot, aged in 33% new oak barrels for 14 months."</i> -JA, Decanter.com</p>

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