

Château Brown Blanc 2015

CSPC# 790381

750mlx12

13.5% alc./vol.

Grape Variety

65% *Sauvignon Blanc*, 35% *Sémillon*

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.

Vintage

The 2015 vintage was grown in perfect weather conditions, with an exceptionally sunny and dry month of June, high temperatures in July and August, and a few showers just when the vine needed it the most. The 2015 vintage joins the exclusive realms of the greatest years at the estate.

Vineyards

At the gateway to Bordeaux in the Pessac-Léognan area, Château Brown stands on a 63-hectare estate with 29 hectares of vines in a single stretch: 23.5 hectares for the reds and 5.5 ha for the whites. The red grapes are mainly Cabernet Sauvignon (55%) and Merlot (40%) but there is also a little Petit Verdot (5%). The plots given over to white grapes are shared between 70% Sauvignon and 30% Semillon. Average vine age is 15yrs, in fine gravel

Harvest

The harvesting is done by hand with small trays on all 29 hectares of red and white vines. This is intricate work requiring precise logistics as regards the dates for picking and the successive sorting operations. Depending on the profile of the vintage, the selection on the vine can be very strict, before a new sorting operation in the vat-house. 1 September was the kick-off date for harvesting our Sauvignon Blanc, followed by Semillon, with no break between the two. The white grapes were in perfect health thanks to meticulous leaf thinning which ensured optimal aeration of the bunches of grapes.

**Vinification/
Maturation**

Maceration on the skins under cold conditions for 10 hours; grapes pressed whole. Alcoholic fermentation in oak barrels and maturing for 8 months in oak barrels (60% new barrels) with stirring on the fine lees.

Tasting Notes

Still a little closed on the nose, but nonetheless very complex with citrus notes, superb spice and pepper aromas, and a clear mineral nuance. On the palate, we find the dominant characteristics of the 2015 vintage, with strength and smoothness. It is almost sensually full-bodied, with a promising aromatic expression. This wine will age well and will perfectly accompany a variety of different dishes.

Serve with

Milanese-style medallion of veal with ricotta ravioli in a tomato and fresh oregano cream: the tender meat and fresh cheese flavour will provide the perfect match for the aromatic power of this Château Brown White.



Production	1,525 cases made.
Cellaring	Drink now -2022
Scores/Awards	<p>92 points - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - March 31, 2018</p> <p>91-94 points - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - Web Only 2016</p> <p>91-93 points - Neal Martin, Wine Advocate #224 - April 2016</p> <p>93 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - February 2018</p> <p>16.5 points - Jancis Robinson, JancisRobinson.com - February 2018</p> <p>16.5 points - Jancis Robinson, JancisRobinson.com - April 2016</p> <p>90 points - Jane Anson, Decanter.com - April 2016</p> <p>91 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - April 2016</p> <p>92 points - Tim Atkin, MW - timatkin.com - April 2016</p> <p>88 points - Decanter World Wine Awards - January 2017</p> <p>Silver Medal - International Wine Challenge 2017</p> <p>15.5 points - Bettane & Desseauve (score only) - April 2016</p>
Reviews	<p><i>"Racy and well-defined, with mouthwatering thyme, verbena and chamomile notes leading the way, backed by lively lemon zest, white peach and star fruit flavors. Offers a salted butter finish. Drink now through 2022. 1,525 cases made.</i></p> <p>- JM, Wine Spectator</p> <p><i>"This takes a rich approach, with shortbread, salted butter and lemon curd notes, showing plenty of zip from gooseberry and verbena details. The long finish has some pizzazz. Score range: 91-94"</i></p> <p>- JM, Wine Spectator</p> <p><i>"The 2015 Brown Blanc has a lively, showy bouquet with lime cordial and freshly squeezed grapefruit scents that are neatly entwined with the new oak. The palate is fresh and crisp on the entry, tropical tones of nectarine, Clementine and peach rendering this almost drinkable now. It is well balanced and displays fine length, a white Pessac that should give great pleasure over the next 12-15 years."</i></p> <p>- NM, Wine Advocate</p> <p><i>"Loads of dried limes, cooked apples and dried lavender. Full-bodied, layered and flavorful. The dried fruits are intense and lively on the finish. Driven white with lots of precise character and energy"</i></p> <p>- JS, JamesSuckling.com</p> <p><i>"Pale, very slightly oaky still on the nose. Lots of fun with a certain slightly oily sweetness but kept fresh by its blackcurrant-leaf aroma and correct acidity. Far from thin but very promising for the future. If I saw this on a wine list, I would probably grab it with both hands."</i></p> <p>- JR, JancisRobinson.com</p> <p><i>"Creamy sweet lemon-posset nose. Lots of energy and tang. Not one of the richest. Muscular!"</i></p> <p>- JR, JancisRobinson.com</p> <p><i>"Lemon peel with rich apricot crunch, from 65% Sauvignon Blanc and 35% Semillon. Good weight of clean fruit with touches of spark – just a touch too soft to really grip through the palate. Still an extremely pretty wine."</i></p> <p>- JA, Decanter.com</p> <p><i>"Crisp, bright, fresh citrus, vanilla, stone and a zippy, sweet pomelo finish shine through in this stylish, well-priced, white Bordeaux wine"</i></p> <p>- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com</p>
