

# Château Cap de Faugères 2014

CSPC# 790272

750mlx12

14.0% alc./vol.

## Grape Variety

85% Merlot, 10% Cabernet Franc, 5% Cabernet Sauvignon

## Appellation

Castillon Côtes de Bordeaux

## Website

<http://www.chateau-cap-de-faugeres.com/chateau-appellation-castillon-cotes-de-bordeaux-en/silvio-denz-chateau-cotes-de-castillon-wine-cotes-de-castillon.htm>

## General Info

Chateau Cap de Faugeres is owned by Silvio Denz and consulted by Stephan von Neipperg. It is located in Sainte-Colombe, Cote de Castillon and belongs to the portfolio of neighbouring Saint Emilion property Chateau Faugeres. In 1823, the family of Pierre-Bernard (Péby) Guisez acquired the château and their descendants Péby Guisez (the French film producer) and his wife Corinne took over the estate in 1987. They are responsible for the dynamic rise in the fortunes of the château and the superb quality of its wines. Sadly, Péby Guisez died suddenly at the age of 52 and Corinne poured her energies into their dream of raising Château Faugères to the ranks of a Saint Emilion Grand Cru.

Faugères was purchased in 2005 by Silvio Denz, a wine connoisseur and Swiss perfume entrepreneur. Denz's aim is to further enhance the capabilities of the wines over the coming years. Michel Rolland was retained as consultant oenologist and Denz also brought in his friend Stephan von Neipperg, the creator of La Mondotte and owner of *Chateaux Clos de L'Oratoire*, Canon La Gaffeliere, *d'Aguilhe* and *Peyrau*, as a vineyard consultant; the talented cellar master, Alain Dourthe, has stayed on. Denz has invested in the estate, increasing the acreage of vines and creating a new winery designed by world-famous Swiss architect Mario Botta. The Côtes de Castillon Cap de Faugères, is the fourth wine of Chateau Faugeres.

## Vintage

The winter of 2013/2014 was characterized by its dampness and very gentle temperatures, with the lowest number of days of frost (under 10) in the last decade.

As a result, bud break was about two weeks earlier than average. The "green tip" stage was observed around 2 April.

However, a drop in temperatures in mid-April and then again in mid-May, resulted in the growth cycle losing its advance. Rain over the spring period was slightly above average, resulting in a significant threat of fungal diseases (mainly mildew and botrytis). Flowering began very slowly in late May. The Merlot vines were in full bloom around 9 June; fortunately, a rise in temperatures enabled an acceleration of the end of the flowering period

The summer of 2014 was characterized by regular rain, with frequent thunderstorms until the end of August. Temperatures remained generally moderate, except for a few days in the second half of July, which saw peaks of above 35°C. August was relatively cool, with temperatures 1 to 2 degrees below average. The *véraison* (when the grapes change colour) began in mid-July and was spread over more than a month (the Merlot had fully changed colour by 14/08). The real summer did not start until the last week of August, with a very welcome period of high pressure that continued until the harvests, enabling the grapes to reach perfect ripeness and offer the much hoped for quality that the vintage had promised. No hint of water stress appeared until September and the foliage did not stop growing until relatively late.

The superb late summer brought a significant rise in temperatures and an increased difference between day and night-time temperatures.

The quality of the vintage greatly benefited from this magical period between late August and October. The beautiful Indian summer meant that we could take a relaxed approach to the harvests, beginning in mid-September and continuing until



<b>Vintage</b>	18 October. The leaf-stripping that had been carried out in early September and the excellent health of the grapes enabled us to harvest the plots quickly and reduced the need to sort the grapes in the vineyard and in the winery.
<b>Vineyards</b>	This Cotes de Castillon Bordeaux wine is a twenty-hectare vineyard planted at 6,600 vines/hectare and whose average age is 30 years. The Right Bank vineyard is planted to a varietal mix includes 85% Merlot, 10% Cabernet Franc and 5% Cabernet Sauvignon. The vines are planted on the limestone plateau and on clay and limestone hillsides, immediately adjacent to Saint-Etienne-de-Lisse in the eastern portion of St. Emilion.
<b>Harvest</b>	The harvests began with the Merlot for rosé on 19 and 21 September, with direct pressing, followed by the white grapes on 23 and 24 September. Picking of the red grapes began on 30 September with the young vines in Cap de Faugères and ended on 18 October with the last of Péby's Cabernet Sauvignon. Yields: fortunately, these were higher than for the two previous vintages. For the red grapes, they were 20 hl/ha for the old vines, and from 31 to 44 hl/ha for the rest. For the white and rosé Bordeaux, we obtained 50 hl/ha.
<b>Vinification/ Maturation</b>	The winery at Château Cap de Faugères is the work of internationally renowned architects Jean de Gastines and Patrick Dillon. It consists of 30 temperature-controlled stainless-steel conical vats and 6 wooden vats, each of 50 hl capacity, used for the vinification processes. They are then matured in small oak barriques (50% new) for 12 months.
<b>Production</b>	12,500 cases made
<b>Cellaring</b>	Drink 2018 - 2022
<b>Scores/Awards</b>	<p><b>88 points</b> - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - Web Only 2017</p> <p><b>87 points</b> - Neal Martin, Wine Advocate Interim - March 31, 2017</p> <p><b>Review Only</b> - Neal Martin, Wine Advocate #218 - April 29, 2015</p> <p><b>86-88 points</b> - Neal Martin, Wine Advocate #218 - April 29, 2015</p> <p><b>91 points</b> - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - February 2017</p> <p><b>89-90 points</b> - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - March 2015 (score only)</p> <p><b>16 (86) points</b> - James Lawther, Decanter.com - April 2015</p> <p><b>84-86 points</b> - Jeremy Williams, winewordsandvideotape.com - April 2015</p> <p><b>86 points</b> - Jeannie Cho Lee MW, asianpalate.com - March 2015</p> <p><b>87 points</b> - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - February 2017</p> <p><b>87-89 points</b> - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - April 2015</p> <p><b>14 points</b> - Bettane &amp; Desseauve (score only)</p>
<b>Reviews</b>	<p><i>"Fresh and open-knit in feel, with friendly blueberry, plum and cherry notes, laced with anise details. A light singed apple wood frame lets the finish play out with an unencumbered feel. Drink now through 2019. 12,500 cases made."</i></p> <p>- JM, Wine Spectator</p> <p><i>"The 2014 Cap de Faugeres felt exotic on nose with upfront red cherry and kirsch. The palate is sweet and rounded with succulent red berry fruit, licorice and a dense, spicy, tarry finish. It just needs more refinement and precision, although it does convey a sense of purity. Afford this Côtes de Castillon a year or two in bottle."</i></p> <p>- NM, Wine Advocate</p> <p><i>"The Château Cap de Faugères 2014 has a lot of wood on the nose that rather diminishes the clarity of fruit. It is difficult to get past at this stage. The palate is full-bodied, ripe on the entry with soft, plush tannin, moderate acidity but too much oak again on the finish, that renders it generic. Shame, as there is some decent fruit lurking somewhere."</i></p> <p>- NM, Wine Advocate</p> <p><i>"The Château Cap de Faugères 2014 has a perfumed and floral bouquet with rose petals infusing the bright red cherry fruit. The palate is medium bodied with fine tannin, good weight in the mouth with plenty of blackberry and spice on the finish. This Côtes de Castillon lacks a little breeding, but it should drink well for a decade or so."</i></p> <p>- NM, Wine Advocate</p>

**Reviews** *“Lovely aromas of dark berries and redcurrants with dried flowers and a pleasant gamey note. Super polished and focused with lovely acidity and red-fruit character. Precise.”*

- JS, JamesSuckling.com

*“Dark fruit – cherry notes. Juicy and ripe on the palate. Tannins present on the finish but polished.”*

- JL, Decanter.com

*“Mid depth; little light at the edge; light strawberry and red fruit tones; delicate; some silk; easy; lacks concentration; delicate; some red fruit components; may fill out; soft edge; lacks bit of middle; nice ripeness, bit simple on the finish. Drink 2017-2022. 84-86 [Second tasting] Mid depth; vibrant edge; chalky wet rock; red fruits; vibrant; vivid; some ribena and ink; little stretched in the middle; will fill out. Nice finish. [85% Merlot, 10% Cabernet Franc, 5% Cabernet Sauvignon, 150,000 btls]. Tasted Canon-la-Gaffelière 1<sup>st</sup> April '15. Drink 2017-2023. 84-86”*

- JW, winewordsandvideotape.com

*“A lean, focused red with nice vibrancy and freshness. Juicy, lifted red berry flavors with modest length. Perfect to drink in 2 to 3 years.”*

- JCL, asianpalate.com

*“The 2014 Cap de Faugères is an absolutely delicious, value-priced offering from Silvio Denz. Sweet red cherry, plum, tobacco and spice are all pushed forward. The 2014 has fleshed out nicely over the last two years and now shows more harmony than it did from barrel. 2017-2022”*

- AG, Vinous

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