

Les Demoiselles de Larrivet Haut Brion Blanc 2015

CSPC# 791488

375mlx12

12.50% alc./vol.

Grape Variety

95% Sauvignon Blanc, 5% Semillon

Appellation

Pessac-Leognan

Classification

Grand Vin de Bordeaux

Website

<http://www.larrivethautbrion.fr/index.php/en/>

General Info

What we know of today as Chateau Larrivet Haut Brion came into being with the original name of La Rivette. This took place during the 1800's. In 1874, the estate began calling itself Chateau Haut Brion Larrivet by the new owner, Ernest Laurent. This was much to the consternation of Chateau Haut Brion. Although it took decades until an official lawsuit was filed to remedy the situation. In 1893, the property was sold to the Canolle family who were already experienced in the Bordeaux wine trade as they also owned Chateau Belair in St. Emilion . At that time, the property was much larger than it was today. For various reasons having to do with needing money, portions of their vineyards for Larrivet Haut Brion were sold to other neighboring properties like Chateau Haut Bailly .

In the late 1800's, the estate was sold to Thomas Conseil. It was Thomas Conseil who changed the name of the chateau in 1949. The name change came about due to a lawsuit filed by the owners of Chateau Haut Brion. The estate was allowed to retain Haut Brion in their name, provided it followed at the end of the title. This was easy enough. From that point forward, the wines were sold under the name of Larrivet Haut Brion.

Chateau Larrivet Haut Brion changed hands again when it passed to Jacques Guillemaud. Jacques Guillemaud began to replant the vineyards which had become dilapidated. In fact, only 3 hectares of vines were planted when he took over the property. Chateau Larrivet Haut Brion is quite a popular wine these days. In fact, I think it is safe to say that their wines are probably the best known of the unclassified wineries in the appellation. Today Chateau Larrivet Haut Brion is managed by the Gervoson family who took over the property in 1987.

The property also makes a second wine , Les Demoiselles de Larrivet Haut Brion, which was named to honor their three daughters, Charlotte, Emily and Valentine. In 2013, the daughters and the estates second wine were both honored when they became one of the few Bordeaux chateau to have a flower named after them. The roses are called, Les Demoiselles Larrivet Haut Brion. Michel Rolland is the consultant.

Vintage 2015 white Bordeaux wines are the product of an early vintage. Some harvesting took place as early as the week of August 24. However, most of the growers did not begin picking until the following week. The hot, dry, growing season for the 2015 white Bordeaux wines could have been a problem, due to the early season scorching heat that took place in June and July. But the vintage was saved and made by the combination of the rains that fell in the beginning of August, and the drop in temperatures that invigorated the vines. The sunny, albeit still cooler days and the colder, evening temperatures in September also helped, as they added much needed acidities to the grapes .

Vineyards Location: Léognan

Soil: Deep gravelly and sandy overlying a clay substratum

Area of vines: A total of 75 ha, of which 10 ha in white

Grape varieties: 80% Sauvignon Blanc & 20% Sémillon

Plantation density: 7 700 plants per hectare

Average age of vines: 25 years

Harvest Manual at optimum maturity, transport of grapes in baskets

Vinification Settling of the juice during 48 hours in small concrete vat. Vinification in small concrete vat with temperature controlled.



Maturation 11 months on the lees. One part on barrels and the other part on concrete vat.
Tasting Notes Bright green gold in colour. Citrus aromas with hints of honey and smoke.
The palate is fruity (citrus), with good mouthfeel. It is a long wine with well-integrated oak acidity.
Production Around 25 000 bottles per year
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