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## Ch Belle Assise Coureau 2015

CSPC# 811816

750mlx12

13.7% alc./vol.

<b>Grape Variety</b>	65% Merlot, 35% Cabernet Franc
<b>Appellation</b>	Saint Emilion
<b>Classification</b>	Grand Cru Classe
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://www.belleassisecoureau.fr/en/index.html">http://www.belleassisecoureau.fr/en/index.html</a>
<b>General Info</b>	<p>Coming from a family Estate acquired at the 19th century by the Brun family, Chateau Belle Assise Coureau is bought by a group of friends in 2013 under the initiative of Jean Pierre Beltoise, former race car driver and winner of the Monaco grand prix (Formula 1) and Alain Garitey, Parisian lawyer. Lionel Gallais runs the Estate and asks Paul Junet, young winemaker born in Saint-Emilion, to express the full potential of this beautiful terroir. St. Emilion is a medieval city, perched on a rocky promontory, located at 30km east of Bordeaux, that became universally famous for its wines.</p> <p>Known as « the hill of the thousand Estates», the vineyard of St. Emilion is the first vineyard landscape in the world to be listed in 1999 by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site.</p> <p>The vines are at the doors of the city. They occupy the steep slopes which extend to the plain of Graves before reaching the sands of the Dordogne river. This unique soil offers ideal conditions: a perfect exposure of the vines to the sun, a mild protection of the river to the roughness of the oceanic climate, various soils of limestone, gravel, ancient sands where the three varieties Merlot, Cabernet Franc and Cabernet sauvignon deliver all their potential.</p>
<b>Vintage</b>	<p>The year 2015 appears to be the warmest and sunniest, throughout our country, since the beginning of meteorological statistics. A long heat wave and dry period allowed to achieve excellent flowering conditions until the arrival, in August, of miraculous rains. This rain enabled the vines to maintain the necessary water reserves and to provide requisite nourishment for perfect ripeness. The harvest began in September under a clear blue sky. Thanks to this ideal weather, we were able to wait for optimum ripeness for each grape variety.</p> <p>All the conditions are there to allow 2015 to join the greatest vintages of Bordeaux.</p>
<b>Vineyards</b>	<p>The Château de Belle-Assise Coureau is located on the gentle sandy slope to the south of the limestone plateau of St-Emilion. The 15,5 hectares vineyard surrounds the House, planted on a ground of ancient sands, crossed by underground veins of gravel. Here, the Merlot and the Cabernet Franc, 35 years of age in average, express marvelously their qualities.</p>
<b>Tasting Notes</b>	<p>Super solid wine from St. Emilion. Muscular, fleshy and rich. Could definitely benefit from being put down for a few but still has a lot to offer now. Heaps of mocha, black currant and cedar for this Merlot dominant blend. The Cab Franc emerges later with a beautiful spicy profile.</p>
<b>Production</b>	3,000 cases made
<b>Cellaring</b>	Drink from 2019-20123
<b>Scores/Awards</b>	<p><b>89 points</b> - Wine Spectator Tasting Report on 2015 Bordeaux's - Web Only 2018 <b>93 points</b> - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - February 2018 <b>89 points</b> - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - December 31, 2017 <b>15 points</b> - Richard Hemming, JancisRobinson.com - November 2017 <b>92 points</b> - Jeb Dunnuck MW - February 2018</p>

**Reviews** *“Tasty, with soft, fleshy plum sauce and raspberry reduction flavors rolling through, flecked with licorice, black tea and nicely integrated singed apple wood notes. The polished finish lets everything flow together. Drink now through 2023. 3,000 cases made.”*

*- JM, Wine Spectator*

*“The aromas of ripe berries, chocolate and dried flowers are impressive. Full-bodied, tight and structured with a long, powerful finish. Muscular and focused. Give it two or three years to come together. Better in 2021.”*

*- JS, JamesSuckling.com*

*“Profiting from the ripeness of the 2015 vintage, this 65% Merlot wine is rich and soft. The balance of Cabernet Franc in the blend lends spice, perfume and a fine tannic structure. Drink from 2019.”*

*- RV, Wine Enthusiast*

*“Rich syrupy blackcurrant fruit on the nose. Medium body, soft tannin, too much vanilla oak on the finish. Commercial and straightforward. (RH)*

*- RH, JancisRobinson.com*

*“The Merlot dominated 2015 Château Belle Assise Coureau is a smoking value that I suspect can be found for even less than the listed retail price. It offers a classic bouquet of red currants, red plums, dried flowers, cedar wood, and earth in a medium-bodied, seamless, seductive style that’s just impossible to resist. It’s not the densest or most age-worthy Saint-Emilion out there, but it has class and I guarantee it will put a smile on your face over the coming 7-8 years.”*

*- Jeb Dunnuck*

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