

ORIGIN Bordeaux (Left Bank), France

APPELLATION AOC Moulis-en-Médoc

VINEYARD

Vines are +/- 40 yrs. old and are planted in *Garonne* gravels and clay-limestone soils. Yield: 40-50hl/ha

BLEND

51% Cabernet Sauvignon, 49% Merlot

FARMING

Sorted and destemmed in vineyard

WINEMAKING

Traditional vinification is thermoregulated

AGING

Aged in stainlesssteel, temperaturecontrolled vats.

CHÂTEAU VIOLETTE « Moulis-en-Médoc »

Because of its location, CHÂTEAU VIOLETTE is given a lively personality and an aromatic elegance and finesse, that stands out from the rest with magnificent aromas of small berries, spices, toasty notes and a refreshing streak. It is a wine both ready to be opened and enjoyed now, or to be cellared a few more years. The blending of the wine is done by none other than Eric Boissenot, consultant winemaker for all four Medoc Premier Cru wines, "a skilled interpreter of the land and its wines who pushes them over the top" (WS June 2013).

This even blend of Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot is a hidden gem from the Moulis-en-Medoc appellation of the Bordeaux Left Bank. It forms a narrow strip along the Gironde River, with the trademark gravelly terroir and limestone of the region. The 'garrone' and 'pyrenean' gravel stones absorb the heat from the sun to keep the grapes warm during the cold nights. The consistent sun makes sure that the CABERNET SAUVIGNON grapes are at optimum maturity as they ripen two-weeks later than the MERLOT grapes. This is all balanced by the clay-limestone that regulates the vine's water stress by redistributing the groundwater collected during the rainy season.

In the early 20th century, MR. BÉGU, a retired policeman, acquired a small parcel of grapevines at an auction. His son, PIERRE FERNAND, took over for his father in the 1950s and over the next ten-year period, replanted all the vines. Since 2002, it is his two daughters JOËLLE and MONIQUE who now run the vineyard. The name 'VIOLETTE' comes from memories of his youngest daughter JOËLLE. She recalls being a young child in the springtime collecting violets growing between the vine rows.

ACCOLADES FOR 2015

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"This displays a lovely combination of ripe fruit and earthy characteristics, beginning with aromatic of blackberries and plums which are woven together with loam, espresso and spices. On the palate this is polished and nicely structured with a core of ripe dark fruits which expand through the finish. While this is already a pleasure to drink, I expect it will become even more appealing after a year or two of bottle age. (Best 2018-2025) - December, 2017 (JD)" -I.W.R.