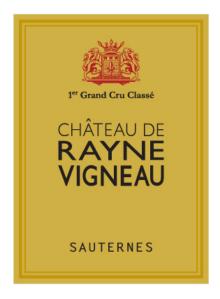
Premier Grand Cru Classé de Sauternes en 1855







Vintage 2003



Appellation

Sauternes, 1er Grand Cru Classé en 1855

Terroirs

The soil of these vineyards, mainly gravel and sand with clay subsoil, are surprisingly rich in agates, amethysts, onyx, and even sapphires.

Surface of the vineyard

84 ha

Planting density

6 666 Vines / ha

Average Age of the vines

32 years

Farming method

Parcel management of soil and vineyard. Certified sustainable farming.







Climatic Conditions

The very warm temperatures in August (average temerature of 32 °C against 26 °C usually) led us to think we would be harvesting early. We had to clean the vineyard at the end of August to remove the grapes that were damaged by the heat. Noble rot appeared uniformely as an explosion at the beginning of September. We had to harvest quickly in a few fast waves.

Ripening phases

Flowering: mid May / Véraison (colour change in berries): end of July

Harvest

From 15th to 25th September

Yields

19,32 hl / ha

Winemaking

The grapes are attacked by botrytis cinerea and are then harvested in several waves. Each lot, carefully selected, is slowly squeezed. Part of the grapes are fermented in new oak barrels. It lasts for 2 to 4 weeks in a temperature-controlled cellar. The wine spends between 12 and 18 months in barrels (50 % of which are new oak), and is then blended and bottled.

Production

113 000 bottles

The blend

80% Sémillon / 20% Sauvignon Blanc

Tasting notes

Golden wine. Opulent vintage. Very intense on the nose with notes of marmalade and exotic fruits. The wine is ample on the palate showing confit and weight. The length is considerably long.



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