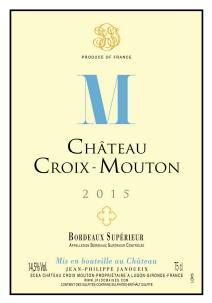
CHÂTEAU CROIX-MOUTON BORDEAUX SUPÉRIEUR





Previously known as Château Mouton, Croix Mouton has a long history in the Bordeaux region. The property was written about in the 1881 Ferret edition, next to many well-known Bordeaux wine producers of the time. However, the estate has a much longer history dating back to the ancient Romans who planted vines on the property. The Gallo-Romains remains found in its soil are proof of an ancient Bordeaux wine producing past.

Château Croix Mouton was purchased by Jean-Philippe Janoueix in 1997. At the time of the purchase, the estate and vineyards were in poor condition, as the previous owner had abandoned the vineyards. At first, Jean Philippe Janoueix wanted to sell the wines under the original name of Château Mouton. A lawsuit was filed by Château Mouton Rothschild and the property changed their name to Croix Mouton. Starting in 1998, extensive renovations on all the wine making facilities and vineyards began taking place.

Château Croix-Mouton is a serious candidate for one of the best value Bordeaux wine producers today. The Château is located not far from the Fronsac appellation, close to the Dordogne river, next to Lugon. The special architecture of the buildings at Croix Mouton are a unique feature of the estate, with its 17th century style.

The 19 hectare Bordeaux Supérieur vineyard has a terroir of clay, alluvial and limestone soils. Located just north and west of Fronsac, the vineyard is planted to 85% Merlot and 15% Cabernet Franc. They have old vines, on average, the vines are a surprising 43 years of age! Those old vines add a lot of concentration and complexity to the wine. When you factor how labor intensive this wine is to produce, it's easy to see why this is such a good value. The 'M' on Château Croix Mouton's label is special. It changes shape and color each year to reflect the personality of each vintage.

To produce the wine of Croix Mouton, the grapes are whole berry fermented in oak vats. Malolactic fermentation takes place in 50% new, French barrels. The wine of Croix Mouton is aged in 50% new, French oak barrels for 9 months before bottling. On average, close to 12,500 cases are produced each year. There is a second wine, Reserve du Croix Mouton. Starting in 2005, a high end cuvee, from 1.4 hectares of vines planted at 20,000 vines per hectare was produced by Jean Philippe Janoueix from the vineyards of Croix Mouton, 20 Mille.

