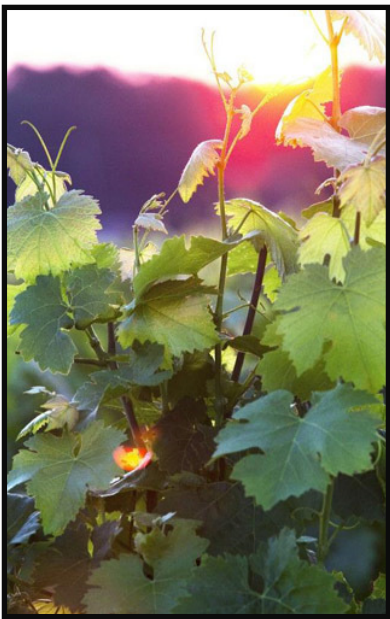
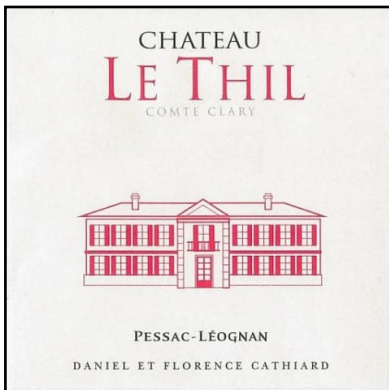


# CHATEAU LE THIL COMTE CLARY

## PESSAC-LEOGNAN



The vineyards of Chateau Le Thil were once part of the original Smith Haut Lafitte vineyard. Older bottles of Chateau Le Thil, for a time, were sold under the name of Le Desert until the late 1950's. The Cathiards of Smith Haut Lafitte bought the property in 2012, reuniting it with Smith, as it has previously been under the same ownership in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, and the two Châteaux were linked by a long drive. Viticulture is done in the same way as at Smith, using the Cathiards system of 'bio-precision'.

The 14 hectare vineyard has 8.6 hectares planted to 70% Merlot and 30% Cabernet Franc for the red wine grapes. The Cabernet Sauvignon grapes were replaced with Cabernet Franc after the 2013 vintage. The clay soil prompted the planting of the high proportion of Merlot, and Florence Cathiard calls this 'the Pomerol of Pessac-Leognan'.

3 hectares are planted to 50% Semillon and 50% Sauvignon Blanc for the production of the white Bordeaux wine of Chateau Le Thil.

The vines are located not too far from Chateau Carbonnieux, Chateau Bouscaut and Chateau Smith Haut Lafitte in the commune of Martillac. The vineyard is planted to a vine density that ranges from 6,700 to 10,000 vines per hectare. The vines are on average, 20 years of age.

Vinification of the red takes place in temperature controlled, stainless steel tanks with a 28-day maceration. A portion of the Merlot undergoes its malolactic fermentation in 100% new, French oak barrels and spends three weeks on its lees before racking. The rest of the malolactic fermentation takes place in one year old barrels. Chateau Le Thil is aged for 18 months in 50% new, French oak barrels. Stephane Derenoncourt and Simon Blanchard consult.

**2015 Vintage:** *A stunning sleeper of the vintage, this blend of 75% Merlot and 25% Cabernet Sauvignon was made by winemaking guru/consultant Stephane Derenoncourt. The wine's 14.5% alcohol tells you something about its amazing richness and intensity. Aromas of smoke, lead pencil shavings, sweet kirsch and black currants soar from the glass of this medium to full-bodied, opulent, fleshy wine. Some tannin lurks beneath the surface, but the overall impression is one of opulence and extravagance. Drink this beauty over the next decade or more.*

91-93 points Robert Parker's Wine Advocate

93 points James Suckling, 92 points Decanter, 91 points Wine Spectator,  
17/20 Jancis Robinson



*"The more you know about wine, the more you'll want to know about us."*

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