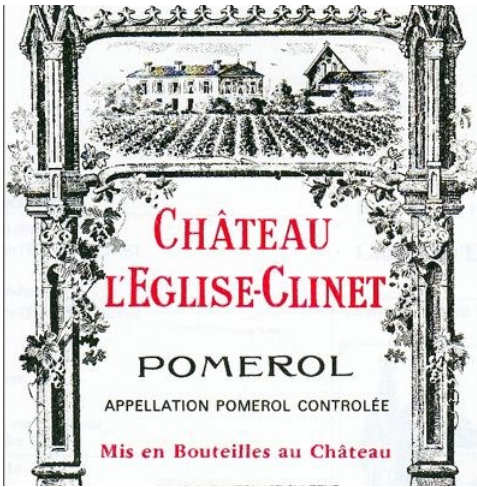


# CHÂTEAU L'ÉGLISE CLINET

## POMEROL



Chateau L'Eglise Clinet has a long history in the Pomerol appellation of Bordeaux. It dates all the way back to 1803, when Jean Rouchut purchased some of the vineyard land that later became L'Eglise Clinet. The first section of vineyard land is located close to where the winery sits today, adjacent to the cemetery. The next step in the development of the estate came in 1882, when the family purchased vineyard land from the Constant family, the owners of the neighboring property, Domaine de Clinet. That additional land marked the official creation of Clos L'Eglise-Clinet. At that point in time, two families agreed to join together and form a partnership to produce Bordeaux wine together. The families were Mauleon Rouchut of Clos l'Eglise and the Constant family, the owners of what later became Chateau Clinet joined forces. From that point forward, until the 1950's, their Bordeaux wine was sold under the name Clos L'Eglise-Clinet.



The 4.4 hectare, cross shaped, Pomerol vineyard of Chateau L'Eglise Clinet is planted to 85% Merlot, 14% Cabernet Franc and 1% Malbec. The Malbec is part of the grape, field blend and not something the estate purposely planted. It is the goal of Chateau L'Eglise Clinet to slowly increase the amount of Cabernet Franc in the vineyard. This will be done by planting Cabernet Franc clones selected from the oldest Cabernet Franc vines planted in the vineyard. On average, the Chateau L'Eglise Clinet has old vines that are an impressive 40 years of age. The wine is aged in between 50% to 80% new, French oak barrels for between 15 to 18 months

The 2015 L'Eglise-Clinet is a blend of 90% Merlot and 10% Cabernet Franc, picked between 21-25 September at 41 hl/ha and matured in 70% new oak. Denis Durantou poured two samples for me. First from Darnajou barrel. Here, a very composed, effortless bouquet with extremely pure raspberry coulis, strawberry, almost confit-like scents that display ethereal delineation. This is not a powerful or intense bouquet, rather one that is sophisticated and refined, bunches of violet emerging with time. The palate is medium-bodied with sappy red berry fruit, crisp acidity, mineral-rich and tensile. There is tangible energy and refinement on the finish that lingers long and tenderly in the mouth, a wine constantly having something more to say. The second came from Demptos barrel. This was deeper on the nose, showing a touch more fruit, slightly higher toned. The palate is medium-bodied with fine tannin, structured in the mouth, perhaps the barrel impressing its character more on the wine than the Darnajou. Together, they should combine to create a quite magical 2015 L'Eglise-Clinet.

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