

CHÂTEAU D'YQUEM

SAUTERNES



During the Middle Ages, the estate belonged to the King of England, who was also Duke of Aquitaine at the time. In 1453, southwest France was once again brought under the dominion of the French crown by Charles VII and has stayed French ever since. The family became full owners of Yquem in 1711, during the reign of Louis XIV (by which time they had received noble status). The wine was already much appreciated by famous connoisseurs of the period, such as Thomas Jefferson.



In 1855, in posthumous recognition of the tremendous accomplishments of "the lady of Yquem", Françoise-Joséphine Lur-Saluces, the estate was designated the one and only premier cru supérieur in the famous classification made at the request of Emperor Napoléon III.



The pleasure derived from tasting Yquem is difficult to describe. It offers a myriad of well-balanced, complex flavors that generate even more harmonies over time. Certain connoisseurs consider it outrageous to drink a young Yquem and believe that opening such a monumental wine before its thirtieth birthday is tantamount to a sacrilege. Others, on the contrary, think that Yquem can be enjoyed at all stages in its life.

CHATEAU D'YQUEM SAUTERNES 2015

The 2015 Château d'Yquem is a blend of 75% Semillon and 25% Sauvignon Blanc that was picked on the gravelly soils as early as 3 and 4 September until 21 October, four tries through the vineyard. It delivers 144 grams per liter of residual sugar, with six-grams of tartaric acid, a pH 3.65 and 13.9% alcohol. It has a show-stopping bouquet that is beautifully defined and very complex and exuberant, infused with greater mineralité than recent vintages - intense but not as flamboyant as say the 2009 Yquem at this stage. The palate boasts absolutely stunning balance. This is a Yquem without a hair out of place: fantastically pure, botrytised fruit caressing the mouth. That is as per normal. What distinguishes this Yquem is the sense of electricity that is imbued by that razor-sharp acidity. There is just unbelievably tension here and to be frank, there is little point in me continuing to write this note, because it is simply an astonishing Yquem that will rank alongside the 2001 and 2009.

98-100 Neal Martin - www.eroberparker.com - 24/04/2016



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