

# Château Dauzac 2018

*Margaux Appellation, Grand Cru Classé - 1855*

*Excellence delivered...*

Like for all great vintages, the weather played an essential role in structuring the 2018 vintage. A mild winter – one of the mildest since 1900 – with substantial rainfall for the first six months of the year allowed the vines to develop extremely well. Research conducted over the past three years at Château Dauzac on the use of algae as an alternative for fighting powdery mildew to reduce copper treatments significantly contributed to keeping our vineyard in very good health. After flowering, which was quick and even, a total change in climate occurred with a four-month period that was dry, warm and sunny. The groundwater supply and the outstanding summer months helped bring about complex and subtle ripening of the grapes. The harvests were conducted from September 17th to October 8th in excellent conditions with meticulous plot by plot selection. In compliance with the biodynamic calendar, this vintage was harvested on fruit days for grand terroir wines. The alcoholic fermentations were done with yeasts naturally selected in our vineyard. The symbiosis between the terroir, yeasts and varieties succeeded in producing very delicate, great complexity, rarely reached in previous years. In 2018, production was 45 hectolitres per hectare.

## Tasting comments

The 2018 vintage, with a level of quality seldom achieved, is characterized by hints of spicy, ripe cherry, very nice concentration and exceptionally silky tannins.

## Our suggestions

White meat, poultry, red meat, game, cheese.

## Ageing potential

At its best between 5 and 20 years of age, can keep up to 20-30 years.



**Blend:** 68% Cabernet Sauvignon, 32% Merlot

**Growing surface area:** 42 hectares

**Soil type:** deep, gravelly hilltops

**Rootstocks:** 101-14, Riparia Gloire and 3309 Fertiliser: organic

**Plant density:** 10,000 vine stocks per hectare

**Average age of vines:** 35-40 yrs. old

**Estate varietal planting:** 70% Cabernet Sauvignon, 30% Merlot

**Type of pruning:** double Guyot system with de-budding

**Harvesting:** by hand in small bins and table sorting before and after destemming

**Vinification:** use of a gravity-flow cellar to supply the fermenting room

**Fermentation:** in wooden casks with dual transparent staves having allowed us to rethink our method of pumping-over and optimise macerations.

**Fermentation temperature:** 28°C

**Malolactic:** yes

**Fining:** if needed, with plant proteins

**Ageing:** 100% in French oak barrels (of which 65% are new) for 15 months with racking, depending on tasting results

100%-VEGAN certified wine production

CEO: Laurent Fortin  
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CHATEAU  
DAUZAC  
MARGAUX  
GRAND CRU CLASSÉ EN 1855



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*Tasting notes*

*Yves Beck*

92-93/100

« Rouge grenat violacé. Belle intensité du bouquet qui révèle des notes fruitées et florales. Je relève une touche fumée, un peu de bois de réglisse ainsi que des baies noires. Caractère fruité et frais, invitant. La mise en bouche est soyeuse et friande. Le vin dispose de tannins très fins qui se révèlent lentement et qui confèrent une belle assise à l'ensemble du palais. Je retrouve les notes de fraîcheur constatées au nez. Caractère tendu en fin de bouche avec une bonne expression aromatique au niveau de la finale. »

2023 - 2038

**Wine Spectator**

*James Molesworth*

92-95/100

**JAMES SUCKLING.COM** 

93-94/100

« This is very structured and muscular, yet the tannins are so melted and polished. Full-bodied. Intense. Best ever? »

*Terre de Vins*

95-96/100

« La distinction des tanins comme signature du millésime, ils sont nombreux et soyeux à l'envie. Bouquet suave et floral, touche de petits fruits noirs, équilibre construit sur la douceur, l'élégance, avec en milieu de bouche une sensation fraîche, tonique. »