

VINTAGE 1998

Beautiful, brilliant, golden colour.



WEATHER DURING THE GROWING SEASON

Bud break came early, starting in late March. The hot weather in May made up for a cool, wet month of April. The flowering took place in less than a week at the end May and the very beginning of June. There was quite a heat wave in the latter month with a record temperature of 36°C on the 19th. It became very hot again after July 14th, and this hot spell lasted two thirds into the month of August. The vines suffered somewhat from the high temperatures and drought conditions. A few scattered showers in late August and early September helped the grapes to ripen beautifully. Botrytis set in just at that time, and became widespread by the middle of September.

THE HARVEST

Warm sunshine and a southerly wind encouraged concentration. The first wave of picking began on September 22nd. This was shortly followed by a second one. Within 8 days, two thirds of the harvest was over. This included grapes grown on the most gravelly soil, but not the old vines. It rained a great deal in early October. Then sunshine and morning mists brought on another round of botrytisation. Picking of the remaining plots began on October 17th under clear blue skies and cool temperatures. The fourth and final wave of picking drew to a close on October 28th. As this vintage was picked in two parts, two different types of wine complemented one another in the final blend; wines from September were quite elegant and the ones from October were full-bodied and rich.

THE WINE

Fermented and aged in 3 year-old barrels
Production: 25,000 bottles



TASTING NOTES

After swirling slightly in the glass, there is a concentrated nose of candied fruit, fruit paste, and figs. Wonderful honey aromas come through after more vigorous swirling. The bouquet is subtle, with a persistent scent of candied fruit. This wine starts out very soft and round on the palate, immediately showing an excellent balance between acidity and sugar.

The texture is quite firm and dense. The richness blends beautifully with the sweetness. The flavour develops wonderfully with a long, perfectly-balanced aftertaste.

The wine tastes as it smells, reflecting a medley of candied fruit savours. There is also an almost mineral freshness, accompanied by a touch of lemon and bergamot.

This wine's aftertaste is especially charming, even at this youthful stage. It reflects all the finesse and freshness of the grapes picked in September combined with the richness and volume of those picked in October. The wine's structure is reminiscent of the 1988 vintage, and there can be no doubt about its ageing potential !

Château de Fargues, 2017

Guide Hachette 2005



Sans être d'une taille exceptionnelle (environ 15 ha), ce vignoble jouit d'une grande renommée qui ne s'explique pas seulement par le fier aspect des ruines du château fort qui lui donne son nom. La qualité du vin a sa part dans cette notoriété, témoin, ce 98 aussi agréable dans sa robe d'or jaune brillant que dans son expression aromatique. D'une réelle complexité, son bouquet passe des raisins secs et des fruits exotiques aux notes plus fraîches d'ananas et de chèvrefeuille. Son sens de l'équilibre, notamment entre le fruit et le rôti, se retrouve au palais. Elégant, ample mais sous lourdeur, très persistant, un sauternes bien armé pour la garde.



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