LES HAUTS DE PEZ

SAINT-ESTEPHE

2019

This Year

2019 was notable for its chaotic weather from the time the vines began to shoot right up to end of the harvest. A relatively mild winter, with a consequent early budbreak at the beginning of April, was followed by an absolutely atrocious spring.

First of all, a cold, frosty spell at the beginning of May (unheard of in 35 years of career!) destroyed the new buds in certain parcels, significantly affecting the future yield. Then, incessant rain that fell up to the end of June provoked shatter in the Merlots and the Cabernets.

And, to cap it all, this was followed by an intense period of drought, caused more by lack of rain than intense heat, that lasted up to mid-October, reducing the volume of clusters by around 10% compared to the 15-year average. No surprise then that the winegrowers' nerves were stretched to the limit, with the worry of not being able to fill the vats a little more in 2019, coming hard on the heels of a tiny 2018 vintage, decimated by frost and mildew.

2019 will be remembered as a winemaker's vintage, where vigilance in the vines and berry tastings were the keys to success.

At the end of the day, we have come out of this campaign with a harvest of great quality, and notably Cabernet Sauvignons with skins that melted in the mouth, leaving flavour with no trace of bitterness. A rare occurrence!

As for volumes, we will content ourselves with what we have, as others of our fellow winemakers have far more reasons to lament the effects of nature during this 2019 vintage.

HARVEST
25th september to 11th october

FINAL BLEND
- Merlot : 83%
- Cabernet Sauvignon : 16%
- Cabernet Franc : 1%

ANALYTICAL PROFILE
- 13,5°degrees
- 3,52 pH

TERROIR
Girondines gravels and clay-limestone marls

TASTING NOTES
Bright ruby color with good intensity. Fresh red fruits on the nose, delicious mouthfeel with well-wrapped tannins and a nice return on the fruit on the finish.