



— *Pessac-Léognan* —

CHÂTEAU DE CRUZEAU ROUGE
2011

BACKGROUND

Château de Cruzeau is a prized estate of the André Lurton family, which still owns and operates Les Vignobles André Lurton 60 years after its founding. Planted in the 17th century by Jacques de Cruzeau, Château de Cruzeau was purchased by André Lurton in 1973 after a storm had uprooted a number of trees in the then-abandoned chateau's vineyards, and André Lurton was struck by the exceptionally high level of gravel clinging to the roots. Nature has been especially generous to Château de Cruzeau, whose superb gravel combined with perfect sun exposure seem to have been predestined for winegrowing. Today, this unique terroir, one of the finest in Pessac-Léognan, is easily detected in the striking minerality in Cruzeau's wines.

APPELLATION

Pessac-Léognan AOC

SOURCING

Château de Cruzeau estate vineyards

VARIETAL COMPOSITION

55% Cabernet Sauvignon, 43% Merlot, 2% Cabernet Franc

WINEMAKING

Château de Cruzeau's 20-year-old vines are planted on the estate's famous south-facing deep gravel ridges. After temperature-controlled fermentation in stainless steel tanks with punch-down maceration, the wine is aged for 12 months in French oak barriques, 40% new.

VINTAGE NOTES

The 2011 season began with a drought in April, and the hot and dry weather persisted through May and June. Conditions changed in July with a series of rainstorms and generally overcast skies, but became ideal by mid-September. Sorting was crucial and yields were lower than usual, but the resulting wines show fine tannins, good acidity, and moderate alcohol. The quality of Cabernet Sauvignon on gravelly soil, like that found at Château de Cruzeau, was particularly high, as the gravel provided much needed drainage during the rainy months.

TASTING NOTES

The expressive nose features notes of raspberry, vanilla, and spice. The wine is powerful on the palate, structured by firm yet velvety tannins and good acidity. Flavors of black currant, tobacco and minerality lead to a long finish.

TECHNICAL DATA

pH 3.5
TA 3.3 g/L
RS 0.3 g/L
Alc. 13.0%

WINEMAKER

Sebastien Cogny

FOUNDER

André Lurton