

CHÂTEAU BOUSCASSÉ MADIRAN



Tannat, Cabernet Sauvignon, and Cabernet Franc vines from 20 to 100 years old. Aromas of blackberries. A delicate fruitiness with well-integrated tannins. Harmony and power. Full-bodied. This is a wine that stays young for a long time, evolving very slowly, and thus has a good potential to age. Pair with red meat and spicy dishes.

Château Bouscassé has belonged to the Brumont family for several generations. The property includes 124 acres of superb clay-limestone terroir along the cliff in the commune of Maumusson-Laguian. This terroir is also somewhat humorously known as the Pied de Côte de Saint Emilion ("The foot of the Saint Emilion Slope"), because the Tannat that grows there produces a wine that has similar characteristics to some of the great wines of Bordeaux's right bank, in that they possess a rigorous style, a refined structure and a substantial potential to age. Terroir of fine yellow and white variegated clays on a layer of fissured limestone. Sustainable agriculture, natural compost. Vinification and maturing 3 to 6 weeks. Maceration and fermentation at 82°F. Matured in barrels (30% to 50% new).

Alain Brumont inherited Chateau Bouscassé from his father in 1979, and just a year later purchased Chateau Montus. In 1985 he produced his first vintage of Montus Prestige, a 100% Tannat wine that astonished the critics. He now farms almost 495 acres, over 4 different properties. Two thirds of the vineyard surface is covered in native herbs and plants, only cut back after they have flowered and re-seeded. The goal is a richly diverse ecosystem. The rows are oriented to give maximum exposure to both sides of the vine, with the sun overhead at 3 p.m. to eliminate roasting the berries. Each vine receives 5 to 7 interventions, with de-budding, leaf-thinning and green harvest where needed. Alain Brumont has single-handedly proved that world-class wines can be made in Madiran.

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Tasting Note:

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Shelf Talker:

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