

MAISON VENTENAC 'CUVÉE PIERRE' CABERNET SAUVIGNON



Cabernet Sauvignon and Cabernet Franc. Aromas of ripe pepper and blackcurrant. Roundness and a silky structure with flavors of blackcurrant. A fresh and lingering finish. Named for Stephanie's grandfather, the authoritative power of the Cabernet Sauvignon is wrapped in a velvet glove through precise vinification. Organic.

From the La Condamine, Bourdichou and Les Plos Vineyards, clay-limestone soils. The grapes are sorted in the winery, then fully crushed. Pre-fermentary cold maceration for 5 days at controlled temperature.

Fermentation in stainless-steel tanks with indigenous yeast. Daily pump-overs. Vatting length is 25 days. Malolactic fermentation. Racking. Aged on the fine lees with micro oxygenation for 3 months.

Stephanie and Olivier Ramé took over her family's 400-acre estate in 2010. Building on the work of Stephanie's father, Alain Maurel, they started to modernize the operation, which in many cases meant turning back the clock to work sustainably in the vineyards. Their aim was to work naturally, but as cleanly as possible, expressing the terroir with no 'makeup'. Olivier's expertise in oenology and viticulture led them to use experimental techniques, such as employing non-saccharomyces yeast to avoid spoilage, allowing indigenous yeasts to ferment the wine without competition from Brettanomyces and the like. This happy duality of modern and traditional is mirrored in the appellation of Cabardès, where the transitional climate allows Atlantic grapes from Bordeaux to flourish alongside the Mediterranean varieties. The couple believe that the limestone in the local soils lends a distinctive freshness to their wines. To keep the freshness, they are aged in a range of different vessels: clay jars, concrete and stainless-steel tanks, and large wooden tuns.

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Tasting Note:

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Shelf Talker:

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