Cos d'Estournel

2016

Saint-Estèphe Appellation, Classified Second Growth in 1855

Cabernet Sauvignon 76%, Merlot 23%, Cabernet Franc 1%

North of the Medoc, on the hill of Saint-Estèphe. At the bend of the road are the majestic pagodas of Cos d'Estournel. After the sheer delight, it seeks to penetrate the mystery carefully hidden behind the imposing Zanzibar Gate. The residence of the Maharajah of Saint-Estèphe does not fail to surprise. Here is a real palace, entirely dedicated to wine. This had been desired by Louis-Gaspard d'Estournel. Therefore when he inherited a few hectares of vineyards in 1791, he had never ceased to enlarge the estate and to provide it with the best techniques.

Convinced of having in his hands an exceptional terroir, this man of taste, adventurer, praised around the world, in India, in particular, from where he brought this penchant for the Orient and exoticism. In the image of his wine, bewitching and elegant, as well as spicy and powerful, he took the chance to be himself in a world so conventional, cultivating his differences and taking up his choices.

Property since 2000 of Michel Reybier, Cos d'Estournel pursues its destiny, between audacity and humility. Every decision is a risk-taken, in a visionary philosophy that its founder would not have disowned. Culture divided into plots pushed to its peak, demanding innovation in the winery, a taste for beauty and excellence in a world imbued with unobtrusive elegance, this is the legacy of Louis-Gaspard which its owner today extends.The unique style of Cos d'Estournel, born of a sublime terroir magnified with respect by the passion of men over the centu-ries, made from his discovery a true journey.

The Terroir of Cos d'Estournel

Situated on the edge of the plateau near the Gironde estuary, Cos d'Estournel enjoys a remarkable geographic location. The vineyard benefits from a maritime climate and gentle natural ventilation, whilst being sheltered from extreme weather. Comprising a rolling landscape on deep gravel and clay, Cos d'Estournel enjoys an unparalleled situation with two hillsides and a central plateau.

This location gives it an incredible variety of terroirs and the exhaustive knowledge of the vineyard makes it possible to determine what every plot has to offer, harness its full potential and bring out its very best.

2016, A harmony of utter refinement

During this atypical year, marked by a cold and wet spring followed by a hot, dry summer that caused severe water stress until the life-saving rains of September 13, the vines were able to express the full richness of our terroir.

More than ever, given this historic growing season, the human factor played a fundamental role in guiding the vintage. The decisions we made throughout the year regarding leaf thinning, cover cropping, and soil management were crucial in preserving the freshness of the berries.

Graceful without being understated, generous without excessive opulence, Cos d'Estournel 2016 reveals a harmony of exquisite delicacy and remarkable balance, with tannins that are present yet seamlessly integrated. Refined and elegant, with a lingering finish, it is a delightful vintage that can be enjoyed from now on.

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