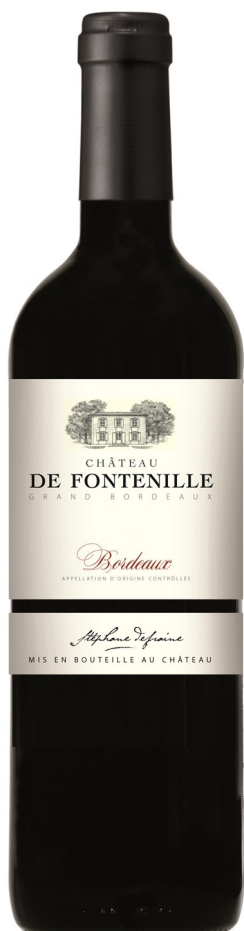


Bordeaux Rouge 2016

Entre-Deux-Mers, Bordeaux, France



PRODUCER

Vines have been grown at Fontenille since the 13th century and a pilgrimage route, protected by UNESCO, runs through the vineyards to the neighbouring Abbaye de la Sauve Majeure, whose monks tended the vines for hundreds of years. Stéphane Defraigne bought the property in 1989 and has gradually renovated the buildings and replanted and extended the vineyards. He now owns 42 hectares, of which 12 hectares are white wine varieties and 30 are red. The wines represent excellent value, with considerably more weight, interest and purity of fruit than other examples at this price.

VINEYARDS

The gravel, clay and free-draining soils of the Fontenille vineyards combined with the high winds that keep the grapes healthy, contribute to some of the purest wines that Bordeaux can produce. The vineyards are situated at an altitude of 110 metres above sea level in the Entre-Deux-Mers region between the Garonne and Dordogne rivers.

VINTAGE

Bordeaux had a wet spring, which proved to be helpful given the drought that was to follow. The flowering in early June was remarkably successful, with almost 12 weeks of glorious summer weather. Rainfall in September accounted for most of the month's rainfall. The amount of rain on 13th and 30th September in Entre-Deux-Mers equated to 50mm. 2016 was a later harvest and in keeping, in terms of timing, with what they call 'classic' Bordeaux vintages.

VINIFICATION

The grapes were destemmed and crushed before undergoing fermentation at 25°C in temperature controlled stainless steel tanks. The varieties were vinified separately before being aged for 18 months, half in French oak barrels (1/3rd new), the remainder in vats, prior to blending and bottling.

TASTING NOTES

This wine has a youthful ruby colour. Produced in an approachable modern style, this is an elegant wine with lingering berry fruit notes. Well-structured, full bodied with characteristic smoky, cigar-box notes so typical of good red Bordeaux.

Grape Varieties	80% Merlot 20% Cabernet Sauvignon
Winemaker	Stéphane Defraigne
Closure	Agglomerated Cork
ABV	13.5%
Residual Sugar	1.8g/L
Acidity	3.07g/L
Wine pH	3.57
Notes	Vegetarian, Vegan