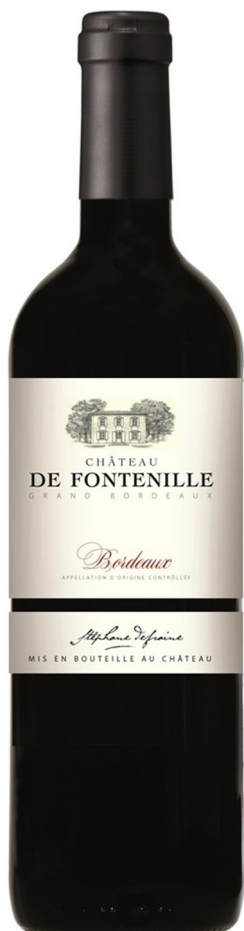


Château de Fontenille,  
**Bordeaux Rouge 2020**  
Entre-Deux-Mers, Bordeaux, France



## 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 Château de Fontenille vineyards are situated at 110 metres above sea level in the Entre-Deux-Mers region between the Garonne and Dordogne rivers. The free-draining gravel and clay soils here, combined with the high winds blowing in from the Atlantic, result in intensely flavoured grapes that produce pure and expressive wines.

## VINTAGE

The 2020 vintage was remarkably early. For the first time ever, harvest began in August due to an early start to the growing season as a whole. There were wide temperature variations between day to night through the summer months which ensured good phenolic ripeness and excellent development of aromas. Glorious sunshine near the end of the harvest helped the berries to fully ripen as each plot slowly reached optimum ripeness. The wines from this vintage are fruity with a delightful freshness and balance.

## 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 (33% of which were new), the remainder in vats, prior to blending and bottling.

## TASTING NOTES

Bright ruby in 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**  
**10% Cabernet Franc**  
**10% Cabernet Sauvignon**

Winemaker	<b>Stéphane Defraigne</b>
Closure	<b>Natural Cork</b>
ABV	<b>14.5%</b>
Residual Sugar	<b>0.63g/L</b>
Acidity	<b>3.09g/L</b>
Wine pH	<b>3.64</b>
Bottle Sizes	<b>75cl</b>
Notes	<b>Vegetarian, Practising Organic, Vegan</b>