

CHATEAU CANTENAC BROWN 2018

AOC Margaux

~Background~

Château Cantenac Brown is a third Grand Cru Classé in 1855 located in Cantenac, in the heart of the Margaux appellation, the most prestigious of the Médoc. The Château was founded over 200 years ago by a Scottish man, John-Lewis Brown. This visionary selected the best terroirs. His work and his high standards were consecrated in 1855 by the classification that placed Cantenac Brown among the greatest.

The French Le Lous family is now at the head of Château Cantenac Brown. Tristan Le Lous, an agricultural engineer with a passion for oenology, is very involved in the management of the estate and forms a duo with José Sanfins, who is inseparable from the modern history of the estate. Tristan Le Lous was passionately attracted by the property, the Château and its vines, and the team's demanding approach. Tristan Le Lous shares with José Sanfins the search for an ideal balance between nature and culture and the desire to transmit this unique heritage.

In 2020, the two men set themselves a spectacular challenge, a form of quest for the absolute, for which the environmental quality requirement was raised to the highest possible level: the construction of a new winery entirely in raw earth.



Tristan Le Lous & José Sanfins



~Viticulture~

2018 A LABORIOUS MIRACLE ...

"In 2018, in the spring and until the beginning of the summer, the "oceanic climate" invited itself in our vineyards to remind us that its main characteristic is a high humidity well distributed over the season. Nobody would have thought after this complicated beginning of the season that we would harvest such a great vintage. Once again our work is rewarded."

- 60 hectares of vine
- Soil : 39,5 hectares of gravel and clay-limestone soils, completed by 16 ha of Petites Graves and 5 ha of clay-limestone.
- Prophylactic measures, precise pruning, pruning in some places, splintering in others
- Harvest: from September 18th to October 11th.

~Tasting Notes~

From the outset, the deep, dark color sets the tone: this wine has character, as confirmed by its bouquet combining aromas of ripe red fruits and prunes with the contributions of a high quality and very well controlled maturation. On the palate, the wine is full-bodied, round, warm, powerful and complex, built on very fine tannins. An already very tasty whole which will remain so for a long time.



95 Points:

Ripe black fruits shine through this balanced wine, showing strongly against a backdrop of rich, generous tannins. This estate is one to watch as it achieves the form the vineyard deserves. Expect this wine to be ready to drink from 2026.

Wine Spectator 94 Points:

Shows a touch of dark earth out front, with a mix of smoldering tobacco, espresso crema and singed alder notes before the core of warmed plum and blackberry reduction flavors finally starts to unwind. Just a touch burly for a Margaux, but certainly lots to like here and ample range and length. Time will likely add that last bit of refinement. Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot and Cabernet Franc. Best from 2023 through 2036. 10,000 cases made.

