

CHATEAU RENARD 2012

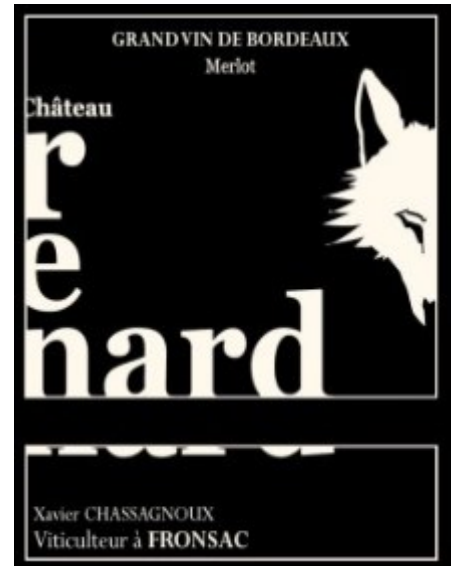
Appellation Fronsac

~ Background ~



Château Renard is the second wine of Chateau Renard Mondésir. It is located on the steep slopes of the La Rivière commune in Fronsac and owned and managed by Xavier Chassagnoux. The name “Renard,” which means fox in French, comes from the healthy population of foxes in the area. Vintners have been using stones from the hills to build homes and winemaking facilities for centuries: Chateau Renard Mondésir’s date from the mid 1700s. Foxes move into the holes left by the stones and extend their underground burrows all over the vineyards.

The Château is one of the stars of the Fronsac region and is part of the “Fronsac Expression” club, which regroups all of the star Fronsac estates together. Mr. Chassagnoux lets his estate’s powerful terroir speak for itself. It has been producing wines of superb quality since 1990 and began using organic winemaking techniques in 1997; they will be certified organic in 2013.



~ Winemaking ~

- **Harvest:** Manual sorting and 100% de-stemming. Grape selection by parcels in order to ascertain the best grapes.
- **Winemaking process:** Fermentation in epoxy-coated cement tanks. Vatting for 3-4 weeks. Pneumatic pressure extraction.
- **Ageing:** 1 year in 2-year-old French oak barrels.
- **Blending:** Individual parcel blending before ageing; second blending after barrel ageing.
- Filtered over soil prior to bottling.
- **Annual production:** 2,000 cases

~ Viticulture ~

- **Varietal composition:** 85% Merlot, 15% Cabernet Franc
- **Vineyard area:** 7.2 hectares
- **Terroir:** Steep slopes of well-drained chalk-clay, siliceous-clay, and “Renard” sand.
- **Average age of the vines:** 20 years
- **Planting density:** 5,000 to 6,000 vines per hectare
- **Yield:** 45 hectoliters per hectare
- **Cultivation:** 100% elimination of base-buds on the vines and green harvest concentrate fruit. Grass is planted in alternating rows to oxygenate the soil, push vine roots deeper, and promote healthy microbiology in the soil.

~ Tasting Notes ~

Intense, deep red robe. Delicate nose of coffee and very ripe red fruits. Fat and velvety tannins on the palate. Beautiful finish that is both harmonious and fresh. Château Renard is an exceptional wine that is ready to drink today and can be aged for a few years.



89 Points

With 20-year-old vines, this estate has the ability to produce open fruity wines like this. This wine, that is now almost mature, has black-currant fruit, juicy acidity and a layer of tannins to allow it to age further. Drink this attractive wine from 2017.



Fronsac
CHATEAU RENARD