



2014: "A gift from Mother Nature for my thirtieth vintage"



A mild and very wet winter resulted in an early budburst, but the cool, rainy spring then brought a certain lethargy in the vine's growth.

We were lucky enough to avoid the hail storms that struck the North Medoc on 19th May.

This month of June was remarkably warm and sunny, the vine developing suddenly and demanding an intense activity in the vineyard both thinning out the crop and working the soil.

The rather cool, wet summer was of little consequence but the months that followed were to ensure the great quality of the vintage.

De-leafing is undoubtedly a process that generally improves the quality of the grapes yet the decision to remove leaves on both sides of the plant can be a dangerous one. We suffered this experience in 2014 when some bunches on the sunrise side were sunburnt by harsh September sun.

Although we had originally planned to start around 25th September, we were able to delay the picking to 2nd October thanks to the beautiful late-summer weather (just as in 2013). The first Merlots harvested were ripe and juicy as can be. We were then able to crop each plot at its ripest and sweetest without rushing, the quality of the crop auguring for precise and comfortable vinification.

On Friday 17th October the last Cabernet Sauvignons were brought in on a radiant sunny day.

- **Average yield:** 55 hl/ha

Dominique FOUIN

Château Fontesteanu 2014

- **Total crop:** 1700 hl
- **Volume of Grand Vin:** 1200 hl (160000 75 cl bottles of first wine)
- **Blend :** 50 % Cabernet Sauvignon, 49 % Merlot Noir, 1% Cabernet Franc
- **Alcohol :** 13 % - **Ph :** 3.8 - **Residual sugar :** 0
- **Ageing :** in process: 75 % in barrel (20 % renewed each year), 25 % in vat
- **Wine that may be aged in the bottle for over 10 years.**



The blend was finalized on 27th January 2015 with the precious collaboration of our oenologist Eric BOISSENOT along with Marco BALSIMELLI :

"This Fontesteanu 2014 has a beautiful purply-tinted crimson robe. The nose is complex, offering toasty aromas mingling with spice and black fruit. Both powerful and elegant, this wine is ample and rich in the palate. The mid-palate is dense and fleshy with silky tannins on the finish".



CHATEAU FONTESTEANU

F-33250 ST SAUVEUR DU MEDOC - France

Tel. : +33 (0)5 56 59 52 76 - Fax : +33 (0)5 56 59 57 89 - E-mail : info@fontesteanu.com

Internet Site: www.fontesteanu.com