

# NEWS



MAY, 2021



VIGNOBLES GONFRIER  
BORDEAUX



## RECENT VINTAGES



**2020** was a year full of surprises and unexpected developments at all levels. It started peacefully with a winter in line with the latest ten-year averages for temperature, sunshine and rainfall.

In February 2020, we participated for the first time to the Wine Paris Porte de Versailles fair, and it was a great success for Vignobles Gonfrier.

From March 2020, when the lockdown was announced, there was a foretaste of spring in the air. We witnessed an early bud break at the end of March. The branches developed quickly thanks to a warm and wet climate. The flowering was finally 2 weeks ahead of schedule but under an ideal weather, hot and dry.

This was the first condition for 2020 to be an excellent vintage.

The month of June surprised us with its rains and intensified the pressure of cryptogamic diseases. Fortunately, many of us were ready to defend ourselves against the fungi. The techniques of bio-control, the use of maps and the strength of our work allowed us to keep going and protecting the vines.

July and August were two extremely hot and dry months and this allowed the development of inflorescences. In spite of the wet month of June, the water stress was very present, leading to blockages in the physiological functioning of the vine. This late water stress may be one of the signatures of the 2020 vintage.

The harvest finally started on August 23<sup>rd</sup> with the Crémants. The Sémillons are a success with richness and a nice depth.

Afterwards, the dry white Bordeaux were picked in excellent conditions. The Sauvignons are bright and with a nice acidity, especially on our clay-limestone parcels in the communes of Langoiran and Lestiac.

The Merlots were picked during the whole month of September in an exceptional sanitary condition, from fairly large grapes but without dilution or hardness. The balance and finesse were already perceptible when tasting the grapes on the vine. The Cabernets were picked up at the end of September, with an interesting tannic potential and without any vegetal character. The future blends are very promising and wines are showing particular fruitiness and finesse today. This reminds us the words of Professor **Emile Peynaud** :

**"Great wines, great vintages  
taste very well early  
and will go on in time".**

While the 2020 reds are being matured, we have started the commercialization of the **2020 Rosés** with the **Château de Marsan Bordeaux Rosé** which shows



a more and more singular style with notes of English candy, strawberry and spices thanks to: a meticulous selection of the parcels to favor the complexity, 10% of Malbec in the blending which reinforces the fresh notes and finally thanks to a vinification and a maturation partly in French oak barrels.

The **Marquis de Bern Bordeaux Rosé** confirms its typicality with citrus aromas and lightness in the mouth.

Our **dry white Bordeaux wines**, that are now deliverable, are still divided into two vintages.



Our Bordeaux Blancs from the hillsides and aged in barrels are commercialized in 2019 vintage until November 2021. These are dry whites with matter and a mineral framework in mouth. This is the case of **Château de Marsan**, **Château Tanesse** and **Château Langoiran**.



We offer **Marquis de Bern Bordeaux dry white** in 2020 since April. Less explosive than the 2019, it gains however in roundness and length of mouth which makes it very appreciable with well-chosen dishes.

Concerning red wines, **Château Tanesse Cadillac Côtes de Bordeaux 2017** reveals itself little by little as do all the great vintages of Château Tanesse on this clay-gravel terroir of Langoiran. The mentholated and spicy notes are well pronounced, the mouth is precise and long.



**Château de Lestiac Cuvée Prestige**, **Château de Marsan** and **Château Langoiran** are now all available in 2018 vintage. This particularly dry vintage is beginning to be fully appreciated in this month of May 2021. Our other reds from cooler hillsides terroirs such as **Château Baracan** and **Château de Laville** located in the commune of Capian are now available in 2019 vintage.



The **Bordeaux Supérieur** of **Château Le Gardera** and **Château du Grand Bern** were bottled at the beginning of March 2021 and are available at some of our retailers.

This year also marked an acceleration in the consumption of our **Moelleux wines**. The 35 grams of sugar per liter dosage is becoming more and more popular with our customers. Blends are carefully considered each year to sublimate the Sauvignon markers while maintaining a round and light palate. **Lion de Tanesse "L'Amour"** is particularly popular again this year!



Our **Cadillac Liqueux** will unfortunately be a rare commodity because 2020 will not have allowed us to vinify any. The available stock of 2017 vintage is coming to an end, and you will be able to taste the 2018 vintage of **Château Tanesse** which is available in its new bottle shape from June 2021.





# 2020: THE MAJOR PROJECTS OF THE YEAR

## The Château de Marsan site has been officially registered as an ICPE.

This is a key step that underlines our desire for constant growth, our commitment to control all our processes and also to respect the residents



*Any industrial or agricultural operation likely to create risks or cause pollution or nuisances, particularly for the safety and health of residents, is a Classified Installation for Environmental Protection (ICPE).*

*An ICPE is subject to numerous regulations for the prevention of environmental risks, particularly in terms of authorizations.*

We have just completed **the installation of the loading bays and storage areas**. This is another step in the continuous improvement of our practices.

We have always believed that storage is an integral part of our business. Our increasingly powerful wines deserve to be stored in bottles for up to three years post-harvest before being sold. This is why we have built **three storage cellars** this year, representing an additional surface of approximately **1500m2** perfectly adapted to the wines conservation.



**We have been committed to environmentally sustainable agriculture since the beginning.** In order to better highlight these practices, we continue to convert our surface to Organic Agriculture.

**In 2022, we will have:**

- . 40 HECTARES CERTIFIED**
- . and 65 HECTARES IN CONVERSION.**



The magnificent vineyard of **Château Barreyre** on a single hillock in Langoiran **will be certified AB from the 2023 vintage.**



We have planted **more than 3 kilometers of "rural" hedges** with a tree planted every meter. These are different local species: Holm oak, field maple, common hornbeam (pruned in "charmille"), hawthorn, blood dogwood, wild apple tree, etc.

4 types of trees: high trees, intermediate trees, high bushy trees and low bushy shrubs. Depending on the terroir ( marshes, hillsides), we adapt the choice of species.

The principle is always to vary the species within the hedge. These hedges have many advantages and are perfectly in line with our environmental and societal approaches. A project that will continue in 2022!

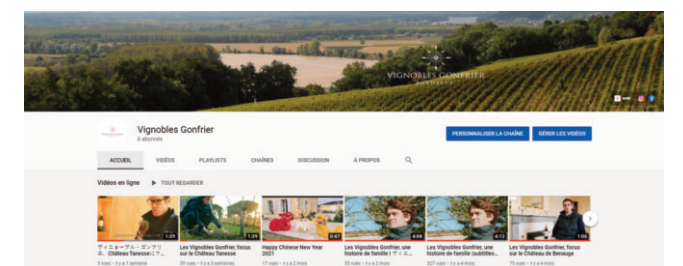


**Mapping tools** are becoming more accurate thanks to recent work by reputable soil scientists in the region. These maps are invaluable tools for us and are integrated into all our decision support tools.

The **Château Langoiran Boutique** hosted several **"Culinary Workshops"** throughout the year. We have been lucky enough to welcome Japanese, Reunionese and Chinese chefs, etc. We will continue this adventure which allows us to discover and exchange with our customers on food and wine pairings often unexpected.



**RENDEZ-VOUS "CHINE"**  
**LE SAMEDI 10 OCTOBRE**



**A global communication plan redesigned** to take into account the new issues related to distance. Several subtitled videos have already been produced and there will be a new one every month until 2022.



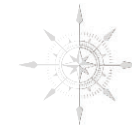


## NEW CUVÉES:



### CHÂTEAU BARACAN Cadillac Côtes de Bordeaux 2019

This is a juicy, fresh blend from a new blend for Vignobles Gonfrier with:  
40% Merlot,  
35% Cabernet Franc,  
20% Cabernet Sauvignon  
and 5% Petit Verdot.



### ODYSSÉA Cadillac Côtes de Bordeaux 2018

This is a cuvée produced from a selection of the finest plots of Château Langoiran.

It is a carbonic maceration,  
vinified entirely in barrels (AF and MLF).

We would like to thank Jeb Dunnuck for his appreciation!



### MONARCH, Vin de France

This wine is composed of the Monarch grape variety, naturally resistant to cryptogamic diseases.

It is a proposal to solve questions about the use of inputs in the vineyard.  
To go even further in this approach of reducing inputs, we have vinified it entirely in 225L barrels.  
This wine comes from a farm in conversion to organic agriculture.  
The name of this wine will be announced soon.



### ODYSSÉA BLANC DE BLANCS BRUT Crémant de Bordeaux

The Semillon is honored with a subtle dosage that allows to fully appreciate the purity of the wine.

Our philosophy is guided by the search for excellence.



### 'O' BRUT NATURE Crémant de Bordeaux

Our Semillon grapes, selected over time, are particularly well suited to the production of great sweet wines, and offer here a beautiful roundness without any dosage.

This Brut Nature has a very pleasant purity, with fine, airy bubbles and a great minerality in mouth.





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