



# CHATEAU LA MISSION HAUT-BRION



## Château La Mission Haut-Brion 2010

Château La Mission Haut-Brion's tasting notes :

The striking, deep-purple colour of this wine is reminiscent of a ripe aubergine. It has an intense, complex bouquet, blending hints of oak with blackcurrant, liquorice, and chocolate. The nose reveals a seemingly endless range of aromas. On the palate, the breadth and expressivity of this wine is immediately impressive. The tannins are flavourful and its structure is poised, buoyed up by incredible freshness. To take an architectural metaphor, 2010 Château La Mission Haut-Brion is reminiscent of the Eiffel Tower. Its structure is immediately perceptible but, although it is obviously a substantial construction, it gives an impression of lightness and elegance. These contrasts make it easier to understand the challenge that faced the architects in both cases: to achieve perfect balance. Like Mr. Eiffel and his builders, we are satisfied we have been successful.

Merlot Noir 37%

Cabernet Sauvignon 62%

Cabernet Franc 1%

Date of the harvest: Sept. 8th – Oct. 8th

To drink ideally around: 2020/2035

Weather conditions

Rainfall: 225 mm

Total production Gironde: 5,7 million hl

Number of days over 30°C/86°F: 24

Current vintage notes

A dry year with an arid summer.

The weather during the growing season, from early April to late September, was the driest since 1949. Total rainfall was just over half the average for the past 60 years: 225 mm compared to the usual 400 mm. (For your information, the wettest summer was 1992, with nearly 700 mm! Interestingly, 2005 was the second-driest vintage after 2010, with 229 mm). This water deficit caused dehydration in the vines, concentrating the grape juice and producing the highest values ever measured, particularly in terms of sugar content. The very cool nights promoted the accumulation of anthocyanins, so the 2010 red wines are the deepest-coloured in recent years.



*Domaine Clarence Dillon*

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