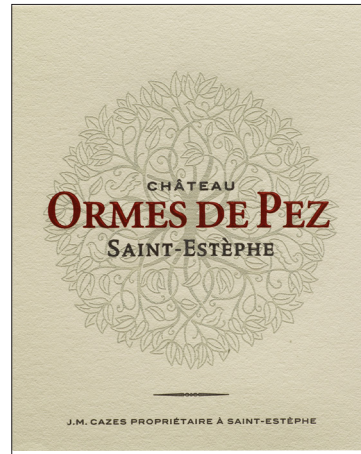




APPELLATION
Saint-Estèphe

VINTAGE
2014

OWNER
Jean-Michel CAZES



Surface: 35 hectares

« **Terroir** » (soil): Garonne Gravel

Harvest: Hand-picked and sorted at the vineyard

Ageing: French oak barrels for 16 months (45% new wood)

Blending: 47% Cabernet Sauvignon, 44% Merlot, 7% Cabernet Franc, 2% Petit Verdot

The season leading into the 2014 harvest started well with a relatively early budburst. On 19 May the vineyard had to contend with one of this vintage's typical hailstorms, incurring the loss of 30% of the yield.

The most stringent measures were needed to protect the vineyard. But thanks to the exceptional weather conditions in September and October, the ripening of the grapes was able to get under way in conditions that were favourable for the organoleptic and analytical qualities of the berries. This unexpected sunny spell arrived late and was particularly beneficial for the Cabernet Sauvignon. In the end, the predominantly clayey gravel soils at Saint-Estèphe resisted the dry conditions very well, yielding very concentrated berries.

The Merlot harvesting started on 29 September for four days, followed by two days (2 and 3 October) of picking the Cabernet Franc and Cabernet-Sauvignon plants. The old Cabernet-Sauvignons were harvested from 6 to 10 October and the Petit Verdot was picked on 7 October, between two Cabernet plots.

Picking therefore finished on 10 October at Ormes de Pez after 11 days of harvesting instead of the 13 days initially envisaged.

With a lovely dark red colour, the nose is rich in fruity aromas and the smooth, structured palate displays perfect balance.