



## CHÂTEAU VILLA BEL-AIR

AOC GRAVES RED 2014

Château Villa Bel-Air is located in Saint Morillon in the heart of the «Graves» appellation. This 18th century property was bought in 1988 by Jean-Michel Cazes and his family. From this date, the vineyards and the technical installations have been completely restructured. Advanced techniques are implemented in the renewed vines but the spirit in which they are tended perpetuate ancestral traditions. Today Château Villa Bel-Air produces red and white wines which perfectly illustrate the finesse and complexity of Grave wines.

### The terroir

*The property is perched on a magnificent gravel brow. The soil is composed of Garonne gravel, and lies on a subsoil base of clay-limestone, partly ferruginous. The terroir also benefits from an advantageous micro-climate: the surrounding pine forests protect it from bad weather, and the proximity of the Garonne River mitigates both extreme heat and excess humidity.*

### The vintage

*With the auspiciously cold winter and mild spring, and the contrastingly miserable summer, the growing cycle was particularly testing. The first signs of veraison did not appear until 24 July, and the very rainy August compelled the technical team to take great care over the sanitary state of the vineyard. The vintage was saved by an exceptional September: levels of sunshine well above average, and high temperatures combined with cool nights enabled the berries to be picked at full maturity and ensured a perfect aromatic expression for the wines.*

*Harvesting took place in brilliant sunshine. Picking began with the Merlot on 2 September and ended with the Cabernet Sauvignon on 16 October, just before the fierce storms of 17 October.*

### Tasting note

*Villa Bel-Air displays a deep colour and an attractive nose with aromas of red fruits and violets mingled with roasted and woody notes.*

*The attack is solid, the palate revealing gorgeous ripe tannins, with toasty and mocha nuances.*

*The finish is ample and well rounded, with a flavour of liquorice. Already tasting delightful, this is a wine for laying down.*

### Grape varieties

50% Merlot, 40% Cabernet Sauvignon,  
10% Cabernet Franc

### Ageing

20% new wood, one-wine and two-wine  
barrels.

### Vinification

Traditional vinification and long  
maceration (20 days) allowing gentle  
extraction of colour and tannins.

### Analysis

Alcohol: 13% by Vol.



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J.M. CAZES SÉLECTION