

## **CHÂTEAU PONTÊTE BELLEGRAVE Graves de Vayres**

Located on the left bank of the Dordogne, the appellation of Graves de Vayres is historically renowned for its silky, full-flavored wines. The region's gravelly, sandy terroir is what gives wines their fine-grained texture, a characteristic that is artfully expressed in Pontête Bellgrave's elegant blend. This garrison and chateau in Saint-Germain du Puch since the sixteenth century has cultivated vines and made fine wines. In 2004, the de la Rivière family purchased the estate, renovating its ancient cellars and improving field work. A Bordeaux native, winemaker Bruno de la Rivière is full of enthusiasm for the region's rich history and land, evident in this terroir-true blend of Merlot and Cabernet Sauvignon.

WINERY: Château Pontête Bellegrave WINEMAKER: Bruno de la Rivière

ESTABLISHED: 2004

**REGION:** FRANCE • Bordeaux • Saint-Germain du Puch

**APPELLATION:** Graves de Vayres AOC

BLEND: 80% Merlot and 20% Cabernet Sauvignon

**VINEYARDS:** Graves de Vayres, located on the left bank of the Dordogne (Fronsac is directly across the river), is characterized by a series of gravelly terraces that also have a high sand content. Sub-soils are almost exclusively gravel.

**AGE OF VINES:** 30 years on average

**WINEMAKING:** Hand-harvested. Partially destemmed and fermented on indigenous yeasts in temperature controlled, stainless steel tanks. Aged for one year in French oak barrels, with 25% new oak.

**TASTING IMPRESSIONS:** Aromas of black plums, light herbs and black currants. Medium-bodied and fruity with refined tannins.

PAIRING SUGGESTIONS: Grilled steak with pepper; roasted lamb with

herbs; aged French cheeses

