

CHÂTEAU PONTÊTE BELLEGRAVE

Graves de Vayres

The appellation of Graves de Vayres is historically renowned for its silky, full-flavored red wines. The region's gravelly, sandy terroir is what gives blends here their fine-grained texture, a characteristic that is artfully expressed in Pontête Bellegrave's elegant red. This garrison and chateau in Saint-Germain du Puch since the 16th century has cultivated vines. In 2004, the de la Rivière family purchased the estate, renovating its ancient cellars and farming sustainably. Today the next generation is at the helm; Bordeaux native and winemaker Jean-Christophe Pleuvry is full of enthusiasm for the region's rich history and terroir, evident in this expressive blend of Merlot and Cabernet Sauvignon.

WINERY: Château Pontête Bellegrave

WINEMAKER: Jean-Christophe Pleuvry (son-in-law of former winemaker Bruno de la Rivière)

ESTABLISHED: 2004

REGION: FRANCE • Bordeaux • Saint-Germain du Puch

APPELLATION: Graves de Vayres AOC

BLEND: 80% Merlot, 20% Cabernet Sauvignon

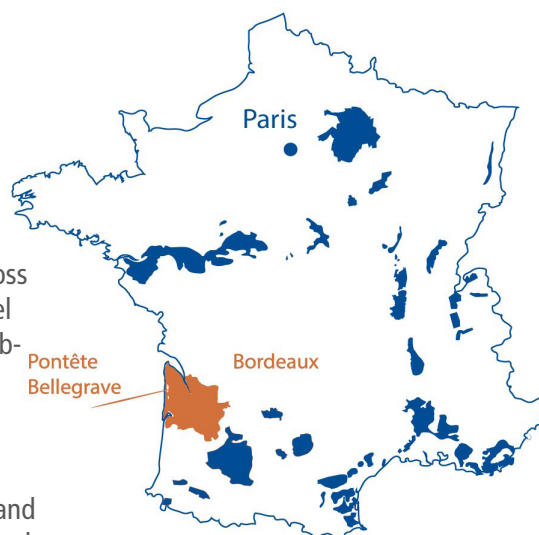
VINEYARDS: Graves de Vayres is a small, historic appellation located across the Dordogne river from the village of Fronsac. Here terraces rich in gravel also have a high sand content, contributing to wines' smooth tannins. Subsoils are almost exclusively gravel.

AGE OF VINES: 40 years, on average

WINEMAKING: Destemmed; fermented on indigenous yeasts in temperature-controlled tanks. Aged in French oak barrels, 50% new oak and 50% two-year barrels, for 12 months; 10% of the vintage is kept in tank and then blended before bottling. Unfined and unfiltered.

TASTING IMPRESSIONS: Aromas of dark cherry, light spice, incense. Full-bodied, structured: sweet tobacco, cherry, spice.

PAIRING SUGGESTIONS: Roasted lamb; pork sausages with herbs



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