

# THE WINE TRUST®

EST 1973



## Background

**Owner:** Lochlan and Brenda Quinn

**Country:** France

**Region:** Bordeaux – Pessac-Leognan

**Description:** Chateau de Fieuzal is one the premier estates in Pessac-Leognan, having been awarded Grand Cru Classe de Graves status in 1959. The chateau dates to the 17<sup>th</sup> century, with the current owners, Allied Irish Bank Chairman Lochlan Quinn and his wife taking the reins in 2001. Quinn has invested extensively in a state-of-the-art cellar which allows for plot-by-plot vinification. Winemaker Stephen Carrier, who joined in 2007, is a rising star who merges a global outlook honed from stints in California, with respect for the traditions of Bordeaux.

## Wine Notes – 2015 L'Abeille de Fieuzal Rouge, Pessac-Leognan

First bottled in the early 1980s, L'Abeille de Fieuzal is bottled with the same fastidious attention to detail as the chateau's Grand Vin and offers a compelling quality-to-price ratio. The wine is a standard setter for the deuxième crus of Bordeaux and uses the same first-quality, estate-grown fruit as the Grand Vin. Indeed, unlike most second label wines, L'Abeille is not made of lesser or separate plots, declassified grapes or younger vines. Rather, the key differences between the Grand Vin and L'Abeille are simply the blend and the winemaking style. L'Abeille is intended to be consumed in 2-7 years (versus 5-25 years for the Grand Vin) and features a higher proportion of Merlot.

Hailing from one of the greatest vintages ever in Bordeaux, 2015 L'Abeille offers charming aromas of fresh red fruit, vanilla and subtle oak, with a balanced and smooth mouthfeel and hints of sweetness.

## Technical Specifications

<b>Wine:</b>	2015 L'Abeille de Fieuzal Rouge
<b>Varietal Composition:</b>	50% Merlot, 40% Cabernet Sauvignon, 10% Cabernet Franc
<b>Vineyard Region:</b>	Pessac-Leognan
<b>Vine Age / Yields:</b>	35+ years old on average
<b>Production Volume:</b>	1,500 cases
<b>Vineyard Characteristics:</b>	Gently sloping clay soils with gravel outcrops
<b>Wine-Making / Vinification:</b>	Each plot separately farmed and harvested, vinified in 63 separate vats of varying sizes and materials (stainless steel for Cabernet Sauvignon and Petit Verdot, oak for Merlot and Cabernet Franc) 7-day maceration Aged entirely in used French oak barrels for 14 months
<b>Alcohol / Volume:</b>	13.5%
<b>Packaging:</b>	6-pack OWC