



## Chateau de Fieuzal Background

Owner: Lochlan and Brenda Quinn

Country: France

**Region:** Bordeaux – Pessac-Leognan

**Description:** Chateau de Fieuzal is one of Pessac-Leognan's top estates and was awarded Grand Cru Classe de Graves status in 1959. While the chateau dates to the 17<sup>th</sup> century, the current owners have invested extensively in a state-of-the-art facilities enabling plot-by-plot vinification. Winemaker Stephen Carrier is a rising star who merges a global outlook honed from stints in California with respect for the traditions of Bordeaux.

## Wine Notes – 2018 L'Abeille de Fieuzal Rouge, Pessac-Leognan (Bordeaux)

First bottled in the early 1980s, L'Abeille de Fieuzal is made with the same fastidious attention to detail that Stephen Carrier gives to the chateau's Grand Vin and offers a compelling quality-to-price ratio. The wine is a benchmark among the deuxieme crus of top-tier Bordeaux as it uses the same first-quality, estate-grown fruit as the Grand Vin, differing only in the varietal blend and winemaking style – L'Abeille is intended to be consumed in 2-7 years (versus 5-25 years for the Grand Vin) and features more Merlot than its big brother. Hailing from the excellent 2018 vintage, this deep, lush and immediately accessible wine offers a dark fruit-driven style balanced with fine tannins, smooth mouthfeel and hints of sweetness.



**91 Points** - with a dominance of Merlot, this second wine of Château de Fieuzal is rich while keeping a good sense of proportion and accessibility. Soft tannins give shape and set off the blackberry fruits.

## **Technical Specifications**

Varietal Composition: 60% Merlot, 30% Cab Sauvignon, 8% Cab Franc, 2% Petit Verdot

Vineyard Region:Bordeaux, Pessac-LeognanVine Age / Yields:35+ years old on average

**Production Volume:** 1,500 cases

**Vineyard Characteristics:** Gently sloping clay soils with gravel outcrops ('croupes')

**Wine-Making / Vinification:** Each plot separately farmed/harvested/vinified in 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

Alcohol / Volume: 13.5%

**Packaging:** 6-pack OWC