

THE WINE TRUST®

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La Chenade Background

Owner: Denis Durantou

Country: France

Region: Bordeaux

Description: Since taking over the family vineyards in 1985, Denis Durantou has built a reputation as one of Bordeaux's greatest winemakers. His flagship property, Eglise Clinet, has become one of the appellation's benchmark estates, regularly compared to greats such as Petrus, Le Pin and Lafleur. Durantou is known as the "genius of Pomerol", both for the tremendous quality of his wines as well as for his extraordinary precision in both the vineyard and the cellar.

Wine Notes – 2016 La Chenade, Lalande-de-Pomerol

La Chenade is an 80/20 blend of merlot and cabernet franc, made from a distinct set of vines located in the southwest corner of the Les Cruzelles vineyard. The vines were originally taken from Durantou's flagship estate, Eglise Clinet, which is less than a mile away. Although located in Lalande-de-Pomerol, the estate is effectively a northern extension of the Pomerol plateau and boasts virtually identical gravel and clay soils. La Chenade is aged in 30% new oak, with 1500 cases made. This is undoubtedly one of the wine world's great bargains, offering extraordinary pleasure now, along with the ability to age and improve for a decade or more.

Ratings Information

The 2016 La Chenade is a blend of 80% Merlot and 20% Cabernet Franc from Denis Durantou's estate in Lalande-de-Pomerol. It was picked 24-29 September for the Merlot and 6 October for the Cabernet Franc at 39 hectoliters per hectare and then matured in 40% new oak. It has a lovely nose that needed some coaxing from the glass, eventually revealing black cherries and touches of bergamot with Earl Grey following later. The palate is medium-bodied with supple tannin, fresh right from the start, very harmonious with an elegant, quite minerally finish. Very elegant, very suave, very promising

Neil Martin, Wine Advocate, April 2017 – 90-92 Points

So delicious already with delicious depth and fruitiness, yet this always retains its balance and length. Fine tannins and a raspberry, cassis finish. You want to drink this now.

James Suckling, jamesuckling.com, April 2017 – 92-93 Points

The 2016 La Chenade is plump, juicy and absolutely delicious. Soft and pliant, with silky tannins, the 2016 will drink well upon release. Sweet floral and spice notes infuse a core of dark red stone fruit in this polished, classy Lalande de Pomerol from Denis Durantou. Tasted two times.

Antonio Galloni, vinous.com, April 2018 – 90-92 Points