

CHATEAU LA CROIX DU DUC BORDEAUX ROUGE 2020/\$11.99



DESCRIPTION

Bordeaux has a cool marine coastal climate, with mild weather and no dry season. Bordeaux reds tend to be lower in alcohol and are slightly lighter in body. Stylistically, they

exhibit more nuanced flavors and less up-front fruit. Bordeaux is the largest wine producing region in France. It consists of two major areas—the Left and the Right Bank. Both lie in the heart of the Gironde estuary and are further divided by its tributaries, the Garonne and the Dordogne rivers. While the Right Bank produces blends that are mostly Merlot dominant, the Left Bank produces blends that are primarily Cabernet Sauvignon dominant. Bordeaux reds are said to be terroir-driven (if you like French wines, you'll hear this term a lot). Terroir is a concise way to define a specific region based upon the soil, climate, and the collective knowledge of the generations of people who have farmed the land. When shopping for Bordeaux reds, keep in mind, French wines are all about the region and the blend, not about individual grape varieties. In fact, you will rarely find blend percentages listed on the label. Collectively, Bordeaux produces 700 million bottles of wine in an average year! While some of the most expensive wines in the world come from Bordeaux, most are every day, affordable table wines.

Sitting on Bordeaux's right bank, you will find Chateau La Croix du Duc. It is a 15 hectare (37acre) estate near Lussac St. Emilion, the offices are located in the locality of Perruchon. The vineyards of this estate actually border the end of the rows of a neighboring Lussac Vineyard. The estate has been in the hands of the Chollet family since 1865. Today the estate is part of the famous Jean-Baptiste Audy Bordeaux Negociant House. The wine has built up a remarkably strong following amongst many Bordeaux fans in the areas where it is available.

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The vines are situated on clay and gravelly hillsides facing south west and their planting is 80% Merlot and 20% Cabernet Sauvignon and Cabernet Franc. Work in the vineyards and cellar are managed traditionally and the finished wine is bottles as AOC Bordeaux.

Chateau La Croix du Duc is mechanically harvested and traditionally produced in stainless steel vats. The 2020 Vintage in Bordeaux has been noted a "modern vintage" with softer tannins and fruit dominant yet balanced acidity. It is a true classic yet modern vintage with much charm and purity of fruit; more elegant and accessible than several past vintages.

Tasting Notes

Nose:

La Croix du Duc is notable for its fruit forward qualities; subsequently it offers plenty of blackberry and cherry aromas and flavors.

Palate:

It is full-bodied and smooth displaying earthy notes mingled with black and red fruit. The round, lush quality of Merlot is fully evident and the soft tannins on the finish make it a great "take home and enjoy it tonight!" bottle of wine.

Pairing:

Sophisticated and elegant, Bordeaux Rouge pair well with game meats, roast lamb, or hearty beef stews. The wine is a classic Claret meant to be enjoyed in its youth with hearty bistro style cuisine.



Bordeaux A.O.C., France

