



CHÂTEAU CLARE

GRAVES

A GRAVES ESTATE IN NATURE'S MIDST



A natural setting in the heart of the forest

Château Clare is located in a unique natural setting in a clearing at the heart of the Landiras forest. The abundance of pine trees around the property form a natural protective barrier, which acts as a buffer against the unforgiving and potentially devastating winds coming off the Atlantic Ocean. A further unique feature serves as an additional reminder of Mother Nature's goodness: under the vineyard, the famous natural springs of Budos, one of the prettiest spots in South-West France, supply water to the southern metropolitan area of Bordeaux.

The fifth generation focusing on a new chapter

Here, in this ideal setting, the Carreyre family, winemakers from generation to generation, decided to permanently settle in 1733. The Château began with a love story, when one of the ancestors, devoted to a certain "Claire", named the eponymous Château in her honour. Fast-forward 5 generations and since 1991, Thierry ensures the legacy continues. Under his direction, the vineyard saw rapid expansion, with red and white plantings increasing from 9 to 17 ha. This gentle giant with piercing blue eyes, lacking in neither ambition nor nerve, set to remodel the vineyard, adapting rootstocks and grape varieties to the specific character of the terroir. Every potential inch of the estate was converted to focus entirely on viticulture, abandoning the arable farming previously favoured by his parents. Combing surrounding regions for any opportunity to buy additional vines, to his good fortune, Château de Landiras, his illustrious neighbour, was looking to sell some of its finest plots.

The ultimate Graves terroir

Today, the majority of vines adjoin the Château, and unfurl across 2 small gravel plateaux, of which some of the deepest exceed 8-10 m. Gently undulating, this stony terroir provides remarkable natural drainage, with rainwater seeping between the vines and avoiding any gathering stagnant water. Drainage is aided by an important river network, the main branches of which, the Budos natural springs, are complemented by small watercourses at the foot of the plateau. Never overwatered, with a constant supply of water in just the right quantity, the vine flourishes by drawing all the goodness it needs from the subsoil.

To extract the very best from this high-quality terroir, Thierry Carreyre is keen to remain technically up to speed with the very latest vinification techniques, and seizes every opportunity to update family traditions. Every process conducive to creating increasingly rounded, complex wines is considered; the estate is just on the brink of a new dawn.

Château Clare has still much more to give in this exquisite, natural setting in the Landiras forest.





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OWNER:
Thierry Carreyre.

KEY DATES:
1733: the Carreyre family bought their first parcel of vines in the Landiras forest; a few years later, they created Château Clare (the name is the result of a beautiful love story between one of their ancestors and a certain « Claire »). **1991:** Thierry Carreyre took over the estate and represents the 5th generation.

LOCATION:
A clearing in the heart of the Landiras forest, 20 km to the west of Langon.

SOIL PROFILE:
Mainly made up of small gravel, in some parts 8-10m deep.
85% of the vineyard is located on 2 plateaux, with small, north and south facing valleys. A stream lies below the plateau and adjoining the estate.

AREA UNDER VINE:
17 ha including 8 ha of red.

PLANTING DENSITY:
5,500 vines/ha.

GRAPE VARIETIES:

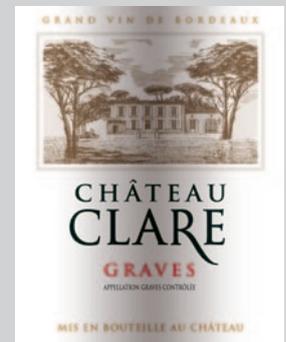
- 60% Merlot,
- 35% Cabernet Sauvignon,
- 5% Cabernet Franc.

AVERAGE AGE OF THE VINEYARD:
25-30 years.

HARVESTING:
By machine.

VITICULTURAL REGIME:
Lateral shoot removal, suckering, thinning out; the vine is tied up several times.

VINIFICATION:
On the estate, assisted by a consultant winemaker. The winery is equipped with stainless-steel, temperature-controlled tanks, which are smaller for the more detailed management of individual parcels.



«A FRUITY, FLESHY
GRAVES WINE»

"The wines at Château Clare are typical of the Graves region. Deep in colour, they reveal appealing aromatic intensity with delicate baked cherry-fruit notes. Generous and well-balanced on the palate, the wine culminates in an appealing, lingering finish."

*Thomas Drouineau,
winemaker, Maison Delor*

