



CROCUS

LE CALCIFÈRE 2016

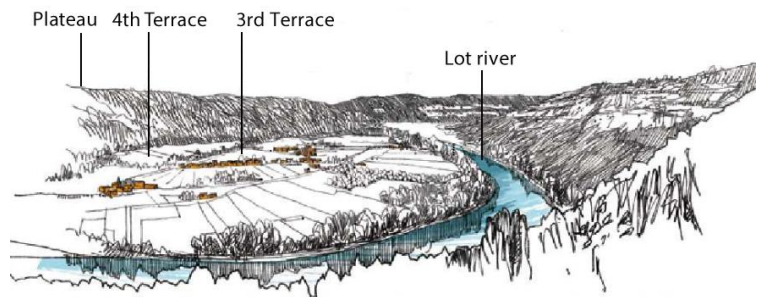
Malbec de Cahors

One of Cahors' strength is its great diversity of soils. There are 9 generally recognized broad terroirs with a large palette of microclimates to give added nuance to each vineyard, each block. Le Calcifère is a traditional wine with a concentrated, new world polish, highlighting the expressions of specific sites within the three select terroirs of the Lot Valley.

Terroirs	Plateau	4th Terrace	3rd Terrace
Geologic time (Million yrs ago)	2 nd stage of the Jurassic (157.3 to 152.1)	Quaternary (2.6 to now)	Mindel (0.7 to 0.5)
Soil	Kimmeridgian limestone rocks, iron-rich red clays	limestone screes, gravels, very ancient alluvial deposits	pebbles, clay, sand, iron concretion, very ancient alluvial deposits
Avg. Elev. (ft)	980	788	558
Wine profile	structure, energy	red fruits, hints of rustic earthiness	bold black fruits, supple tannins, roundness

Vineyard

- Guyot-pruned to one arm
- High density planting 12,350 vines/ acre (5000 vines/ ha)
- 2.2 tons per acre (40 hl/ ha)
- Low-input methods "lutte raisonnée"; dry-farmed



Growing Season

We had a wet spring, but summer had ideal conditions for grape growth. Beginning of September was drier than previous years which concentrated the berries. A consecrated rain at the end of the month gave the fruit optimum conditions to complete maturation.

Winemaking

- 100% Malbec
- Hand harvest September 27th
- Fruit selected from the plateau, the 3rd and 4th terrace
- 3-day cold soak, 21-days total maceration
- Fermentations in small stainless steel tanks
- Cap management via pump-over and "delestage"
- 18 months in 50% new, 50% single use French oak

Tasting Notes

An opaque purple-black malbec with a magenta tone on the rim, expressing aromas of red and black fruits such as black cherry jam, ripe blackberry, wild strawberry and huckleberry. The palate is concentrated and fresh, beginning with notes of plums and coffee bean which give way to hints of almonds and black truffle. Structured and velvety tannins lead into a long, fruit forward finish.

Production: 750 cases (bottled in Jul '18)

