



CROCUS

LA ROCHE MÈRE 2016

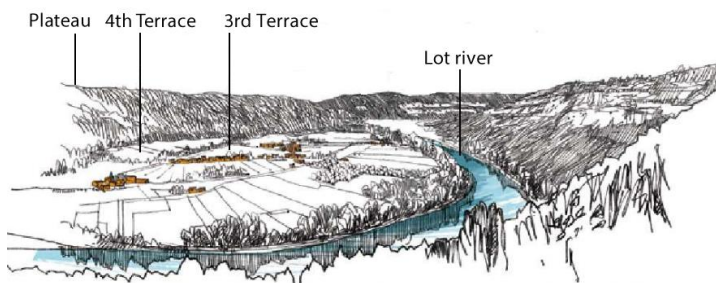
Malbec de Cahors

La Roche Mère is the first wine born from the meeting between Paul Hobbs and Bertrand Vigouroux. Driven by showing the potential of Cahors through meticulous vineyard management and winemaking, the two men have selected the best micro plots from prized terroirs to showcase their interpretation of Cahors' Malbec.

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

Vineyard

- Guyot-pruned to one arm
- High density planting 14,820 vines/ acre (6000 vines/ ha)
- 1.7 tons per acre (35 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 29th
- Fruit selected from the plateau and 3rd terrace
- 3-day cold soak, 21-days total maceration
- Fermentation in very small stainless steel tanks
- Cap management via pump-over and "delestage"
- Malolactic fermentation in barrel
- 24 months in 100% new Darnajou, Baron and Taransaud French oak barrels (225 l)

Tasting Notes

A deep, dark colored malbec. Intense aromas of fresh fruits such as blueberry, raspberry, and red plum bounce from the glass, followed by a refreshing touch of mint with hints of dark chocolate and cubeb berry. This complex and gracefully balanced wine reveals a bright palate, expressing minerality folded in with aromas of black berry, violet, spices and balsamic. The tannins are smooth and well-integrated; the finish is long and delicately fresh.

Production: 150 cases (bottled in Jul '18)

