



# 1998

## WEATHER CONDITIONS

Warm and dry conditions during the first three months of the year caused the vines to bud earlier than usual. Exceptional weather in June ensured that the vegetation cycle continued favorably and flowering took place during the early part of the month.

After heat wave conditions in August, the crop showed substantial potential with the presence of very ripe berries. The weather during the first fortnight of September encouraged the development of Botrytis cinerea.

## HARVEST

The early and even spread of the Noble Rot made it possible to produce very high quality musts with great potential for aromas and flavors.

HARVEST DATES	September 24 <sup>th</sup> to October 22 <sup>nd</sup> , 1998
PASSES	4 manual successive passes
NUMBER OF DAYS OF HARVEST	20
GRAPE VARIETIES	Sémillon 75%, Sauvignon Blanc 23%, Muscadelle 2%
FERMENTATION	in barrel (100% new)
AGEING	18 months in French oak barrels 100% French oak
ESTATE BOTTLED	May 2000

## TASTING NOTES

The wine is of a beautiful, deep gold color. The nose opens right away onto very subtle characters, mixing a few zests of candied orange with delicate notes of vanilla, apricot liqueur, a light touch of gingerbread and honey.

On the palate, this wine is fleshy, mastering perfectly the balance between the fullness and the freshness of a vintage full of flavors.

The quality of an early, homogenous botrytisation can be found in the lovely, aromatic return marked with fresh candied citrus fruits and sustained by a light minerality bringing personality, length and finesse to the wine.