

2005 VINTAGE

2005 Harvest datesFrom September 21 to October 6th

Production 70.88 ha

Yield 42 hl/ha

Blend
Cabernet Sauvignon 47%
Merlot 46%
Cabernet Franc 3%
Petit Verdot 4%

The 2004-2005 growth cycle was marked by even less rainfall than the preceding years, thereby maintaining a water deficit going back three years.

The growing season got off to a fairly slow start due to cool weather in the month of March but on the whole, flowering was quite even for the various grape varieties, which augured well for ripening later in the year.

Occurring very quickly and uniformly, peak *véraison* (colour change) took place around the 10th of August. Despite a few showers in the first ten days of September, the weather was highly conducive to the forming of ripe, healthy fruit.

It did not rain a single day during the harvest. Grape quality was superb, with exceptional sugar levels in both Merlot and Cabernet.

Initial tastings when the wine was run off were extremely promising, showing very intense colour with plenty of fruit and body.



CHÂTEAU BEYCHEVELLE

TASTING NOTES 2005

The quintessentially elegant yet powerful 2005 may be the finest Beychevelle made since 1982. Its opaque ruby/purple color and sweet nose of camphor, blueberries, black currants, flowers, and crushed rocks precede a lovely, sweet, rich wine with zesty acidity delineating its medium to full-bodied personality, laser-like precision, and impressive purity and length. Anticipated maturity: 2014-2025+

The Wine Advocate – Robert Parker

The wine offers up a very black fruity young aromatic mélange of cassis, dark berries, a nice touch of Beychevelle meatiness, a great base of gravelly soil tones and just a touch of its new wood still in evidence. On the palate the wine is deep, full-bodied and complex, with a great core of black fruit, striking soil signature, very tangy acids, ripe, substantial tannins and outstanding length and grip on the beautifully focused finish. This will be a serious long distance runner, but eventually, the 2005 should take its place as one of the greatest vintages ever produced at the estate. 2025-2100.

View From The Cellar