

Collection

**FAMILLES &
CHÂTEAUX**

*Château
Barrail Bellegrave*

SAINT-ÉMILION GRAND CRU

MAISON BOUEY
VINS DE BORDEAUX ET DE TALENT



Château Barrail Bellegrave

SAINT-ÉMILION GRAND CRU

Château Barrail Bellegrave is in a location called «Barrail du Blanc». This along with the belles graves, or «beautiful gravelly soil», accounts for its name. The vines are in a single block surrounding the château in the commune of Saint-Sulpice de Faleyreins, just south of Saint-Emilion. The Descrambes family's beautiful house, in a typical local style, dates from the late 19th century. Four generations of enthusiastic winegrowers have lived here. The estate was originally devoted to mixed farming (viticulture and livestock), and the present-day cellar is housed in a former stable and barn. In July 2010 Hermine Descrambes will be taking over management from her father, Christian, who is nevertheless still involved with the estate.

Vineyard : six hectares (15 acres) in a single block. The vines are an average of 35 years old, and grow on a deep sand and gravel soil.

Grape varieties : 30% Cabernet Franc, 70% Merlot

Viticulture : Traditional, based on organic principles and respect for the environment. Leaf thinning on the eastern side of the vines. Green harvesting (depending on the plot), with grassing between the vine rows and chemical weed control underneath the vines.

Harvesting and fermentation : Handpicking. Extraction by pumping over and délestage (rack and return). Systematic use of cultured yeast. Malolactic fermentation using a starter on the press wine.

Ageing : in oak barrels, 1/4 of which are new. The rest is aged in concrete vats.

Tasting notes : Beautiful, luminous red colour and a nose of red fruit (cherry, raspberry, and blackcurrant). Silky texture with quite an elegant structure on the palate, which displays a medley of liquorice and mineral overtones. Smooth, round, and well-balanced. Delicious with both white and red meats, game, dishes in a sauce, and characterful cheeses.

