

CHÂTEAU HAUT-GOUJON

The Garde family

The development of a family heritage through a constant search for authenticity

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GOUJON

At the end of the 18th century, some land and a few vines belonging to the Garde family were recorded in the village of Goujon, in the communes of Montagne and Lalande de Pomerol.

In 1912, Élie Garde, *Henri's* grandfather, inherited part of this estate. It was then that *Château Haut-Goujon* was created. The property consisted of 6 hectares of mixed farming.

Twenty years later, Robert Garde, *Henri's* father, took over the farm.

In 1949, following the death of his father, Henri Garde *was obliged to manage the farm alone at the age of fifteen*. He owned practically nothing: a horse, two wooden vats, and a few rudimentary tools to work his land, most of which was unplanted. A few years later, he met his wife *Liliane*. The early days of managing the property were difficult, especially since the frost of *1956* ravaged the plots of vines they owned.

In the years that followed, *Liliane* and Henri replanted two hectares of vines themselves, which enabled them to relaunch their business and bottle their first vintage *in 1959*.

During these very difficult years, they had to work outside the farm, *Liliane* in a factory and Henri as a service provider. They never gave up thanks to their courage, perseverance, enthusiasm and passion. *Liliane remembers that they grew oats and barley for the horses at Château Pétrus, 5 kilometres away, owned at that time by Madame Loubat*.

It was only *in 1975* that production became sufficient to support them. They continued to develop the property, which had 13 hectares *in the 1980s*.

The family also grew, with three children : **Corinne, Mickaël and Vincent**. Their childhood revolved around the vineyard cycle and the estate. Henri and *Liliane* passed on their values and their pride in work well done. The property has always had a welcoming, convivial atmosphere.

In May 2013, Henri passed away his children inherited the estate. *Liliane* took over the estate with her three children. Today, *Corinne* and *Mickaël* manage *Château Haut-Goujon*, which now has 18 hectares in the Lalande de Pomerol and Montagne Saint-Émilion appellations.

2010 marked a new beginning with projects taking an *environmental approach* such as the obtaining of *ISO 14 001* certification *in 2011*, and *HEV3* (High Environmental Value) certification *in 2015*. *2016* saw the fruition of the desire to build a new vat room and reception facilities. The wines continue to gain in precision, and visitors are welcomed from all over the world.

Since 2020, the team at *Château Haut-Goujon* has continued to take up challenges, always with an innovative spirit, using *geobiology* to create exceptional wines, with the aim of being in the best possible harmony with the surrounding environment.

In 2021, *Liliane* received the *Medal of Agricultural Merit*, a high and well-deserved national award for her lifetime's work.

From the acquisition of expertise to a way of life, the history of Château Haut-Goujon will always be a human story.

