



BY APPOINTMENT TO  
HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN  
WINE MERCHANTS  
CORNEY & BARROW LIMITED  
LONDON



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HRH THE PRINCE OF WALES  
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# CORNEY & BARROW

INDEPENDENT WINE MERCHANTS

*Established 1780*



TERTRE ROTEBOEUF, ROC DE CAMBES & DOMAINE DE L'AURAGE  
FROM THE MITJAVILE FAMILY  
2008 VINTAGE



# Tertre Roteboeuf, Roc de Cambes & Domaine de L'Aurage

## From The Mitjavile Family

We are immensely proud to release this hat trick of superb wines together for the first time. The three wines are from the Mitjavile family - one of the most talented, viticulturally, in France. Tertre Roteboeuf (Saint-Emilion) and Roc de Cambes (Côtes de Bourg) are both created by the inspired François and Miloute Mitjavile and we now have Domaine de L'Aurage (Côtes de Castillon) with its debut primeur release year, from their son Louis.

## 2008 Vintage

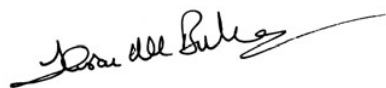
*2008 is a troubling vintage because the wine is excellent although the climate was not favourable – not at all. Every serious agronomist I have seen says they do not understand why this year produced such good wine...*

François Mitjavile April 2009

François was very honest and succinct, if rather brusque, in his assessment of the vintage. Quoting none of the scientific data which show the many favourable aspects, he used just two words to describe Spring and Summer – cold and rainy. In true Mitjavile style, he elaborated less on a definitive vintage report and rather more on the questions he is asking of himself, grappling with understanding the vintage. He finished with *Je donne ma langue au chat* – I give up !

There were, in fact, many positive factors, beginning with a healthily early budburst. The last ten days of June were good, both hot and dry, and July was actually the driest on record since 1946, with around average temperatures. Although the crop would be small due to a variety of climatic assaults during flowering and fruitset, a good end to the growing season was eagerly anticipated. Once again, August had other ideas. Persistent, though not particularly heavy rain prevailed until the last ten days of the month which were at last rather sunny and warm. September however, began rather badly, wet with south - westerly winds. At last, on the 13th, a high pressure system arrived, accompanied by drying and concentrating winds. This weather front prevailed well into October. François acknowledges that he tends to favour such late harvests as it is during the autumn that he feels the optimal aromatic components really come together. He has observed that through this extended period his grapes attained soft, ripe tannins. They have given a grace and elegance to the finished wine, allied to a remarkable freshness. François' wines are hearty, fresh and vibrant with considerable finesse.

As was anticipated, the harvest was small at all three properties, but of very high quality.



Alison Buchanan

Associate Director, Buying

May 2009



Domaine de L'Aurage



François Mitjavile



Cellar at Tertre Roteboeuf

## Tertre Roteboeuf

Tertre Roteboeuf is a wonderful property lying 2km south-east of Saint-Emilion. It is a natural amphitheatre with slopes facing due south towards the rising sun, on clay-limestone soil, *argilo-calcaire*. Varying levels of clay, altitude, vine orientation and aspect give the wines a tremendously diverse palate of potential flavours and aromas, producing wines which combine warm fruit with controlled opulence and a powerful, high-toned structure.

A scant 6 hectares in size, Tertre Roteboeuf's rise to fame from virtual obscurity has been meteoric. This turnaround was spearheaded by a unique individual, one François Mitjavile, aided and abetted by his wife Miloute and, most recently, his son and daughter Louis and Nina. The result is now undisputedly regarded as one of Saint Emilion's greatest wines.

From the outset, François sought to differentiate his wines through their quality by concentrating on the vineyard. Happily he had a trump card – a jewel of a property where the vines demand an extended growing period. The result is that the *terroir* ultimately allows for optimum ripeness and considerable power, yet the gradual warming of naturally cool soil acts as a counterbalance. The great paradox of Tertre Roteboeuf is its power and elegance in equilibrium, the hallmark of this estate, borne out in the glass where decadence and super-ripeness sit happily with a medley of vibrant primary fruit. It has effortless finesse.

The vineyard is planted with 85% Merlot and 15% Cabernet Franc, average age 40 years.

## Roc de Cambes

Roc de Cambes comprises 14 hectares of old vines, average age 45 years, in a natural amphitheatre overlooking the Gironde estuary – a situation which is very reminiscent of Tertre Roteboeuf, but on a larger scale. Roc de Cambes is planted on the most highly reputed slope of the Côtes de Bourg (“*les Croutes*”) where the heat of the sun is regulated by the effects of the estuary, permitting regular growth and wonderfully ripe, concentrated fruit. As at Tertre Roteboeuf, the soil is cool clay-limestone which, taking time to warm up in the Spring, impedes anything other than late maturity.

Essentially, François' approach in the Côtes de Bourg mirrors that at Tertre Roteboeuf, concentrating on the health of the vineyard; he controls vigour and often picks a great deal later than his neighbours. The grape mix is 75% Merlot, 20% Cabernet Sauvignon with the all-important seasoning of 5% Malbec – a stunning wine and a perennial Corney & Barrow favourite.

## Domaine de L'Aurage

We are delighted to launch the first en primeur vintage of Domaine de L'Aurage – recently renamed – which was produced in its entirety by Louis Mitjavile, François and Miloute's son. We are also very pleased to have been chosen to represent it exclusively in the UK.

Louis' name may be very familiar with some of our customers. We first came across him through Tertre Roteboeuf and Roc de Cambes, where he first cut his teeth in both the vineyard and the cellar and, more recently, in various ventures as a consultant in Bordeaux, Languedoc, Spain, Argentina and the USA. It was clearly only a matter of time – and access to the right site – before Louis and his wife Caroline would set up on their own. Their patience was rewarded when they found this fabulous property in the Côtes de Castillon, a lauded appellation bordering Saint-Emilion, which shares the same *argilo-calcaire* (clay – limestone) soil as its haloed neighbour.

The property is 20 hectares in size, with, very helpfully, 18ha of vines in one block. The vine density is 6500 vines per hectare, with an average age of 20 years, planted 80% Merlot, 20% Cabernet Sauvignon. This estate is within the highest area of St Genès de Castillon, adjoining Saint-Emilion, and the region has enjoyed a fine reputation for many years. This is, in so many ways, a dream property; a wonderful site which includes a very traditional, typical Arcachonesque villa.

# Tasting Notes

## Domaine de L'Aurage, Côtes de Castillon

**Corney & Barrow Score 16 to 17 plus plus**

Very much in the Mitjavile mould, Louis will not be making a second wine and all the *vin de presse* will be included in this wine. It is a very dense, dark crimson in colour, very attractive, with good intensity. The nose is intriguing and inviting; sweet, ripe, rich and peppered, with hints of fennel. The palate echoes these aromatics, all set within a gorgeous, rounded texture with sweet, summer pudding notes and warm cherry compote. Beautifully-textured, this is opulent, sensual and silky – bravo Louis !

*Grape varieties: 85% Merlot, 15% Cabernet Franc*

**Recommended drinking from 2014 to 2018 plus**

**£210/case of 12, in bond UK**

## Roc de Cambes, Côtes de Bourg

**Corney & Barrow Score 17 to 18**

This is a dense plum-ruby in colour, dark and inky. The nose is vibrant and breezy, fresh and perfumed with violets, roses and delicately spiced oak. The palate reveals a luscious balance of succulent, rich, ripe and creamy black and red fruits, refreshed by an attractive acidity – a lovely wine, heightened, with a long, layered finish.

*Grape varieties: 75 % Merlot, 5% Malbec, 20 % Cabernet Sauvignon.*

**Recommended drinking from 2014 to 2020 plus**

**£330/case of 12, in bond UK**

## Tertre Roteboeuf, Grand Cru Saint Emilion

**Corney & Barrow Score 18 to 19**

This is a jet-plum in colour, firm to a tight, bright rim. More closed on the nose than the Roc de Cambes when tasted together, there was nonetheless a similar palate of aromatics, sweet, lithe fruit interwoven with fresh, breezy, floral notes. The palate is richly textured and generous, with wonderful concentration of intense, rather decadent black and red fruit layered with mocha, toasted notes and cream. Poised and succulent, full and elegant, this is a lovely wine.

*Grape varieties: 85 % Merlot, 15 % Cabernet Franc.*

**Recommended drinking from 2015 to 2020 plus**

**£980/case of 12, in bond UK**

All of these wines are available in magnum format, please ask a sales representative.

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