

Château Valandraud Blanc 2022

CSPC# 888294

750mlx6

13.0% alc./vol.

Grape Variety

40% Sauvignon Gris, 40% Sauvignon Blanc, 20% Semillon.

Appellation

St. Emilion

Classification

Bordeaux Blanc

Website

<http://valandraud.fr/en/>

Analysis

pH: 3.15

Sustainability

Château Valandraud has also led the way in terms of energy efficiency, having implemented bioclimatic architecture into their new winery, which opened in 2021. Bioclimatic architecture is an approach to construction that focuses on sustainability and energy conservation. Château Valandraud's new winery was designed with natural materials like wood, stone, and clay sourced from nearby suppliers, as well as solar panels on the roof for generating electricity. In addition to providing shade to reduce cooling costs, rainwater harvested from the rooftop is collected and reused for irrigation purposes.

The facility also employs an innovative ventilation system that reduces energy consumption while ensuring optimal temperature control at all times and seasons. Natural air currents are directed around the building in order to keep it cool during hot summer days. Any wastewater created by production processes is treated right onsite before being released back into nature, in a full-circle approach to winery efficiency and sustainability.

Incorporating these green initiatives has enabled Château Valandraud to ensure their operations leave minimal environmental impact while still maintaining their high standards of quality wine production. Investing in eco-friendly technology helps them build towards a more sustainable future.

General Info

In 1989, Jean-Luc Thunevin and his wife Murielle bought a tiny 1.5-acre plot in Saint-Émilion near Châteaux Pavie-Macquin, Ausone, and La Clotte. Without the capital to build a full winery, a nearby garage was used...

The resulting wine, Château de Valandraud, was first released in 1991 (the name "Valandraud" is an amalgam of "Vallon de Fongaban" –where its vines grow– and "Andraud" –Murielle's maiden name). By 1995, it was rated 95 by Robert Parker.

Thus, was born the "garage wine" movement, so influential in the 1990s, and earning Thunevin the nickname of "Bad Boy". In 2012, Château Valandraud has been promoted as a 1st classified growth of Saint Emilion. In 2017, Château Valandraud became a full member of Union des Grands Crus de Bordeaux.

In 2000, always looking for new challenges, Jean Luc Thunevin and Muriel Andraud decided to plant some white grape varieties next to the Château Valandraud vineyard. They started the production of a white wine and 'Blanc de Valandraud' was born.

Each year, the blending of Valandraud Blanc is different and chosen after several tastings before the bottling. The style of the white wines is unique. They are filled with lemon, lime, floral, and minerality characteristics, along with ample freshness.

Winemaker

Eric Talavet. Jean-Luc Thunevin and Murielle Andraud - owners.

Vintage

A mild, dry winter preceded an early April marked by a few frosts which had no impact on the vineyards. Despite low rainfall, the clay-limestone soils allowed the vines to retain moisture and avoid water stress. Despite their small size, the berries are harvested at optimum ripeness.

Vineyards

While Valandraud started off as a small St. Emilion property, over the years, Jean Luc and Murielle have increased holdings due to continued purchases of vineyard land. Today, the property is 10 hectares. The vines are located in various areas in St. Emilion. Valandraud produces red and white wine. Aged 20 years on average, the vines are planted in clay-limestone soils. 2 hectares are devoted to the production of white wine.

Harvest

The 2022 Valandraud Blanc was picked 1-13 September.

Winemaking

Ageing on the lees, 80% new barrels, 20% in amphora, less than 10 months.



Tasting Notes	Limited aromatics on the nose making the palate feel even more unexpected and remarkable. Great texture, beautifully structured, crunch with some sweet sensations. Quite a long finish.
Serve with	Valandraud Blanc is an exceptional wine that will appeal to connoisseurs of refined and balanced wines. It is particularly appreciated for its complex aromatic notes and freshness in the mouth. This prestigious white wine is perfect for special occasions or elegant meals, where it can perfectly complement delicate and refined dishes. Lobster canapé, shellfish bisque, poultry.
Production	583 cases made. 6,000 bottles
Cellaring	Drink 2025-2035
Scores/Awards	95 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - January 2025 95 points - Georgina Hindle, Decanter.com - May 2023 94 points - Jane Anson, janeanson.com - May 2023 94 points - Neal Martin, Vinous - February 2025 94 points - Alexandre Ma MW - November 2024
