# Château Bernateau 2016

## Saint-Emilion Grand Cru

Since 2002, Pierrick Lavau, oenologist from Bordeaux Oenology Faculty, has joined his parents to succeed them, becoming then the 8th generation to grow vines on this estate. Chateau Bernateau enjoys an exceptional location in Saint-Emilion. Its vineyard, located among several first growths, is without any doubt one of the best of the appellation.

#### Vineyard:

Terroir: Clay and limestone hillsides and feet of the hill. Limestone plateau.

Average age of the vines: 40 years old.

Growing method: organic growing; no weed-killers; mecanical work of the soils; manual disbudding, leave thinning and green harvesting.

Yield: 35 hl/ha.

#### Wine-making:

- Hand-picking in crates from the  $3^{\rm rd}$  of september to the  $16^{\rm th}$  of October 2016.
- Sorting : by hand and optical sorting before vatting (separation by grape variety).
- Extraction: Pumping-over and/or pigeage, wine-making in temperature-controlled stainless-steel actionvats.
- Ageing: 24 months in 100% new oak barrels (french oak), then 12 months in stainless steel vats.
- Blending : 79% Merlot, 20% Cabernet Franc, 1% Petit Verdot.
- Bottling at the chateau.

### Wine tasting:

This is very deep and linear with a gorgeous depth of fruit and intensity. Bright acidity and enormous vitality of the crushed-berry flavors. Full-bodied, chewy and very long. Excellent depth and finesse.

### Awards and ratings:

- 94/100 : James Suckling.