



Chateau Godard – Bellevue AOC Francs, Côtes de Bordeaux 2011

Francs, Côtes de Bordeaux is the smallest and among the most westerly of the Bordeaux appellations, about a dozen miles from of Saint Emilion. Château Godard-Bellevue is a 30-hectare vineyard, just outside Francs, and has been in the Arbo family for four generations. Bernadette and Joseph Arbo took over the reins in 1988 and have been making great wine. They have invested significantly in the property and have recently employed the winemaker of the prestigious Graves property, Château Carbonnieux, to act as a consultant winemaker; as a result the results have improved even further.

The wine is made from 40 year old vines and is a blend of 65% Merlot, 20% Cabernet Franc and 15% Cabernet Sauvignon. It spend 12 months in oak barriques of which one third are new, one third one year old, and one third two years old, which ensures that the oak improves the texture of the wine without imparting obvious oak flavours.

The 2011 vintage was very good and the wine has a deep purple colour. On the nose there are beguiling aromas of ripe black fruits with hints of cedar and cigar box. On the palate, there is superb concentration of soft, rich dark fruits with a touch of liquorice at the finish, and soft ripe tannins. It is lovely now, but will become more complex and softer over the next five years.

Producer: Chateau Godard - Bellevue

Winemaker: Joseph & Bernadette Arbo

Country of Origin: France

Region of Origin: Bordeaux

Grapes: Merlot (65%), Cabernet Franc (20%) Cabernet Sauvignon (15%)

ABV: 14.0%

Closure Type: cork

