



Château Goddard-Bellevue « L'Étoile » 2009

About a dozen miles to the north east of St Emilion but sharing the same great soil and climate, this fourth generation family 30 hectare vineyard is owned by Joseph and Bernadette Arbo, who have invested heavily in new vinification equipment and are now making consistently great wines. Top of the range, only made in exceptional years, and with production of only 3,000 bottles, this wine is a star indeed. Like a coiled spring, this is a massive, young, concentrated claret – intense and brooding. Gault Millau awarded the wine 17.5 / 20, commenting that it was “ a great wine, in a modern style, with fleshy fruit, warmth, and lots and lots of charm and underlined by luxury” (well that’s a French tasting note for you). 95% merlot and 5% cabernet with 16 months in new oak barriques, it’s well balanced, with a real freshness and fine tannins delivering velvety blackberry and chocolate fruit on the palate. Keep it if you can, but it’s mighty impressive and delicious now. A very special cuvee but that will drink well right up to 2025. One to buy and lay down for a few years and avoid the inevitable higher cost if you buy it 5 or 10 years from now! Joseph recommends decanting 4 hours prior to drinking at 16°C – so precise!

Producer: Chateau Godard Bellevue

Winemaker: Joseph Arbo

Country of Origin: France

Region of Origin: Francs Cotes de Bordeaux

Grape variety: Merlot Cabernet Sauvignon

ABV: 14.5%

Closure Type: cork

