

BORDEAUX

CLOS L'ABBA
SAINT EMILLION

Marie-Pierre and Stephane Apelbaum
Saint Emilion Grand Cru
8 acres

The estate of Clos L'Abba has been created by Marie-Pierre and Stephane Apelbaum in 2001 by piecing together three small vineyard plots. The vineyards which came through both purchase and inheritance are situated in different communes, (Saint Emilion, Saint Sulpice de Faleyrens and Vignonet) and exemplify the different soils to be found in the Saint Emilion appellation. The vineyards have an average age of 25 years and Marie-Pierre and Stephane are now working them according to their personal philosophy. The soils are worked traditionally without the use of insecticides and an eco-system is preserved that includes the natural ground cover and predators. The severe thinning of grapes is carried out throughout the vine's growing cycle and harvesting is done by hand. The grape varieties are in the proportion 70% Merlot, 27% Cabernet Franc and 3% Cabernet Sauvignon. At harvest the grapes pass a selection process three times before being admitted into the winery for fermentation (sounds like Yquem). The grapes are fermented on their natural yeasts and extraction is obtained by manually breaking up the cap "pigeage". The wine is matured in new oak barrels for 16 to 18 months.

**triage wines**

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