

# VIRGINIE DE VALANDRAUD

## Saint-Emilion Grand Cru

En Primeur 2024

Named after Murielle Andraud and Jean Luc Thunevin's daughter, Virginie, this cuvée was created in 1992 as the second wine of Château Valandraud.

Since the 1997 vintage, with the expansion of the Thunevin vineyards in the Saint Emilion appellation, Virginie de Valandraud has had its own vineyards and its own identity while being cultivated in the same way and vinified in our cellars by the same technical team as Valandraud.

### The 2024 Vintage by Jean-Luc Thunevin and his team: "A vibrant wine born from a year of climatic contrasts"

The year 2024, although marked by fluctuating climatic conditions, allowed us to produce red wines of exceptional quality, thanks to the resilience and expertise of the men and women working in our vineyards. After a mild and exceptionally rainy winter, the dampness of spring led to a particularly strong mildew pressure starting in April. In response, our viticulture teams adopted an intense pace to maintain the sanitary health of our plots, carrying out early de-budding and leaf-thinning and maintaining grass cover between the rows.

The summer, alternating between rainy spells and sunny periods, naturally delayed the phenolic and aromatic maturation of the grapes. To encourage this maturation, a second leaf thinning was essential.

The timing of the harvest was carefully determined, taking into account the maturation gains stimulated by the favorable weather of the week of September 18th, and through close monitoring of the sanitary conditions. Our precise harvest date choices, the efficiency of picking, and the rigor of sorting in the vineyard and winery were crucial, also enabling us to ensure a good yield in terms of production.

On the Virginie de Valandraud terroirs, the Merlots stand out, offering density and ripeness that are particularly appreciable in this vintage. We also confirm our choice to age in new barrels, which brings both density and smoothness, contributing to a balanced structure and great harmony in the wine.

**Terroir:** Clay-limestone and Graves

**Harvested area:** 15 ha

**Blend:** 90% Merlot, 5% Cabernet Franc, 5% Cabernet Sauvignon

**Average age of the vines:** 20 years

**Ageing:** 18 to 20 months in 100% new oak barrel - two 15hL connected wooden tanks

**Production :** 50 000 bottles

**Consultants:** Paul-Marie Morillon for viticulture and Jean-Philippe Fort & Alexandre Béra for winemaking (Laboratoire Rolland & associés)

**Harvest:** manual from September 20th to October 5th

**Degree:** 13% alcohol    **pH:** 3.60

