

WINEDOCTOR

© Chris Kissack DEC 2022

« ST EMILION GRAND CRU CLASSÉ, 2022: OLDER VINTAGES »

THE WINES

The wines of **2018** are characterised by the ripe fruit of a warm vintage, and the best wines wrap this up with a rich bed of appropriately extracted tannins (emphasis on the word *appropriately*, there) and good texture. Two wines stood out on this occasion, and I am quite sure it is no accident that one of these properties also made one of the best 2019s. The **2018 Château de Pressac** impressed with its brooding black fruit, while the **2018 Château La Tour Figeac** showed a rather more fragrant and precisely drawn style, reflecting the greater reliance on **Cabernet Franc** in the blend here.

Château de Pressac (St Emilion) 2018: The blend in this vintage is dominated by Merlot, at 70%, with 15% Cabernet Franc, 12% Cabernet Sauvignon, 2% Malbec (or Pressac as it might be known locally) and 1% Malbec. An intriguing nose, dark and smoky, with black bean, liquorice and toast, laid over seams of black cherry and chalk. Aromatically this seeks set to impress. There follows a very complete and harmonious style on the palate, supple, with a nicely polished and sinewy substance, with a fine grip of tannins and fresh acidity. There is plenty of energy here, and a dark grip, easing it into the finish. Brooding, but undeniably seductive as well. This will develop very well. I raised a question over the last bottle I tasted, back in September 2021; looking at the strong performance here I was right to do so. The alcohol on the label is 14.5%. 94/100 🍷

https://www.thewinedoctor.com/tastingsformal/stemiliongcc2019_2.shtml