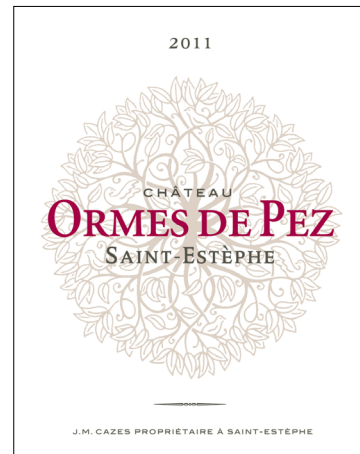




**APPELLATION**  
Saint-Estèphe

**VINTAGE**  
2011

**OWNER**  
Jean-Michel CAZES



**Surface** : 35 hectares

« **Terroir** » (soil) : Garonne Gravel

**Harvest** : Hand-picked and sorted at the vineyard

**Ageing** : French oak barrels for 15 months (45% new wood)

**Blending** : 50% Cabernet Sauvignon, 41% Merlot, 7% Cabernet Franc, 2% Petit Verdot

### « *The Rite of Spring* »

2011 was a curious year with a remarkably warm and dry spring. Consequently, flowering took place early and in fine conditions. July was cool and saw some rain, while August was mixed, cooler than average overall but with some heat spikes and some storms. September was warm and dry, enabling the grapes to ripen fully.

Harvest started on **September 12th** for the **Merlot** and on **September 20th** for the **Cabernet Sauvignon**. Two major stormy outbreaks on 1 September, punctuated by hailstorms, hit mainly the south of the Saint-Estèphe appellation, and fortunately did not directly affect the heart of our vineyard.

Intra-plot zoning, carried out using satellite imagery for the second year running, once again proved its worth by allocating an extension to ripening time over the most vigorous sections.

**Tasting note:** The mouth is fleshy with good body, while the tannins prove supple and ripe. The full-flavoured finish is marked by an aftertaste of spicy notes.