FEATURED WINES

2006 Chateau Fonplegade St.-Emilion Grand Cru Classe

St.-Emilion is the oldest winegrowing area in France's Bordeaux region.

So special is the terroir of St.-Emilion, it has been placed on the World Heritage List by UNESCO. And that terroir, farmed by experienced and passionate farmers, is responsible for producing grapes that are transformed into the most robust wines of Bordeaux.

Another quality of St.-Emilion wines is that they attain their full maturity a few years sooner than those made in other parts of Bordeaux. Whereas some Bordeaux bottlings can take decades to "open up," most St.-Emilion bottlings attain "prime time" between five and seven years from their vintage date.

The featured Grand Cru from Chateau Fonplegade is just about in its "sweetest spot" right now — sweet not in sugar level, but in its enjoyment quotient. The Merlot-based blend includes a small amount of Cabernet Franc and an even smaller portion of Cabernet Sauvignon, and deliciously perpetuates the sterling reputation of St.-Emilion's historic vineyards, historic estates, and passionate farmers and vintners.

TASTING NOTES

Grape Composition:

91% Merlot, 7% Cabernet Franc & 2% Cabernet Sauvignon

Grape Source:

Estate Vineyard in St.-Emilion Area of Bordeaux, France

Aromas and Flavors:

Sweet Red & Black Fruits, Crushed Rock & New Oak

Our Tasting Panel Score:

91 Points

When to Drink:

Now Through 2012

This Merlot-based blend offers engaging impressions of sweet red and black fruits, crushed rock and new oak.

FOOD PAIRING SUGGESTIONS: pot roast, or a steak with shoestring potatoes.

WINE RE-ORDER #: 18241