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餐营者

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Château Tariquet: 法国最大的家族酒庄

在人均拥有葡萄园面积不超过10公顷的雅文邑地区，Château Tariquet 却拥有将近1000公顷的葡萄园，年产量超过1000万瓶的白葡萄酒和雅文邑。这个法国最大的家族酒庄，是我这次考察雅文邑地区的一个意外收获。

城堡的故事

Tariquet城堡在1912年被收买时只是一个农场还不上酒庄。作为农场，葡萄种植和其他的谷物种植以及放牧紧密结合在一起。而且，家族祖先最先的职业也与白兰地毫无关系，他们是训熊师！这一切对于Tariquet城堡酒庄成为法国最大的家族酒庄似乎并没有打下完美的铺垫。在席卷欧洲的根瘤蚜虫病害以后，Tariquet城堡仅剩下了7公顷的葡萄园，一切都要从零开始。这个复苏的过程是漫长和艰辛的。

奇迹的创造者: Yves Grassa

与大多数在这个行业已有几个世纪经验的家族企业不同的是，Château Tariquet 直到1972年才做为雅文邑品牌开始存在。没有前人的奠基，他们势必要找到一条属于自己的路。这个拓荒者也是将“麻雀变凤凰”的奇迹创造人，就是在80年代初继承企业的Yves Grassa先生。

这个在当地颇受争议的人物，一反常规，在以酿制白兰地为主的地区酿制起了白葡萄酒。第一个吃螃蟹的人总是会遭受冷嘲热讽，其他酒庄也大都抱着看好戏的心理。直到1982年Yves Grassa酿的第一瓶白葡萄酒在蒙比利埃品酒比赛上夺得了金牌，并且在接下来的5年里连续赢得5枚金牌，Château Tariquet才开始锋芒毕露，锐不可当，1987年 Yves Grassa被伦敦评为世界白葡萄酒最佳酿造人的时候，Château Tariquet从一个默默无闻的酒庄变得举世闻名。

2006年他的一瓶霞多丽餐酒击败了来自于欧洲各地的佳酿，一举夺得欧洲年度最优秀白葡萄酒奖。就连在被美誉为“世界葡萄酒宝库”的波尔多，Château Tariquet的白葡萄酒竟然是骄



傲的波尔多人消费得最多的白葡萄酒。从此以后，该城堡酒庄龙头大哥的地位已经毋庸置疑了。

现代化的“雅文邑”

如今，白葡萄酒的巨大成功给酒庄带来了经济上的支持，Yves Grassa 对一直挚爱的雅文邑深入开发。他的哲学是酿制消费者们喜欢的雅文邑。从一般的VSOP, XO到高档的年份雅文邑和无年龄，从传统的圆形瓶装到现代化的方形瓶装，从40度调和酒精度雅文邑到自然酒精度雅文邑，其繁多的品种却可以和任何一家雅文邑公司媲美。他也是当地率先采用单一葡萄品种来酿雅文邑的人。尤其是Folle Blanche这个被当地人普遍认为不能长时间忍受陈年的品种，却受到Yves Grassa的慧眼识珠，在Tariquet的葡萄园里比比皆是，从数量上来说惊人的达到了全产区Folle Blanche 种植面积的46%。“如果酿的是需要珍藏几个世纪才能喝的雅文邑，有什么意义呢？我酿的是现在喝就已经非常的好，陈年以后会更完美的雅文邑，一切以消费者的喜好为中心”。

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Chateau Tariquet: the biggest family chateau in France

In Armagnac which the per capita is no more than 10hectares, although Chateau Tariquet owns the winery almost near 1000hectares. The production volume of them is over ten million bottles per year! This biggest family chateau is a windfall during my exploration to Armagnac.

The story of the chateau

When Chateau Tariquet was bought in 1912, it should be said to be a farm not yet a domaine. In the "farm", the grape planting was combined with the grain planting and grazing. Furthermore, the job of the family ancestors had nothing to do with brandies, they're bear-trainers! All these seems to be not a good start for Chateau Tariquet to be the biggest family chateau in France. After the Phylloxera diseases in the whole Europe, only about 7hectares winery was left in the chateau. Everything had to be started all over again, it was a long and hard journey to get recover it.

The magic creator: Yves Grassa

Different from most family enterprises in the wine industry, Chateau Tariquet haven't begun the Armagnac business until 1972. Without the bases made by forerunners, they had to find their own way to establish reputation. When that time, the pioneer also the magic creator, Mr Yves Grassa, inherited the enterprise in 1980's.

This man, against the regular rules, began to make white wines in a place where mainly used to making brandies. The first venturer is not always understood by arounders, some other domaines just waited to see his failure. But, it surprised them when Mr Yves Grassa's first white wine won the golden medal in Montpellier wine competition and then got another five golden medals in the next five years. When the year of 1987 in London, Mr Yves Grassa was chosen to be the best white wine maker, and Chateau Tariquet has changed from an un-known chateau to a world famous brand.

In 2006, one of the man's Chardonnay has beaten all the other fine white wines from the whole Europe. The white wines of Chateau Tariquet sell even the best in Bordeaux!

Modern Armagnac

Now, the great success of white wine has been an economic support for the chateau. Yves Grassa could explore deep into his beloved Armagnac. His philosophy of management is to make Armagnac liked by more and more consumers. From VSOP, XO to the high-classed vintage brandy, from the traditional round bottle to the modern square bottle, from 40%vol to the natural-formed vol, the great variety of their Armagnac could compares with any companies in Armagnac. Mr Yves Grassa was also the first one to make Armagnac by one grape variety, especially for Folle Blanche. This grape variety was thought by the local people cannot be aged, it is however admired by Mr Yves Grassa and then be wildly planted. The amazing amount of Folle Blanche in Chateau Tariquet reaches 46% of the total production of this grape variety in Armagnac. "There is no sense for making Armagnac which is not available for centuries. What am I doing is the excellent ones for the moment. After aging, it will be more perfect to taste. Everything should be motivated by the preference of consumers."