

# CHÂTEAU G A B Y

GRAND VIN DE BORDEAUX

## DAMIEN LANDOUAR

### BIOGRAPHY

Damien Landouar was born in Saintes, an hour and a half's drive due north of Bordeaux, on 1st June 1977. His parents worked on the railways. Damien always loved nature and decided very early to pursue agricultural studies. He earned his school leavers' qualification (baccalaureate) specialising in agronomy in 1994.

Still attracted to leading a life close to nature, he left in 1996 for farming college to study for a higher technical diploma at the Vayres Rural Institute near Bordeaux, while working at the same time with the aim of improving his knowledge of winegrowing, oenology and the wine trade.

He then decided to give himself time off and enlisted in the French army for a spell of military training in La Rochelle.

In 1997, he joined Vignobles Antoine Khayat, which included Château Gaby in Fronsac. At the same time, he gained hands-on experience by carrying out a series of study periods at Château Gazin under the supervision of Jean-Pierre Gasteuil. At Gaby, he was mentored by the owner Antoine Khayat, a financier from UK. After years of practical experience and leaning more and more towards vine husbandry,

Damien has followed modern trends and committed to an environmentally friendly approach by applying organic methods in the Chateau Moya and Gaby vineyards, where certification should be obtained in 2018.

"The move to organic winegrowing at Château Gaby is the result of environmentally friendly management principles that we committed to several years ago."

In 2007, for family reasons, Antoine Khayat sold Château Gaby to David Curl, a Canadian, who was also a financier and owner of the Moya Meaker vineyard in South Africa. Following the acquisition, Damien was able to continue his efforts on the estate while observing the effects of its transformation.

In 2016, an American, Tom Sullivan, acquired Château Gaby in the Canon-Fronsac appellation, Château Moya, a Castillon-Côtes-de-Bordeaux property, Château du Parc, a Saint-Emilion Grand Cru and Château Auguste, a Bordeaux. He entrusted the management of all four estates to the man, who knows them better than anyone else, Damien Landouar.

