



## Nicole Tapon

### Château Raymond Tapon, Saint Emilion Grand Cru - 2014

**Winemaker:** Nicole Tapon

**AOC:** Saint Emilion Grand Cru

**Vintage:** 2014

**Vol:** 13 %

**RS:** 0 g/L

**pH:** 3.5

**S02:** 55 mg/L

**Total Production:** 5,000 bottles

**Cépages:** 80% Merlot, Cab Franc, Cab Sav, Malbec

**Vine Age:**

**Soils:** Aeolian sands on the south coast and clays on the north coast

**Vegan:** No

**Allergènes:** No

**Closure:** Cork + Foil

**Drinking Window:** The next 15 years

**Ethos:** Certified Organic from 2012

**Producer:** Nicole is the 16th generation of the Tapon family to make wine on Bordeaux's iconic Right Bank. Despite the region's reputation for red wines, Nicole is best known for her 'Claret de Bordeaux' -a rare style of deeply coloured, ageworthy, dry Rosé. During our visit in 2021, we tasted the 2018, 2013, 2010 and 2006 each wine provided a compelling, gastronomic experience that combined the best of mature Claret with a fragrant, fresh lift. Nicole's Red wines are diverse in style and geography and she follows a distinctly Burgundian structure to reflect the diversity of terroir, featuring her own name first rather than the multiple châteaux and parcels that she works with.

**Viticulture and Vinification:** 4 Hectares of vines on the sandy St Emilion soils neighbouring Angelus on one side, Le Dôme on another and Cheval Blanc on the third. Late winter pruning delays budburst, protecting from winter frosts. Hand harvest Merlot, then Cabs 2 weeks later. Concrete fermentation, Oak maturation in 1st 2nd and 3rd-year-old barrels. Unfined, unfiltered and low S02 added at bottling.

**Points/Reviews/Tasting:** Jancis Robinson (18) Such a youthful, sweet-fruited nose, but gentle evolution is becoming evident on the palate. The fruit is still sweet and round, still fresh, but developing a rather enticing tamarind savouriness, soft tobacco-leaf autumnal spice, and a deep chanterelles earthiness. The tannins are rustle-leaf dry, forest taffeta, fragrant. So much pleasure in this gentle, unobtrusive wine. (TC)



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