



THERE IS NO SUBSTITUTE FOR QUALITY

*Château*  
**DEYREM VALENTIN**  
**MARGAUX**

## The Sorge Family • Margaux & Haut-Médoc

Since 1928, the Sorge family has farmed vineyards on the left bank of Bordeaux. Their cellar is in Marsac, the best part of the commune of Soussans, just north of Lascombes, Labégorce, and Margaux. Even though Soussans does not have the platinum zip code of Margaux, many of the classified estates in Margaux (including Château Margaux) have blankets of vines here, where the soil is pebble and gravels over sand and clay. Christelle's choices are thoughtful: organic farming, sorting in the vineyard as well as the cellar, fermentation in only cement, a liberal amount of Merlot, and a conservative amount of new oak, which never exceeds 33%. She is a fierce moderate, making wines that are clean-cut and shimmery but retain their appetizing core of soft and raw.

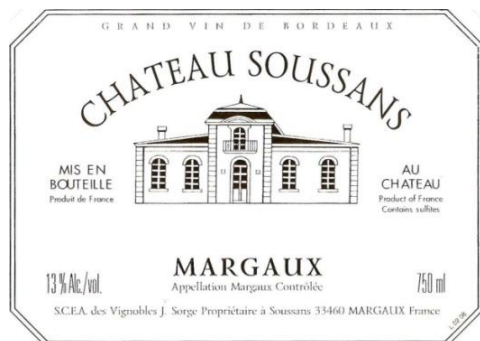
Christelle Sorge was born at Deyrem-Valentin. It is not only her work, it is her home. Christelle did a winemaking stint in Australia and staged at three classified first growths in Bordeaux (but she wouldn't tell you because she is incredibly humble and shy). Just like Jean Dirlor and the Menthon sisters, Christelle is a loyalist of the soil. When we first visited the family in the 1990s, we toured the property with Jean Sorge; as we approached the vineyards of Cabernet, there was Christelle, riding a tractor. Our first impression of her has unfolded into truth. In today's glossy wine age, when so many Bordeaux wines are made by spreadsheets and finite numbers, the Sorge wines have become the outlier, and they like it that way. Christelle does not like Sledgehammer Bordeaux, and her passion is to make wines that are more quiet than loud. It's so overplayed, but it's so true... "balance and restraint," those are her immediate words when she speaks about her wines. Even her personal style mirrors her wines. She's a polished minimalist: petite, lean and cheekbone pretty without the added blush or bronze. More certain and perhaps a little less shy, 20 years later she's still the same girl on the tractor.

### The Wines of Christelle Sorge

Château Valentin Haut-Médoc

Château Soussans Margaux

Château Deyrem-Valentin Margaux



*Christelle Sorge at Deyrem-Valentin*



*40+ year-old vines of Cabernet Sauvignon*



*Christelle's choice for fermentation, cement*