

CHABLIS LES CLOS GRAND CRU 2020

Although I've said it before, it's worth repeating: Drouhin is one of the top producers in Chablis. - WineReviewOnline.com

The vineyard site is the largest and probably most famous Grand Cru, located between Valmur on the left and Blanchot on the right. The exposure is responsible for its generous and powerful character. It is the cradle of Chablis, already recognized by the medieval monks as a superb location for planting a vineyard. The term "Les Clos" (enclosure, in French) probably refers to the surrounding wall that they built to fence off the parcel. This wall is no longer in existence. At the end of the 19th Century the vineyard was devastated by the phylloxera disease. In the 1960's, Robert Drouhin was one of the first Beaune propriétaires to bring it back to life.

Vineyard site:

- Soil: the Kimmeridgian limestone contains millions of tiny marine fossils embedded in a kind of whitish mortar which may have been once the bottom of the sea...hundreds of million years ago.
- This marine origin gives the wines of Chablis their unique flavour.
- Drouhin estate: 1.3 ha. (3.212 acres).
- Average age of the vines: 37 years.

Viticulture:

- Plantation density: 8,000 to 10,000 stocks/ha.
- Pruning: double Guyot "Vallée de la Marne" (for its resistance to frost).
- Yield: we aim for a lower yield in order to extract all possible nuances from the terroir.
- Average yield at the Domaine: 43.2hl/ha (authorized for the appellation is now 54hl/ha).

Ageing

- Type: in oak barrel (0% new wood).
- Length: 12 months.
- Origin of the wood: French oak forests.

Tasting note by Véronique Boss-Drouhin

"A great wine, perhaps the one most able to express what the terroir of Chablis really is like. The colour is pale gold yellow, with greenish hints. Refined nose, with aromas of lily ("fleur de lys"), honey or preserved lemon. Astounding depth and velvety sensation ("gras") on the palate, with some delicate marine nuances. Intense and long aftertaste. After 5 or 6 years, even more complex and subtle aromas develop in the wine. A wine of incomparable finesse".

2020 Vintage: The 2020 vintage is marked by its precocity, with harvests starting in August. Chablis wines offer a beautiful balance and are characterized by their freshness.

Cellaring: 5 to 15 years. Serving: Temperature: 55°F.

John Gilman - 95 Points

Véronique Drouhin noted that the family tried something different with their 2020 Les Clos, as half of this wine was barrel-fermented in old casks and the other half in cement egg this year. The resulting wine is fascinating, as the portion fermented and raised in egg has given the blend a different textural character that I find very attractive. The bouquet is still classic Les Clos, wafting from the glass in a mix of apple, pear, oyster shell, limestone minerality, beeswax and a floral topnote redolent of honeysuckle.

On the palate the wine is pure, full-bodied and rock solid at the core, with a classic girdle of acidity, lovely focus and grip and an extremely long, snappy and youthful finish. It almost seems as there is a more tactile sensation to the backend minerality here from the partial elevage in cement eggs.





















