



Since 1750, Bouchard Aîné & Fils is devoted to the excellence and renown of the region's noble grapes. The 18th-century Hôtel du Conseiller du Roy in Beaune houses the cellars where is perpetuated, generation after generation, the tradition of quality, elegance and prestige in selecting and making fine Burgundy wines.

Varietal

100% Pinot Noir.

Tasting notes

Colour: dark cherry red.

Nose: open with powerful aromas of blackberries seductively enhanced by vanilla notes.

Palate: open, full-bodied and rich, with very present yet silky tannins and spicy notes in the finish.

Food and wine pairing

For its full-bodied structure and powerful aromas, this wine pairs perfectly with game meats or aged soft cheeses such as Epoisses, Soumaintrain or Maroilles.

Serving suggestions

Ideally serve between 15°C and 17°C (59°-63°F).

Origins

The Terroir de Bourgogne range is a selection of reputed single vineyards Villages, Premier and Grand Crus from Côte de Nuits and Côte de Beaune principally. They are produced in very limited quantities, as a sign of the special care we put into their production.

This "village" appellation takes its name from the town of Beaune. It covers about 410 hectares, of which 77% are rated Premier Cru. The main characteristic of the vineyards is its location, for all the vines grow on the East slope of the Montagne de Beaune (literally Beaune mountain). The wines of the appellation are mostly reds (88%) that are renowned since the beginning of the Middle-Age for their quality.

This 13-acre Premier Cru vineyard is located at the northern end of Beaune, and grows on well-drained low slopes covered with rocks. It is an early climat which produces beautifully ripe grapes and full-bodied fruity wines with silky tannins. The "Clos du Roi" holds its name from History facts; it refers to the period when King Louis XI annexed the plot and declared it his property when Charles The Bold died in 1477. In addition, the Climat bears the name "Clos" for it still hold traces of the stone walls that enclosed originally the plot.





Vinification and maturing

Our dearest Burgundy region could be the embodiment of that famous motto: *Fluctuat nec mergitur*...because for several years now it's been suffering the whims of the weather and has always been capable of producing great wines out of it. Once again, the vintage 2016 will be a tangible proof!

Everything started from a very mild winter...maybe too mild to be honest. Actually, we should have been more wary of that sign for it was the warmest winter the region was going through since 1900. Sometimes the gap in the temperatures compared to the seasonal norms exceeded a 100%. In addition, the rain fell in excess particularly in Côte d'Or and as a consequence the lack of sun was really important.

Winter really came 3 months late, in March, but didn't settle as the bursting of the first buds appeared at the beginning of April. So, as spring really settled, it also brought its share of climatic disasters: first, it was a hail storm that hit the South of the Mâconnais region; then, the most tragic freezing night in April, 26th stroke almost all the region from the Grand Auxerrois to Côte Chalonnaise; and finally, 2 more hail storms on the 13th and 27th May lashed over Chablis, leaving the region with almost no hope of harvest.

This year, until summer, we went through very difficult times and had to hope for the vines to find the strength to grow again. Somehow our wish was granted, and the vegetative cycle started again, with great gaps from one plot to another. Due to all the climatic events, the flowering came late (mid-June) but didn't last long thanks to hot temperatures.

From the month of July, the extremes reversed: the temperatures as well as the amount of sunshine exceeded the seasonal norms. Fortunately for the grape, it lasted until the end of October, allowing for a good maturity.

Harvest began on September, 20th and spread over a month thanks to the great weather conditions, leaving us the opportunity to harvest each plot at its best.

Finally, the grapes we harvested were of great quality and although the plots hit by hail or frost gave almost nothing, the other had good yields.

During the vinifications, the vintage quickly revealed its high quality. We are expecting the wines to be well-balanced, with a good structure and a lot of freshness as well as finesse.