



**CLOS DE VOUGEOT
GRAND CRU
2018**



FR-BIO-01
Agriculture France

When Martine saw a barrow load of bottles wheeled into the kitchen, she stood still. She touched the bottles and lifted one up. “What is there in this bottle, Babette?” she asked in a low voice. “Not wine?” “Wine, Madame!” Babette answered “No, Madame. It is a Clos de Vougeot 1846!”

Karen Blixen, in *Babette’s Feast*, has captured the essence of Clos de Vougeot. It is not just a wine, but an emotion, a presence, an event... .

HISTORY

When Cîteaux Abbey was founded in 1098, the first monks were also given some land nearby. The Clos de Vougeot was planted shortly afterwards, in 1110. At this time Saint Bernard was tracing the outlines which gave the Cistercian order recognition throughout Christendom. This vineyard thrived under the Cistercian tonsure for 680 years, becoming an ideal present to obtain favours from popes or kings!

The second chapter of the Clos’ history lasted a hundred years. Under the Phrygian cap, it was considered as national property and sold to dignitaries by the Revolution. Julien-Jules Ouvrard, son of a famous Napoleonic war financier, owned it from 1818 to 1861. The Clos was inherited by his children, married into the Rochechouart and Montalembert families, before being sold to six local wine merchants in 1889. Since then the parcels have been divided many times, but the Clos de Vougeot remains the true heart of Burgundy wine.

In around 1550 the 48th Abbot of Cîteaux, Jean Loisier, built the Château at the centre of the Clos. Inspired by the Renaissance, its square towers are clearly reminiscent of the Middle Ages. Elegant and functional, as it also serves as a vat room and cellar, the Château du Clos de Vougeot is simply exceptional – nothing ostentatious, but truly inspired. The chateau has been the seat of the Confrérie des Chevaliers du Tastevin since 1945, making it the best table d’hôte in France.

Clos de Vougeot is both a vineyard and a wine, a historic monument and a certain image of France. Extending the universal spirit of Cîteaux, the Confrérie des Chevaliers du Tastevin is open to the world. This temple of wine is a work of patience, resplendent after nearly a millennium of human effort and nature’s graces.

Léonce Bocquet (1839-1913) owned the château and some fifteen hectares in the Clos. Responsible for the restoration of the château, he was a man of great panache. When the Grand Marshal of the court of Hohenzollern, after spending three days tasting the Clos’ wine, ordered 200 bottles, he replied, “Tell your Emperor that I will not invoice a mere 200 bottles. I offer them”. Léonce Bocquet is buried in front of the château.

OUR PARCELS

CLOS VOUGEOT A0029

Surface: 1,052 ha

Geographical situation: parcel at the top of the Clos de Vougeot, on a slight slope (to the left of the alley leading to the château).

Exposure: East-facing.

Plantings: 1946/1954/1981/1993/1994

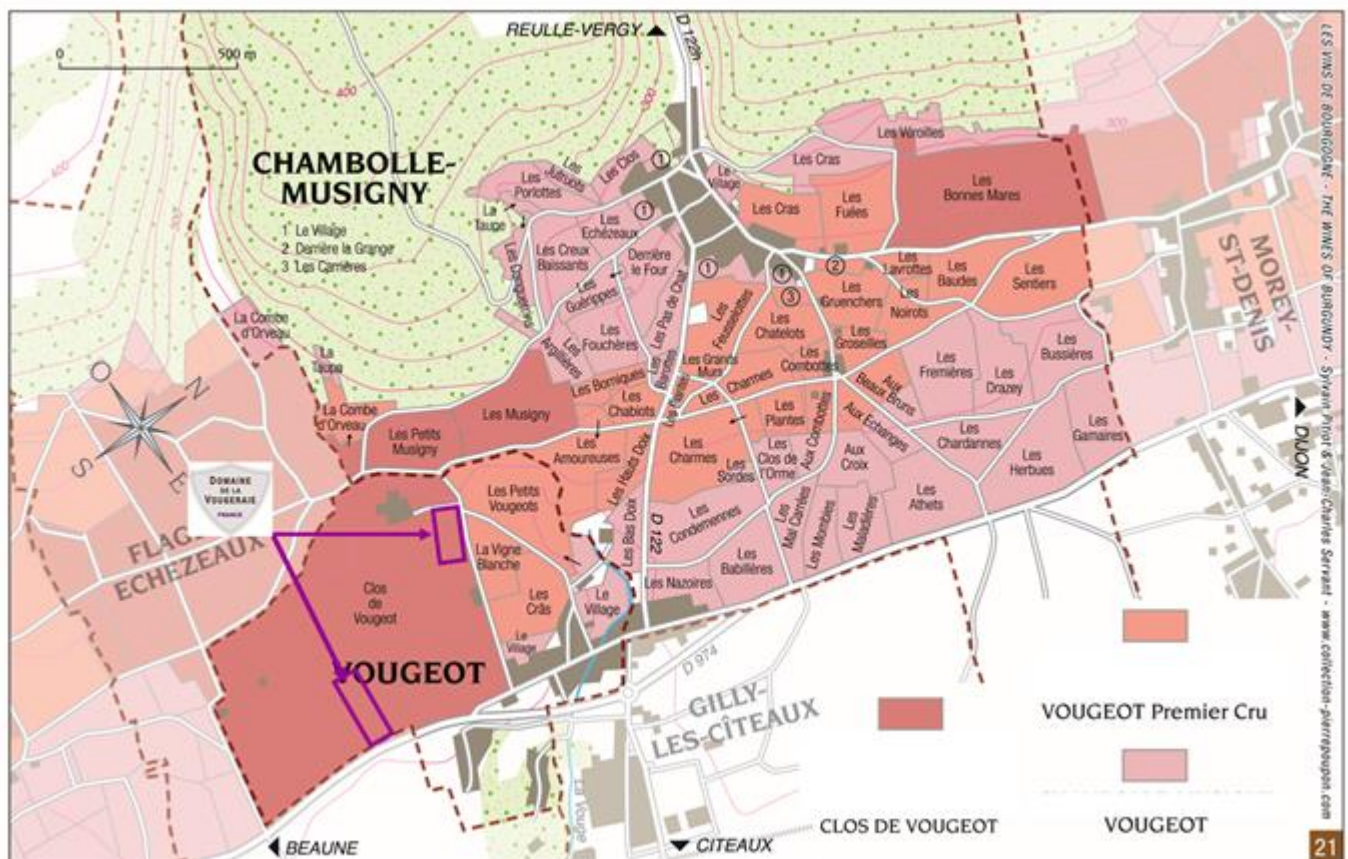
CLOS VOUGEOT A0404

Surface: 0.3617 ha

Geographical situation: parcel at the bottom of the Clos de Vougeot.

Exposure: East-facing.

Plantings: 1985/1986



Grape variety: 100% Pinot Noir

Soil and subsoil: pure silt, very pebbly, calcareous particularly at the top of the slope.

Planting density: 10 000 vines/ha

Rootstock: 40% of massal selection in the higher parcel and only clones in the lower parcel.

Organic agriculture: since 1998. Received official approval ECOCERT® in 1999

Bio-dynamic agriculture since the 2001 campaign.

Training style: Guyot

Vineyard news: Ullage planted out. Earthing-up of the vines in winter. Spraying of nettle and rhubarb, horsetail, yarrow, tansy, comfrey tea during each treatment. Biodynamic preparation of 500 and 501 at the end of the winter and of 501 in spring before the flower. Suckers removed in spring.

HARVEST

Harvest date: September 5th, 2018 (flower day).

Selection: hand-sorted in the vineyard and on arrival in the winery.

Yield: 46.5 hl /ha

VINIFICATION

70% of whole grapes, not crushed and vatted by gravity.

No yeast addition. Gravity vated.

Maceration: pre-fermentation, cold (12-15°C) for 5 days.

Length of maceration: 18 days.

Light pumping-over until the end of the vatting time.

Pressing with the vertical press.

AGEING

Length: 18 months

Type: in barrels.

Percentage of new barrels: 35 %

Toasting: long and slow.

Source of wood: Cher, Tronçais and Citeaux.

News barrels racked.

Light and soft filtration. No fining.

BOTTLING

By gravity.

February 6th, 10th and 12th 2020 (flower, fruit and days)

Limited to 6875 bottles, 600 magnums, 80 jeroboams.