

CHÂTEAU DE LA CHAIZE

FLEURIE 2018

BACKGROUND

Château de La Chaize is among the oldest, most historic estates in Burgundy's Beaujolais region. Cared for by the same family for nearly three and a half centuries, the estate has been passed on to new owners, the Gruy family, who are equally committed to managing the estate with the utmost care, while implementing an ambitious environmental plan. Among the many initiatives is the conversion of all vineyards to organic farming, the adoption of precision viticulture, reducing carbon footprint, and recycling every by-product from viti- and vinicultural activity, to achieve zero waste.

APPELLATION

Fleurie AOC, France

VARIETAL COMPOSITION

100% Gamay Noir

TERROIR & VINTAGE NOTES

Fleurie lies in the center of Beaujolais' Crus and is known for its typically light, floral characteristics, which is why the Fleurie is often deemed "The Queen of Beaujolais."

Vineyards sit on the western side of the Beaujolais hills, on south and southeast facing slopes. Many Fleurie vineyards are planted on pink granite soil, but there is a lot of variation in textures and additional soil components, offering wide diversity in Fleurie wines.

Fleurie was granted its AOC (later AOP) status in the 1930s, along with seven other Crus regions of Beaujolais.

Light and lively, this high acid, low tannin varietal known for its plush fruit, floral and sometimes candied aromas. Grown in the Beaujolais region since the 14th century, it thrives in cool climates.

February 2018 was characterized by periods of snow on the plain and a cold spell, following a month of January that was exceptionally mild and damp. After severe frost on March 1st, wintery weather prevailed between the 17th and 23rd, resulting in record diurnal lows during the second half of the month. We also experienced record precipitation in March with very little sunshine. Temperatures were predominantly mild in April; rainfall was frequent and abundant for several months.

The first ten days of August saw heat-wave conditions with average temperatures 41.1°F higher than usual. The end of the month was above seasonal norms. Thanks to less rainfall and exceptional sunshine, the quality of the grapes' juices was guaranteed. This particularly dry summer greatly compensated for the spring's excessive storms, allowing us to pick grapes that were perfectly healthy and ripe as early as September 3rd.

WINEMAKING & AGEING

Hand harvested from a selection of different vineyard sites within Fleurie, from ~40-year-old vines. Grapes are transported from the vineyard in small, vented crates which prevents them from getting crushed and prematurely oxidizing. Fermentation takes place in stainless steel tanks using indigenous yeasts. Fermentation takes place in stainless steel tanks using indigenous yeasts with semi-carbonic maceration - 50% Burgundian (destemmed) and 50% whole cluster. Pumping-over is practiced without punching down, to preserve the fruit and freshness of the wine.

100% of the wine is aged in foudres.

TASTING NOTES

Ruby red with purple highlights. Beautiful balance between ripe red fruits and ethereal floral notes. A remarkable finesse, silky tannins, persistent notes of red fruits, freshness and spices.



Château de
La Chaize



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La Chaize
FLEURIE

92 WINE ENTHUSIAST
POINTS
April 2020

91 PTS WINE SPECTATOR WEB 2020

90 PTS WINE & SPIRITS 4/20



TAUB FAMILY
SELECTIONS



WINEMAKER

Boris Gruy

TECHNICAL DATA

Alcohol
13%



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