

Domaine Chavy-Chouet Pommard 1er Cru "Les Chanlins" 2017



REGION Pommard 1er Cru A.O.C.

GRAPES 100% Pinot Noir

SOIL Clay-Limestone

A sustainably farmed 0.30hectare plot. Planting VITICULTURE density: 10,000 vines per hectare. The vines

were planted in 1945 and are oriented due south.

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VINICULTURE Natural yeast fermentation. Aged 10 months in

20% new oak, 80% 2-3 year old barrels.

ALCOHOL 13%

In days gone by, when planting vineyards, the stones which came out of the earth were piled up along side the vines and are called "murgers" or "meurgers." They are less common nowadays but can still be found on this imposing hillside in Saint-Aubin. This appellation is less renowned than Puligny and Meursault but the 1er Crus are excellent.

The Chavy family is well established in the Côte de Beaune, with Alain, Jean-Louis and Philippe all making wine in and around Puligny-Montrachet. Hubert Chavy was married to a Ropiteau, the oldest winemaking family in Meursault. So needless to say, Chardonnay is in the DNA. Hubert had been selling the bulk of his production to the top négociants for many years, but since his son Romaric took over, they are bottling nearly everything they produce at their Domaine Chavy-Chouet.

Romaric started at wine school at the age of 12, before working as an apprentice for his godfather François Mikulski in Meursault. He followed this with stints working in South Africa, Spain, Greece and the Languedoc before taking over from Hubert at just 22 years of age. Hubert passed away in early 2014, and has left the legacy in good hands. He works the vineyards pretty much organically, with ploughing and minimal use of sprays (preferring the traditional copper and sulfur), but is not certified.

Incredibly experienced for such a young winemaker, Romaric is totally focused on realizing the unbelievable potential of his stellar vineyard portfolio. About 40% of Romaric's vines are in the village of Puligny-Montrachet, where he has prime parcels in spectacular sites such as Les Enseignères, Premier Cru Les Folatières and Premier Cru Champ Gains. The wines are full and rich, but with a wonderful freshness and vitality that makes them a pleasure to drink in their youth. This is a truly exciting domaine and Romaric is sure to be a star of the (not so distant) future.

Les Chanlins is located above and beside Les Rugiens, closer to the village of Volnay than to Pommard itself. It is a steeply sloping rocky plot producing a tense, mineral wine with very noble tannins.