

Jean-Claude Boisset,
Grand Cru `Clos de Vougeot` 2020
Côte de Nuits, Burgundy, France



JEAN-CLAUDE BOISSET



Grape Varieties	100% Pinot Noir
Winemaker	Grégory Patriat
Closure	Natural Cork
ABV	13%
Bottle Sizes	75cl
Notes	Vegetarian, Vegan

PRODUCER

Grégory Patriat is the accomplished winemaker at the helm of Nuits-Saint-Georges négociant Jean-Claude Boisset. Previously head viticulturist and assistant winemaker at the legendary Domaine Leroy, Grégory has brought a detailed, vineyard-led approach to Jean-Claude Boisset and produces wines that are truly reflective of their lieu-dits. It is a testament to his skill, that after tasting the 2021 vintage, Jancis Robinson MW wrote that she "was utterly knocked out by the balance and refinement of Grégory Patriat's wines at J-C Boisset". Founded by the Boisset family in 1961, the company is now based in Les Ursulines, a former convent in Nuits-Saint-Georges that has been converted into a state-of-the-art, gravity-fed winery.

VINEYARDS

The Clos de Vougeot is in the heart of the Côte de Nuits, neighbouring Chambolle-Musigny, Flagey-Échezeaux and Vosne-Romanée. Founded around 1110 AD by the monks of nearby Cîteaux, the Clos de Vougeot is a Burgundian icon. Its wines are among the finest of the Grands Crus reds. Situated between 240 to 270 metres above sea level on east-facing slopes, with 0.18 hectares under vine. The soils are predominately clay with a very stony surface, and in the lower part of the vineyard, the soil deepens and the clay content increases, which lends firmer structure to the wines. The vines are 48 years old, producing wines of great concentration.

VINTAGE

2020 in Burgundy was characterised by hot and dry conditions, resulting in an early harvest that took place on the 5th September. After a mild spring, temperatures climbed and then remained consistently warm throughout the majority of the summer months, greatly reducing any risk of disease in the vineyard. Unfortunately, with their characteristically thin skins, a portion of the Pinot Noir grapes were affected by sunburn and had to be removed before harvest. However, those that were left were of superb quality, with high colour and aromatic intensity. Grégory Patriat is excited by the potential of the 2020s: "Lots of lovely colour in the reds, with very high polyphenol content, firm tannins and excellent levels of acidity. Looks set to be a year with great cellaring potential."

VINIFICATION

The hand-harvested grapes were carefully sorted at the vineyard and transferred into small boxes for transportation to the winery. Upon arrival, they underwent a second selection process to ensure that only those in pristine condition were used. After sorting, 50% of the bunches were destemmed and placed into small stainless-steel vats to be pressed by gravity, without any crushing. 50% of the remaining whole bunches underwent a 21-day maceration on their skins, including three days at a cold 12°C, before the entire crop underwent fermentation with indigenous yeasts at controlled temperatures, with four punch downs to further extract flavour and tannins. After fermentation, the wine was racked to 50% new oak where it aged for 11 months before bottling in September 2021.

TASTING NOTES

Deep ruby in colour. On the nose aromas of black cherry and blueberry are married with a subtle spiciness. Powerful yet elegant on the palate, with fine grained tannins and a lifted acidity which carries the complex flavours onto the staggeringly lengthy finish.