

Piper-Heidsieck,
Hors-Série Vintage Brut 1982
Champagne, France



Grape Varieties	60% Pinot Noir 40% Chardonnay
Winemaker	Émilien Boutillat
Closure	Natural Cork
ABV	12%
Acidity	5.7g/L
Wine pH	2.99
Bottle Sizes	75cl

PRODUCER

With a long and varied history dating back to its beginnings in 1785 when it was created by Florens-Louis Heidsieck, Piper-Heidsieck is one of Champagne's most well-known yet underestimated houses. From being a favourite of Marilyn Monroe (who claimed she liked a glass to wake up in the morning) to being the first ever bottle of Champagne to feature in a movie (the 1933 Laurel and Hardy film 'Sons of the Desert'), it has long links to the world of cinema.

Presided over by a roll call of Champagne's most admired winemakers, the quality of the wines never fails to shine at international competitions – at the 2022 International Wine and Spirit Competition the House was awarded the Sparkling Wine Producer Trophy, while the 2022 International Wine Challenge saw the Non-Vintage Classic Blend Trophy awarded to the Essentiel Cuvée Réservee en Magnum. The House's winemakers have won Sparkling Winemaker of the Year at the IWC more than any other house. Chef de Cave Émilien Boutillat is the current custodian, his philosophy is simple: preserving the quality, elegance and generosity of style that has always characterised the Piper-Heidsieck wines. In 2022, Piper-Heidsieck joined the International Wineries for Climate Action and became B-Corp Certified, two achievements that recognise the entire ecosystem of Champagne production and demonstrate the House's commitment towards a more environmentally friendly future.

VINEYARDS

Drawing on the House's oenological heritage, Émilien Boutillat delivers a new interpretation of an exclusive series of wines, produced from the 1982 harvests. The Chardonnay is sourced from the Côte des Blancs, imparting freshness and elegance, while the Pinot Noir is mostly from Verzy in the Montagne de Reims, which delivers structure to the blend.

VINTAGE

The year 1982 proved auspicious in both quality and quantity. Mild weather in the spring encouraged excellent vine balance and flowering. A hot, dry summer promoted optimal grape growth while rainfall was welcomed during the late ripening stages. Following two years of poor yields, the harvest started on 17th September 1982 and proved to be generous. The vintage promised to be spirited and propitious, and came to be known as historic for its structure, elegance and sophistication.

VINIFICATION

A blend of 60% Pinot Noir and 40% Chardonnay, each bottle of the Hors-Série 1982 boasts its own personality, forged by 39 years of ageing on lees. Kept under original seal on riddling racks for almost four decades, in January 2022 2,500 bottles were disgorged and given an extra brut dosage to reveal the Hors-Série 1982. The liqueur de dosage, crafted from 1982 vintage magnums, consisted of 4 grams of sugar per litre.

TASTING NOTES

Pale golden in colour, Hors-Série 1982 unveils luscious notes of mirabelle plums, kumquats, dried pineapple and fresh quince, highlighted by a touch of ginger and bergamot tea. Smoky accents of coffee beans and toast balance out the wine's minerality, followed by a subtle touch of cocoa and mirabelle eau-de-vie on the finish.