



Joseph Drouhin

Vosne-Romanée Petits Monts 2004 Premier Cru

Grape Variety :
Pinot Noir.

Vineyard

Site: this Premier Cru vineyard of Vosne-Romanée, Petits Monts (as the name indicates) is on a small promontory above the famed Romanée-Conti vineyard.

History & tradition: according to the local saying "At the Petits Monts, the whole world is at your feet".

Soil: clay and limestone ; very rocky.

Drouhin estate: 0,39 ha. (0.975 acre)

Average age of the vines: 51 years.

Viticulture

Biological cultivation since 1990; biodynamic cultivation a few years later.

Vine stocks: "sélection massale" (propagation of new vine stocks from a number of selected vines) done at the Drouhin nursery; also clones of recognized quality.

Soil maintenance: compost of manure and white wood, sometimes guano (seabird manure used as fertilizer). Soil is ploughed either by tractor or by horse to manage spreading of weeds.

Treatment: only authorized products for biological cultivation are used: infusions and macerations of plant materials, sulfur and copper, powdered rock. Natural predators are not eliminated.

Plantation density: from 10,000 to 12,500 stocks/ha in order to extract all possible nuances from the terroir and limit the production of each vine stock.

Pruning: Guyot.

Yield: we aim to keep our yields low, more in line with the previous regulation: around 20% less than allowed by the current law.

Vinification

Harvesting: by hand, in small open crates in order to preserve the integrity of the fruit.

Sorting of the grapes: in the vineyard and at the "cuvierie" (winery) if necessary .

Maceration:

maceration and vinification take 2 to 3 weeks indigenous yeasts maceration and fermentation temperatures under total control. Joseph Drouhin seeks total control of the process of extraction; extraction gives colour and substance to a wine but should never be detrimental to its finesse and typical character.

"Pigeage" (punching down of the cap during fermentation): once a day until half of fermentation is done; one pumping over ("remontage") per day till the end of the fermentation.

Pressing: separation of free run juice from pressed juice.

Ageing

Type: in barrels (20% in new oak)

Length: 14 to 18 months.

Origin of the wood: French oak forests.

Weathering of the wood: Joseph Drouhin insists on total control of the weathering for a period of 3 years, one of the contributing elements to the elegance of the wine.

Follow-up: barrel by barrel.

Fining (collage, to clarify the wine): light, after careful tasting.

Throughout the ageing process, decisions are taken only after careful tasting evaluation, barrel by barrel. The data obtained is then completed through technical analysis. As with every other Joseph Drouhin wine, absolute priority is given to the true expression of terroir and character of the vintage.

Tasting note by Véronique Boss-Drouhin

Véronique Drouhin owns Vosne-Romanée Petits-Monts.





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"A wine of great elegance! Intense deep ruby colour. Characteristic aromas of wild cherry combining with fine spice and a subtle note of musk. On the palate, the first impression is of silk. Refined tannins of great breed; lively notes. Lingering aftertaste with a myriad of sensations".

Vintage

The reds show the colour normally associated with pinot noir of 8 years old. The bouquet is evolved. On the palate, the wines have a refined tannic structure. Ready to drink.

Serving

Temperature: 16°C (61-62°F).

Cellaring: 8 to 30 years.

LA MAISON JOSEPH DROUHIN

In 1880, Joseph Drouhin, who was from the Chablis region originally, chose the city of Beaune to found the business that bears his name. Over the years and with each generation, the vineyard estate grew. At the same time, the founder's passionate search for excellence and knowledge was handed down like a family heirloom; Maison Joseph Drouhin continues to ensure this valuable family heritage.

Dedication to the diversity of Burgundy has always been the sole focus and vocation of Maison Joseph Drouhin, as vineyards - mostly premier and grand crus - were acquired in all major areas.

Out of firm conviction, Drouhin has adopted a biological and biodynamic approach to viticulture. Listening to nature: from vine to glass, at every step in the elaboration of the wine, a profound respect and deference to nature prevails.

From its very beginning, Maison Joseph Drouhin has aimed for an ideal of perfection and elegance. The style of Joseph Drouhin combines balance, harmony and character, providing infinite pleasure.

Thanks to its open-minded world view, Joseph Drouhin introduces the best of Burgundy to all continents. Its active presence in many countries is the surest proof of its desire to get acquainted and understand other cultures and styles of living.