

# Earl Champalou

VOUVRAY, LOIRE VALLEY, FRANCE • DIDIER, CATHERINE & CELINE CHAMPALOU



## Vouvray Brut

- 100% Chenin Blanc
- 20 years, vine age
- 3.5 hectares/vineyard area
- Clayey Chalk Soil
- Temperature controlled tank
- Vinify according to the Methode Traditionnelle
- Re-fermentation of the wine's natural sugar
- Bottle fermentation at low temperature
- Resting on the lees for 20 months minimum
- Dégorgement a la vole
- Brut dosage of liqueur added after disgorging

The gently crisp bubbles are fine and delicate; the color is pale yellow with green frames. A

floral and honey nose and it leaves a memory of ripe fruit on the palate. This is a very pretty sparkling wine, especially nice when you're looking for something that's a crowd pleaser that will also satisfy your most wine-savvy friends. MB +733045

## Vouvray Sec

- 100% Chenin Blanc
- 35 years, vine age
- 13.5 hectares/vineyard area
- Clayey Chalk Soil
- Vinification in temperature controlled tank with a frequent batonnage. The wine stays on its fine lees for 11 months.

This Vouvray sec seamlessly reflects the gentleness and warmth that characterizes the Champalous' personalities—a welcoming generosity expressed with elegance and grace. This Chenin's delicate aromas shine without sparing any freshness. The discreet hint of residual sugar—a style known as sec tendre—allows for many delightful and unexpected matches at table. It is a perfect cocktail wine but please don't stop there. The secret with tender wines is that they match with so much, from cream cheeses to fruits, nuts, grilled fish to glazed ham.

MB +479634



## Vouvray, Le Portail

- 100% Chenin Blanc
- 9 years, vine age
- .35 hectares/vineyard area
- Clay Soil
- Fermentation and ageing in 500 litre barrels (1.5 years) with regular batonnage
- Ages on its lees for more than one year before bottling

Creamy nose, yet in the mouth, clean, and has this fresh, soft acidity that comes back to you with a hint of creamy undertones. The oak does not mask the wine at all...

this is spectacular. Dry, robust yet feminine. The mouth feel is long and intense. A natural choice for lobster, scallops and poultry.

MB +767850



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## VINEYARD NOTES

- Didier is the 5th generation of winemakers from Poitou and Catherine is the 11th generation from Vouvray.
- Didier & Catherine met when they were 16 and 18 while attending and eventually graduating from the agricultural college at Montreuil-Bellay.
- In 1984 they had the opportunity to rent .80 Ha and they did. They worked their own land in the evenings while Catherine worked with her grand-parents at their estate and Didier worked for a winegrower in the Vouvray appellation.
- Right from the first production, they did not sell their wines to a negociant, they decided to bottle their wine in order to value their work and the soil.
- They only grow Chenin Blanc.
- They now have 21 ha and now have their daughter, Celine (wine maker) working alongside them, with her husband a winegrower from Chinon.
- Virginie the younger daughter lives in London and is also in the wine business.
- They produce 120,000 bottles per year.
- Vouvray was one of the first Terroir of Touraine to be recognized as an Appellation d'Origine Controlée in 1936.
- Vouvray enjoys warm climate during the summer to slow dropping temperatures in the fall which allows a long ripening season, along with microclimates with high humidity that bring about the beloved noble rot.



Champalou, Vignerons Independent de France & Terra Vitis, Sustainable Viticulture –

- Terra Vitis an association of winegrowers, passionate about the earth, « supervised » by qualified technicians.
  - o Created in 1998 in Beaujolais
  - o Annual certification
  - o Natural grass between rows
  - o Protection against diseases by the use of natural products
  - o De-budding by hand
  - o Preventive use of CO2 and Nitrogen against oxidation of the must
  - o Soft pneumatic pressing and must selection
  - o Traceability and HACCP

*Terra Vitis*  
Observer, respecter pour produire

## CONTACT

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### Things people have to say about Champalou...

*The wines are among the most wonderfully finessed Chenin Blancs.*

*Lovely is a pitch-perfect word to describe the wines of Champalou.*

*Impossible de faire un choix parmi les production du Domaine Champalou!*

*Balanced, elegant, and wildly aromatic.*