

# 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 Champalou's sparkler is hand-riddled and that delicate touch shines through the ethereal balance of this stunningly elegant bubbly. This one will satisfy your most wine-savvy friends. +733045

## 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

Many Vouvray wines used to be made this way; almost none are today. This single vineyard is a masterpiece. This dry Chenin Blanc combines unctuous texture with chalky minerality and nervy acidity to create one hell of a classy package. The oak does not mask the wine at all it simply just adds a lovely creamy undertone. Delicious now, it will continue to provide pleasure for more than a decade +767850



## Vouvray Sec Tendre

- 100% Chenin Blanc
- 35 years, vine age
- Clayey Chalk Soil
- Spontaneous fermentation at low temperature in stainless steel
- Aged on fine lies for 11 months

Sec Tendre meaning "tender dry". This wine has a wisp of sweetness. Supple, fine and seductively perfumed with sweet golden plums. This wine is as tender and comforting as a fluffy Vouvray pillow. Fall in love with its freshness. +479634



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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 Controllee 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.*

*The wines of Champalou reflect the gentleness & warmth that characterizes Didier, Catherine, Céline; a warming generosity expressed with elegance & grace.*