

Chardonnay "Les Varrons"

Region

AOP Côtes du Jura

Winemaker notes

This chardonnay is made in the "floral" style as it is called in the Jura. That is to say that it is age traditionally with topping up of barrels and tanks to eliminate headspace. Some bottles may be labelled as "ouillé", which means topped up and signifies this floral, non-oxidative wine style

Viticultural Notes

The grapes are coming from a specific highly regarded lieu-dit called *Les Varrons*. The vines are situated on a slope with an altitude of 280 meters. Vines are 50-65 years and planted from *sélections massales* on east-west exposure. The soils are a unique combination of Benthonien and Bajocien limestone with a yellow-clay top soil.

Vintage Notes

2016 Vintage: A challenging vintage across the region due to wet conditions, however, the Jura was mostly spared from the spring frosts that drastically impacted many other French regions. Localized hailstorms did impact yields in some areas. The wet conditions that persisted meant that disease pressure was high and there was a constant battle with mildews. July and August brought hot, dry weather, which helped to improve conditions. Some periodic rains in September help to provide freshness and balance to the final wines. Quality and quantity was variable and some varieties fared better than others. Overall the vintage was considered good by all accounts.

2015 Vintage: An extraordinary year by all accounts. A mild, wet winter replenishes water reserves in the soils which would be much needed for the warmer than usual growing season. Isolated rain storms in June, July and August provided enough moisture as to not stress vines. Conditions remained favorable through harvest and grapes were picked at optimal ripeness. The berries were a bit smaller with slightly thicker skins giving wines ample structure, flavour and color. The regular showers kept acidities fresh. A classic vintage with exceptional ripeness and aging potential. Wines will deliver pleasure in the short and long term.

Wine	Chardonnay "Les Varrons"
Estate	Domaine Joly
Varietal	100% Chardonnay
Region	AOP Côtes du Jura
Vineyard	Les Varrons
Vine Age	25+ years
Soil	Clay-limestone
Farming	Sustainable Agriculture
Fermentation	Fermentation in older tonneaux barrels
Aging	Aging for 20 months in mainly older barrels with a small portion of new oak
Alcohol	13%

