



THERE IS NO SUBSTITUTE FOR QUALITY

## Dominique & Romain Collet • Chablis

Romain Collet and his mother, Dominique, own a blessed wingspan of parcels in many of the finest vineyards of Chablis. Taking the lessons of his father and grandfather, Gilles and Jean, Romain first decided to bottle his favorite parcels in 2009. He makes his wines at Domaine Collet, but the wines are his without doubt; they are his vision of terroir and the unique qualities of Chablis. Now, we are privileged to release Romain's 2021s. Having enjoyed Collet wines for literally decades, we can say that Romain's 2021's stand apart as truly fine and well worth pursuing. Romain's wines hew to the classics of Chablis: patient, natural work in the vineyard and cellar, yields wines of undeniable character that emphasize stony fruit, glorious aromas and brilliant natural acidity. These are special wines made for attentive tasting a cappella or with cuisine.

### Allen Meadows of Burghound talked to Romain about his 2021's and put the vintage in perfect perspective:

Romain Collet, who runs this 40 ha domaine, was unabashedly enthusiastic in his comments about the 2021 vintage, noting that, "I really like this vintage, which is quite a surprise as I didn't like the growing season and thus thought that I wouldn't like the wines it produced. We picked from the 19th of September beginning with our vines in Épinottes. Maturities were quite disparate due to the early season frost because some vineyards had second generation fruit. We did a careful sorting, so our lees were clean. Potential alcohols were quite variable, coming in between 10.5 and 12% as the frost damaged vineyards tended to be on the lower side. Overall, 2021 is a very good vintage and particularly for those who love classic Chablis. I bottled all of my 2021 wines in January of 2023."

### Chablis Premier Cru "Vaillons" 2021

In 2021, Romain decided to blend all five of his Vaillons parcels: Épinottes, Minots, Roncières, Châtains and Vaillons itself. Between them, their ages average 40+ years, and since 2018 they have been certified *agriculture biologique*, otherwise known as organic. The soils across the whole Vaillons vineyards are composed of the very special aggregate of marine fossils called Kimmeridgian, which are part of what makes the Chardonnay of Chablis distinct from Chardonnay grown anywhere else. Romain raises the wine of each parcel in stainless steel tank, large neutral oak barrel or used Burgundy barrels depending on his appraisal of each. In 2021 the ratio is approximately 1/3 to each type of vessel. Romain finds his 2021 Vaillons "feminine and elegant wine, with a very long mouthfeel, of beautiful density." Mr. Meadows says its, "Cool and airy aromas include those of spice, algae and tidal pool that are trimmed in just enough wood to notice. The intense and attractively sleek middleweight flavors are finer but not denser though they do exhibit a lovely minerality on the bitter lemon-inflected finale." The art of the blend is alive and well with Romain Collet.

