



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 Epinottes. 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 Grand Cru "Valmur" 2021

The Collet parcel of Valmur (.51ha) was planted in 1973 in the middle of the Grand Cru, with a west-northwest aspect that is unusual. The site is certified organic by the Bureau Veritas. Valmur has depth and aromatic generosity like its powerhouse counterpart to the east, Les Clos. For Chablis, it's a warm site, and tends to be more floral and fruity, compared with cooler sites. Romain's western exposure tempers the warmth of the site allowing for longer hang-time and more refined stone-fruit character. Indeed, Romain is often the last to pick in Valmur. Romain's two Grand Cru wines are fermented and aged in used Burgundy *pieces* for about 18 months before bottling. Generous and mouth-filling ripe pit-fruit with bright lemon minerality. Weight and balance on the palate integrate the density of fruit so well. Romain's Valmur Grand Cru 2021 is a profound glass of wine now that will gain depth and complexity as the years go by.

