



THERE IS NO SUBSTITUTE FOR QUALITY



## Domaine Dubreuil-Fontaine • Côte de Beaune

Established in 1879, Domaine Dubreuil-Fontaine is a fixture of the Côte de Beaune. Christine Gruère-Dubreuil is the fifth generation and oversees this property of 50 acres centered on the magical medieval town of Pernand-Vergelesses. *Bourgogne Aujourd'hui*, France's leading publication on the wines of Burgundy, named her one of the "Women in Charge" along with other famed winemakers, Anne Gros and Caroline Lestime. Now, her eldest daughter, Clementine, takes her place alongside Christine and the two direct all aspects of the domaine from vineyard management to harvest and winemaking. Here at APS, it has been a joy to participate in the changes at Domaine Dubreuil-Fontaine since the mid 1990's when Bernard, Christine's father was the head and Clementine just a little kid.

Christine and Clementine are in complete accord about the wines they want to make: they seek purity, transparency and authenticity, wines that express their place of origin more than the hand of the winemaker. This means they farm their vines naturally and vinify their wines gently. The only "modern" tool they use is temperature control to maintain the freshness of fruit in their finished wines. Otherwise, they stay away from all the additives and bio-engineered materials that winemakers can use these days. When you taste the wines of Christine and Clementine, you know you are in Burgundy.

### **Pernand-Vergelesses Rouge "Clos Berthet" Monopole 2021**

It's impossible to miss Clos Berthet as you drive along the dusty road on the way to the home of Dubreuil-Fontaine. Mid-slope on the hill of Fretille with soils of clay and limestone, as well as a fine south-west exposure, it's a pretty choice spot and a monopole of Dubreuil-Fontaine for many years. This is Burgundy, so of course there is a twist in the rules regarding Clos Berthet. The site is classified as Premier Cru for Chardonnay, but not Pinot Noir. So, if you're a Pinot Noir vine living in Clos Berthet and make a red wine, does this mean you are not as good as the Chardonnay in the next row over? No possible way. It just means that the Wine Police have struck again.

Hand picked and sorted, 100% destemmed, indigenous yeast, raised in barrel (15% new) and stainless steel tank for 15 months. Clementine's tasting notes: "A full-of-charm bouquet of red cherry, raspberry and touches of violet petal. Medium-bodied palate, a smooth and rounded finish. The finish shows good volume and a good length. It's our 2021 that I drink most often. I like it with Saint-Nectaire or Comté and a fresh baguette."

