

Guilloterie

SAUMUR CHAMPIGNY - 2020



REGION: FRANCE - LOIRE



GUILLOTIERE

Six miles south of the city of Saumur in the Loire Valley lies the Saint-Cyr en Bourg, home of the Duveau family. Since 1835, six generations of the family have farmed vineyards and made wine at Domaine de la Guilloterie. Today, the father and son Patrice and Rémi Duveau's carry on the family legacy. The 135.90 acre (55 hectare) estate is nestled in the appellation of Saumur Champigny, named after the village of Champigny. Situated just south of the Loire River, Saumur Champigny is technically part of the province of Anjou, however the wines are more akin to the adjoining province of Touraine to the east. Chenin Blanc was the traditional grape of the region planted on the calcareous rocky soils known as "TUFFEAU." Chenin Blanc was prone to chlorosis, a condition in which leaves produce insufficient chlorophyll, so in the 1990's, Cabernet Franc was widely planted. Now Chenin Blanc and Cabernet Franc are the primary grape varieties of the region where dry and sweet versions of Chenin abound along with bountiful quantities of Crémant from the same grape. Reds and rosés are made from Cabernet Franc.

THE WINE

Vineyard Profile

Estate vineyards owned for 6 generations by the Duveau family in Saint-Cyr en Bourg, south of the Loire river.

- Soils: Limestone-clay, with a chalky subsoil called "Tuffeau," well-draining and fast-warming
- Vineyard area: 10.5 ha / 25.3 acres
- Vine age: 10 – 35 years
- 100% native grass cover to promote healthy soils
- Selective leaf removal
- Vineyard certified Sustainable HEV 3 – high environmental value, higher level of certification attained in 2020

Harvest Notes

- Hand harvested beginning on 9/26/2020
- Immediate, careful berry sorting on sorting table
- No sulfur added
- Destemming, then maceration for 14 – 18 days in temperature controlled stainless steel tanks
- Aged 12 months in tank at controlled temperatures
- All estate bottled unfiltered and unfiltered

Winemaker's Notes

2020 is a magnificent vintage, considered the best one for the past 20 years by Patrice Duveau. Perfect weather and optimum maturity, resulting a rich, balanced and "gourmand" wine. Generous, purely fruity and crunchy nose. Fresh, juicy, fruity and silky palate with licorice and black cherries. Bright, flavorful and harmonious length. Delicious from now, aging will reveal even more fragrances of dark fruits and plums.

Technical Information

- 100% Cabernet Franc
- Alcohol: 14%
- Sustainable Agriculture HVE 3 Certified – farm certified having high environmental value

REVIEWS

Saumur Champigny – 2020

91 Points - Wine Enthusiast, May, 2022

This wine comes from a large estate covering 123 acres. The Duveau family have produced a ripe wine, rich in spice, perfume and smokiness. Red berries and ripe tannins are present in a wine that will age well. Drink from 2023.

92 Points - [jamesuckling.com](https://www.jamesuckling.com), January, 2023

Aromas of ripe berries, lemon zest, licorice and leafy herbs. Medium-bodied with fine-grained tannins and a chalky texture. Refined and smooth with delicious spiced red fruit and notes of walnut to close. Impressive length and focus with a delicate finish. 100% cabernet franc. Drink or hold.

GENERAL INFO

Country	France
Region	Loire Valley
Appellation(s)	Saumur, Saumur-Champigny
Proprietors	Patrice and Philippe Duveau
Founded	1835
Winemaker	Patrice and Philippe Duveau
Annual Production	4,500 9L cases
Farming (Sustainable, organic, biodynamic)	Sustainable