

Domaine de la Chevalerie Bourgueil



It is a magnificent property, a single block of 38 hectares of biodynamically farmed vineyards that rises slowly above the Loire and engulfs the winery before giving way to the forests.... In spite of the southerly slopes, it is cooler here and the harvest is generally late. Nonetheless, or perhaps for that reason, the wines seldom have more than 12.5% alcohol, which for me is a virtue. I was surprised during my visit to see that they actually have two sorting tables, with Stéphanie leading a team of five women at the end of the second one, going through the fruit berry by berry. Light and elegant, the resulting cabernet francs have a purity that makes them a pleasure to drink even in their youth. "We use 500-liter puncheons but little new wood," Pierre told me, "because we don't want the oak to mask the wines." [T]his is an estate and style of wine that I like. You can drink everything here. You'll never be disappointed.

Joel Payne, Loire Valley Cabernet Franc, December 2014 article in Vinous

2014 Bourgueil "Diptyque"

The 2014 Bourgueil "Diptyque" from the Caslot family's Domaine de la Chevalerie is a fine example of the vintage, offering up a complex and very pure aromatic blend of sweet dark berries, tobacco leaf, dark soil tones, tree bark and a smoky topnote. On the palate the wine is fullish, complex and really energetic on the backend, with a good core, fine focus and grip, just a touch of closing tannin and impressive, nascent complexity on the finish... Just a lovely bottle of Bourgueil. 2016-2035.

91 points– John Gilman, A View from the Cellar #65, September-October 2016

(91 points- Wine & Spirits, April 2017, "Year's Best Loire")

2012 Bourgueil "Les Galichets"

Les Galichets is one of the top vineyards in Bourgueil and the Caslot family produces a lovely wine from this stony, clay and limestone terroir. The topsoil is pretty deep here, which always gives Galichets a rock solid core of fruit, and this is clearly in evidence in the lovely 2012 version from Domaine de la Chevalerie, as the wine delivers a fine nose of cassis, dark berries, cigar ash, gravelly soil tones and a classic topnote of tree bark. On the palate the wine is pure, full-bodied and almost sappy at the core, with ripe, well-integrated tannins, fine soil signature, lovely focus and grip and a long, complex and very classy finish...Fine juice. 2016-2035+.

92+ points– John Gilman, A View from the Cellar #65, September-October 2016

(91 points- Wine & Spirits, April 2016, "Year's Best Loire")