



Bourgueil Le Grand Clos 2018

Y. Amirault

sku BC 043649



Domaine Amirault was founded in 1977 by Yannick with only 3.9 hectares of vines he inherited from his grandfather. Since that time he and his son Benoît, who joined the family business in 2003, have expanded their holding to 20 hectares of vineyards in both Bourgueil and Saint-Nicolas de Bourgueil. Work in the vineyard and cellar follows the lunar calendar and the estate received organic certification in 2009. Each parcel is picked at its own optimal ripeness and in several passes and the bunches are transported to the cellar where they are sorted again and destemmed. Fermentations are indigenous and conducted in large, open-topped, conical oak vats. Macerations are long, lasting up to sixty days with pigeage only at the very beginning of the fermentation and rémontage reserved only for the ripest vintages and cuvées to prevent more rustic tannins in the wines. Only the first press is used and is aged in neutral vessels: amphorae, French oak demi-muids, and well-seasoned oak vats.

Y. Amirault is one of the best producers of the appellation.

Bourgueil - 100% cabernet franc - 13.5% alc.

The south facing Grand Clos hillside has a terroir of clay and flint soils over limestone. Yannick's vines average 45 years old and have been certified organic since 2009. Hand harvested in successive passes, destemmed, natural yeast fermentation in oak vats, 4 week maceration. Aged 18 months in 400L French oak barrels.



'From two hectares of this famed hillside vineyard of clay and flint over limestone. Aged more than a year in 400-liter foudre and sandstone eggs. Complex and meaty, a muscular style of Cabernet Franc. Bloody and peppery aromas and in the mouth, a swirling balance of savory herb, black fruit, dark minerality and fine tannins. Lively, engaging and seamless.'

95 points Chris Kissack, Winedoctor.com: " With the wine of Le Grand Clos we have moved away from the more sandy and alluvial soils of the lower terraces to one of the most highly valued gravelly terroirs of the upper slopes. The qualitative step up in this very warm vintage is immediately tangible. It opens with a richly peppered character on the nose, with spiced black bean with some aromatic red rose petals. The palate follows up with a broad substance, a rich bed of gripped tannins providing some structure, supporting an elegant frame of floral fruit, with fresh acidity. I find lots of savoury sinew and substance here, with a tannic concentration. It grips long and firm in the end. An impressive structure, with a long tannic finish. This is one for the cellar."



