



FRANÇOISE & DENIS CLAIR SANTENAY ROUGE 'CLOS GENET'

100% Pinot Noir. Rich ruby-purple color. Aromas of ripe red fruit and spices with menthol and licorice. Fruit flavors of black cherry and raspberry with peony and iris. Rich, with nice freshness, sweet acidity, bright tannins, great persistence and a refreshing finish. Wonderful paired with meat with sauce, game or cheese.

Parcel located really close to the village at the bottom of the hill and facing south. It is completely planted with grass in order to limit vigor and therefore the productivity. The soil is chalky and clayey and quite deep. The vines have an average age of 45 years. Harvested by hand. After a rigorous selection of the grapes, 90% are destemmed then put into concrete tanks. The Clair family has been precursors in understanding the benefits of cooling grapes to extract the maximum of their aromatic potential. Cold maceration during ten days or so with treading and pumping over, then alcoholic maceration during eight days. After the press wine is racked and blended, the wine is aged in oak barrels (10% new) for 15 months. The malolactic fermentation is done tardily in order to keep as much fruit as possible.

Françoise and Denis Clair founded the estate in 1986 with 12 acres of Pinot Noir in Santenay, where Denis' family had long been vigneron. Over time Denis and Françoise added parcels of Chardonnay in Saint-Aubin, where Françoise was from, and where the winery is today. The total area cultivated is now around 37 acres. Since 2000, their son Jean-Baptiste has worked on the estate, gradually taking on more responsibility, and gaining plaudits for the increased refinement and precision of the wines. Jean-Baptiste has been responsible for vinification since 2011. Sadly Denis passed away in 2016. His legacy is in the best of hands.

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Tasting Note:

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Shelf Talker:

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