

BURGUNDY
COTE D'OR**DOMAINE BILLARD**
LA ROCHE POT

OVERVIEW | Domaine Billard has approximately 12.5 hectares of vineyards in different appellations throughout the Cotes de Beaune. Their largest holdings are in the Hautes Cotes de Beaune with other small plots located in Saint Romain, Saint Aubin 1er Cru, Auxey Duresses and Beaune.

VINEYARD AREA: 12.5 hectares

ANNUAL PRODUCTION: 7000 cases

TOP SITES: Les Jonchères

SOIL TYPES: clay, limestone

GRAPE VARIETIES: pinot noir, chardonnay

Jerome Billard is the fifth generation to run this estate. When he inherited the estate from his father, Jérôme brought a new philosophy to his family domaine including ploughing and ending the use of weedkillers and synthetic chemical sprays. Jérôme's father sold his wine to the local cooperative but Jérôme is now estate bottling his entire production.

VINEYARD/CELLAR PRACTICES | When he inherited the estate from his father, Jérôme Billard brought a new philosophy to his family domaine. Farming is done with respect for nature and follows the principles of organic farming. Yields are kept low through the use of cover crops and severe pruning and all the vines are harvested by hand. Only indigenous yeasts are used for the fermentation. Jérôme's father sold his wine to the local cooperative but Jérôme is now estate bottling his entire production.

WINES | **Hautes Cote de Beaune Blanc La Justice** - There are about 20 villages included in the Hautes Côtes de Beaune appellation. These old villages, many of which are barely inhabited, are secluded in the hills and their vineyards are interspersed with woodlands and farms that grow a variety of products. The Billard family home and winery are located in one of these, La Rochepot, a small village noted for its elaborate 13th century chateau which is set into a rocky hillside.

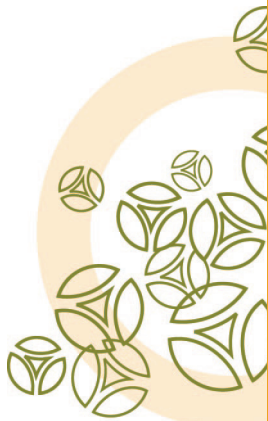
Billard's HCB Blanc is 100% Chardonnay. The 3 hectare vineyard has the place name "lieu dit" of La Justice. The soil is very chalky and the land has good drainage and exposure. The grapes are fermented in barrel and then matured for 10 months "sur lie" before bottling. The resulting wine is rich and well structured but also quite elegant.

St Romain Blanc La Combe Bazin - Saint Romain is a small appellation that is deserving of more attention. The vineyards are nestled between 900 and 1200 feet in elevation along a valley that runs east to west behind Meursault and Monthelie. The Billards own 2.25 hectares in Saint Romain with 1.25 h of Chardonnay planted in the lieu dit "La Combe Bazin". The wine is barrel fermented with 25% of new wood. It is matured "sur lie" for a year and is minimally fined and filtered before bottling. The "La Combe Bazin" terroir produces a wine with lively acidity which offers a perfect balance to the sensual mouth feel of classic white Burgundy.

Hautes Cote de Beaune Rouge - The Billard HCB Rouge comes from a plot of 4 hectares with alluvial clay soil. Respecting the delicate nature of Pinot Noir, the extraction is obtained by foot pressing. The wine is then matured in barrel for 10 months. The rigorous bunch selection done in the vineyard before harvest insuring ripe and healthy grapes results in Pinot Noir fruit with a purity in its expression.

St Romain Rouge La Perriere - The Saint Romain Rouge is produced from 1 hectare on calcareous clay soil. The Pinot Noir is fermented in vat with indigenous yeasts and pressing is done partially by foot. The wine is matured in barrels, 20% of which are new, for 15 months.

Auxey-Duresses Rouge Les Joncheres - The vineyards of Auxey-Duresses are located along hills overlooking a valley that extends from Meursault to the Hautes Côtes de Beaune with a predominantly east-west axis. It is an appellation whose potential for quality has recently been realized and it has received a good deal of recognition accordingly. Historically the wines were blended by negociants and sold under their own labels as Côtes de Beaune Villages. Jérôme Billard produces approximately 200 cases from his small plot in the lieu dit "Les Jonchères". The soils are a mix of clay and chalk. The wine is fermented in vat with delicate pressings and extraction. It is matured in 20% new barrels for one year. The wine is aromatic and delicately structured with an elegant yet firm character.

**trriage wines**

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