

Château Doisy Daëne Blanc 2020

CSPC# 772599

750mlx12

13.5% alc./vol.

Grape Variety

100% Sauvignon Blanc

Appellation

Bordeaux Blanc A.O.C., Barsac

Website

<http://www.denisdubourdieu.fr/index.php?d=5&l=EN>

General Info

Château Doisy-Daëne is a Barsac estate that produces top-class, sweet Bordeaux white wines that are characterised by their finesse and richness. It takes the second part of its name from an English gentleman who bought it when the original Doisy estate was split up in the 19th century. Doisy-Daëne was extended in the 1950s, with the purchase of a parcel of vines that came from what is now Château Doisy-Dubroca, and there are now 15 hectares of vineyards planted with 70% Sémillon, 20% Sauvignon Blanc and 10% Muscadelle. The property is owned by Denis Dubourdieu, a legendary figure in Bordeaux wine circles, especially for the way in which he has revitalised the reputation of the region's dry white wines. As a world-renowned oenologist Denis consults widely for other white wine producers, understandably as he carries the title of Professor of the Faculty of Oenology at Bordeaux University, and, with his son Fabrice, has taken Doisy-Daëne to new heights of excellence. It is the estate's sweet wine which receives most global acclaim; Doisy-Daëne produces quintessential Barsac's with the emphasis on finesse, poise and elegance, rather than power and force. The wines from the best vintages can age gracefully for up to 20 years.

Winemaker

Fabrice Dubourdieu

Vintage

A good vintage for a great white wine! The first buds appeared with homogeneity. At the end of March, a sharp frost meant that several plots were to have their production adversely affected. Rainfall returned to normal levels this year, but temperatures were higher than over the previous five years. In these conditions there was an increased risk of contamination developing in this spring of 2020. Fortunately, our mix of strategy and technicity avoided further loss of production. From beginning to end summer provided a warm, dry climate. Over the last 5 vintages, de-leafing and top-trimming have tended to fade out at Château Guiraud, which is one of the reasons why the vines are better able to cope with drought conditions. Maturation takes place at just the right pace.

Vineyards

The composition of the soil of the Barsac plateau is from a geological standpoint and for the Bordeaux region unusual. A thin layer of clayey sands, known as "Barsac red sands", tops the chalky subsoil. This lightly cracked calcareous rock layer limits the rooting depth of the vine to about twenty inches. The water that is stored within the slightly porous rock throughout the summer, is progressively dispensed to the vine during the winter, preventing thus a water overload. This soil is particularly well-suited to the making of elegant and distinguished white wines.

Replanted in its vast majority between the 50's and 60's, the Doisy-Daëne vineyard is over forty years old. It is currently 18,2hectares wide. With a density of 7,000 plants per hectare, it is planted with 86 % Sémillon and 14 % Sauvignon.

Harvest

Manual collection by successive sorting.

Vinification/

Maturation

Once grapes have ripened, a few bunches are collected on each vine from all the Sauvignon plots. After an eventual phase of skin contact, a slow juice extraction is performed, protected from the oxidation process. Free run must, is strictly separated from press must and their clarification undergoes by natural settling. Fermentation takes place in barrels renewed by fifth. Ageing lasts 12 months with lees regularly stirred.



Tasting Notes	Pale lemon color with aromas of stone, tropical and citrus fruit with floral and honey oak. On the palate flavors of pear, apple, peach, and lemon curd, slight notes of botrytis with oak wrapped in balanced acidity. Long finish ending with a chalky zesty mineral and bread character.
Serve with	Salmon with bearnaise sauce; lobster-mushroom risotto; Fettuccine with shrimp & lemon; Vegetarian curry. Serve at 9°C - 11°C.
Production	2,660 cases made
Cellaring	Drink 2022-2028
Scores/Awards	<p>91 points - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - Web Only 2022</p> <p>88-90 points - Lisa Perrotti-Brown, Wine Advocate - May 2021</p> <p>89 points - Lisa Perrotti-Brown, The Wine Independent (score only) - March 2023</p> <p>90-91 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - May 2021</p> <p>92 points - Jane Anson, Decanter.com - May 2021</p> <p>89 points - Tim Atkin, MW - timatkin.com (score only) - April 2021</p> <p>90 points - Jean Marc Quarin (score only) - April 2021</p> <p>94 points - Vert de Vin - May 2021</p> <p>16 points - Vinum Wine Magazine (score only) - September 2021</p>
Reviews	<p><i>"A racy, invigorating white, with lemon peel and pith notes leading the way, while thyme, gooseberry, and fleur de sel notes fill in behind and extend the rapier finish nicely. Drink now through 2024. 2,660 cases made."</i> - JM, Wine Spectator</p> <p><i>"The 2020 Doisy Daëne Blanc Sec gives up notes of fresh pears and white peaches with a savory undercurrent of baking bread, allspice, and almonds. The medium-bodied palate is refreshing, offering a lovely purity of spiced pears flavors with a racy backbone and zesty lift on the finish. Barrel Sample: 88 – 90."</i> - LPB, Wine Independent</p> <p><i>"Bright and vivid with lots of crushed-grape and sliced-apple character. Medium body. Crisp finish."</i> - JS, JamesSuckling.com</p> <p><i>"Pretty high on the Sauvignon Blanc aromatics, but on the palate, this is deftly handled, well-paced with a raspy slate texture. Not hugely concentrated but this is pretty hard to argue with."</i> - JA, Decanter.com</p> <p><i>"On the nose, elegant, fresh, precise and offers some tension. It reveals notes of fresh kumquat crisp apple and hints of fresh apricot combined with small touches of quenette, lemon, a hint of mesocarp and a subtle touch of passion fruit. On the palate, fruity and offers juiciness, freshness, good definition, a nice acidic frame, a nice fat and gourmandize. The wine expresses the notes of juicy/pulpy apricot, quenette and more lightly passion fruit notes combined with hints of juicy/ripe tangerine as well as hints of lychee, an imperceptible touch of apple and acacia. Good length. Tart on the persistence."</i> - Vert de Vin</p>
