





VARIETALS: 100% Viognier

CONDRIEU CLOS BOUCHER 2022

Rhône, France

OVERVIEW

The Condrieu is one of the world's most elite winegrowing regions. The steep vineyards are difficult to cultivate, and as a result only 50 acres in Condrieu are currently under vine. Located on the right bank in Verin, near Château Grillet, Clos Boucher is one of Condrieu's oldest vineyards.

Planted on five acres of granite slopes rising above the river, this 5 acre plot combines three exposures and three soil types: granite to the south, schist and loess to the east, and clay at the foot of the slopes. Clos Boucher's 35-year-old vines consistently produce grapes of perfect maturity. This wine is produced only in the very best years, and in quantities that are deliberately limited each vintage.

The climate is moderately continental, hot and dry in summer, regular rainfalls during the other seasons. The vineyard has often been a victim of history and almost disappeared on several occasions, during the barbarian invasions, in the days of the "Grandes Compagnies" (in the 17th and 18th centuries) and, more recently, at the end of the 19th century, with the phylloxera infestation. Well before the modern period, the trading port of Condrieu and its river fleet carried the reputation of its wines far and wide.

WINEMAKING

This cuvée is the result of a plot selection. The grapes are sourced exclusively from the estate's Clos Boucher vineyards, a handful of granite soil blocks enjoying southern exposure, similar to neighboring Château Grillet. This wine is produced only in the very best years, and in quantities that are deliberately limited to 8,00 bottles per vintage. After pressing and racking, the must is entirely fermented in new oak casks.

98 POINTS JEB DUNNUCK The 2022 Condrieu Clos Boucher might be the closest thing to a Château Grillet out there. Beautifully pure stone fruits, crushed stone, white peach, and minty flower notes all define the aromatics, and this beauty is medium to full-bodied, concentrated, has a focused, elegant mouthfeel, and one heck of a great finish. Drink 2025-2035.

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POINTS

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Complex nose of very ripe peaches, coconut and tropical flowers. Rich and silky with excellent concentration. It's very finely nuanced on the medium- to full-bodied palate. Creamy on the mid-palate, then so silky in the very long finish. Matured in Burgundian oak barrels for one year, then a further six months on the lees in stainless steel. Drink or hold.

94PTS Wine Spectator | 93PTS Standard | 93PTS VINCUS

