



CLAUDY CLAVIER

Petite Arvine, Perles du Soleil

You'd be hard pressed to find a more dramatic place to grow vines than in the Valais. Situated in the broad Alpine valley carved by the Rhône river, many of the most productive vineyards are situated on the deep alluvial clays on the valley floor, but the best sites can be found on slopes climbing into the mountains. The Valais is the largest wine producing region in Switzerland, providing a third of the wine made in this small country. Protected on three sides by the Alps, this is also the driest and sunniest part of Switzerland in the summer, as well as a skiing destination in the winter - add some fantastic wine and it is no wonder anyone who visits falls for the charms of this remarkable place.

Claudy Clavier was born in the heart of the Valais to parents that owned two hectares of vines located in the hills above the village of Miège. After studying oenology at Changins, Claudy returned home and founded La Cave des Champs in 1986. Starting with his parents vineyards, he has expanded his holdings to 6 hectares. Claudy has emerged as a proponent of the Valais' indigenous grape varieties – Petite Arvine, Savagnin Blanc, Chasselas, Humagne Rouge and Cornalin. In addition to these ancient varieties he also grows Chardonnay, Muscat, Pinot Blanc, Pinot Gris, Sylvaner, Gamay, Pinot Noir, Syrah, Diolinoir and Carminoir. From his 6 ha. and 15 varieties, Claudy makes between 22-24 cuvées in each vintage so his modest cellar is run with remarkable precision.

Petite Arvine is a native of the Valais and is considered by many to be the finest variety of the region. Despite being a late-ripening variety, and the dry and warm climate of the Valais, it is distinguished by its refreshing mineral acidity underpinning its citrus and orchard-fruit flavors. Despite attempts to cultivate this distinctive variety in the Northern Rhône and Italy, it has proved impossible to grow outside the Valais.

ORIGIN

Switzerland

APPELLATION

Valais

SOIL

Clay limestone, schist

AGE OF VINES

10+

ELEVATION

750 meters

VARIETIES

Petite Arvine

FARMING

Sustainable with organic practices

FERMENTATION

Hand harvested, whole cluster pressing, fermented in stainless steel tanks

AGING

6 months in tank

ACCOLADES

90 – 2015 Petite Arvine Perles du Soleil – Wine Advocate

