



# DOMAINE BELARGUS

## Anjou Noir

Domaine Belargus was created in 2018 after Jo Pithon sold his estate to Ivan Massonnat. Ivan is a passionate wine enthusiast who has long believed in Chenin Blanc's potential for diverse terroir expression equal to Pinot Noir in Burgundy. Now totaling 24 hectares, Ivan has assembled a collection of parcels and monopoles in the Anjou Noir – the geologically complex and ancient volcanic vineyard lands that stretch from Savennières in the northwest to Bonnezeaux in the southeast. The fame of this region was established in the 11th century, and royal courts across Europe served these wines until phylloxera devastated the region in the late 19th century. Replanted in the early 20th century the Anjou Noir saw the only 1er & Grand Cru designations in the Loire Valley. By the 1970s however, industrial farming and shortcuts in the cellar seemed to have irrevocably tarnished the region's reputation. But starting in the 1980s a new generation of vignerons began to chart a new and promising future, among whom was Jo Pithon who rediscovered and rejuvenated the dramatic and lost terroir of Coteau des Treilles – the “Côte Rotie” of the Layon Valley. With Ivan Massonnat stepping in to carry on Jo's efforts, the future of wines in the Anjou looks more promising than ever.

With a team that includes winemaker Adrien Moreau, vineyard manager Amaury Chartier, and consultants Jo Pithon and Guy Bossard, Ivan has created a collection of wines that not only reflect the future of Anjou but he has revived the reputation of Coteaux du Layon and Chaume. We are honored that Ivan has selected us to represent these profound wines in the US.

This cuvée comes from four distinct terroirs close to the village of Saint-Lambert du Lattay of which black schist is naturally found along with soils dominated by puddingstone, serpentine, and various amounts of clay and sand. As such it is a representation Chenin grown in the western Anjou albeit at a level of precision and complexity rarely encountered at the beginning of a tasting.

## ACCOLADES

(89-92) - 2022 Anjou Noir – Wine Advocate

92-93 - 2020 Anjou Noir – Wine Advocate

95 - 2020 Gaudrets – Wine Spectator

### ORIGIN

*France*

### APPELLATION

*Anjou*

### SOIL

*Black schist, puddingstone, serpentine, sand, clay*

### AGE OF VINES

*30*

### ELEVATION

*50–60 meters*

### VARIETIES

*Chenin Blanc*

### FARMING

*Certified organic (ECOCERT) & in conversion to biodynamic (BIODYVIN)*

### FERMENTATION

*Hand harvested, direct pressing, natural yeast fermentation*

### AGING

*12 months in oak vats and 400L French oak barrels*

**JON-DAVID  
HEADRICK  
SELECTIONS**

