



TECHNICAL NOTES

BERTRAND-DELESPIERRE 2008 VINTAGE BRUT 1^{ER} CRU

Didier Bertrand and Chantal Delespierre are grower-producers farming 24 acres in the Montagne de Reims, the heart of the Champagne heartland, separating the cities of Reims and Épernay with gorgeous swathes of vineyards mounting as high on the hill as grapes will ripen.

VINEYARDS

24 acres: 10 Pinot Noir, 7.5 Pinot Meunier, 7.5 Chardonnay. The totality of Bertrand-Delespierre's acreage is in Premier Cru vineyards, mostly in Chamery, with a few parcels in the villages of Villedommange, Ecueil and Montbré.

As an RM ("Recoltant Manipulant" – the French term for Grower's Champagne), Bertrand-Delespierre makes Champagnes exclusively from its own vineyards. Many consumers have begun to favor Grower's Champagne over the Grande Marques labels, which often offer high quality and a true house style, but little in the way of the expression of terroir, as the basic bruts are often blended from a wide range of Champagne districts.

APPELLATION

Champagne, Chamery 1^{er} Cru (Montagne de Reims,).

COMPOSITION

Equal parts Pinot Noir, Pinot Meunier and Chardonnay.

VITICULTURE

Vines average 25 years in age, with the oldest parcel more than 55 years old.

VINIFICATION

Bertrand-Delespierre produces vintage Champagnes only in exceptional years. Wines are vinified using a traditional Champagne press, and only juice from the first pressing is used. Unoaked, with no malolactic conversion. Matured a minimum of 3 years on the lees before disgorgement.

ALCOHOL

12%

TASTING NOTES

Aromas of apple, peach and pear on the nose, with rich, buttery, brioche notes. Lush fruit flavors and fine bubble texture on the palate, ending with a long, persistent finish.

SERVE WITH

Excellent with seafood, poultry, or veal it can also stand up to rich, earthy dishes such as mushroom risotto.

ACCOLADES

93 pts – The Wine Spectator, 12/15/17 (2008 vintage).

91 pts – The Wine Spectator, 12/15/14 (2006 vintage).

92 pts – The Wine Spectator, 11/30/13 (2004 vintage).

90+ pts – Stephen Tanzer's International Wine Cellar, 11/08 (2002 vintage).



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