

Château Doisy Daëne 2019

CSPC# 872859

375mlx12

13.0% alc./vol.

Grape Variety

100% *Sémillon*

Appellation

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. Doisy-Daëne is classified as a Sauternes 2ème Cru Classé.

Winemaker

Jean Jacques Dubourdieu

Vintage

2019 was marked by a rainy late autumn and early winter, very mild temperatures and just one week-long cold spell during this period.

Particular vigilance was required to prevent any damage from mildew after rainfall at the beginning of the growing cycle in April. The weather conditions during flowering, at the beginning of June, were mixed and we observed some coulure in certain plots. From mid-June onwards, temperatures rose sharply, and we were faced with two heat waves, at the end of June and the end of July, which the vines fortunately bore well. On 26th July, a heavy thunderstorm with more than 100 mm of rainfall brought temperatures down and restored some water reserves to the soil. Ripening resumed in August, which was largely dry. The entire vineyard was very healthy.

Vineyards

The composition of the soil of the Barsac plateau is from a geological standpoint unique in the Bordeaux region. A thin layer of clayey sands, known as "Barsac red sands", tops the limestone subsoil. This lightly cracked calcareous bed rock limits the rooting depth of the vine to about twenty inches. The water that got stored within the slightly porous rock throughout the winter, is progressively dispensed to the vine during the summer, preventing thus an excessive water stress. 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*.

Average age of vines: 50 years old. Soil type: A thin layer of clayey sands, known as Barsac red sands, tops the chalky subsoil. The harvest is performed by experienced grape pickers in 3 to 6 successive selective pickings in order to collect at the ideal ripening stage, the grapes concentrated by the noble rot. Yield: 25 hL/ha.

Harvest

The fine dessert wines of Chateau Doisy-Daëne are made possible by a very meticulous harvest carried out by experienced pickers through 3 to 6 passages. These different sortings make it possible to harvest the grapes with just the right amount of noble rot.

Vinification/ Maturation

Extracted through slow pressings, the rich and pure juice ferments in oak barrels renewed by third. Ageing then starts with 10 month in oak barrels, in the coolness of the cellars and is regulated by the weekly topping of the barrels and regular rackings. This is followed by 9 months in stainless steel tank before bottling. Doisy Daëne wine has a style of its own that privileges a bursting fruit concentrated by the noble rot, strength, balance, and subtlety of the flavors. The Doisy-Daëne style is all at once the expression of a great calcareous soil and a truly aesthetic family tradition, the one of distinguished white wines, of crystal-like purity, combining power and freshness, in an infinite youth.



Tasting Notes	Chateau Doisy-Daëne 2019 reveals a pale-yellow color. The aromatic bouquet seduces with its intensity, purity, and complexity. This sun-kissed wine packs the palate with its tasty and suave texture, while maintaining a beautiful freshness in its fruit and great length on the finish. A superb Barsac, which will evolve gracefully over the years. To taste from 2022 onwards or age until 2050 for those who are more patient.
Serve with	The wine will naturally warm in the glass, while it develops more aromatic complexities and fleshes out. Chateau Doisy Daene can be served with seafood dishes, especially shellfish, lobster, crab, and oysters on the half shell. Foie gras is a perfect pairing with its natural sweet, salty, and savory characteristics. Chateau Doisy Daene can also be paired with roasted chicken, veal, and pork dishes that are either spicy or prepared with a touch of sweetness. Spicy Asian cuisine, raw fish, like sushi or sashimi, and cheese, both hard and soft also make great pairings with Chateau Doisy Daene.
Production	1,960 cases made
Cellaring	Drink now-2050
Scores/Awards	<p>93 points - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - March 2022</p> <p>94-96+ points - Lisa Perrotti-Brown, Wine Advocate - June 2020</p> <p>94 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - February 2022</p> <p>94-95 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - May 2020</p> <p>91 points - Georgina Hindle, Decanter.com - January 2022</p> <p>96 points - Jane Anson, Decanter.com - January 2022</p> <p>95 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - March 2022</p> <p>92-94 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - June 2020</p> <p>94-96 points - Neal Martin, Vinous - June 2020</p> <p>95 points - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - February 2022</p> <p>93-95 points - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - June 2020</p> <p>92-94 points - Jeb Dunnuck MW - June 2020</p> <p>93 points - Jean Marc Quarin (score only) - February 2022</p> <p>94 points - Peter Moser, Falstaff Magazine - February 2022</p> <p>95 points - Vert de Vin - April 2020</p> <p>17 points - Vinum Wine Magazine (score only) - September 2020</p>
Reviews	<p><i>"This has weight, focus and freshness, with a mix of well-defined orange, lemon, peach, and nectarine notes. The bright finish is laced with heather and honeysuckle, featuring nice underlying acidity that helps set it apart from the pack. Drink now through 2035. 1,960 cases made."</i></p> <p>- JM, Wine Spectator</p> <p><i>"The 2019 Doisy Daëne has seriously intense notes of pineapple upside-down cake, ripe apricots, and lemon marmalade with hints of acacia honey, paraffin wax, orange blossoms and preserved ginger plus a waft of marzipan. The palate is rich, unctuous, and boldly decadent, featuring layer upon layer of exotic fruits and spices, finishing with that signature freshness. A powerhouse!"</i></p> <p>- LPB, Wine Advocate</p> <p><i>"White pears, peaches, lemon meringue and acacia honey on the nose. Medium-bodied with succulent lemon-pie character. Sweet, yet fresh and tangy. Excellent balance. Drink now or hold."</i></p> <p>- JS, JamesSuckling.com</p> <p><i>"Full-bodied with very spicy, dried-pear and honey character. Mango and toffee as well. It shows lots of intensity."</i></p> <p>- JS, JamesSuckling.com</p> <p><i>"Expressive, pungent aromatics of lemon, lime, and bitter grapefruit pith. Lively, weighty, pure, and juicy, showing lemon and lime cordial, peach, apricot, and pineapple. Exotic and exuberant with high, sherbet acidity. Drinking Window 2022 – 2029."</i></p> <p>- GH, Decanter.com</p> <p><i>"I love this, the flavors are utterly moreish and mouth filling, tons of creamy lemon tart, flaky pastry against rich nectarine, tart citrus, and lime flavours. Clearly this is a concentrated and gourmet year, but this has delicious balance - excellent quality"</i></p> <p>- JA, Decanter.com</p>

Reviews

“Everything is subtle and balanced here. The wine is spicy, fresh, vivacious, and packed with white peach, spicy roasted pineapples, vanilla, honey, mango, and a touch of mint on the nose and palate. Fresh, sweet, and racy on the palate with a complex note of caramelized orange and pineapple that lingers due to the jolt of freshness that kicks in when you need it the most. Drink from 2023-2047.”

- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

“White peach, spicy roasted pineapples, vanilla, honey and mango on the nose and palate. The finish is a rich, blast of honeyed tropical fruits, candied yellow and citrus and a jolt of freshness that kicks in when you need it the most.”

- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

“The 2019 Doisy-Daëne is uncharacteristically backward on the nose and demands coaxing, eventually revealing lovely clear honey, quince, and sea spray/oyster shell scents. The palate is beautifully balanced with a fine line of acidity, taut and fresh with a weightlessness on the finish that contradicts its intensity. Not the best Doisy-Daëne ever, but still a tiny bit fab”

- NM, *Vinous*

“The 2019 Doisy-Daëne is a very pretty and inviting Barsac. Pineapple, mint, white flowers, spice and candied ginger give the 2019 its exotic flavor profile. There is a feeling of weightlessness that is so alluring. Silky contours extend the finish effortlessly. Superb.”

- AG, *Vinous*

“The 2019 Doisy-Daëne is creamy, ample, and resonant in the glass. Wildflowers, ginger, orchard fruit, pear and tangerine oil are some of the many strands that inform the 2019. Rich and yet also wonderfully light on its feet, the 2019 is hauntingly beautiful and impeccable in its balance.”

- AG, *Vinous*

“One of the more exotic, perfumed, and complex Sauternes in the vintage, the 2019 Château Doisy Daëne just about jumps out of the glass with its rocking nose of caramelized peach, ripe pineapple, honeyed orange, and floral aromas and flavors. More medium-bodied on the palate, with a rounded, silky texture that carries good acidity and good, maybe not great, mid-palate depth, it's certainly an outstanding, exotic Barsac that will be approachable in its youth yet keep for 15-20 years.”

- Jeb Dunnuck

“Pale yellow gold, silver reflections. Smoky herbal spice, cloves and honey, white fruit. Medium complexity, yellow peach, subtle spicy oak, salty minerality, sweet finish, somewhat rustic, oranges on the finish, will benefit from aging in the bottle.”

- Falstaff Magazine

“The nose is elegant, racy, and beautifully built. It reveals notes of crystalized lemon, candied apple, small notes of crystalized mandarin associated with small touches of kumquat, lychee as well as fine hints of spices and a subtle hints of pepper (in the background). The palate is fruity, well-balanced and offers a good definition, juiciness, an acidulous frame, and tension. On the palate this wine expresses notes of crystalized lemon, crystalized mandarin, small notes of fleshy/juicy peach associated with touches of candied kumquat as well as subtle hints of spices (in the background). A beautiful persistence. Good length.”

- Vert de Vin