

# Château Doisy Daëne Blanc 2021

CSPC# 831590

750mlx12

13.5% alc./vol.

## Grape Variety

100% Sauvignon Blanc

## Appellation

Bordeaux Blanc A.O.C., Barsac

## Website

<http://www.denisdubourdieu.fr/index.php?d=5&l=EN>

## Sustainability

Environmentally friendly.

The estate has made great strides on environmental sustainability. They have eliminated the use of weed killers, and all bud removal, trellising and leaf removal is done by hand. Their carbon footprint is a conscious issue too: they own a forest equal to the size of their vineyards as a way of repaying their debt to the land.

Considerable effort has also been spent on reducing energy usage, and a series of 80 sensors and 6 weather stations in the vineyards are used to achieve this. Solar panels are installed on all new buildings.

## 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.

## Winemaker

Fabrice Dubourdieu

## Vintage

The year was difficult for white wine growers. Many estates suffered crop losses from the frosts when temperatures dipped to below freezing levels multiple times in April and May, especially in the Graves and Sauternes appellations.

Along with frosts, at times the rains were seemingly non-stop. Overall, conditions improved, and close to the end of May flowering began to appear. Summer maintained its cool, wet, weather conditions along with its lack of sunshine. By the end of August, growers were ready to start picking.

Harvesting of the white wine grapes began at the end of August under moderately cool to reasonably warm days with cold, refreshing nights finishing between early September to about September 25. For a more detailed report on the weather that shaped the vintage.

## Vineyards

The composition of the soil of the Barsac plateau is from a geological standpoint and for the Bordeaux region unusual. A thin layer of clayey sands, known as "Barsac red sands", tops the chalky subsoil. This lightly cracked calcareous rock layer limits the rooting depth of the vine to about twenty inches. The water that is stored within the slightly porous rock throughout the summer, is progressively dispensed to the vine during the winter, preventing thus a water overload. 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.

## Harvest

Manual collection by successive sorting.



<b>Vinification/ Maturation</b>	Once grapes have ripened, a few bunches are collected on each vine from all the Sauvignon plots. After an eventual phase of skin contact, a slow juice extraction is performed, protected from the oxidation process. Free run must, is strictly separated from press must and their clarification undergoes by natural settling. Fermentation takes place in barrels renewed by fifth. Ageing lasts 12 months with lees regularly stirred.
<b>Tasting Notes</b>	Poised and harmonious dry sauvignon from a château more noted for its delicious, sweet wines, this wine offers aromas of stone-fruit and blossom with a fresh palate. Bordeaux sauvignon blanc at its best. The estate has been owned by the Dubourdieu family since 1924, pioneers and innovators in the making of fine white Bordeaux wines. Wines are harvested by hand which both minimizes damage to the vines and eliminates the carbon footprint which would accompany the use of machinery. Pale lemon color with aromas of stone, tropical and citrus fruit with floral and honey oak. On the palate flavors of pear, apple, peach, and lemon curd, slight notes of botrytis with oak wrapped in balanced acidity. Long finish ending with a chalky zesty mineral and bread character.
<b>Serve with</b>	Salmon with bearnaise sauce; lobster-mushroom risotto; Fettuccine with shrimp & lemon; Vegetarian curry. Serve at 9°C - 11°C.
<b>Production</b>	1,800 cases made
<b>Cellaring</b>	Drink now-2026
<b>Scores/Awards</b>	<p><b>91 points</b> - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - April 2023</p> <p><b>93 points</b> - Georgina Hindle, Decanter.com - March 2022</p> <p><b>95 points</b> - Jane Anson, janeanson.com - May 2022</p> <p><b>94-96 points</b> - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - May 2022</p> <p><b>91-93 points</b> - Neal Martin, Vinous - May 2022</p> <p><b>90 points</b> - Jean Marc Quarin (score only) - April 2022</p> <p><b>92-93 points</b> - Vert de Vin - April 2022</p> <p><b>17 points</b> - Vinum Wine Magazine (score only) - August 2023</p>
<b>Reviews</b>	<p><i>"A taut and piercing style, with chalk, lemon pith and fleur de sel notes stretching out on a lengthy, pinpoint finish. This will plump up with some aging -- if that's your preference. Drink now through 2026. 1,800 cases made."</i></p> <p>- JM, Wine Spectator</p> <p><i>"Lemon and lime zest on the nose, smells bright and vibrant with crisp green apple. Fun and playful with a shot of sherbet, sour and sharp lemon that is so appealing. Really lively in the mouth, so much aromatic interest as well as fruit forwardness with balanced acidity and lift the whole way through. Excellent with a tang on the finish that is so memorable. A nice buy"</i></p> <p>- JA, Decanter.com</p> <p><i>"This is intense and concentrated with grated ginger, powerful citrus rind and mandarin puree. Great quality, luscious and well balanced with searing acidity. But with a painfully tiny 1.3hl/h yield, you have got to feel for the team involved in making it work."</i></p> <p>- JA, Decanter.com</p> <p><i>"The 2021 Grand Vin Sec from Doisy-Daëne has a perfumed nose of yellow flowers mixed with orange pith and light honeysuckle aromas. The well-balanced palate offers tangy orange peel mixed with grapefruit, a superb line of acidity and a penetrating, persistent finish. Superb"</i></p> <p>- NM, Vinous</p> <p><i>"The nose is fresh and mineral and has a certain tight tension. There are notes of pulpy apple, nectarine and, more slightly, lychee, combined with hints of ripe citrus, lychee, a discreet hint of passion fruit, peach blossom, and a very discreet hint of gunflint. The palate is fruity and reveals juiciness, a mineral framework, freshness, some gourmandize and energy. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy lychee, ripe lemon and more slightly kumquat combined with hints of crunchy vine peach, juicy/sparkling nectarine as well as fine hints of tangerine, peach blossom, gunflint, and a discreet hint of almond (in the background). A subtle tannic touch in the background. A very nice persistence."</i></p> <p>- Vert de Vin</p>

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