

THE SOURCE

JEAN-LOUIS DUTRAIVE - GRAND COUR BEAUJOLAIS



2023 FLEURIE, CUVÉE VIEILLES VIGNES, LE CLOS

PRODUCER OVERVIEW

It's never too late for a renaissance. Nearing 60, the extremely humble and hard-working vigneron, Jean-Louis Dutraive unintentionally became one of Beaujolais' iconoclastic vignerons. Between 2010-2016 (perhaps some years prior to those as well), Jean-Louis found his own uniquely elegant style that inspired an entire generation of local growers and extended well beyond Beaujolais and France into the global wine scene. Perhaps one of Beaujolais' most elegant appellations, Fleurie is dominated by granite soils with a broad variation of altitudes and expositions. Jean-Louis' Fleurie vines are on softer slopes at lower altitudes with deeper sandy soils than those at higher altitudes, which make for more elegant and aromatic wines. Jean-Louis' Brouilly is a unique wine grown on limestone, which imparts more power, color and weight when compared to his range of Fleurie wines. All vineyards are farmed naturally with EU organic certification and most of the wines are bottled with little to no added sulfites. Jean-Louis' offspring (Ophélie, Justin and Lucas) began to take greater stylistic control of the domaine in 2017, led by his daughter, Ophélie.

VINEYARD DETAILS

Vines with an average age of 85 years (2025) in a walled vineyard on a gently sloped plateau facing southeast in south Fleurie, this "monopole" of Dutraive is on gray granite sand and granite bedrock at 285-300m.

CELLAR NOTES

100% whole cluster, semi-carbonic, natural fermentation and maceration for 2-3 weeks and the wine aged in old 225-500 L old French oak with ~20% new. 10ppm (10mg/L) total added sulfites only at bottling, no fining nor filtration.

