

DOMAINE
ALEXANDRE BONNET
LES RICEYS



La Géande

CHAMPAGNE

7 GRAPE VARIETIES, 2017

A unique cuvée of the seven traditional Champagne grape varieties grown in the same area, La Géande is a kaleidoscope of textures and flavours.

Scores – La Géande 2017

Eric Boschman : 96
Decanter : 95
Le point : 95
Livets Goda : 93
Gault & Millau : 93
Falstaff : 92

In the vineyard

Terroir: Limestone and marls from the Kimmeridgian Jurassic era; cool and sunny semi-continental climate typical of southern Champagne, moderate altitude of 250 m.

Grape varieties: Pinot Noir from a mass selection carried out by the estate, planted in 1974. Chardonnay, Meunier, Blanc Vrai (Pinot Blanc), Buret (Pinot Gris), Arbane and Petit Meslier are all planted on the same plot, pruning styles vary but include Chablis, cordon de Royat and single Guyot.

Viticulture: Agroecological practices: precision viticulture, broad-spectrum protection, soil tilling, grassing or sowing in the inter-row, organic composts, no weedkillers, no insecticides, HVE and VDC certifications since 2015.

Environment: Development of biodiversity by planting orchards, truffle oaks and honey plants, and by mowing grassy areas late in the year to respect pollination times, restoration of local heritage structures (small stone huts known as *cadoles*).

In the cellar

Harvest: Manual only, gradual, depending on the ripeness of the different grape varieties. Sorting is carried out in the vineyard. The grapes are brought to the winery immediately, in perforated boxes.

Vinification: Slow pneumatic pressing, elimination of the “taille” must, separate vinification for each grape variety, static settling, addition of basic yeasts, natural malolactic fermentation, slight sulphiting, light filtration after cold stabilisation.

Ageing: 36 months on lees, disgorging with low dosage to preserve the purity of the wine.

2017 vintage: 4,449 bottles and 50 magnums produced.

Wine

Appearance: Clear and pale with gold and green glints.

Nose: Intriguing peach, pear, fresh quince, fig, apricot, plum and mandarin aromas, floral complexity (acacia, honeysuckle) with fresh almond and sweet spices.

Palate: Opulent, powerful, mouth-watering, with an elegant mineral backbone (chalk, granite).

Cellaring: A fine sparkling wine even when young; aficionados will be able to cellar it for around twenty years.

Service: Pour at 8-10°C and decant or leave to breathe for 5 minutes in the glass.

Pair with a tuna tataki, sea bass in a salt crust or a ballotine of guinea fowl.

Eco-design packaging

- Standard champagne bottle
- Natural cork closure
- Recyclable aluminium foil wrapping, organically sourced laminate
- Water-saving cotton label
- Recycled tissue paper
- Natural wooden box
- Sustainably sourced cardboard packaging

Analyses

Alcohol: 12,50 %
Acidity: 4,1 g/L H2SO4
Sulphites: 35 mg/L
pH : 3,06
Dosage zéro

Vintage 2017 :

After a rather normal winter, with temperatures from February to March, the vines are budding early. A period of frost destroyed some of the freshly emerged buds. The beginning of the summer was wet, then a more favorable period in August enabled us to achieve good ripeness. Harvesting at the Domaine began on September 2, with the exception of the Petit Meslier and Pinot Gris grapes, which were severely affected by the frost and had very low yields. They were picked on August 30.

