

DOMAINE BERNARD BAUDRY (Chinon, Loire)

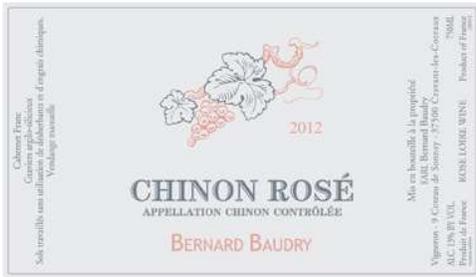


With Matthieu Baudry in the freshly ploughed Le Clos Guillot in the village of Cravant-les-Coteaux

Great Chinon is a little *difficile*, just like the French. No other wines seem more French to me than those of Chinon. Of all red wines of France, Chinon tastes most dry and singular. At tastings without foods, red Chinons are not so easy to understand. With scratch tannins and spinal structure, full of minerals, Chinon is not love at first sight. Chinon is not easy-going like Beaujolais or dressed as pretty as, say, Burgundy. The beauty of Chinon is inwardly. With foods on a table, however, Chinon takes on an outwardly personality. Perhaps, that is the reason the great bistros and restaurants in Paris always have had a life-long love affair with Chinon.

Chinon is located in the Loire Valley about three-hour drive southwest from Paris. Chinon is a Cabernet Franc country with smatterings of *Chenin Blanc*. Chinon is a geological marvel shaped by the confluence of the *Loire River* and *Vienne River*. Soils vary widely, from sandy, clay, gravels, white limestones and yellow limestones. Domaine Bernard Baudry has vineyards on various terroirs. The domain remains a family affair.

CHINON ROSÉ 2016
SPECULATIVE SKU: 508762 750ml 12 bottles/case
\$21.06 Wholesale / \$24.50 per bottle

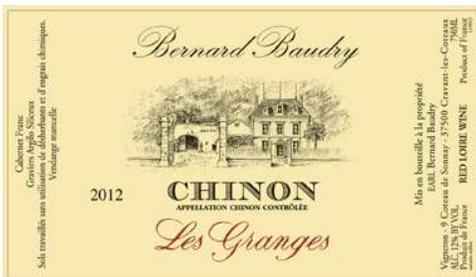


Hand-harvested grapes are pressed gently with skin and are fermented with natural yeast. From the vineyards with clay and very rocky silex. The clay-silex soil brings out the lightness and joyfulness in this rosé. Celebrate sun! 100% Cabernet Franc. It goes well with our grilled local salmon. Matthieu Baudry lost a significant portion of grapes due to the late spring hail in 2016. The hails resulted in natural thinning of grapes and produced very delicious wines in 2016.

Our allocation, however, is tiny in this vintage.

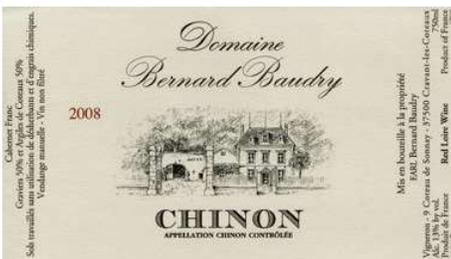
(The labels are not be current vintages and are shown for illustration purposes only)

LES GRANGES 2014
SPECULATIVE SKU: 891143 750ml 12 bottles/case
\$20.48 Wholesale / \$24.00 Retail per bottle



There are two separate bottlings of this cuvée. I always get the second late bottling as I think it tastes just a little better. Voilets and minerals. One of the most food-friendliest wines I know. From the sandy vineyard that hugs the *Vienne* River. The sandy soil brings out the gulp-ability and deliciousness to this wine. Even better slightly chilled. 100% Cabernet Franc. Just a few more cases of this lovely 2014 before equally delicious 2015 comes our way.

LE DOMAINE 2013
SPECULATIVE SKU: 615047 750ml 12 bottles/case
\$22.43 Wholesale / \$26.00 Retail per bottle

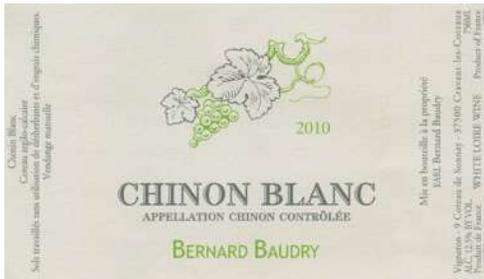


Happy to have a g few more cases of this vintage. Matthieu Baudry decided to declassify the entire 2013 Les Grezeaux and blended into Le Domain. Although happy with the quality of Les Grezeaux 2013, Matthieu felt the quality separation between the two cuvees was not enough. So, all that beautiful Les Grezeaux went into Le Domaine in 2013. The last time this happened was in 2006, which made one of the most delicious Le Domaine and bargain of the decade. The depth and

structure of Les Grezeaux, the 70+ year old vines on gravels, are self-evident in this Le Domaine. So best to decant, if you are drinking it now.

CHINON BLANC 2014

SPECULATIVE SKU: 669895 750ml 12 bottles/case
\$25.58 Wholesale / \$30.00 Retail per bottle

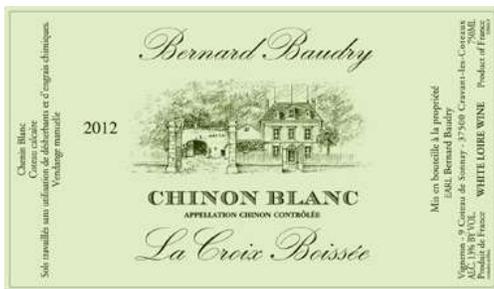


Chinon Blanc is somewhat rare. This is 100% Chenin Blanc, where the vines are grown on a slope of *Château de Sonnay*. It is a historical site in Chinon and just a stone's throw away from Domaine Bernard Baudry. The vines are *selection massale*, of course. The slope faces southeast and is limestone with sandy-clay on top. It is a tiny surface of about 1 hectare. The *élevage* is traditional and is in neutral 600 litre barrels with no-racking until bottling. Very delicious

Chenin Blanc with a hint of hay. I grew-up in a countryside and this wine has a sweet smell of hay to me. Dry.

CHINON BLANC 'LA CROIX BOISSÉE' 2014

SPECULATIVE SKU: 447045 750ml 12 bottles/case
\$34.44 Wholesale / \$40.00 Retail per bottle

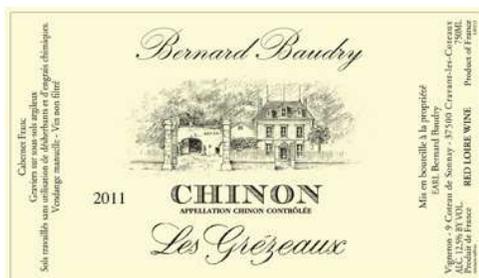


At the very top part of *La Croix Boissée* vineyard is severe pure chalk with very little clay on surface, where it is ideal for Chenin Blanc. The surface area is scant 0.5 hectare. The wine is raised in neutral 600 litre barrels for about a year before bottling. Complex. This white wine has the grace and luxury that remind me of a great *Meursault*. Not a common Chenin Blanc. During my last visit, Matthieu paired a bottle of 2006 with the white asparagus from his father's (that would be Monsieur Bernard Baudry) vegetable garden. The

2006 was stunning.

LES GREZEAUX 2014

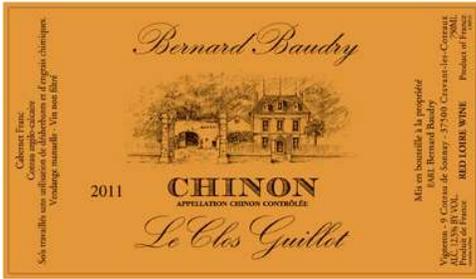
SPECULATIVE SKU: 544338 750ml 12 bottles/case
\$26.64 Wholesale / \$31.00 Retail per bottle



From the magnificent gravelly-clay parcel with the old vines over 70+ old vines, where they give tiny concentrated berries. 100% Cabernet Franc. This *climat* of *Les Grezeaux* is crunchy, long-lived Chinon. Beautiful expression of Chinon. Minerally. Violets in bloom. Aged in neutral Burgundy barrels for about a year prior to bottling. Young, energetic with a promise of beautiful future. Capture its youth and essence in a decanter if you are drinking it now.

LE CLOS GUILLOT 2012

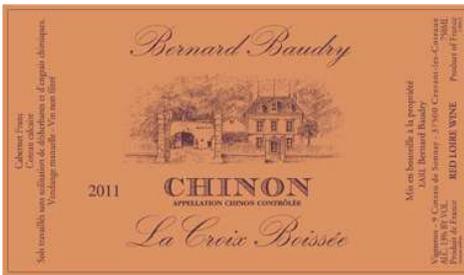
SPECULATIVE SKU: 515452 750ml 12 bottles/case
\$30.78 Wholesale / \$36.00 Retail per bottle



The 2012 vintage produced one of the most rich and delicious wines. The frost in spring reduced the yields drastically, producing concentrated grapes. *Le Clos Guillot* always tastes better with some cellaring but this vintage tastes relatively already. Dark colour with spice and mineral aromas. A hint of alluring peonies perfume. Fermented in the traditional triconic wooden vats and aged in neutral barrels for about a year, followed by another year in bottles in the icy cold limestone cellar. Please cellar a few bottles. 100% Cabernet

Franc.

LA CROIX BOISSÉE 2012
SPECULATIVE SKU: 139832 750ml 12 bottles/case
\$36.33 Wholesale / \$42.00 per bottle



From the tiny 2.5 hectare *La Croix Boissée* vineyard. This *cru* is on a pure limestone slope with shallow clay topsoil. This is the top vineyard for Bernard Baudry. A smoky nose with a crushed mineral aftertaste. A wine to cellar. Or open now and decant to experience its sheer youthful energy. The wine is fermented in open-top wooden vats and aged in neutral barrels for 18 months. Then, the bottles see additional cellaring prior to release. 100% Cabernet Franc.

Visit our www.racinewineimports.ca for additional information about Bernard Baudry, as well as the other artisans that we represent.