

DOMAINE TALMARD

This Burgundy Estate produces one utterly perfect wine: a pure and refreshing Chardonnay, from the birthplace of the Chardonnay grape.

Mâcon-Chardonnay 2020

Mâcon, Spain

ESTATE

The Talmard family's history of grape-growing in the Mâconnais can be traced back to the late 17th century. More recently, the domaine had been run by brothers Paul and Philibert Talmard, and it comprised about 100 acres overlapping two of the higher-quality named villages within the Mâconnais (Chardonnay and Uchizy). Although they sold their wine initially to the local coop, the brothers started to domaine-bottle and export in the mid-1970s. Shortly after the turn of the millennium, the brothers divided their domaine, and Philibert and his son Gérald built their new cellar next to the original one. Today, Gérald Talmard runs the domaine, and has purchased additional vineyards so that his estate now totals 75 acres. The vineyards lie predominantly within the commune of Chardonnay – thought to be the origin of the varietal's name – and the wine produced is thus entitled to use the AOP "Mâcon-Chardonnay."

WINE

It is rare to find domaine-bottled wines in this part of the region, as the production is dominated by coops. Talmard exercises complete control over all facets of viticulture, winemaking, and bottling at the estate, reducing yields, harvesting early to preserve freshness, and bottling the wine with his own state-of-the-art bottling line. The result is one of the very finest examples of the fresh, appealing style of Chardonnay grown in rolling limestone hills of the Mâconnais.

VINEYARD

Soils: deep clay-limestone with pockets of gravel in some parts of the vineyard

Farming: Talmard practices sustainable farming with minimal treatments in the vineyard

WINEMAKING

Variety: 100% Chardonnay

Fermentation: The grapes are whole-cluster-pressed and fermented with indigenous yeasts under temperature control in stainless steel

Aging: 6-8 months sur-lie in stainless steel

Alcohol: 14.1%

VINTAGE

An extremely early flowering was followed by a warmer than average spring and an exceptionally warm summer. Harvest was one of the earliest on record, finishing in late August. Talmard's 2020 Mâcon-Chardonnay displays excellent tension to balance the vintage's ripe fruit and deep concentration -- the quintessential "sunshine in a bottle" that makes Mâcon so appealing.

