



Domaine Laroche
 CHABLIS
 À L'OBÉDIENCERIE

**DOMAINE LAROCHE
 CHABLIS PREMIER CRU
 2018 LES VAILLONS VIEILLES VIGNES**



LES VAILLONS:

“Vaillons” refers to the smaller valleys or climats that the larger climat of Les Vaillons can be divided into: Roncières, Beugnons, Les Lys, Les Epinottes, Châtains, Sécher and Mélinots.

2018 VINTAGE:

In 2018 the summer conditions were dry with temperatures above seasonal norms (> 98 °F) which favored an advanced veraison of 8 days compared to the previous year. After 2 challenging years with harvest volume down 50%, we are thankful for the abundant and high quality of vintage 2018.

GRAPE VARIETY: 100% Chardonnay

VINEYARD: Chablis— Vaillons 1er Cru Domaine Laroche owns 2.17 hectares (5.34 acres) of the 104.26 hectares (311.57 acres) in the Vaillons premier cru appellation. Les Vaillons is a well-favored site with an elevation of 180 to 200 meters (590 to 656 feet), a generous southeastern exposure and well-drained soil. During sunny vintages, the grapes attain perfect ripeness in this premier cru vineyard and produce wines with bright fruit flavors.

VINE AGE AND DENSITY: 35-50 years; 5,880 vines per hectare (2,380 vines per acre).

VITICULTURE: One man, one plot: There are more than 30 people who are dedicated to caring for the 90-plus hectares (222.39 acres) of Domaine Laroche vineyards, with each person responsible for only one plot. This tailor-made approach allows them to manage the vineyards with precision, speed and accuracy.

PRESSING: The grapes are harvested and sorted by hand. Whole bunches are pressed in a pneumatic press, and then the must settles for 12 hours at 10° C to 12°C (50° F to 54° F) in large vats.

FERMENTATION: Alcoholic and malolactic fermentation in French oak barrels and in stainless steel tanks (15% in oak barrel and 85% in stainless steel).

MATURATION: 9 months aging in an old foudre. Then, the wine will be blended and aged further on fine lees for about 4-6 months depending on tastings.

FILTRATION: Minimal filtration is used to preserve and maximize the natural character of the wine.

ALCOHOL: 12.5%

TASTING NOTES:

There is a velvety character in this wine that comes from the sunny character of the vineyard. Perfectly ripe Chardonnay grapes grown on old vines give Vaillons a typical oriental spice overtone. On the palate it offers intensity but never lacks the elegance of the best premier crus of Chablis.