



KERMIT LYNCH WINE MERCHANT

## DOMAINE FRANÇOIS BERTHEAU

Country: France

Region: Burgundy

Appellation(s): Chambolle-Musigny, Bonnes-Mares Grand Cru

Producer: François Bertheau

Founded: Approximately 1700

Annual Production: 1,250 cases

Farming: Lutte Raisonnée

Website: N/A



Domaine Bertheau in Chambolle-Musigny can be summed up by two words—typicity and focus. Their work, as in all great domaines, starts in the vineyards, all of which are located in the village of Chambolle. Bertheau’s holdings would make any lover of great Burgundy drool. Not only does he have Bonnes Mares Grand Cru and *Amoureuses Premier Cru* (the best *premier cru* in Chambolle), but his other *premier cru* holdings are equally impressive—a blend of *Baudes*, *Groseilles*, *Gruenchers*, and *Noirots*. All of these parcels are very close together and Bertheau harvests them and vinifies them together, giving the wine spectacular complexity. Les Baudes happens to be located just below Bonnes Mares.

A very hands-off winemaker, François Bertheau allows the wines to express themselves—there is very little manipulation, very little racking, very little new wood (only 10% in total), and each wine is left to evolve slowly in barrel. These are classic Chambolles, emphasizing finesse, elegance, high-toned aromatics and silky textures. They typically drink well immediately upon release and remain balanced with aging—their approachability should not be confused with shorter life spans because these wines age beautifully.

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Berkeley Retail: 510.524.1524 | California Wholesale: 510.903.0440 | National Wholesale: 707.963.8293



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### DOMAINE FRANÇOIS BERTHEAU (continued)

<u>Wine</u>	<u>Blend</u>	<u>Vine Age</u>	<u>Soil Type</u>	<u>Vineyard Area*</u>
<b>Chambolle-Musigny</b>	Pinot Noir	40 – 45 years	Limestone	2.9 ha
<b>Chambolle-Musigny 1er Cru</b>	Pinot Noir	40 – 45 years	Limestone	1.10 ha
<b>Chambolle-Musigny 1er Cru</b> <i>Les Charmes</i>	Pinot Noir	40 – 45 years	Limestone	.66 ha
<b>Chambolle-Musigny 1er Cru</b> <i>Les Amoureuses</i>	Pinot Noir	40 – 45 years	N/A	.32 ha
<b>Bonnes-Mares Grand Cru</b>	Pinot Noir	40 – 45 years	Clay, Limestone	.34 ha

\* “ha”=hectares; one hectare equals roughly two and a half acres

### VITICULTURE / VINIFICATION

- Wines are vinified in stainless steel and cement *caves* for 14 – 16 days
- Wines are aged in oak barrels (20% new) for 18 months
- Chambolle-Musigny Village is aged in large, oak *foudres*

### MISCELLANEA

*I wish there had been enough for all you readers to have tasted Bertheau's 1978 Bonnes-Mares with us after closing the other night. So many modern Burgundies taste like clean fruit juice with oak flavoring. The 1978 is a true vin de terroir, and it is still youthful with great depth and complexity, even for a 1978. Rather awesome, in fact.*

*I spend a lot of time and energy trying to make sure that the wines you drink taste as good in bottle as they did in barrel. With Pierre Bertheau, his always taste better in bottle! He is a gifted winemaker of the old school.*

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