



CLUB MAGNUM

VINS ET EXPÉRIENCES

DOMAINE COMTE ARMAND



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Along with Domaine Bonneau du Martray, Clos de Tart and Domaine des Lambrays, Domaine Comte Armand is that rare thing in Burgundy: an estate with one substantial holding in a top cru. Its origins stem from the legendary Marey-Monge family, one time owners of more than 100ha of prime land across the Côte d'Or. When one of the daughters married Comte Armand in 1855, the Domaine des Epeneaux formed part of her dowry.

Until 1994, when Comte Armand purchased parcels in Volnay, Auxey-Duresses and Meursault, the 5.25ha Clos des Epeneaux was indeed the only holding in the Domaine and even with

these more recent additions, the estate's holdings are an inversion of the usual Burgundian pyramid.

Following phylloxera, it was not until 1930 that the Clos was replanted. The owners do not live at the estate, with the current Comte Armand a Paris-based lawyer. Instead, the family employ régisseurs to run the estate for them. The incumbent, Paul Zinetti, has been at the estate since 2010 and took on the top job in 2014. He inherited a Domaine that is back to where it should be: the standard-bearer for the appellation of Pommard.

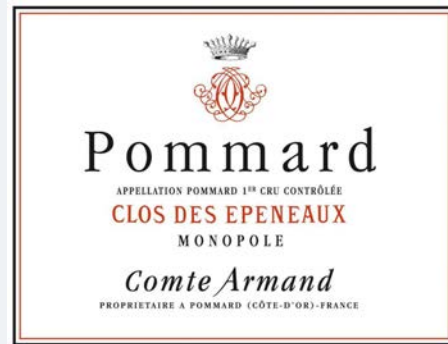
The Clos is found to the north of the village of Pommard and straddles two 1er cru vineyards,

Grands-Epenots and Petits-Epenots. It encompasses both flatter land on the lower slopes where there is more clay and notable iron deposits as well as land higher up on the hill where topsoil is thin and roots are quickly onto the limestone bedrock.

Under previous régisseurs, Benjamin Leroux and Pascal Marchand, extensive work was undertaken to drive up quality. It was Marchand who began the journey away from chemical dependence, adopting biodynamics in the late 1990s, as well as updating the cellars. Over twenty years on, the soils now

brim with health, the vines are flourishing and the wines show natural balance and greater consistency from year to year. They are, and always will be, resolutely 'Pommard'- showing a sturdy, structured style and great intensity- but they have been refined ever further, edges being polished, focus being sharpened and aromatics being lifted.

In an appellation of historic importance but that today is undervalued and often overlooked, Clos des Epeneaux makes a stunning case for inclusion in any serious Burgundy collection.



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