



DOMAINE PHILIPPE LIVERA CHAPELLE-CHAMBERTIN GRAND CRU 2009

Appellation: Gevrey-Chambertin; Cote de Nuits; Cote d'Or; France

Winemaker: Damien Livera

Closure: Cork

Alcohol: 13.0%

0.3 ha yielding 3 to 4 barrels planted in the early 1950s. The vines lie immediately below the Clos de Beze.

Flavour profile: Violet aroma with a silky, intensely flavoured ethereal finish.

About the Domaine:

Damien LIVERA took over the family domaine in 2005. Originally established by his great-grandfather in 1930, the estate had until recently sold its production in bulk to the big Beaune negociant houses. Damien immediately set about upgrading and renovating the vineyards and winery, with a new winery operational from 2009. Whilst Damien's father, Philippe, began domaine-bottling several years ago, this trend has continued under Damien with two-thirds of the production now being bottled under the domaine name. Quality has taken a quantum leap here and there are some stunning wines being made. Grapes receive a very light pressing, and there is relatively low lees contact. Racking is carried out following the lunar calendar.

The Region:

Gevrey-Chambertin is the northernmost of the great communes of the Côte de Nuits and is also one of the largest wine producing villages due to its surface area in vineyards. There are 26 premiers crus in Gevrey occupying a total of 211 acres, and eight grands crus lying on a contiguous strip of 215 acres. The remaining 889 acres, 125 of which lie in the adjoining commune of Brochon, produce the village wines of Gevrey-Chambertin. The soils are chalky with a high proportion of clay marl giving powerful yet "round" wines. The pinots from Gevrey -Chambertin are highly coloured and with intense aromatic expression evocative of blackcurrant berries and other small red and black fruit. There are animal notes such as musk and fur, one can often pick out an aroma of liquorice in mature wine. They are powerful wines, associating abundant mellowness with tannin and a good level of acidity. The village wines of Gevrey-Chambertin are produced from vineyards lying on the extension of the slope on which the grands and premiers crus are situated.

The Vintage:

Burghound's 2009 Vintage notes:

As I observed at the very beginning, the most successful 2009s are wonderfully fresh, seductively opulent, elegant and refined burgundies that should be more than capable of successfully rewarding short-to-mid-term cellaring out to 20 years or so. There is also a tenderness to the wines that render them most beguiling. Moreover, the wines adhere quite closely to the *appellation* hierarchy though at the same time, many wines indeed transcend their respective levels, particularly at the lower levels. The other aspect of the better '09s is how fine the tannins are and this contributes to the seductive and charming character that so many of them exude. As was the case in 2008, when the more rustic *appellations* such as Fixin, Marsannay, Côte de Nuits-Villages and certain sectors of Gevrey and Nuits are good, they tend to be more refined than usual.

