



KERMIT LYNCH WINE MERCHANT

DOMAINE ROBERT-DENOGENT

Country: France

Region: Burgundy

Appellation(s): Saint-Véran, Mâcon-Solotr ,
Mâcon-Fuiss , Pouilly-Fuiss 

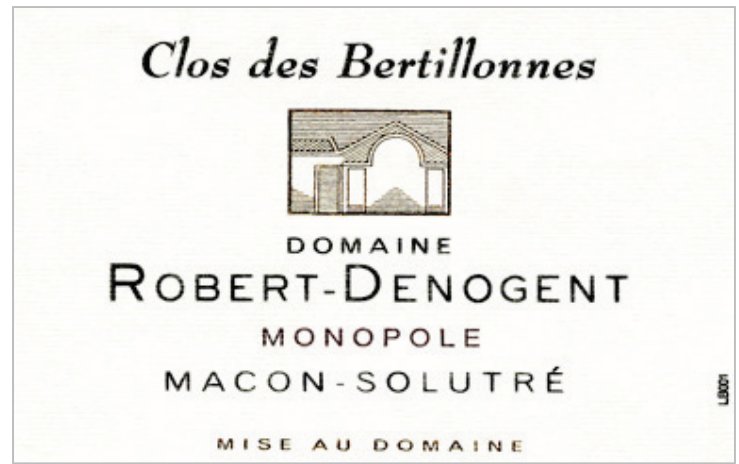
Producer: Jean-Jacques Robert

Founded: 1900

Annual Production: 4,200 cases

Farming: Lutte Raisonn e

Website: www.robert-denogent.com



When first tasting the wines of Domaine Robert-Denogent, it is essential to put aside any preconceived notions about the young, over-cropped whites of southern Burgundy. These are wines of a much different class, whose reflection of *terroir* is one more likely found farther north in the prestigious C te d'Or. Jean-Jacques Robert took over five hectares of his grandfather's vines in the M connais just outside the village of Fuiss  after finishing law school in 1988. Though most of the harvest had always been sold off to the cooperatives, the small parcels that made up the domaine were already understood to enjoy unique microclimates, producing Pouilly-Fuiss s of great pedigree. Jean-Jacques soon came under the influence of two ardent defenders of *terroir*, the great master of Morgon, Marcel Lapierre, and American importer, Kermit Lynch. Little by little, Jean-Jacques has introduced radical changes to the domaine (while staying faithful to his grandfather's wisdom about the complexity of the land), finally realizing its full potential. He is now joined by his son, Nicolas.

The Roberts' individual vineyard parcels are planted with old vines (remarkably so!) on varied soils of granite, schist, limestone, clay, and gravel. Naturally reduced yields imbue the grapes with terrific concentration. The wines undergo a long, slow * levage* in barrel that lasts anywhere from fifteen to eighteen months. They are bottled after two winters in barrel, a treatment more common (yet still far from the norm) in the C te d'Or, and something that really sets them apart in the M connais. At a fraction of the price of the appellations of Meursault and Puligny-Montrachet, to which they are often compared by aficionados and critics alike, the wines of Robert-Denogent offer tremendous value, wonderful richness, and impressive complexity. An added attraction for some—they age sooner than their counterparts to the north.

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



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DOMAINE ROBERT DENOGENT (continued)

<u>Wine</u>	<u>Blend</u>	<u>Vine Age</u>	<u>Soil Type</u>	<u>Vineyard Area*</u>
Saint-Véran <i>Les Pommards</i> “Vieilles Vignes”	Chardonnay	52 years	Clay, Limestone	.52 ha
Mâcon-Solentré <i>Clos des Bertillonnes</i>	Chardonnay	30 years	Quartz, Limestone	.42 ha
Mâcon-Fuissé <i>Les Tâches</i>	Chardonnay	15 years	Limestone	.27 ha
Pouilly-Fuissé <i>Les Carrons</i> “Vieilles Vignes”	Chardonnay	92 years	Limestone scree	.47 ha
Pouilly-Fuissé <i>La Croix</i> “Vieilles Vignes”	Chardonnay	79 years	Blue schist	2 ha
Pouilly-Fuissé <i>Les Reisses</i> “Monopole”	Chardonnay	82 years	Clay	.6 ha
Pouilly-Fuissé “Cuvée Claude Denogent”	Chardonnay	85 years	Limestone	.7 ha

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

VITICULTURE / VINIFICATION

- All grapes are harvested by hand
- Grapes pressed gently by pneumatic press
- Natural fermentation with indigenous yeasts
- Wines are aged for 18 to 24 months in 50 – 70% new oak and the rest in once-used oak barrels

MISCELLANEA

A couple of weeks ago I had the chance to taste, and the wines were really excellent—even more-so when factoring in the value versus a Puligny or Meursault. I started [tasting] without my pen, but the wines were so good I had to find it, hence, the notes gradually got longer!

Bill Nanson, *The Burgundy Report*

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