

2020 BORDEAUX SEC "LES CLOUS" DOMAINE DE L'ALLIANCE \$52

Anthony Lynch once aptly remarked that when you uncork a bottle from Daniel and Valérie Alibrand, you know you are about to experience the fruits of the labor of dedicated farmers who put everything on the line to create something sensational. This husband and wife team, who are committed to farming organically, rank among the most resourceful and innovative winegrowers in our portfolio. Year after year, faced with a series of challenging vintages, they have successfully pivoted to create the most exciting Bordeaux *blanc* we've ever tasted.







Their Les Clous cuvée is an experiment in terroir that lead to astounding results. Daniel wanted to discover how the particularly gravelly soil in this parcel would impact the resulting wine made from 65 year-old Sémillon vines. The vineyard faces north, but curiously ripens as freely as if it were south-facing. While Les Clous has the signature aromatics of other Alliance *blancs*, it is entirely more austere. Boldly mineral, it embraces all the tension and luminosity imaginable in a Left Bank white. In that respect, it's undoubtedly cellar-worthy, though approachable and full of energy today.

Typical regional pairings inevitably come from the sea: oysters, scallops, and other briny delicacies. But this white's stimulating nature, plus bright aromatics and textural depth, mean the possibilities are limitless.



Daniel Alibrand © Dixon Brooke

Pair with roasted fennel bulb, sole meunière, or sashimi rice bowls.

					
2020 FRIULI VENEZIA GIULIA MALVASIA "CHIOMA INTEGRALE" Vignai da Dufine Friuli	Malvasia Istriana	Vines planted in 1960 Limestone, red clay	Serve cold 48–52° F Decant optional	Orange blossom, lime, coriander Exuberant, mineral, fleshy	Drink now through 2026
2020 BORDEAUX SEC "LES CLOUS" Domaine de l'Alliance Bordeaux	Sémillon	50-year-old vines Gravel, clay, sand	Serve cold 48–52° F Decant optional	Honeydew, slate, citrus, quince Refreshing, saline, zingy	Drink now through 2030

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Duline's vineyards © Joanie Bonfiglio

2020 FRIULI VENEZIA GIULIA MALVASIA “CHIOMA INTEGRALE” VIGNAI DA DULINE \$45

The name of this lovely wine highlights the Duline philosophy: “No trimming of the shoots!” This applies to *viticoltore* Lorenzo Mochiutti’s hair and beard as well as to his vineyards. Chioma in Italian means “long hair” and “canopy of tree leaves.” Though it is generally accepted that vines are trimmed once their shoots reach a certain length, Lorenzo and Federica let their vines find their own balance, choosing not to trim any of their vines. Suffice it to say that this is one of Duline’s many secrets to success.

Malvasia Istriana is a form of the Malvasia grape that is native to the Istrian Peninsula, and it produces deliciously complex white wines that are a far cry from other Malvasia produced in central Italy. Duline’s “Chioma Integrale” is a zesty, herbal rendition with a fascinating nose of white pepper, lavender, and pine resin. A textural wine—at once silky and faintly bitter—it presents a lithe structure and salty, mouthwatering finale. This is a seductive apéritif and an excellent seafood white.



Lorenzo Mochiutti and Federica Magrini © Dixon Brookes

Pair with castelvetrono olives, hard cheeses, or fried sea creatures.