

## ALBERT MOROT

### The Domaine Albert Morot, a jewel of Beaune's wine heritage

For more than two centuries, Domaine Albert Morot has been writing its story at the heart of Beaune's finest terroirs. Founded in 1820, the estate gradually established itself as one of the most remarkable collections of Premier Cru vineyards in the appellation. In 2023, a new chapter began when the estate was acquired by **Sophie Desmazières-Poitrinal** and **Guillaume Poitrinal**, who entrusted its management to renowned winemaker Pierre-Jean Villa.

After two years of modernization across the winery, the estate is now fully embracing its renaissance, driven by the ambition to make Albert Morot one of the leading names of the Côte de Beaune.



#### A LEADING ESTATE IN BEAUNE

The history of Domaine Albert Morot is inseparable from that of Beaune itself. Founded in 1820 as a wine merchant house, it gradually acquired vineyards in some of Beaune's most prestigious Premier Crus and became owner of the Clos de la Bataillère monopole in Savigny-lès-Beaune.

During Beaune's golden age, accelerated by the arrival of the railway, Albert Morot built a two-storey Eiffel-style winery and a Belle Époque chateau that became symbols of its prominence. At its peak, the house produced up to 200,000 bottles and even held the exclusive distribution rights for Domaine de la Romanée-Conti for several consecutive years.

In 2000, Geoffroy Choppin de Janvry, Albert Morot's great-grandnephew, began converting the estate to organic viticulture. The 2015 vintage became the first certified organic vintage, making the estate one of Burgundy's pioneers.



#### THE PURSUIT OF PRECISION

Since the acquisition, substantial investments have been made to optimize every stage of winemaking. The modernization of the winery, renovation of the cellars, detailed vineyard parcel studies, restoration of historic stone walls, and continued planting at Clos de la Bataillère all contribute to this renewal.

This transformation is guided by a clear stylistic vision. Today, the estate produces terroir-driven wines that are precise and elegant, where purity of fruit and faithful expression of each vineyard site take precedence over stylistic intervention. Every cuvée is conceived as an authentic reflection of its origin and vintage.

## A UNIQUE COLLECTION OF PREMIER CRUS

Domaine **Albert Morot** is one of Beaune's leading wine estates, with 8 hectares planted almost exclusively of Premier Cru sites, stretching from north to south across the appellation: Les Aigrots, Les Bressandes, Les Grèves, Les Teurons, as well as Les Toussaints, Les Marconnets, and Les Cent-Vignes. Each climat represents a distinct element within an exceptional portfolio of Beaune Premier Cru wines.

The estate also owns the Clos de La Bataillière, a Premier Cru in Savigny-lès-Beaune, a 2-hectare walled monopole planted with both white and red varietals.

## PIERRE-JEAN VILLA'S AMBITION

The remarkable diversity of soils and terroirs has deeply impressed Pierre-Jean Villa, the estate's Managing Director. He discovered an extraordinary range of clay and limestone soils, as well as significant variations in depth and structure throughout the vineyards.

Pierre-Jean Villa is widely recognized as one of the leading winemakers of France's Northern Rhône Valley. He was a founding member of the celebrated Vins de Vienne project alongside Yves Cuilleron, François Villard, and Pierre Gaillard before creating his own estate, renowned for Saint-Joseph, Côte-Rôtie and particularly Condrieu wines, where he also served as president of the appellation.

A thoughtful observer and passionate winemaker, Pierre-Jean Villa embraces doubt as a driving force. He observes, experiments, refines and continuously questions his work in a demanding pursuit of revealing the unique character of each terroir..



Pierre-Jean Villa

His ambition is to restore **Albert Morot** to the center of Beaune's wine scene and once again make it a benchmark estate. For him, this project represents a meaningful return to Burgundy and a way of giving back to the region that shaped his career.

## A UNIQUE EXPERTISE

After nearly twenty years of organic farming practices, the vines were already vigorous and healthy. Pierre-Jean and his team are now focusing on understanding each climat individually, and in some cases subdividing them further. The Bressandes parcels, for example, have been split into three separate plots, harvested at different times and vinified in separate vats. The **Albert Morot** team is also cautiously beginning to explore biodynamic practices with a measured and thoughtful approach..

Soil cultivation remains essential. The vineyards are hilled in winter and worked throughout spring using careful mechanical methods that preserve soil vitality and structure. To protect grape quality, all harvesting is carried out manually using small crates.

Traditional and low-intervention winemaking defines the estate's philosophy. Red wines are vinified in stainless steel and wooden vats using partially destemmed grapes. Pierre-Jean Villa has introduced a minimum of 20–30% whole-cluster fermentation, maintaining a natural layer of stems within the tanks. Rather than punch-downs, he favors gentle pump-overs to limit extraction and preserve elegance.

Red wines are aged for 14 to 18 months in French oak barrels (approximately 15% new oak), without racking, in the estate's historic cellars. After blending, they spend a further six to eight weeks in tank before bottling according to the lunar calendar.

For white wines, grapes are pressed immediately upon arrival at the winery. Following a 48-hour static settling period, fermentation begins in 400-liter French oak barrels with temperature control. The wines are aged for 12 months in barrel (approximately 15% new oak), followed by six months on fine lees in stainless steel tanks before bottling according to the lunar calendar.

## THE RENAISSANCE OF DOMAINE ALBERT MOROT: A HOLISTIC VISION

Beyond wine, the renaissance of Albert Morot is part of a broader reflection on heritage and hospitality. Built at the end of the 19th century in the heart of the estate, Château Albert Morot (formerly known as Château de la Creusotte) has undergone extensive restoration to restore its historic role as a house open onto the vineyards.

Designed as a natural extension of the domaine experience, this Belle Époque property now offers the opportunity to discover the wines, terroirs, and Burgundian art of living in an exclusive setting. Private tastings, vineyard tours, immersive stays, and tailor-made events invite visitors to an immersive Burgundy experience, alongside those who shape it.



### About Domaine Albert Morot

Founded in 1820, Domaine Albert Morot embodies the soul of Beaune's great terroirs. Spanning 8 hectares of organically farmed vineyards, the estate produces pure, refined wines from emblematic climats. The domaine also oversees a rare jewel: the Clos de la Bataillère, a monopole of approximately 2 hectares classified as Savigny-lès-Beaune Premier Cru. In 2023, the family-owned group led by Guillaume Poitrinal and Sophie Desmazières-Poitrinal acquired this historic estate, driven by a vision that combines heritage and modernity. In order to optimise every stage of the winemaking process, significant investments were made in the winery and the château. The new owners appointed Rhône Valley winemaker Pierre-Jean Villa to take charge of the estate's future and bring new momentum to its development.

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