THE CLIMATS,
TERROIRS OF
BOURGOGNE
WORLD HERITAGE

DISCOVER THE CLIMATS
www.climats-bourgogne.com
“In Burgundy, when we speak of a Climat, we do not look up to the sky, we keep our eyes to the ground.”

Bernard Pivot, writer, President of the support committee, The Climats, Terroirs of Burgundy – World Heritage

The Climats, terroirs of Burgundy, have been inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List as a ‘cultural landscape’ since 4th July 2015. As such, they embody “the combined works of nature and man” resulting from the long and intimate relationship between the local people and their environment. The Climats are of Outstanding Universal Value (O.U.V.).”

Article 1, paragraph 3 of the World Heritage Convention of 1972.

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THE "CLIMAT" IN ITS BURGUNDY SENSE

In Burgundy, a Climat refers to a plot of vines, gradually and precisely demarcated by man, and which has been recognized by its name for centuries, often since the Middle Ages. Each Climat has specific geological, hydrometric and exposure characteristics. The production of each Climat is vinified separately, from a single grape variety, and the wine thus produced takes the name of the Climat from which it comes. The personality of the Climat is expressed in the wine, vintage after vintage, thanks to the know-how of the winegrower. Nowhere else in the world has man sought to so precisely and intimately link wine production to its place of origin.

The Climats de Bourgogne are thus the essence of the Burgundy viticulture model.

WORLD HERITAGE STATUS

The perimeter covered by the World Heritage List inscription closely matches that of the Côte de Beaune and the Côte de Nuits vineyards. Importantly, the inscription also includes our cultural heritage and other elements that embody the history of Burgundian winemaking. UNESCO thereby recognised the emergence of an entire culture, our specific winemaking know-how and the architectural heritage of the villages and the historic centres of Beaune and Dijon.
The Burgundy vineyards and the Burgundian viticulture model were built over 2,000 years, in a constant effort to reveal the identity of the place (the Climat) through the wine it produced. This effort reached its most achieved result in Côte de Beaune and Côte de Nuits, a strip of land linking Dijon to the Maranges villages to the South, a distance of barely 60 km (circa 37 miles). More than 1,200 Climats are packed in tightly one against the other, like the pieces of a giant jigsaw puzzle. Each has its own name, its history, its own taste and its own rank in the Appellations hierarchy. The perseverant Burgundy winegrowers, always striving for excellence, were encouraged by the civil and religious authorities to create a vineyard and a winemaking model, develop a culture and build an entire economy. Men have shaped the landscapes and built stone shelters, cellars, churches, villages, towns and monuments, turning this small piece of Burgundy into a unique cultural landscape, where terroir-based winemaking has become a model for the world.

The characteristics specific to each Climat have been identified and recognised over several centuries through the knowledge of local winegrowers. The Climats were gradually ranked into a formally recognised hierarchy in 1935 under the Appellation d’Origine Contrôlée classification (Protected Designation of Origin). The construction of the Climats represents a unique expression of the history of mankind being written into the very soil. The Climats, terroirs of Burgundy, are closely associated with the towns of Dijon and Beaune, historically the centers of political, economic and cultural power, and they form a unique, living museum of the region’s winemaking know-how and traditions. They are exceptional but fragile, and need constant attention. Their inscription on the World Heritage List is recognition of their unique character.

THE OUTSTANDING UNIVERSAL VALUE OF THE CLIMATS

O.U.V. basis for inscription

To be included on the World Heritage List, a site must be of “Outstanding Universal Value”, in other words it must have a cultural significance which is so exceptional as to transcend national boundaries and to be of common importance for present and future generations of all humanity.
The site of the Climats, terroirs of Burgundy, represents:

- A unique cultural landscape, shaped by man for the last 2,000 years
- The model of terroir-based viticulture whose influence has spread throughout the world
- An exceptional architectural heritage linked to winegrowing
- A living museum of winegrowing and winemaking traditions and know-how
The vineyards of Burgundy are the result of a cultural event that is unique in the world: a human community has chosen to refer to the place of origin (Climat) and time (vintage) as markers of the excellence and diversity of a product resulting from the combined work of man and nature. Men have set precise delineations for each vineyard plot which are still visible in the form of paths, walls and enclosures (the “clos”). The name of the Climat is then given to the wine produced from it. This meticulous plot construction is clearly legible in the landscape. The history of the construction of the Climats has thus resulted in creating a diversity of wines that has been sought for, maintained and perpetuated.

CRITERION III

An exceptional testimony to a living cultural tradition.

The Climats constitute an outstanding example of a wine-growing site whose activity is based on the transmission of cultural and oenological practices developed and refined by generations of winemakers for nearly two millennia. Together with the historic towns of Dijon and Beaune and the villages of the Burgundy vineyard, they form an exceptional testimony of a living cultural tradition. The specificity and authenticity of the Climats are grounded and defined by these practices. For more than ten centuries, scientific (mapping) and technical (oenology) knowledge and kow-how has been built, recorded and transmitted regarding winegrowing in Burgundy. From this knowledge, a hierarchy of places and wines (regional appellations, village, premier cru, grand cru) was gradually established. This ranking process culminated in 1936 with the creation of the official hierarchy of the Appellations d’Origine Contrôlée (AOC) (registered designation of origin).

CRITERION V

An outstanding example of a traditional human settlement, land-use which is representative of a culture, or human interaction with the environment.

The vineyards of Burgundy are the result of a cultural event that is unique in the world: a human community has chosen to refer to the place of origin (Climat) and time (vintage) as markers of the excellence and diversity of a product resulting from the combined work of man and nature. Men have set precise delineations for each vineyard plot which are still visible in the form of paths, walls and enclosures (the “clos”). The name of the Climat is then given to the wine produced from it. This meticulous plot construction is clearly legible in the landscape. The history of the construction of the Climats has thus resulted in creating a diversity of wines that has been sought for, maintained and perpetuated.


Inscription: a responsibility for the future

Being on the World Heritage List makes us proud, but at the same time it is also a commitment to preserve the listed site. For this reason, a "Management Plan" for the site has been designed to run it. This document provides details of the tools and actions that the local authorities are committed to implementing. It covers the protection of the villages and landscapes, management of sustainable tourism and economic development, and the transmission of knowledge via a cultural and scientific programme.

UNESCO and World Heritage

Founded in 1945, at the end of the Second World War, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) set itself some tremendously ambitious goals to build world peace through education, science, culture and communication. It is made up of 193 Member States. Through its World Heritage Program, UNESCO encourages the protection and preservation of cultural and natural heritage. Places as diverse as the Egyptian Pyramids, Mont Saint-Michel and the Abbey of Fontenay are on the World Heritage List.

Since 1978, more than 1,000 sites have been inscribed on the World Heritage List. As of July 2019, France had 45 sites on the List, 8 of which are located in the Bourgogne-Franche-Comté region.
GEOGRAPHICAL AREA INCLUDED on UNESCO's World Heritage List

What is included on the World Heritage List:

- The vineyards themselves, made up of more than 1,200 Climats,
- 40 winegrowing towns and villages,
- Monuments testifying to the political, cultural and economic impetus that gave rise to the emergence of the Climats,
- Architectural heritage around the production and commercialisation of wine,
- Traditions and know-how,
- Elements illustrating scientific and technological culture.
Nowhere in the world has the determination to so precisely link wine production to its place of origin been taken as far as in Burgundy. From the 6th century, winegrowers gradually tried to introduce a reference to place (until the appearance of the first Climats in the 17th century) and time (vintage), as an indicator of the quality of their wine production. Thus, over the centuries, they progressively identified, delineated and named very precisely more than 1,200 Climats, now protected since 1935 by the system of Appellations d’Origine Contrôlée (A.O.C.) (Protected Designation of Origin). This “Burgundy exception” is the reason why two Climats just a few yards apart can produce two wines with a totally different personality.

In Burgundy, each individual terroir has been named and identified for centuries.
To each Climat, a name

Each Climat's name evoke the history of each plot of land, describing its origin, the surrounding landscape, its heritage, the nature of its soil... and also the land clearance, its vegetation, traces of old buildings, etc.

For example, the name “Perrières” refers to former quarries and indicates a stony soil; the name “Montrachet”, or “mont chauve” (bald mountain), suggests that the vegetation was cropped on the hilltops.

To each Climat, a wine with a unique personality

The wines from the Climats owe their distinctive characteristics to the nature of the clay-limestone soils and sub-soils of their place of origin and to the great diversity of the landscape along the Côte.

The genius of the local winemakers has been to reveal this diversity by applying ancestral know-how and by setting out rules to ensure that quality was favoured over quantity. These rules included, for example, the use of a single grape variety - Pinot Noir for the red wines and Chardonnay for the white wines - and single-vineyard and single-vintage vinification.

Each Climat is harvested and vinified separately. The Climat's name then appears on the bottle of the produced wine.
The emergence of the Climats is closely linked to the history of the local religious, political and economic institutions. From the 6th century onwards, rules were formulated to protect the vineyards. They contributed to the reputation of the region’s wines. Thus, over many centuries, and by dint of perseverance, a variety of men – monks, dukes, parliamentarians, citizens, wine merchants and winegrowers – have built the remarkable area known as the Climats.

**TIMELINE**

### ANTIQUITY
First traces of vines in the Côte d’Or

End of the 1st century
First traces of Gallo-Roman vines, in the plain

312
First description of the vineyard in the Panegyric of Eumenes to Constantine.

### EARLY MIDDLE AGES
Taming the hillsides, emergence of the Clos

6th century
Vines are now planted on the slopes, in line with a Burgundian Law (known as the Loi Gombette).

10th – 11th centuries
Benedictine and Cistercian monkish orders define the basis of what would become the Burgundian winemaking model. The first parcels of vines and Clos are identified.

### MIDDLE AGES
The Dukes of Burgundy opt for quality and distinction

14th - 15th centuries
Dijon and Beaune are important towns for the Burgundy wine trade. Burgundy wine is exported throughout Europe.

1395
Philip the Bold bans the Gamay grapes. Pinot Noir, which is less productive but of better quality, is the only grape allowed.
16TH CENTURY
Appearance of Climats and first representations

1550
First representations of Climats on a map: the Tibériades of Dijon.

1584
First written use of the word “Climat” in Côte d’Or – referring to “Champ Berthin” -, to describe a vineyard plot.

17TH CENTURY
First separation of vintages according to place

1660-1680
Parliamentarians and the bourgeoisie acquire vineyards and clos formerly owned by the monastic orders.
Single-vineyard, ranked vintages appear.

18TH – 19TH CENTURIES
Wine merchants’ houses and development of the wine trade

Professional traders and craftsmen build merchants’ houses. They buy wines, store and age them, and then market them across vast commercial networks. This international presence spreads the Burgundian model, making it the benchmark.

A learned culture surrounds the Climats

1855
First listing and classification of the Côte d’Or vineyards, accompanied by a topographical plan, published by Jules Lavalle.

1875
The phylloxera crisis leads to major changes in winegrowing methods. Significant technical and oenological progress towards the end of the 19th century.

20TH – 21ST CENTURIES
Recognition of a model

1935
Creation of the Appellations d’Origine Contrôlée (A.O.C) (Protected Designation of Origin), formalising the identity of the Climats and their ranking.

2015
Inscription of the Climats, terroirs of Burgundy, on the UNESCO World Heritage List.
The Climats, terroirs of Burgundy, stand out because of their architectural heritage linked to winegrowing, which is clearly visible across the landscape, built from limestone obtained from stone clearing or extracted from local quarries.

Limestone is the raw material of the Burgundy subsoil. As such, it plays a part in defining the character of the wines and it marks out the boundaries of the Clos and the plots. It is present in the buildings where the wines are made and sold and also in all the significant buildings representing the power of the institutions governing the region.

In the vineyards, as in the towns and villages, this heritage bears witness to the history of men and their know-how.
Stone walls, boundary markers, Cabottes and gateways

These dry stone constructions were often used to fix the plots in place and to combat soil erosion. They have defined the contours of the Climats for centuries. Still today they mark out the landscape bringing order to this marvellous mosaic of vines. Cabottes were built in the vineyard. Cabottes are small huts made from dry stones taken out of the vineyards to ease planting. They were used by winegrowers as tool sheds and shelters against the rain.

Storehouses, cellars and presses

These can be found in every town and village along the Côte, and they have scarcely changed over the centuries. Many were built by Cistercian and Benedictine monks. Some of them have become iconic reminders of wine growing and production in Burgundy: the Clairvaux storehouse in Dijon, the architectural ensemble of the Clos de Vougeot, the presses of the Dukes of Burgundy in Chenôve or the Chapter fermenting room in Beaune. The town of Beaune itself has a vast network of underground cellars dating back to the 18th century.

Monuments embody political, cultural and economic power

The Cistercian monks, the Dukes of Burgundy, then the Parliamentarians have all left their mark on the architecture and art of Burgundy. In Beaune, the centre of the wine trade, and in Dijon, the seat of political and cultural power, the authorities have played a vital part in the construction of the Climats, from the Middle Ages. The buildings that are still standing today bear witness to this: the Palace of the States and the Dukes of Burgundy, the tombs of the Dukes or the Hôtel Pouffier in Dijon; the former Palace of the Dukes of Burgundy and the Hospices in Beaune; and of course the Château du Clos de Vougeot.
The landscape of the Côte de Beaune and Côte de Nuits areas of Burgundy was first sculpted by the force of the elements, then shaped by man, as he cultivated his vines. Today, the vineyards link the many villages together as they wind between ‘combs’ and valleys, hills and woods, cliffs and limestone outcrops. Each Climat is clearly visible in the landscape, outlined by clos, hedges, paths and walls.

A picturesque landscape

The landscapes of the Climats are extraordinary because of their size, their variety, and the cultural and natural heritage that we see there. The architectural features give order and scale to the winegrowing landscape. The vegetation emphasises this, adding texture and biodiversity, with woods, chalk grassland, isolated trees, groves, gardens, orchards and fallow land.

The "Route des grands crus"

Created in 1937, the “Route des grands crus de Bourgogne” is one of the oldest wine routes in France. It embodies an era of rediscovery of the terroir and the picturesque heritage. It snakes along for 60 km, and as it constantly winds back and forth it encourages visitors to explore the rich heritage and winegrowing culture of the villages of this special site.
TRADITIONS & KNOW-HOW: a social and scientific culture

The Climats also mark out the daily lives of the Burgundians. Festive or cultural traditions inherited from past centuries punctuate every season quite naturally, celebrating solidarity and friendship. All year long winemakers organize wine festivals of which we have:

1. **THE PAULÉE DE MEURSAULT**
   The Paulée is a traditional meal at the end of the grape harvest, which would be offered by the vineyard owner to his workers. The Paulée tradition was revived in Meursault in 1923: each guest brings some of his best bottles to share, around some delicious food.

2. **THE CONFRÉRIE DES CHEVALIERS DU TASTEVIN**
   Founded in 1934 to promote the produce and traditions of Burgundy, especially its great wines, this brotherhood organises the famous “chapters” at the Château du Clos de Vougeot and also introduced the festival of Saint-Vincent Tournante.

3. **THE SAINT-VINCENT TOURNANTE PROCESSION**
   Since 1938, every year at the end of January, winegrowers and mutual aid societies of Burgundy come together in a different village every year to celebrate their patron saint. Wine tastings and festivities are open to the public.

4. **HOSPICES WINE AUCTION**
   The oldest and most famous charity wine auction in the world, in existence since 1859. It takes place on the third Sunday of November in Beaune. The Nuits-Saint-Georges public wine auction is held in March.

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**Scientific and technological culture since the 19th century**

After the phylloxera crisis, winegrowing was approached much more scientifically. The first oenological laboratories and institutes appeared, and also the Wine Lycée in Beaune. Since this time, science has remained the great ally of the vineyards, as can be seen today by the presence of centres of research, study and teaching all dedicated to wine, grape varieties and grafts, and oenology.

* Insect originally from the United States which almost destroyed French vineyards at the end of the 19th century. The vines had to be uprooted and replanted on American rootstocks that were resistant to the bug.
The association managing the inscription

Created in 2007, the Association of the Climats, terroirs of Burgundy, brings together all stakeholders throughout the area. It was first tasked with preparing the application dossier and is now custodian and guarantor of the Outstanding Universal Value of the site inscribed on the World Heritage List, and of its good management. Alongside the Scientific Committee, the Association has been incorporated since 2013 into the “Climats of Burgundy” Mission.

The “Climats Mission”, a decision-making body on a local scale

The “Climats Mission” coordinates local authorities and professional bodies, and its task is to implement the Management Plan.

It is made up of the Territorial Conference (decision-making body), the Association des Climats, and a Technical Standing Committee (responsible for implementing actions). Each action is decided collectively and has a budget for its implementation. The Territorial Conference is co-chaired by two elected members, the mayors of Beaune and Dijon, and by a representative of the winegrowing sector, in order to ensure an awareness of specific issues related to the site, 85% of which is planted with vines.
THE MANAGEMENT PLAN

The Management Plan is the "roadmap" of the actions required to protect the area and assist in its sustainable economic and cultural development. It is based on decisions taken by the Territorial Conference. Its main areas of action fall into 3 categories:

1. Protecting the O.U.V. of the Climats
   - Put in place the regulatory tools needed to protect the site, its landscapes and its heritage;
   - Put in place tools to promote awareness and to restore the existing heritage;
   - Implement the landscape Plan for the quarry basin, to rebuild a natural landscape from the extraction quarries located in the buffer zone of the site.

2. Promote knowledge of the Climats
   - Encourage the popularisation and reappropriation of scientific knowledge;
   - Provide more training;
   - Create a cultural programme;
   - Continue scientific research.

3. Promote the World Heritage status
   - Spread the common logo “Climats du vignoble de Bourgogne – World Heritage” across the whole region;
   - Assist with sustainable tourist development on the theme of “Climats”;
   - Join national and international networks and cooperation projects focusing on the values of world heritage.
Popular enthusiasm

The application phase for World Heritage status mobilised massive popular support. More than 60,000 people came together to form a support committee chaired by the writer Bernard Pivot.

The Climats Association is eager to preserve this popular enthusiasm, by maintaining strong links with the general public as it carries out its actions. This mobilisation also gave rise to a network of volunteers who provide active support for the Association in its work.

An active scientific community

From 2008 to 2012, 36 scientists put together the historical elements that made up the application dossier. This work continues today, carried out by the Scientific Committee, which has 23 members from a range of disciplines. The Association also draws support from its partnerships with the University of Burgundy, UNESCO Chair “Culture & Traditions of Wines” in Dijon and the Burgundy Vine and Wine centre.
Essential public funding

Taking on missions recognised as being “of general public interest”, the Association of the Climats, terroirs of Burgundy, has been funded since its creation by the Bourgogne-Franche-Comté Regional Council, the Côte d’Or and Saône-et-Loire Departmental Councils, the towns of Beaune and Dijon, the Bureau Interprofessionnel des Vins de Bourgogne (Burgundy Wine Board) and the 4 inter-municipalities included in the site: Dijon Métropole, Urban community of Beaune Côte et Sud, Community of municipalities of Gevrey-Chambertin and Nuits-Saint-Georges, Grand Chalon. The Association also has specific funds available for various projects, especially at European level.

An indispensable circle of sponsors

Since 2012, the Association has called on sponsors to fund its operations and its investment in large-scale projects. For example, sponsorship has made it possible to start up events like the Climats Walk or “Climats on the Roc”. It also finances the Climats Month and key projects like the wine heritage restoration programme, the campaign to collect “Paroles vigneronnes”, winegrowers’ oral history and the Maison des Climats.

A network of active ambassadors

The ambassadors are the spokespeople for the Climats. They are winegrowers, hoteliers, restaurateurs, traders or even private individuals, all working towards a better understanding of the Climats and for an increased visibility for the World Heritage status.

This network has grown over the years. Each ambassador is provided with communication tools and attends specific training sessions.

The Climats Association is recognised as being “of general public interest”. French sponsors are therefore eligible for a tax deduction of 60% of the amount donated.
Educational tools for children and young people

Since 2011, an important mediation program was undertaken targeted to teachers and coordinators. It introduced the Climats to more than 5,000 children in more than 1,300 schools, and 80 coordinators were trained. This work continues through the new digital program “Les Explorateurs de Bourgogne” developed in partnership with the Bourgogne Wine Board. Intended for teachers, coordinators and winemakers who are prepared to welcome students, it is tailored to follow the school programs from kindergarten to middle school. It also offers online games of different designs depending on age.


Cultural programme for the general public

Throughout the year, the Climats Association organises conferences, cultural events and activities for the general public, with the aim of maintaining people’s interest and knowledge on the subject of the Climats.

The Climats Month

Every year, from the beginning of June to the beginning of July, the Climats Month has more than 80 events on offer across the entire Climats area. Exhibitions, guided tours, walks, tastings, talks… and the high point on 4 July is the anniversary of the UNESCO inscription, celebrated with a huge open-air “paulée” and picnic.
Where to go for information

At present, the Maison des Climats displays the key exhibition on the Climats. There will eventually be several places to go to find out about the World Heritage listed site, notably the future Cité internationale de la Gastronomie et du Vin in Dijon and the Cité des Vins et des Climats de Bourgogne in Beaune.

Tools for tourists

- Signs are in place on motorways and main roads and heritage sites are signposted across the area to direct and inform visitors.
- The “Balades en Bourgogne” (Burgundy Vineyard Walk) audio-guide app gives details of several walks through the Climats with commentary, some of them showing the Climats in augmented reality in the landscape.
- A network of Greeters. These are local volunteers who offer a free meet-and-greet service to share their stories and enthusiasm.
- A Tourist brochure, available in French and English, presents the best of Climats, places and activities.

The Maison des Climats

This is the place to go for anyone wanting an understanding of the Climats, *terroirs* of Burgundy, and their inclusion on the UNESCO World Heritage List. Here we find a model of the Côte de Nuits and the Côte de Beaune more than 9 metres (27 feet) long and some fun displays on the toponomy and the geology of the area. A fresco tells the story of the Climats.

An augmented reality app on a tablet links up with the model to let you visualise the more than 1,200 names of the Climats, their appellations, and also the different monuments that were built in each time period. There are also interviews with winegrowers, pictures and videos available in the digital multimedia library.

The Maison des Climats

6 boulevard Perpreuil - rue Poterne / 21200 Beaune
Access: via the Tourist Office / Admission free of charge. Content in French and English
Open every day (times may vary according to the season – For info. +33 (0)3 80 262 130)
A network of French sites
World heritage

As of July, 2019, France had 45 listed sites, all grouped together in the Association of French World Heritage sites.
The Climats belong to this association and take part in discussions and in sharing best practice.
In Bourgogne-Franche-Comté, a network is being organised to include the 8 listed sites in the region, the aim being to create synergies and joint actions, particularly around tourism and training.

A network of European vineyards with World Heritage status: VITOUR

VITOUR includes the 15 European vineyards on the Word Heritage List. These remarkable sites all share the same commitment: to enhance, protect and share their exceptional cultural identity and distinctive landscape. The challenge for the network is to contribute to a collective dynamic, by sharing key elements for a successful outcome and designing common tools to promote tourism, scientific research and sustainable development.

Bourgogne–Franche-Comté: a network of 8 sites included in the World Heritage List

1. The Climats: terroirs of Burgundy
2. Vézelay, its basilica and hill
3. The Cistercian Abbey of Fontenay
4. From the Great Saltworks of Salins-les-Bains to the Royal Saltworks of Arc-et-Senans, the Production of Open-pan Salt
5. The routes of Santiago de Compostela in France:
   - Notre Dame church (La Charité-sur-Loire)
   - Saint-Jacques d’Asquins church
6. The fortifications of Vauban: the Citadel, Fort Griffon and the urban enclosure of Besançon
7. Prehistoric Pile Dwellings around the Alps: “Grand Lac de Clairvaux” (Clairvaux-les-Lacs) and “Lac de Chalain, rive occidentale” (Doucier, Fontenu and Marigny)
8. The Architectural Work of Le Corbusier: the Romchamp chapel
International cooperation around the notion of terroir

Wine, tea, coffee, rice, pepper... from one end of the planet to the other, products may differ, but the same notion of terroir and the desire to preserve diversity are expressed and bring people together. Exchanges initiated during the application phase with China, South Africa and New Zealand are still ongoing.

Conferences: sharing experiences

In 2015, the Association des Climats organized an international conference entitled: "The heritage value of terroir-based economies as model of human development". Following this successful first attempt, it organized another conference in 2019, entitled: "Montrer et interpréter la vigne et le vin". The objective of these conferences is to confront field-based knowledge and experience with scientific approach and analysis of various Climats-related issues.
**ETYMOLOGY: WHERE DOES THE WORD "CLIMATS" COME FROM?**

The Climat (plot of vines) and the climate (meteorological conditions) have the same origin: Klima in Greek refers to the slope and location of a place. It is also a Roman unit used to measure the area of land to be farmed.

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**“CLIMATS” NOT TO BE CONFUSED WITH:**

**LIEU-DIT**

This term appeared in the early Middle Ages and, since the creation of the land register, was used to indicate a place that had a name used simply for identification and for practical reasons by the people working there. Its use is not specifically related to winegrowing. In Burgundy, the terms Climat and lieu-dit are often used interchangeably as the boundaries of the Climats often coincide with those of the lieux-dits. However, it is possible to find several lieux-dits within the same Climat or to have a Climat located in only a part of a lieu-dit.

**CLOS**

From the early Middle Ages, a Clos was a vineyard surrounded by walls or hedges whose entrance was a large door, often guarded. Wines from the Clos of abbeys, the nobility or winemakers enjoyed special rights.

**TERROIR**

A terroir was originally all the cultivated land around a village. The wine terroir refers to a specific geographic area of land planted with vines, which produces a specific wine, the fruit of a particular soil and a specific natural environment, from one variety, derived from a clearly defined winegrowing knowledge and practice.

**PARCELLE**

A parcelle (plot) denotes the smallest property tax unit represented on the land registers. It may or may not be built on and is defined by its type of crops and use.

**APPELLATION**

An appellation refers to a product whose quality or characteristics are linked to a precise geographic area and know-how. Appellations d’Origine Contrôlée (A.O.C.) are governed by the INAO (Institut National des Appellations d’Origine). Each winegrowing A.O.C. is governed by specifications applied by the winegrowing syndicates (Organismes de Défense et de Gestion). In Burgundy, the winegrowing A.O.C. are divided into four quality levels: Regional, Village, Premier Cru and Grand Cru.

**CRU**

This word derives from the French verb “croître” (to grow), thus linking the wine with its place of origin. Today, the word “cru” refers to high quality wines; “Premier Cru” and “Grand Cru” according to the A.O.C.
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