

# L A R O C H E

DOMAINE LAROCHE  
CRITICAL ACCLAIM FOR THE 2012 VINTAGE

Antonio Galloni  
presents  
**vinous**  
explore all things wine

Antonio Galloni  
August 2014

"Laroche makes a wide range of wines from some of the top sites in Chablis. The estate wines are sold under Domaine Laroche, while the negociant wines are labeled simply Laroche. For the sake of clarity, I have listed both sets of wines separately. Readers should note that wines from some vineyards are bottled under both labels, so it pays to be careful as to which wines are being offered in the market. I tasted a wide range of 2012s and 2013s with winemaker Gregory Viennois and his team on my last visit. The 2012 harvest started on September 24 and ended on October 8. Bouguerots, Côte de Lechet and Vaudevey were among the first parcels to be harvested. . . As always, Laroche excels with wines built on texture. All of the 1er and Grand Crus are raised in oak, which gives the wines much of their shape. Incidentally, 2012 is the last vintage Laroche bottled under screwcap, going forward all of the 1er and Grand Crus will be bottled under cork."

## 2012 CHABLIS SAINT MARTIN

88 POINTS

"The 2012 Chablis Saint Martin is a gorgeous introduction to the vintage. Almonds, hazelnut, spice and dried pear notes meld together in a supple, polished Chablis long on class and personality. The finish is rich, intense and textured, in the classic Laroche style."

## 2012 CHABLIS PREMIER CRU LES VAUDEVEY

90 POINTS

"A rich, ample wine, the 2012 Chablis Les Vaudevey is laced with hazelnut, dried pear, spice and licorice notes that meld together in an attractive, resonant wine to drink now and over the next few years. The 2012 is ample, generous and quite open, even at this early stage."

## 2012 CHABLIS PREMIER CRU LES VAILLONS

91+ POINTS

"Slate, smoke, crushed rocks, apricot pit and citrus notes jump from the glass as the 2012 Chablis Les Vaillons shows off its personality and class. Vibrant and nuanced throughout, the 2012 impresses for its energy and tension. This is an especially bright, focused style of Vaillons, and a gorgeous showing from Domaine Laroche."

## 2012 CHABLIS GRAND CRU LES BLANCHOTS

94 POINTS

"A wine of finesse and detail, the 2012 Chablis Les Blanchots is all about brightness. Lemon oil white flowers and white stone fruits abound in a lifted, precise Chablis built on sizzle and pure energy. Chalky, saline notes support the striking finish. About 40% of the Blanchots was done in oak."

## 2012 CHABLIS GRAND CRU RÉSERVE DE L'OBÉDIENCE

91 POINTS

"Laroche's 2012 Chablis Les Blanchots Reserve de L'Obedience is a selection of the best barrels and casks in the cellar. The Obédience is resonant and impressive in its texture, but personally I prefer the brightness of the straight Blanchots. Dried apricots, spices and licorice are some of the notes that add complexity on the big, powerful finish."

## 2012 CHABLIS GRAND CRU LES CLOS

92+ POINTS

"The 2012 Chablis Les Clos is going to need considerable time to unwind. Today, it is intense, closed and not fully expressive, but even so, the wine's textural elegance and total sense of finesse are impossible to miss. Silky, layered and voluptuous to the core, the 2012 Clos appears to have a bright future ahead. The Clos was vinified 60% in steel and 40% in oak."

WILSON DANIELS  
SINCE 1978



Imported by Wilson Daniels | St. Helena, California | [www.wilsondaniels.com](http://www.wilsondaniels.com)