

# CLAU DE NELL



## 2016 CABERNET FRANC AOC ANJOU

### *A “very promising” 2016 vintage*

The climatic conditions were very beneficial for the vine, fostering the quality of the grapes. Rather mild temperatures at the start of winter ended with lots of rain towards the end of May. July and August were exceptionally dry this year compared to the last 20 years’ average, which helped accelerate the flowering process. The combination of light rain episodes and warm temperatures allowed the grapes to ripen nicely until harvest. The harvest took place in idyllic conditions without rain and during cool temperatures.

### *Vineyard*

**Soil:** Silty-clay terroir, consisting of sandstone grit and red flint on tuffeau (limestone)

**Surface area:** 5 hectares (12.35 acres)

**Age of vines:** 40 years

### *Viticulture*

**Pruning:** Guyot Mixte pruning system

**Cultivation:** Covering the vine stock with soil in autumn, plowing-down in spring, tilling and allowing natural grass to grow between the rows; biodynamic practices include infusions and plant decoctions applied to the vineyards according to the lunar calendar. DEMETER Certified 100% Biodynamic.

### *Harvest*

Cabernet Franc harvested October 15-19, hand-picked in 12-kilogram (26-pound) boxes and sorted in the vineyard

**Yields:** 40 hectoliters/hectare (3.0 tons/acres)

### *Vinification*

Destemmed grapes were fermented using native yeasts; average of 30 days maceration without extraction; gentle cap punching; limited pump-overs; and infusion techniques at temperatures of 18 C to 25 C (64 F to 77 F). Slow and gentle pressing in a pneumatic press.

### *Maturing*

12 months on fine lees in French oak casks, used five times before, aged in ancient troglodyte cellars cut into the limestone hillside on the property, followed by six months in a stainless steel vat.

### *Bottling*

Bottled without filtration or fining on April 15, 2018, a “fruit day”

### *Varietal Composition*

100% Cabernet Franc

**WILSON DANIELS**   
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