



PRESS PACK
THE BELGIAN WINEGROWERS
WINE PARIS, 10-12 FEBRUARY 2025

VIGNERONS DE WALLONIE



belgische
wijnbouwers ^{vzw}

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PRESS RELEASE

10 February 2025

9 BELGIAN WINEGROWERS PARTICIPATE IN WINE PARIS

With the support of the Association des Vignerons de Wallonie and the ASBL Belgische Wijnbouwers, nine Belgian wineries are participating this year in Wine Paris, a must-attend event for both wine enthusiasts and professionals.

This edition particularly highlights winemakers renowned for the excellence of their sparkling wines, crafted using the traditional method and awarded multiple prestigious medals.

While climate change is a global concern, it has contributed to the growth of high-quality viticulture in Belgium. This trend has accelerated in recent years, leading to a remarkable expansion of vineyard areas. In 2023, Belgian vineyards covered approximately 891 hectares, producing 3.4 million liters of wine, more than half of which was sparkling wine. Belgium now has 290 officially registered winemakers.¹

The Walloon Vineyard: A Pioneer in Organic Viticulture

Beyond the recognized quality of its wines, a distinctive strength of the Walloon vineyard is its commitment to sustainable agriculture. A significant portion of the vineyards is now certified organic, reflecting a strong determination to balance tradition with environmental respect. Currently, 51.4% of vineyard areas are under organic control, thanks to a diverse agricultural ecosystem, lower planting density (reducing the spread of diseases), and greater freedom in selecting more resistant grape varieties. For comparison, the average proportion of organic-certified vineyards in France is 21.5%.

International expansion

Most of the Flemish winemakers participating in Wine Paris 2025 are already experienced in international trade fairs. Some of them were present in 2022 and 2023 at a collective stand during ProWein in Düsseldorf. The previous year, an event was also organized in Amsterdam to introduce foreign markets to the quality and uniqueness of Belgian wines.

The nine participants in this edition of Wine Paris will be present at a shared stand with the Concours Mondial de Bruxelles, located in **Hall 4, stand D153**.

¹ Source: *La Viticulture belge en chiffres (2023)*, SPF Economie

ABOUT THE ASSOCIATION DES VIGNERONS DE WALLONIE

The Association des Vignerons de Wallonie (AVW) is an organization dedicated to promoting and developing viticulture in Wallonia. It brings together professional winemakers from the region, offering a platform for knowledge exchange and advocating for the profession's interests.

The association represents 102 Walloon winemakers, accounting for two-thirds of all winemakers in Wallonia. The AVW's initiatives focus on enhancing the quality and recognition of Walloon wines, while also supporting winemakers in their professional growth.

More information:

www.vigneronsdewallonie.be

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ABOUT BELGISCHE WIJNBOUWERS (BELGIAN WINEGROWERS)

The non-profit organization Belgian Winegrowers was founded in 2009 and is the interest group for the Flemish wine industry. Today it represents over 85 percent of the professional winegrowers in Flanders. The organization is an active interlocutor for governments, knowledge institutions and other interest groups, supports its members with training and advice, and actively promotes Belgian wine at home and abroad.

More information:

<https://belgischewijnbouwers.be>

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THE 9 WINERIES ATTENDING WINE PARIS 2025

VIGNERONS DE WALLONIE



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WINERY 'VIGNOBLE DES AGAISES – DOMAINE RUFFUS'

The Vignoble des Agaises, also known as Domaine Ruffus, is a Belgian winery located in Haulchin, near Binche, Wallonia. It is recognized as Belgium's largest producer of sparkling wines, covering an area of over 40 hectares.

Situated on a south-facing limestone hillside, the vineyard benefits from ideal conditions for viticulture. The main grape varieties cultivated are Chardonnay, Pinot Noir, and Pinot Meunier, which are used to produce sparkling wines following the traditional method.



The vineyard was founded in 2002 by a team of passionate professionals: Raymond Leroy, a wine merchant, Etienne Delbeke, a farmer, Thierry Gobillard, a Champagne winemaker

Wines presented at Wine Paris:

- Le Ruffus Brut Sauvage
- Le Ruffus Brut Rosé

Awards for Brut Sauvage:

Concours Mondial de Bruxelles: 2008 (Bordeaux, France), 2013 (Bratislava, Slovakia), 2016 (Plovdiv, Bulgaria), and 2019 (Aigle, Switzerland).

Awards for Brut Rosé:

Concours Mondial de Bruxelles: 2012 (Guimarães, Portugal), 2016 (Plovdiv, Bulgaria), 2020 (Brno, Czech Republic), 2021 (Brussels, Belgium), and 2024 (Split, Croatia).

www.ruffus.be

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WINERY 'CHÂTEAU DE BIOUL'

The Château de Bioul is located in the Namur region of Wallonia, within the Côtes de Sambre et Meuse appellation. The Château's vineyard spans approximately 13 hectares, cultivated using organic and biodynamic methods, reflecting a deep commitment to nature and tradition. The grape varieties grown include Johanniter, Solaris, Cabaret Noir, Cabernet Jura, Muscaris, and Pinotin, which are used to produce high-quality red, white, rosé, and sparkling wines.



Since 2006, the Wyckmans-Vaxelaire family has revitalized the estate by planting vines, reconnecting with the region's rich winemaking heritage.

Wines presented at Wine Paris :

- Batte de la Reine Bio 2023
- Brut de Bioul Bio 2023
- Terre Charlot Bio 2023

Awards :

- *Concours Mondial de Bruxelles 2024 : Brut Nature Rosé 2020 : Grand gold medal*
- *Concours Mondial de Bruxelles 2020 : Brut de Bioul : Silver medal*
- *Concours Mondial de Bruxelles 2019 : Brut de Bioul 2017 : Silver medal*
- *Concours Mondial de Bruxelles 2016 : Brut de Bioul 2014 : Silver medal*
- *Concours Mondial de Bruxelles 2015 : Batte de la Reine 2013 : Silver medal*

www.chateaudebioul.be

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WINERY CHANT D'EOLE

The Domaine du Chant d'Éole, located in Quévy, near Mons in Belgium, spans 54 hectares. It was established in 2010 through a partnership between a renowned Champagne family and a Belgian landowning-farming family, the Ewbank de Wespain family. Today, the estate is led by Hubert Ewbank, CEO, owner, and co-founder, alongside his uncle, Louis Ewbank, and his cousin, Inès Ewbank. It is now the largest fully family-owned vineyard in Belgium.



The Domaine primarily cultivates Chardonnay (98%), its signature grape variety, as well as Pinot Noir. With south-facing vineyards and chalky soil, the estate benefits from ideal drainage and irrigation conditions for producing sparkling wines using the traditional method. The white chalk soil, which retains moisture in winter and releases it in summer, gives the estate's cuvées their distinctive terroir, similar to that found in the prestigious Champagne houses of the Côte des Blancs in Champagne.

Specializing in traditional-method sparkling wines, Chant d'Éole has gained international acclaim. In 2019, the estate was named International Revelation at the Concours Mondial de Bruxelles, outperforming over 200 Champagnes and 700 sparkling wines, Cavas, and Proseccos. This recognition propelled Chant d'Éole onto the world stage as one of the leading producers of traditional-method sparkling wines. With nearly 100 awards, Domaine du Chant d'Éole is one of the most awarded sparkling wine producers worldwide following the traditional method.

At Wine Paris, Domaine du Chant d'Eole presents the following cuvées :

- Chant d'Eole Brut Blanc de Blancs (100% Chardonnay)
- le Chant d'Eole Brut Rosé (Chardonnay and Pinot Noir)
- le Chant d'Eole Cuvée Millésimée 2018 (100% Chardonnay, min 48 months ageing)

Awards :

In 2024, the Domaine won several gold medals at competitions such as Chardonnay du Monde, Effervescents du Monde, Vereniging Vlaamse Sommeliers (VVS), Concours Mondial de Bruxelles, Frankfurt International Wine Trophy, Gault&Millau, Sakura Award, and Cata d'Or. Chant d'Éole is recognized as one of the 50 Best Sparkling Wines in the World (50 Great Sparkling Wines Award).

www.chantdeole.be

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WINERY 'DOMAINE DU CHENOY'

Founded in 2003, Domaine du Chenoy is a vineyard that stands out for its originality. Spanning around fifteen hectares, it produces wines from unique blends found nowhere else in the world. As a pioneer in Belgium and certified in organic viticulture, the estate uses resistant grape varieties, combining innovation with environmental respect. Its production consists of 70% sparkling wines and 30% still wines.

For its traditional methods, Domaine du Chenoy highlights grape varieties such as Sauvignier Gris, Bronner, Johanniter, and Regent.

Vinification is overseen by Jean-Bernard Despatures, a former technical director in Médoc, while blending benefits from the expertise of Eric Boissenot, a renowned Bordeaux oenologist. For sparkling wines, these blends are further refined with the expertise of Bernard Richet, a Champagne oenologist.



At Wine Paris, Domaine du Chenoy will present the following cuvées:

- Perle de Wallonie blanc
- Perle de Wallonie rosé
- Helixir

www.domaine-du-chenoy.com

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WINERY 'WIJNDOMEIN CRUYSEM'

Bart Bracke and Kathy Declercq founded Wijndomein Cruysem in 2017 out of a deep-rooted passion for wine.

The vineyard, located in the Flemish Ardennes and named after the newly merged municipality, covers 10 hectares and is planted with Chardonnay, Pinot Noir, Pinot Blanc, and Pinot Meunier. The mainly sparkling wines are produced using the traditional method and in an environmentally responsible manner.



Awards:

- "Les 4" 2021: Gold medal, "Meilleur vin belge"
- Blanc de Blancs 2020: Silver medal, "Meilleur vin belge"
- Blanc de Blancs 2021, Rosé 2022, "Les 4" 2022: Bronze medal, "Meilleur vin belge"
- Cuvée 18-19: Gault & Millau Wine Award 2023
- Blanc de Blancs 2020: Gault & Millau Coup de Coeur 2024

Wines:

Sparkling wines using chardonnay, pinot noir, pinot blanc and pinot meunier

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WINERY 'WIJNKASTEEL GENOELS-ELDEREN'

The family estate Wijnkasteel Genoels-Elderen has been cultivating vineyards since 1991. On the nearby south-facing slopes of the Limburg hills, Chardonnay and Pinot Noir vines were planted. Over time, they have developed exceptionally deep roots in the finest loess and marl layers of Droog-Haspengouw.

With extreme vigilance and a lot of manual labor, the Kékkö-van Rennes family, together with a dedicated team, ensures pure and healthy vineyards with rich biodiversity. A strict green harvest and selection process drastically reduces yields, increasing concentration and character.

The centuries-old wild yeasts of Genoels-Elderen Castle give the wines their distinctive aromas. All bottles undergo bottle aging in the castle's cellars, allowing them to blend and reach optimal harmony. The wines, Parels and Levenswaters, are the result of a unique terroir, healthy grapes, hard work, and deep-rooted passion. With 22 hectares, it is one of the largest wine estates in Belgium.



Genoels-Elderen will present the following wines at Wine Paris:

- Zwarte Parel 2022
- Zilveren Parel 2017
- Rose Parel 2022
- Chardonnay Blauw 2022
- Chardonnay Goud 2020
- Pinot Noir Rood 2018

Awards:

- *The 100 most exciting wines of the World, Tom Stevenson*
- *La Grande Médaille d'Or, Concours Mondial de Bruxelles*
- *The World's Finest Glass of Bubbly Award, London Wine Fair*
- *Overall winner, Wijnkeuring van de Lage Landen*
- *Belgian Wine Award, Gault&Millau*
- *Meilleur vin belge, Vereniging Vlaamse Sommeliers*
- *Wine Lady of the Year*

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WINERY 'HOENSHOF'

Prof. Dr. Ghislain Houben began his winemaking journey in the hamlet of Hoenshoven, in Borgloon. In 2002, he planted his first vines on land that had been in his family since 1907. Today, Hoenshof Winery spans 6.5 hectares of vineyards, producing a wide range of wines.



The main goal of Hoenshof Winery is to increase the visibility of Belgian wines. Jerom Houben, who has taken over from his father, states: "I have been given a great deal of knowledge from a young age. The path to writing our own story is wide open. We don't want to copy and paste—we want to innovate."

Main grape varieties:

- Johanniter
- Muscaris
- Ravel Blanc
- Sauvignac
- Sauvignier Gris
- Merlot Khorus
- Cabernet Cortis
- Cabernet Cantor
- Cabaret Noir

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WINERY 'MONT DES ANGES'

The Domaine du Mont des Anges is a Belgian vineyard located across three villages (Nouvelles, Havay, and Cibly), south of Mons in Wallonia. The estate spans 12 hectares of flint and clay-limestone soils, with a south/southeast exposure.

Mont des Anges is known for its carefully selected terroirs, which bring a unique character to both blended and single-parcel cuvées.



The vineyard primarily cultivates Champagne grape varieties, including Chardonnay, Pinot Noir, Meunier, and Voltis. The grapes are harvested manually at full maturity and slowly pressed to extract the finest juice. Mont des Anges also produces a special cuvée called «Blanck,» where the grape varieties are pressed together. The wines are then aged for several months before resting in bottles to develop complexity and finesse.

Founded in 2018 by Vincent De Busscher and Laurianne Lejour, the estate is committed to environmental sustainability, practicing viticulture without herbicides or insecticides to preserve both the terroir and consumer health.

At Wine Paris, Domaine du Mont des Anges will present the following cuvées:

- Mont des Anges 2022 Brut Nature
- Blanc de Meunier 2022 Extra Brut
- Cuvée « Blanck » 2022 Brut Nature
- Blanc de Blancs 2021 Extra Brut – CMB Gold medal

Awards:

- *Concours Mondial de Bruxelles 2024 : Blanc de Blancs 2021 Gold medal*
- *Meilleur effervescent du Monde 2023 : Blanc de Meunier et Brut Gold medal*
- *Vinalies 2024 – Brut Nature 2022*
- *Sakura 2024 – Blanc de Meunier 2021 Silver medal*

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WINERY 'OUD CONYNBERGH'

Wijndomein Oud Conynsbergh was founded in 2014 and focuses on classic grape varieties such as Pinot Auxerrois, Chardonnay, Pinot Noir, and Gamay. The estate covers 15 hectares of vineyards, which have been certified organic since 2021.

The vineyard operates using organic and biodynamic methods, avoiding herbicides and insecticides while minimizing environmental impact. Every Sunday, the tasting room in the historic Molen van Boechout is open to visitors.



Main wines/grape varieties:

- Parel Rosé Extra Brut
- Parel Van Boechout Brut Nature
- Chardonnay
- Pinot Auxerrois Natuur
- Pinot Auxerrois Belgische Eik
- Pinot Noir

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