

# CHAMPAGNE COLLET

ESPRIT COUTURE 1er Cru MILLESIME 2012



**WINEMAKER:** Sebastien Walasiak  
**REGION:** Aÿ, France  
**VARIETALS:** Chardonnay (60%), Pinot Noir (40%)  
**MATURATION:** Aged seven years in 100-year-old chalk cellars  
**DOSAGE:** 8.0 g/L

**VINEYARDS & WINEMAKING:** Champagne Collet's vineyard sources are in Premier and Grand Cru villages that reflect the diversity of Champagne's terroirs. The fruit comes from 850 growers spread over 160 different crus (there are a total of 320 crus in Champagne). However, winemaker Sebastien Walasiak uses no more than 10% of the overall vineyard yields. Sebastien blends the base wines of the classic Champagne varieties from hundreds of individual vineyards and several vintages - vital, because blending is the ultimate art of Champagne and is the key to maintaining Champagne Collet's incomparable house style. The wines are aged far beyond the minimum requirement in the winery's 100-year-old chalk cellars resulting in softer wines needing less dosage.

**TASTING NOTES:** A rare vintage assemblage of just 11 Premier and Grand Cru villages in the low-yielding vintage of 2012. Champagne Collet meticulously sourced the grapes from Grand Cru villages such as Avize, Chouilly and Cramant Aÿ, and Verzy and Mailly-Champagne to produce this inaugural wine. Initial notes of butter, grilled hazelnut, cardamon, lime and verbena. With air, apricot, blackcurrant, plum and biscuit notes are revealed as well as hints of nougat, pineapple and toasted bread. The palate is supple, fresh and fruity, sustained by lemon-like acidity. The mid-palate shows a chalky minerality that provides weight and texture. Fruit and mineral matters are finely stitched and the wine has a prolonged finish of rare intensity.

**ABOUT CHAMPAGNE COLLET:** The boutique house of Champagne Collet is located in the heart of Aÿ, one of Champagne's 17 Grand Cru villages and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Since 1921, Champagne Collet has produced elegant and regionally distinctive cuvées from Grand Cru and Premier Cru vineyards. Their wines are centered on gastronomy and capture the artistic and joyful spirit of the Art Deco period.

