

# DOMAINE QUEYLUS



## DROITE 2020

### Terroir and Viticulture:

This wine is grown on our Estate vineyard in the Lincoln Lakeshore VQA sub-appellation in Beamsville. An incredibly rich-yet-nuanced, terroir-based wine. 68% Cabernet Franc and 32% Merlot.

Our vineyard is cared for by hand, from pruning to hand-harvesting, and the vines are grown organically. No synthetic herbicides or insecticides are ever used.

### Vintage:

2020 was a hot and mostly dry season with just the right amount of precipitation for established vineyards with moderate yields. There was little disease pressure- we almost made it look easy to grow grapes in Ontario!

It's important to get Pinot Noir quickly in hot years so the fruit doesn't overripen and start to break down. It was an early pick this year for all our Pinot grapes; we had all our Pinot Noir picked and processed by September 28<sup>th</sup>. For perspective, we had only just started processing our Pinot on the same day in 2019.

### Vinification:

After a short passage in a chilled tank to clear the juice, the must is barreled, and we let the tanks warm up so that naturally-occurring indigenous yeast from the vineyard may slowly start the fermentation. We believe indigenous yeasts make the most complete, textured, complex wines. The wine then naturally goes through malolactic fermentation, usually by the spring following the harvest.

The wine is then patiently aged in selected French oak barrels (about twenty percent of which are new) for 16 to 18 months.

### Tasting Notes:

Exciting in its dense precision and classic in form, this is a pure assemblage of Cabernet Franc and Merlot. The nose has notes of almond, bold dark chocolate, espresso and deep dark plum. The almond carries through to the midpalate along with clove, cassis, and tobacco flavours on the finish. Merlot beautifully adds its juicier decadent side while Cabernet Franc helps to focus the wine.

Corse tannins will round out with age, a reflection of the vintage.

Tasted January 2024

Winemaker: Kelly Mason

Founding Winemaker: Thomas Bachelder

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