



CLIMATS DU VIGNOBLE
DE BOURGOGNE
PATRIMOINE MONDIAL



Organisation
des Nations Unies
pour l'éducation,
la science et la culture



Les Climats du vignoble
de Bourgogne
inscrits sur la Liste du
patrimoine mondial en 2015



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The Climats du Vignoble de Bourgogne – a UNESCO World Heritage Site

On 4 July 2015, the Climats du Vignoble de Bourgogne were added to UNESCO's prestigious World Heritage List as cultural landscapes, or "combined works of nature and of man". The listing reflects the Climats du Vignoble des Côtes de Nuits et de Beaune's status as a model for terroir winegrowing. It also takes into account the cultural and heritage elements embodying this 1,000-year-old history of wine production. As such, it is culture, savoir-faire, and heritage of the winegrowing villages and historical centers of Beaune and Dijon that have been recognized by UNESCO.

Since the listing, our association has had a mission to protect, promote, and raise awareness of this exceptional region through a range of efforts and a management plan for the territory drawn up in partnership with the state, local authorities, and professionals from the world of wine.

The Hospices de Beaune charity wine auction is a powerful expression of the founding values of the Bourgogne winegrowing region and the Climats du Vignoble de Bourgogne World Heritage site. It is also a fabulous opportunity to shine the spotlight on the region in all its diversity, whether historical or contemporary, physical or intangible. The protection and promotion of the heritage that the *Climats* represent is at the heart of our mission to encourage the restoration of historical buildings, to better understand their architecture and components, and to bring to life the know-how that surrounds them, as well as to capture and share an oral heritage. That is also what the *Climats* represent – an exceptional testimony of a living cultural tradition.

The Hospices de Beaune & the *Climats*: A very close connection

A key heritage element in the UNESCO dossier

The Hospices, also known as the Hôtel-Dieu, is not just an exceptional architectural gem. It also represents a unique legacy from a charitable establishment founded on a winegrowing estate. Across the almost 60 hectares of vines making up the Hospices estate are *Climats* with reputations that date back over centuries.

The public Hospices de Beaune wine sale is also an integral part of the World Heritage listing, as part of its intangible heritage. It is the world's oldest and most famous charity wine auction, and has, since its creation in 1859, perpetuated the charitable efforts of the Hospices founders, Nicolas Rolin and Guigone de Salins.

A partner in the inventory of the town's network of cellars

The network of cellars hidden beneath the towns of Beaune and Nuits-Saint-Georges are fascinating, but also greatly unexplored. The Association des Climats du Vignoble de Bourgogne – World Heritage has just launched a pioneering project to obtain detailed scientific data on the network in order to better understand how the wine industry was organized and the related heritage. An initial study was undertaken in the summer of 2021 with the Hospices de Beaune in partnership with surveyors TT Géomètres Experts. The cellars were fully scanned and mapped in 3D, which will result in a precise map and 3D model. These tools will serve to build a methodology to inventory the entire network of cellars in Beaune et Nuits-Saint-Georges.



Heritage with universal appeal



RESTORING WINEGROWING HERITAGE

150 projects financed and 5km of walls restored in three years

The low walls, *cabottes* or vine workers' huts, *clos* gates, stone steps, and calvaries mark the identity of the landscape of the Climats du Vignoble de Bourgogne. They also serve a very useful purpose for winegrowing and preserving diversity. These 220 km of low walls mark out the *Climats* and play an essential role in the fight against soil erosion. When they are made of dry stone, they also provide valuable shelter for fauna and flora.

The Heritage Fund, created in 2018, has already supported around 150 restoration projects and trained more than 150 students and interns in dry stone walling. This fund is financed by foreign patrons and provides financing of up to 50% of the cost of the work with a maximum budget of €25,000 per site. This is an exceptional mechanism because no other state or local subsidy supports heritage restoration by winegrowers. There are two or three calls for projects each year, and any landowner

within the site can apply, provided they meet certain criteria, including the use of traditional dry stone or lime mortar techniques.



COLLECTING ORAL TESTIMONY

The "Paroles Vigneronnes" program: Three years of recording and 44 interviews later...

For the past three years, the words of winemakers have been collected to create an oral history of those who work with vines and wines to capture the thoughts, feelings, and issues faced by the different generations. Some 44 interviews have been carried out by ethnologists from the Maison du Patrimoine Oral de Bourgogne, in partnership with the Direction Régionale des Affaires Culturelles (DRAC).

Excerpts from the first interviews collected were included in the "Paroles Vigneronnes" audio exhibition that moved across the Côte from 2018 to 2021. It included discussions about the difficulties of handing down knowledge from generation to generation, how vine cultivation is changing, and the impact of climate change. A series of 11 aperitif-debates were also held to enrich the discussion.

The project is now entering a phase of analysis to define new areas of exploration

and fresh content for new exhibitions, artistic creation, and a second round of interviews. Thanks to its **scientific vocation**, this collection of some 60 hours of interviews has also been made available to researchers.

The Climats – A World Heritage site at the heart of the Bourgogne region's wine tourism revival

The inclusion of the Climats du Vignoble de Bourgogne on the UNESCO World Heritage List was one of the triggers for the creation of the Cité des Climats et Vins de Bourgogne. The listed area will naturally be at the heart of the content of the future Cité in Beaune. Our association is a member of the steering committee, and as such, will be offering its expertise and actively participating in the development of the museography and scenography of the future visitor experience, in particular with regard to the space set aside for the World Heritage site.

The future Cité Internationale de la Gastronomie et des Vins in Dijon will also be dedicating a special place to the *Climats*. Furthermore, 2022 will also mark the 85th anniversary of the Route des Grands Crus de Bourgogne, and we will be coordinating a program of events to celebrate this legendary itinerary.

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