



# MAISON L'ENVOYÉ

Burgundy - FR, Willamette Valley - OR, Tasmania - AU, Central Otago - NZ

*"The pair of (Oregon) 2013s are great value: very pure and poised, svelte in texture, long and sensual. These both come highly recommended and I will be fascinated to see how the project unfolds."*

-Neil Martin, Robert Parker Wine Advocate (March 2015)

**FOUNDERS:** Mark Tarlov (Chapter 24 Vineyards) and Old Bridge Cellars (A Wine & Spirits Magazine Top Importer of 2015)

**PROFILE:** Driven by a tireless hunt for elusive sites where Pinot Noir shines, Maison L'Envoyé traverses the globe with the intention of presenting the acme of regionality and winemaking styles. Originating in Burgundy, they pursued gilded terroir to craft this region's wine trinity: Pinot Noir, Chardonnay and Gamay Noir. Yet from this tenor of focus and commitment a global fellowship emerged, with terroir-driven Pinot Noir as the linchpin. Now, with winemaking footprints in Burgundy, Willamette Valley, Central Otago and Tasmania, Maison L'Envoyé champions many unsung growers who have farmed their vineyards for decades and generations, some mere feet away from more illustriously cited neighbors. This project has been a standout since its debut in 2011 including Wine & Spirits naming Maison L'Envoyé a 'Winery To Watch' in 2015.

In Burgundy, Maison L'Envoyé's winemaking team is based in the town of Beaune, drawing from several sites including

the Premier Cru, Savigny Les Beaune 'Les Marconnets' and their own monopole, Chateau Vivier, in Beaujolais' Fleurie cru. In Oregon's Willamette Valley, carefully selected rows of Pinot Noir are sourced from both volcanic and sedimentary based soils primarily in Yamhill-Carlton, Ribbon Ridge and Eola-Amity Hills. In both Tasmania and Central Otago, it was discovering a single vineyard, each family owned and farmed, that are outstanding examples of purely expressed Pinot Noir that compelled the team to expand its portfolio to these exemplary Pinot regions.

**VITICULTURE:** Maison L'Envoyé's approach in the vineyard combines tailored viticulture and vigilant diligence. Each growing season and unique block is taken into account. The site, specific soil characteristics, elevation, aspect, rainfall, and vine age are considered. The growers that they choose to partner with lean heavily towards organic and biodynamic regimes, with a strict mindset of growing Pinot Noir rather than farming grapes.

**WEBSITE:** [www.maisonlenvoye.com](http://www.maisonlenvoye.com)

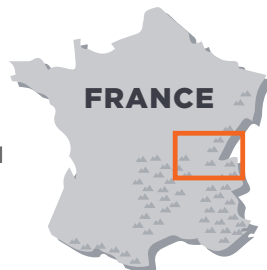
## BURGUNDY, FRANCE

**Regions:** Côte d'Or, Mâconnais, Beaujolais

**Varieties:** Pinot Noir, Chardonnay, Gamay Noir

**Climate:** Oceanic, semi-continental

**Soils:** Limestone base with marl, clay, schist and granite



## TASMANIA, AUSTRALIA

**Sub-Region:** Coal River Valley

**Varieties:** Pinot Noir

**Climate:** Cool. Similar to Champagne and parts of the Rhine Valley.

**Soils:** Dolerite-based soils over a free-draining calcareous and Triassic sandstone subsoil



## WILLAMETTE VALLEY, OREGON

**Key Vineyards:** Hyland, Stardance, Bishop Creek, Croft, Eagle Crest, Eola Springs

**Varieties:** Pinot Noir

**Climate:** Mediterranean, coastal maritime influence

**Soils:** Volcanic (red Jory) and sedimentary seabed



## CENTRAL OTAGO, NEW ZEALAND

**Sub-Region:** Pisa District

**Varieties:** Pinot Noir

**Climate:** Continental

**Soils:** Schist derived fine sandy loam over gravels laid down by retreating glaciers with some clay content



# THE WINES



## BURGUNDY, FRANCE

Modern winemaking affords rare generosity, not excess, of character and approachability to express the wines' origins with straight forward clarity.

- Bourgogne Blanc:** From two mature vineyards in La Roche Vineuse. Aromas of citrus fruits and lemon zest. The weighty, textured mid-palate boasts flavors of grilled nuts and stone fruit, while a long line of vibrant acidity enlivens the finish.
- Le Saint Pâle Rosé:** This Gamay Noir rosé from Beaujolais is delicate and lively yet fleshy and generous. Tangerine, watermelon, lime blossom and wild strawberry characters with an underlying creaminess are supported by a steely mineral backbone.
- Bourgogne Rouge:** Several village wines plus a component of 1<sup>er</sup> Cru Savigny 'les Marconnets'. Raspberry aromas and baking spices, followed by crunchy red fruits, and a nervy, acid backbone. Begs for charcuterie.
- Fleurie Château Vivier:** The Fleurie is juicy and expressive, with an undeniable elegance. Layers of strawberry unfold with notes of black olive, cinnamon and coriander, leading flawlessly into a long, juicy finish. Simply delicious.
- Morgon Côte du Py:** Located at the very top of the hill in Morgon, this Côte du Py is deep cherry in color, with aromas of ripe raspberries that into fine old oak tannins framing the fruit, with balanced acid bringing up the rear. This is no insipid Beaujolais.
- Moulin-à-Vent:** Sourced from a special site where granite and limestone soils collide, this is a far cry from Beaujolais Nouveau. Rather, it's a complex, versatile, moreish wine. Raspberry and blackberry fruits abound, speckled with hints of violet, and clove.
- Savigny-lès-Beaune 'Les Marconnets' 1<sup>er</sup> Cru:** Made in exceptional years this wine exhibits the dichotomy of Savigny with an elegant fruit profile contrasted by savory notes. Petite, red berries with forest floor and roasted meats. In a word: silky.

## WILLAMETTE VALLEY, OREGON

Many precise and specific winemaking techniques are employed that together produce a generous expression of the fruit while avoiding any heavy tannin, rough edges or alcoholic extraction. Picking fully physiologically ripe berries, often later than much of the valley, consulting winemaker Louis-Michel Liger-Belair's infusion technique is more akin to steeping rather than an aggressive extraction process.

- Two Messengers Pinot Noir:** This wine is an overview of the best grapes in Willamette Valley. Drawn from multiple sites and their various personalities. It expresses fresh red cherries scented with floral and forest floor notes.
- Attaché Pinot Noir:** A barrel selection of the finest Pinot Noir lots. This wine voices Willamette terroir at its purest, across a variety of vineyard blocks and sub-AVAs. A long, focused core of blue fruits and alluring spice dances across the palate.
- Straight Shooter Pinot Noir and Chardonnay:** An open, straight shot of either Pinot Noir or Chardonnay from pristine vineyard blocks across Willamette Valley. Handpicked, hand-sorted, and naturally fermented before given a touch of oak for texture and balance.

## TASMANIA, AUSTRALIA & CENTRAL OTAGO, NEW ZEALAND

Vinified by the famed winemaking team at Giant Steps. Wild ferments of whole bunches and destemmed (but not crushed) fruit take place in four ton open top fermenters gently managed with drain and returns and occasional pigeage. Matured with a judicious use of 100% French oak (mostly older barrels) then bottled by gravity unfined and unfiltered.

- Tasmania Pinot Noir:** Sourced from the Nocton Vineyard in the Coal River Valley. Intense color, bright red fruit characters underpinned by baking spice notes and excellent acidity are the main tenets of this intriguing Pinot Noir.
- Central Otago Pinot Noir:** Sourced from the organically farmed Tosq Vineyard. This is a delicate and fragrant Pinot with distinct notes of bright red fruits and toasted oak that impart a nice mouthfeel against the generous palate through a long finish.

