

JURA

CHÂTEAU D'ARLAY

Route de Saint-Germain
39140 Arlay

T 03 84 85 04 22


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e chateau@arlay.com


w www.arlay.com

 The cellars are open from Monday to Friday, 9 am to 12 noon and from 2 pm to 6 pm; on Saturdays from 9 am to 12 noon and from 2 pm to 5 pm; closed on Sundays and bank holidays. The château, the gardens and the park are open from the first Saturday in June to the 3rd Sunday in September, from 2 pm to 6 pm. Groups are welcome by prior arrangement

WINES

 Château d'Arlay 'à la Reine'
Château d'Arlay Straw Wine
Château d'Arlay White Macvin
Château d'Arlay White Tradition
Château d'Arlay Yellow Wine

 Château d'Arlay Corail
Château d'Arlay Rosé 'Les Pavillons'

 Château d'Arlay
Château d'Arlay Red Macvin

SAVOIE

DOMAINE DE MÉJANE


73250 Saint Jean de la Porte

T 04 79 71 48 51


F 04 79 28 66 94


e domainedemejane@orange.fr


w www.domaine-de-mejane.com


 The cellars are open from Monday to Saturday, from 9 am to 12 noon and 2 pm to 6 pm; on Sundays by appointment

WINES

 AOC Roussette de Savoie
AOC Vin de Savoie Chardonnay
AOC Vin de Savoie Jacquère

 AOC Cuvée Plaisir de Vivre: Méthode Traditionnelle
Cuvée Douce Vie

 AOC Rosé de Savoie

 AOC Saint Jean de la Porte Mondeuse
AOC Vin de Savoie Gamay
AOC Vin de Savoie Persan
Cuvée Angélique
Pinot Cuvée Christiane

THE RHÔNE VALLEY


JEAN-LOUIS CHAVE


37 Avenue du Saint-Joseph
07300 Mauves

T 04 75 08 24 63

F 04 75 07 14 21

WINES

 Hermitage Blanc
Hermitage Blanc Vin de Paille

 Ermitage Rouge Cuvée Cathelin
Hermitage Rouge
St Joseph Rouge

DOMAINE DE L'ORATOIRE SAINT MARTIN


84290 Cairanne

T 04 90 30 82 07

F 04 90 30 74 27


e falary@wanadoo.fr

w www.oratoiresaintmartin.com

 The cellars are open from 9 am to 12 noon and from 2 pm to 6.30 pm; closed on Sundays and on bank holidays

WINES

 Cairanne Blanc 'Haut-Costias'
Cairanne Blanc 'Réserve des Seigneurs'

 Côtes du Rhone rosé 'Oratoire Saint Martin'

DOMAINE DE MÉJANE

Domaine de Méjane is not an ancestral family property. It was purchased by Jean Henriquet in 1995. 'Love at first sight,' he says. Even the name is new, picked by Jean shortly after he bought the house. The story of this estate, heroically revived after 50 years of neglect, is all the same a victory for a traditional way of life that is fast disappearing in Savoie. 'In the 1950s,' says Jean, 'there were at least 40 winegrowers in this village. Today there are just four.' The village is Saint-Jean de la Porte, in the foothills of the French Alps. At its centre stands this property, opposite the Mairie and the local bar-restaurant. On a clear day, the Mont Blanc is visible in the distance. Jean himself lives in the neighbouring village of Saint Pierre d'Albigny where he runs the grapevine nursery founded by his grandfather in the 1920s. He and his son Philippe also operate the family vineyard in Saint Pierre (some 11 hectares of local varieties). His aim when he bought this house was to go it alone: leave the local wine cooperative and bottle wines under his own label. In 2000 he did just that, rewarding a concerted family effort that ate up every weekend and holiday for five years. Jean, his wife Christiane and two children, then still at school, turned a dilapidated, leaky property with derelict outhouses and ragged vines into what is now Domaine de Méjane.

The vineyard today is confined to a two-hectare *clô*s alongside the house, most of the original holding having been sold off piecemeal by the estate's former owners. The farm is also long gone. But otherwise the property has been restored to its 18th-century founding purpose – winegrowing – complete with a brand new winemaking facility, tasting cellar and reception area. Equally important, it serves as a test bed and conservatory for ancient Savoyard varieties in danger of extinction – such as the Persan, a Méjane speciality.

Since 2003 the estate has been run by Jean's daughter Anne and her husband Michael. 'This was always Anne's ambition,' says Jean – whose own ambition as a winegrower and father was to pass on his passion to his children, for their sake and for the sake of the region that bred them. 'The Domaine now feeds eight people,' he says proudly, 'our family plus three salaried staff.' This is quite an achievement in a region now better known for ski resorts than vineyards, where often deserted dormitory villages are now sadly on the increase. *Phylloxera Vastatrix* is partly to blame. By the 1900s the region's vineyards had dwindled to just 2,000 hectares, which is how they stand today. 'But it's also the mentality that has changed – the lure of the town, the belief that life somehow owes you a living...' Jean's own children have compelling reasons to stay put.



Above: Label from Méjane's 'Mondeuse' red wine, which is also available in an oak-aged version. The label is an engraving based on Jean's design, showing the inner courtyard with – from left to right – the house, the *coveris*, the bread oven (fully functioning and still used by Christiane) and the administration/reception buildings.

Opposite: The kitchen-cum-dining-room, an immense 3,500 sq ft (320 sq m), space that faces north like the house itself. This represents roughly a tenth of the total living area and is the only living space so far refurbished (along with the bathroom, office and main bedroom). Still to do are the 5,700 sq ft (530 sq m) sitting room and four more bedrooms. In the vase is a spray of ginkgo leaves and berries from an ancient ginkgo, which grows in front of the house along with a cedar and 200-year-old yew tree.