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Gold Club February 2024

2020 Roches Neuves Saumur Champigny 'Terres Chaudes' Saumur-Champigny, Loire, France

About the wine: The domaine's Cuvée Domaine is a blend of Cabernet Franc grapes hand-harvested from several vineyards in Chaintres, Varrains and Saumur. These vines average 25 years old and are planted in chalky, calcareous soils. The domaine also cultivates a vineyard plot in Dampierre that was first planted to Cabernet Franc in 1904. These grapes are the source of Domaine des Roches Neuves' highly rated Les Memoires wine.

About the Region: Roches Neuves, or “New Rocks”, whose vineyards are planted in the Saumur (Blanc) and Saumur-Champigny (Rouge) appellations, has rightfully become one of the greatest examples of high achievement in biodynamic vine growing in France. Alternating chalky, sandy, and clay-rich soils represent a diversity of terroirs that offer infinite possibilities for the winery’s two grape varieties: Cabernet Franc and Chenin.

Tasting Notes: A complex wine expressing the full Cabernet Franc fruit. The attack is straightforward. Stewed fruitiness brings thickness. Of pleasant acidity, aromas of eucalyptus and bergamot can be noted. The overall aspect yields a supple, fine, and elegant wine with a long finish. Whatever the winemaker says.... we love the black fruit/ dark fruit notes, with the floral notes of lilies, the cinnamon spice, and the easy drinking of this beautiful wine.

Food Pairing: Well, well, well.... Spanakopita(look it up), Herb-crusted rack of lamb?? Charcuterie.. Seriously, it’s an underrated varietal, so try it with anything!! We liked it with the “Reacher”series on Prime!