

December 8, 2022  
Edition #003, the Founders' Stash

Dear Merrymakers,

Whether it's an expression that rolls off your tongue as guests arrive, a comfort food that's always on your menu or a wafting scent that transports you back to your childhood, reminders of where you came from are inescapable during the holiday season — and we wouldn't have it any other way. That is, of course, how we like our Champagne: imbued with personality, authenticity and the unmistakable characteristics of its home. It's true that all the bottles that we bring from France to our cave in Seattle have a remarkable sense of place, but the Etienne Calsac cuvées that we're offering exclusively to you in this third edition of the Founders' Stash are the ultimate celebration of terroir. While Abby and I usually reserve such bottles for special occasions with our closest friends and family, there's something extra intriguing about these uber-plot-specific bottles, and we're so excited to share them with you.

Edition #003 of the Founders' Stash:

[ETIENNE CALSAC AVIZE GRAND CRU CLOS DES MALADRIES - \\$180](#)  
PRECISE. PLUSH. SILKY.

The chardonnay grapes that Etienne uses to make this limited-release Grand Cru cuvée come from a small, walled-in vineyard named Clos des Maladries in the Côte des Blancs subregion on the border of Avize behind the Calsac ancestral home. While all of Côte des Blancs is revered for chardonnay that seamlessly combines intense minerality, high acidity and strong concentration, blanc de blancs from Avize is considered to be the best of the best. In Etienne's enclosed vineyard, southern exposure treats its prized belemnite chalk soil to plenty of warm sunlight. The resulting fruit has greater minerality and acidity than even that from neighboring vineyards. Clos des Maladries may be a bright spot in the Etienne Calsac domaine, but the area has a dark history. In the Middle Ages, the site held a hospital for victims of the bubonic plague. Today, thanks to time-honored techniques and Etienne's meticulous methodology, Clos des Maladries produces a precise yet plush stunner with hints of almond, honeycomb and perfectly ripe orchard fruit. We like to pop this bottle with a fancy roast chicken at the table with our nearest and dearest.

And because you love the geeky details like we do: 100% chardonnay / 2014 vintage/disgorged June 2018 / 800 bottles produced annually / 24 bottles available to fatcork Merrymakers

[\[ORDER HERE\]](#)

[ETIENNE CALSAC LES ROCHEFORTS TERROIR DE BISSEUIL PREMIER CRU - \\$89](#)  
RICH. SILKY. FLAVORFUL

One sip of this celebrated 100 percent chardonnay cuvée by Etienne Calsac, and you're magically transported to a small single-vineyard plot in the Premier Cru village of Bisseuil at the top of the Côte des Blancs subregion mere kilometers from the border of Vallée de la Marne. Nestled into the landscape in a way that allows its vineyards to be south-facing but not too steep, Bisseuil produces mostly chardonnay. And for that we can all be grateful. Here, Etienne's sunny vineyard "Les Rocheforts," which means "the strong rocks" in French, sits atop the area's signature rocky, chalky Kimmeridgian soil. From there, Mother Nature's pieces fall into place for imparting notes of velvety frangipane and rich, silky vanilla. Abby and I enjoy this bottle on a special occasion celebrated over a leisurely four-course meal.

And because you love the geeky details like we do: 100% chardonnay / 25% perpetual réserve kept since 2012 / 5,000 bottles produced annually / 48 bottles available to fatcork Merrymakers

[\[ORDER HERE\]](#)

Cheers!

Bryan Maletis

Founder of fatcork

PLACING AN ORDER REQUEST:

- These Founders' Stash cuvées are officially available on the fatcork online bottle shop from now through Friday, December 16 at 5 p.m. PDT or until sold out.
- Fatcork is grateful to have access to these highly coveted cuvées. Please limit requests to 3 bottles per cuvée.
- Orders are first come, first serve and will be honored as each order comes in.
- If you have a standing Founders' Stash order, your bottles have been reserved. Email us separately if you do not wish to receive these cuvées and we will release them to other fellow Merrymakers. If you'd like to reserve a standing order for future Founders' stash offers, reply to this email and let us know!
- Once we receive and process your orders, your Founders' Stash allocation will be available for immediate pick up or shipping during the next temperature-appropriate shipping window.

\*\*Friendly reminder: Saturday, December 17th is the last day to ship via UPS ground.