

# CLOS DE GAMOT, CHÂTEAU DU CAYROU

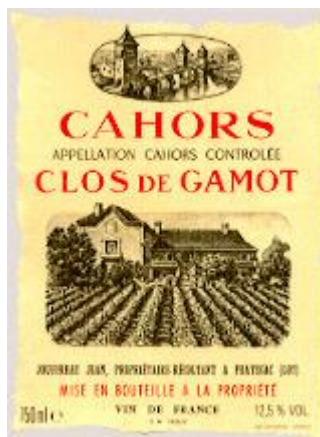
Cahors

**J**ean Jouffreau's Clos de Gamot, planted entirely in the local Auxerrois grape, is the jewel of Cahors, yielding a wine with intense aromas of flowers, herbs and white pepper, with a rich solid feel and long spicy length. When you drink this distinctive wine, you drink a piece of history. The oldest plantings, to which a special "Cuvée Vignes Centenaires" is nowadays devoted, were made in 1885.

Joeuffreau's family remained true to their old vines and to their motto, "from father to son since 1610" during bad twentieth century times when scarcely another grower was left bottling wines from this historic region. They remained true to Auxerrois as a variety when, during the slow revival of Cahor that they helped spearhead in the 1970s, most growers abandoned this traditional *cepage* in deference to the softer, easier Merlot.

In 1971, the Jouffreaus acquired the nearby Château du Cayrou, supplementing the Auxerrois with some Merlot and Tannat. Mindful of the longevity and slow evolution of their wines from the Clos de Gamot, they hoped to offer from Château du Cayrou wines complex and approachable on release, and, as the vines matured and the estate evolved, to offer a considerable depth of vintages. Thus today, one can not only taste and look back on two decades of wine from Château du Cayrou, one can still purchase the 1982.

Cahors' centuries-long evolution from the fabled "black wine" of the Middle Ages to its late twentieth-century revival are



unthinkable without the family Jouffreau. Since Jean Jouffreau's recent death, his daughters and his son-in-law Yves Hermann have continued to lovingly care for both of the family's estates and vines. With all of their wines, the Hermanns put great stock by evolution and maturation in the bottle. "A wine, like a person," says Yves Hermann, "should have a personal story to tell over time." With the range of vintages the estate offers, it is possible for consumers to affordably capture in the glass some precious and delicious vignettes from the live of a great Cahors.

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"Grand classic of the Cahors appellation, the Clos de Gamot is a wine that manifests more finesse than power. It is a wine ... free of artifice, perfectly corresponding to a traditional style of this appellation ..."

- Bettane & Desseave,

*Le Classement 99*

**Domaines Jouffreau:  
Clos de Gamot  
Château du Cayrou  
Cahors**

Varieties: *Auxerrois (a.k.a. Malbec), Merlot (ca. 30%) at Cayrou; 100% Auxerrois including significant acreage of very old vines in Clos de Gamot.*

Total acreage: *75 acres (Cayrou); 25 acres (Clos de Gamot)*  
*Deep gravelly soil at Cayrou, cooler, thinner Chalk-clay soil at Gamot.*

Average production: *17,000 cs. (Cayrou); 4,000 (Gamot)*

Vinificatory details: *2-3 weeks fermentation in tank; aging in large wooden uprights.*

**Clos de Gamot**

**Clos de Gamot  
"Cuvée Vignes Centenaires"**

**Château du Cayrou**