



SALON 2006

THE ROMANTIC

Only the 40th vintage since the very first release in 1911

*No malolactic fermentation, no oak and only 4g/l of residual sugar
The reviews below are testament to the quality of this champagne and the
aura that surround the brand and its champagne.*

Salon is a unique champagne. All the emphasis in the production of this exceptional wine is on the singular. One grape - Chardonnay, one cru - Les Mesnil-sur-oger, one vintage year. A wine is released as Salon only from the best vintages - an average of three each decade.

The vagaries of climate, something in the air, that tiny something that can change everything is where Salon's personality is forged. And Salon 2006 is a great romantic, a lyrical soul, marching to the beat of its own drum. Never mind eleven years spent ageing in the cool silence of the cellars in Les Mesnil-sur-oger, Salon 2006 surges forth unbridled with the spirit of youthful rebellion.

This champagne is produced from a one-hectare parcel behind the 'House' called 'Salon's Garden' and from 19 other smaller parcels in Les Mesnil-sur-oger, that Aimé Salon chose at the beginning of the century. These wines are cellared in the bottle for an average of 10 years, gaining in complexity and finesse.

97 Points - By Antonio Galloni

"The 2006 Salon is a very rich wine, almost uncharacteristically so. Deep and exotic the 2006 exudes richness in all of its dimensions, with myriad inflections of sumptuous fruit that fill out its ample, large-scaled frame. Today, the 2006 is surprisingly accessible for a young Salon, but it needs time to shed some baby fat. At times, the 2006 recalls the 2002, but it appears to have more phenolic intensity and overall structure. Even with all of its flamboyance and pure volume, the 2006 retains quite a bit of energy and freshness. I imagine it will be a fascinating, utterly compelling Champagne to follow over the next several decades."

95 Points - By The Wine Spectator

"The creamy mousse of this graceful Champagne caresses the palate like cashmere, carrying a beautiful range of glazed nectarine, chopped almond, pastry and candied ginger flavors framed by vivid acidity. Seamless, with a long, lasting finish accented by minerally chalk and saline notes. Drink now through 2031."

95 Points - By Decanter

This is just the 40th vintage of Salon, the first being the 1905 vintage. 2006 was a warm, ripe year, generally forward. Most grapes were a touch low in acidity, although grand cru Chardonnays - particularly in Mesnil - had higher levels. Salon's 2006 has sunny scents of lilac and peach with citrus drive. The mouthfeel is sumptuous yet mineral, showing early charm but with grip to age. Extra brut dosage of 4g/l. Drinking Window 2018 - 2025



VINTAGE

August was horrid, cold and rainy, after the perfect sunshine and warmth of June and July. But in the end it was all a false alarm, the fear came to nothing, no disease problems. September arrived and set fair, with cool mornings and glorious days that continued throughout harvest, up to 2nd October: the grapes reached optimum ripeness, giving musts with magnificent sugar levels balanced by fine acidities, a hallmark of the vintage. Yields? Neither too big nor too small. The result: Salon 2006, a great vintage with a tremendous future ahead.

SENSORY

First of all, just wait. Once Salon 2006 has been uncorked, leave it a little while, to breathe, to open out. Then, just look at it: its shimmering golden colour, glinting silver and green. The never-ending bubbles, so tiny, setting free the familiar bewitching scents of Salon in its first flush. Notes of white flowers, citrus zest, lightly toasted brioche. Then the glass fills magically with autumnal tones, fresh hazelnuts, praline, dried apricot, ripe yellow fruits.

A romantic of the highest order, Salon 2006 embodies the carefree spirit of youth, tempered by experience. And there lies its true enigma and charm. To know restraint but be generous, to combine lightness with solidity. This sense of duality is confirmed in the impeccable palate structure – it is all in the education of course. Simultaneously rich and incisive, with the fine linear acidity to permit cellaring for 30 years, Salon 2006 has a long future ahead.



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