



IPO WINES

2016 Paul Bara Brut Grand Cru Millésimé

IMPORTED BY Kermit Lynch

COUNTRY

France

REGION

Champagne

APPELLATION

Bouzy

SOIL TYPE

Clay, Limestone

VARIETAL(S)

10% Chardonnay
90% Pinot Noir

FARMING

Sustainable

WINEMAKER

Chantale Bara

ABOUT THE PRODUCER

The village of Bouzy and Champagne Paul Bara are practically synonymous. As the published village historian, Paul is indelibly linked to the lore of his hometown. Many argue that he is their most renowned producer, being one of the rare *récoltants-manipulants* in a region inundated with the mass-produced wines of the large, corporate champagne houses. These *récoltants-manipulants*, or R.M.s as they are known, are of the few that still grow their own grapes and make their own wines. Champagne Paul Bara is the quintessential example, where everything is done with a personalized touch. Over the years, gradual improvements have been made to the estate: the surface area of the vineyards was expanded to eleven hectares (only 26 acres!), the winery and press modernized, and the cellar extended – and what an impressive cellar! It is carved entirely out of pure chalk and reaches a depth of over thirty feet below ground. When Paul returned home at the end of World War II, he found these same cellars raided, pillaged of nearly all inventory, and irreverently trashed by the German occupying forces. Of the few bottles that were salvaged, one can still experience the longevity and timeless quality of the Bara's classic style. When Paul retired, he passed the direction of the estate over to his eldest daughter, Chantale, who has kept their family traditions and their house style very much alive. The Baras make their wines by hand, with low-yielding vines. Chez Bara, good maturity is ensured by prolonged bottle aging: four years minimum for the vintage Champagnes and two years for the non-vintage. Andrew Jefford, author of *The New France*, calls them, "...essential references for anyone who wants to enjoy and understand the ripe, dry richness of Bouzy..."

WINE NOTES

Made exclusively in years of exceptional harvests, this champagne boasts an attractive yellow-green sheen and a delicate effervescence.

An enticing and complex bouquet with a fresh edge. Layers of citrus fruits, honey and dried flowers combine with fleshy fruits and a subtle touch of spices. Astonishingly fresh with heady hints of strawberry and a white flower finish.

An elegant champagne with a light texture and delicate, understated aromas. Makes the perfect partner for a sophisticated dinner in the company of those who enjoy good things.

Pairing suggestions: Sea bass with *beurre blanc* sauce and creamed parsnip.

