



The Bolney Estate  
 'Cuvée Rosé'  
 Brut  
 England 2014

Hidden in the heart of rural Sussex, one of Britain's most beautiful southern counties, lies Bolney Wine Estate, a vineyard which carries on the tradition brought to Britain by the Romans nearly 2,000 years ago. This esteemed property is situated on a hill which was part of the Butting Hill One Hundred, listed in the Domesday Book in 1086, as the first official land survey of what is now the United Kingdom.

This established star of the English wine scene saw its first three acres of commercial vineyard planted by owners Janet and Rodney Pratt back in 1972 as it was then known as 'Booker's Vineyard'. Since their daughter Samantha Linter took over as winemaker in 1990, Bolney has gone from strength to strength, expanding to 39 acres of vineyard and forging a reputation for impeccable quality, not just in sparkling wines but still expressions too, with Pinot Noir proving a particular strength.

The vineyard is located on the edge of the South Downs, about 14 miles from the South coast, and comprises five unique vineyard sites at around 118ft above sea level. The vines here are between two and twelve years old and are planted at a density of 2,470 vines/ha. Much may be made of the chalky parallels between Champagne and many of England's top vineyard sites, but Bolney shows off the merits of its free draining, heat retentive Upper Tunbridge Wells Sand consisting of sandy loam, siltstone and clay over sandstone bedrock on the Sussex South Downs.

This wine is all class. Serious sophistication. Where the Blanc de Blancs sits in its own perch atop British Fizz, the rosé shows some next level weight and complexity. The Pinot Noir was handpicked and fermented 80% whole cluster in tank with 5% being racked off and completing malo in barrel and the remaining wine finishing in steel. After nine months the base wine is assembled and bottled spending 32 months on the lees. The bottles were disgorged in February, 2018 and a 12 gram dosage was added providing a little lift to the pale strawberry fruits.

### Composition

100% Pinot Noir

### Soil Type

Sandy Loam, Siltstone and Clay over Sandstone Bedrock

### Élevage

95%, 6 months in Stainless Steel – 5%, 6 months in neutral French barrique

ML

Yes – Full, 5% in barrel

### Total Acidity

8.5 g/L

### Dosage

12 g/L

### Atmospheres

5 bar

### Disgorgement Date

February 2018

### Production

1,000 cases

### Tasting Notes

“ A whiff of blossom clings to the appetizing hint of freshly cut red-apple peel on the nose of this very pale rosé. The palate adds richness and a touch of honey and chalk that provides a sonorous dimension, filling the mouth with the bounty of ripe, red apples. The mousse is creamy, underlining the ample structure that allows the ripe acidity to swirl alluringly across the palate. ”

### Reviews

Wine Enthusiast (Anne Krebiehl, MW) | 93 points