

Meet Marguerite and Jean Charles
Clos Marguerite

Jean-Charles Van Hove: Hi, I'm Jean-Charles and this is Marguerite, and we are here at Clos Marguerite. So I came here in 1983 and I came all the way sailing, and I stopped in New Zealand for about six months and at the time I remember that I saw also the wine industry was very small at the time. I saw that the country had really great potential for growing grapes, and it was really fruit-driven ... fruit-driven wines that appeal to me. And then it stayed in the back of my mind for a number of years, and I studied for a while and did things; and then finally in 1996, I was married with Marguerite then and we decided to emigrate to this country. And my background is really I am an agronomist, and I studied winemaking in enology also in Bordeaux University, and I majored in Soil Science; Soil Science is what I really enjoyed and what I really liked. And hopefully that's helped me and us in our endeavor to make this place Clos Marguerite.

Marguerite Van Hove: So for me, wine has always been part of my life. I have my family back in Belgium has been in the wine business for a couple of generation, importer/wholesaler of wine. And as far as it goes, I think my life has been a set of memory of milestone wine.

So you have to imagine the Sunday family lunch, which were real wine-tasting where the grandfather would present some wine that you would really fancy, and this was a very incredible experience. And as far as I remember, my life has been a set of wine milestone, and really that was a dream to be able to create our own wine and make something that will be really special that people will remember. And of course, the importance of the Terrior is really what we were focusing, the belief that each place can produce something unique, something special. So, yeah, that's what we wanted to do. We saw a background of the old world with the wonderful condition of New Zealand. We really wanted to try to capture the best of both world.

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