166e VENTE DES VINS DES HOSPICES DE BEAUNE

Beaune, 6th November 2026

THE 166TH HOSPICES DE BEAUNE WINE AUCTION

TO BE PRESIDED OVER BY MÉLANIE DOUTEY AND COMEDY DUO ÉRIC & RAMZY

The celebrated charity barrel offered as part of the 166th Hospices de Beaune Wine Auction, known as the "Presidents' Barrel", will this year be a Clos de Vougeot Grand Cru, sold to benefit the fight against rare diseases. Three well-known personalities have agreed to lend their support to the cause and will take part in this exceptional auction alongside the auctioneer.

Éric & Ramzy, patrons of ARSLA

A much-loved duo in French comedy, Éric Judor and Ramzy Bedia are lending their profile to the fight against motor neurone disease (ALS).

Founded in 1985, **ARSLA, the Association for Research into Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis** (ALS, known in France as Charcot's disease), has been officially recognised as a public-interest organisation in France since 1991. The association works alongside thousands of people living with the disease, their carers, healthcare professionals and researchers in the fight against ALS, a debilitating and currently incurable neurological disease.

Actress Mélanie Doutey joins DEBRA France in support of the event

The association supports the fight against epidermolysis bullosa, a condition often associated with "butterfly children".

DEBRA France is a French charity founded in 1985 that helps and supports people living with epidermolysis bullosa (EB), a rare genetic skin disorder. The condition affects children from birth, with around 3,000 people affected in France. Even the slightest friction can cause the skin to separate and blister, leaving wounds that can be extensive. These painful wounds are slow to heal and repeatedly recur.

Children living with the condition are commonly known as "butterfly children", because their skin is said to be as fragile as a butterfly's wings. There is currently no cure for this devastating disease, making everyday life a constant challenge both for those affected and for their families.

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About the Hospices Civils de Beaune

The history of the Hospices Civils de Beaune began in 1443, when Nicolas Rolin and Guigone de Salins founded a hospital, the Hôtel-Dieu. Through this act of charity and patronage, the founders established a tradition that has enabled the Hospices de Beaune to endure through the centuries under exceptional circumstances.

Today, the Hospices Civils de Beaune encompasses the Beaune hospital centre and the hospitals of Arnay-le-Duc, Seurre and Nuits-Saint-Georges. The Hospices Civils de Beaune is also the lead institution of the South Côte-d'Or Regional Hospital Group.

What makes this hospital institution unique is the scale and nature of its heritage. This comprises, on the one hand, the historic 15th-century Hôtel-Dieu, which has not received patients or elderly residents since the early 1980s, and, on the other, a prestigious 60-hectare wine estate in Beaune encompassing some of Burgundy's finest appellations.

All of these vineyards were acquired through bequests and donations, and their production is offered at auction each year on the third Sunday in November as part of the world's most celebrated charity wine auction.

Through this remarkable heritage, the institution plays a leading role in two of the principal activities of Beaune and the surrounding region: tourism and wine. The auction, which can comprise more than 500 lots, is the world's most celebrated and oldest charity wine auction, dating back to 1859.

Proceeds from the auction are used to maintain the Hospices' heritage and to modernise hospital facilities and buildings. Remaining true to its founding values, each year the Hospices Civils de Beaune also supports one or more charitable organisations through the proceeds from the sale of a special barrel of wine, known as the "Charity Barrel".

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