

11572 – 11576 Burgundy Ochre

11572 Burgundy Ochre Yellow

11574 Burgundy Ochre Red

11576 Burgundy Ochre Red Dark, ferric oxide nature, haematite

In western Burgundy, south and north of the river Loire, numerous mines produced a local shade of natural earth ochre. Long before it became famous for its wines, and ochre was pulled from the earth, thin layers of iron ore were mined in the region, establishing a smelting industry and contributing to its wealth. Beside the ochre and the iron ore there are also significant occurrences of grey clay which burns to a light color in ceramics.

The ochre veins run only about a foot thick, and usually deep under the earth. After the Southern French ochre entrepreneurs took over the SOF, Société of the Ogres Françaises, in 1970 all pits in Burgundy were closed. The mines of Luberon in Provence could yield a higher volume and were more accessible.

By chance we have obtained a good amount of Burgundy ochres from the old stock. These are more colorful and vibrant than our comparable hues from Russillion (40010 - 40090).