

LAY & WHEELER  
FINE WINE MERCHANTS SINCE 1854

# Loire



2021 RELEASES





# Using this Brochure

**W**e are thrilled to present the latest releases from the Loire Valley.

**The Loire is France's longest river**, and it covers quite a range of *terroirs*, and so here you'll find brilliant wines in many styles. We have been careful to indicate red, white, rosé or sparkling in this brochure.

## Grapes & Maps

Given the wide range of varieties, we have included a guide to the key grapes, as well as a map of the region, to help bring this diversity to life.

## Prices

At the time of print, all prices are up to date, and quoted in bond. Any changes **or corrections** will be reflected on our website.

## Instagram

Our growers are generous with their social media presences, so we encourage you to follow them, and to see behind the scenes.

📷 @laywheeler

## Sustainability

We are proud to work with Healey's Print Group to produce this brochure. Healey's have offset the carbon impact of the paper and printing of this brochure in partnership with the World Land Trust, by preserving ecologically important standing forests. We have chosen recycled paper for both the brochure and envelope. We estimate about 1,600 square metres of endangered forest were protected in this production.



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# Region Report

## Loire 2021

### *A personal passion*

It's hard to write about the Loire today without the news of 2021's April frosts clouding my thoughts. Temperatures plunged last month, freezing buds that would have borne the 2021 harvest, instantly locking-in huge losses. While other regions might put up prices in the face of short supply, the Loire does not follow suit. These losses will hit the valley, and its many small and independent growers, hard.

But let us not dwell. Putting together this list has been the highlight of my year. The wines are so full of joy and character, and their great value solidifies their status as the most accessible fine wines.

As well as being objectively one of the most interesting, diverse, and sensibly priced of all the world's wine regions, the Loire is also, subjectively, my favourite region. Having worked in Sancerre in 2014 and 2015, and having written on its single vineyard wines for my Master of Wine Research Project in 2017, I have become somewhat obsessed with it.

With every year that passes, I find my interest deepens. There is always another grower to visit, another grape variety to taste for the first time, or another appellation on the rise deserving attention. Fascinating wines can be picked up for very little, and many will age beautifully in the cellar, providing years of interest.



### *The Covid-19 crisis and a shift to sustainability*

As well as the logistical challenges of the day-to-day running of a vineyard and making wine in the Covid-19 era, Loire growers have been acutely exposed to the economic drop that has accompanied the health crisis.

Many producers in the Loire had been heavily reliant on their domestic restaurant industry for sales. The wines' low prices, food-friendly structures, and delicious freshness had made them favourites in wine bars, bistros, and Michelin-star restaurants alike.

But while restaurants in the UK are beginning to open up after three months, their equivalents in France are entering their seventh month of closure.

This dire situation has brought about some enterprising thinking (often a



shift in ageing strategy) and collaborative communication. So, what had been a massive blow has been turned into an opportunity for sustainability, both in terms of wine production and its route to you.

As demand from restaurants vanished overnight, many growers took the opportunity to age their 2019s, for example, for a longer time before bottling. This has added to the complexity and quality of this already superb vintage. It is a bug-bear of mine that the Loire's wines - its whites in particular - are often drunk exclusively when young, when so many of them have the potential to age. This rebalancing is one small but exciting step in a new direction.

This shift has given us the chance to reassess our position, too. With this year's spring frost and the impact of Covid-19 in mind, it is more important than ever that we work closely and collaboratively with our growers.

As a result, you might see a few wines from last year reoffered this year. I've gone back and bought a few extra cases of them, to support our growers in a way that benefits them as well as you. The wines have, without exception, improved with an extra year of ageing.

### *Navigating the river*

We say it every year, but it bears repeating: the Loire is one of the most diverse wine regions in the world. In this list you'll find white, red, rosé, sweet, and sparkling wines from nine different varieties.

Along the river you'll find many household-name appellations, and many more obscure ones.

So I've expanded our background regional notes to put a bit more context around the growers.

In terms of vintages, the brochure covers everything from 2016 to 2020. Climate change has brought with it warmer growing seasons in the Loire, and the region continues to enjoy a purple patch across all these recent years, even though yields have frequently been small. The weight of the offer lies with the 2019 vintage: outstanding across the region for its racy, fleshy whites and ripe, fresh reds.

Although travel restrictions have prevented me from visiting the domaines in person this year, I've spent many hours chatting to the growers over Zoom and tasting samples they generously sent. I've even had the opportunity to add three new growers to the list: a long-time favourite of mine (Vincent Carême in Vouvray), a tip-off about an exciting new grower (Clos de l'Ecotard in Saumur), and a totally new discovery (Domaine des Huards in Cour-Cheverny).

The magnificent Loire River stretches from the Atlantic coast, via its heartland of fairytale castles and formal gardens, to the very centre of France, where goats sometimes outnumber the local population. Along its banks you'll find a world of delicious, refreshing and versatile wines that won't break the bank, but will stand the test of time.

*Catherine*

**Catherine Petrie MW**

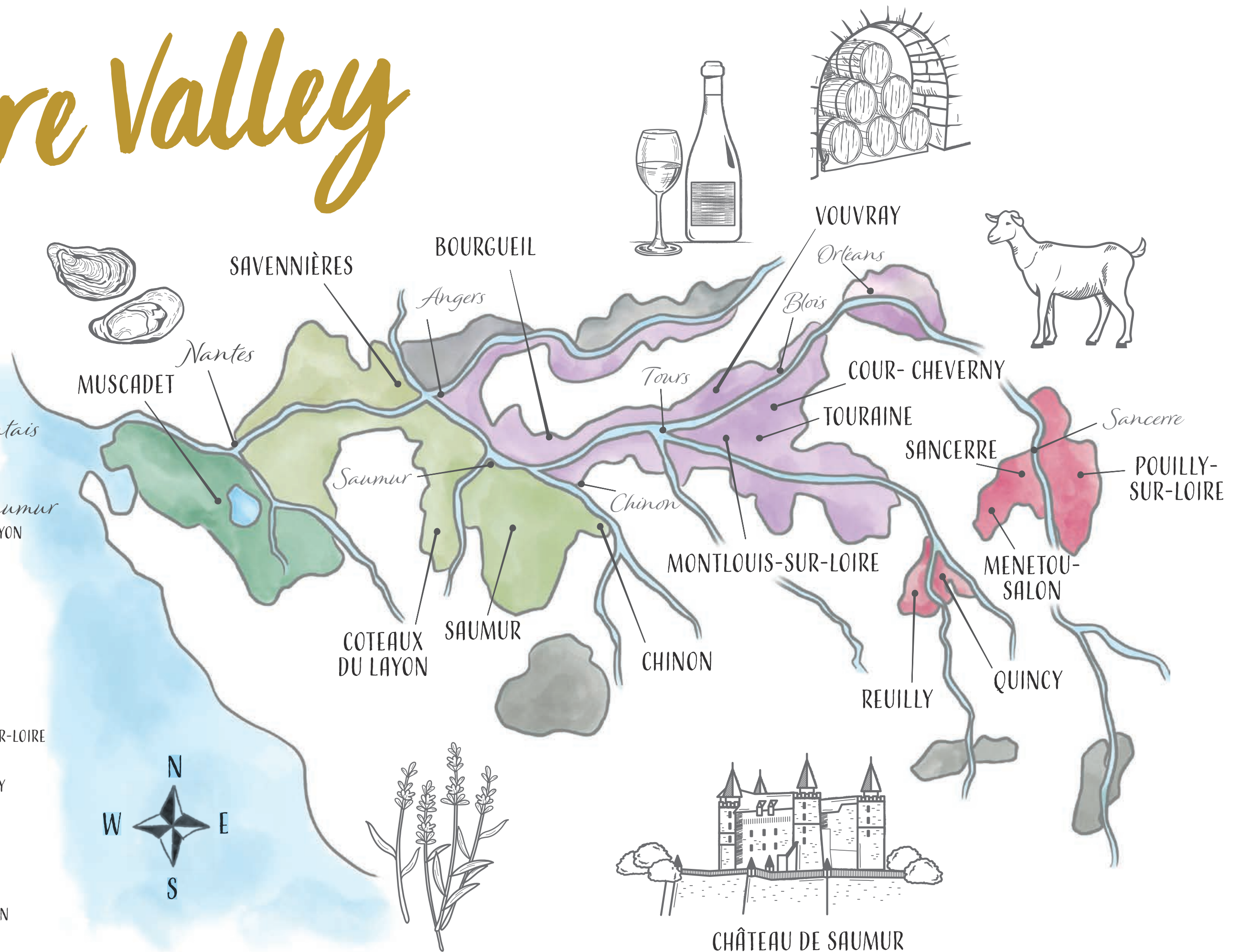
Buyer

May 2021



# Loire Valley

- *Pays Nantais*  
MUSCADET
- *Anjou Saumur*  
COTEAUX DU LAYON  
SAUMUR  
SAVENNIÈRES
- *Touraine*  
BOURGUEIL  
CHINON  
VOUVRAY  
MONTLOUIS-SUR-LOIRE  
TOURAIN  
COUR-CHEVERNY
- *Central*  
REUILLY  
QUINCY  
MENETOU-SALON  
SANCERRE  
POUILLY-FUME



CHÂTEAU DE SAUMUR



# Grape Varieties

**T**he Loire, like Burgundy and Alsace, has a strong tradition in single variety wines. It is the reference point for many that now enjoy an international reputation, like Sauvignon Blanc and Chenin Blanc.

It is also home to some rarer varieties, including those which are only found here, like the high acid **Romorantin**, as well as **Gamay** and **Malbec** (known locally as Côt) that you will find throughout this list.

## Black Grapes

### Cabernet Franc

Although this grape is an integral component of many right bank Bordeaux blends, Cabernet Franc finds its fullest expression as a single variety in Chinon and Bourgueil. It often has a distinctive graphite and red raspberry aspect, with grippy tannins, gorgeous aromatic lift and an intensity of flavour that belies its elegance. It is lighter in both colour and body than its relative, Cabernet Sauvignon.

### Pinot Noir

The capricious-to-grow, notoriously challenging-to-vinify grape of Burgundy has long been planted in the Central Vineyards of the Loire, yet it is only in recent years that the wines here have shaken off their image of slightly awkward, weak imitations, to emerge as genuinely delicious and attractive wines with a style all of their own: refreshing, juicy, and so drinkable.



## White Grapes

### Melon de Bourgogne

Found only in the westernmost reaches of the Loire (ie, rather far from Burgundy, where it originates from but is no longer planted), this is the only variety permitted for Muscadet. Its wines are dry, mineral, light-bodied, and the best have a slightly yeasty, salty note, making them a great accompaniment to shellfish.

### Chenin Blanc

This grape's ability to find the perfect balance at a range of sweetness levels and its magnificent acidity are two good reasons why many regard this as the greatest variety of the Loire. It produces detailed *terroir* expression in a dazzling array that spans the bone dry to the super sweet via semi-sweet and sparkling. Its ability to age is unparalleled in the region, and the greatest Chenins of the Loire are regarded as some of the most ageworthy wines in the world.

### Sauvignon Blanc

The steely, flinty wines of Sancerre and Pouilly-Fumé are considered the finest expression of Sauvignon Blanc in the world. The grape reflects and reveals *terroir* and vintage with such transparency. It thrives on the Kimmeridgian chalky soils and flinty sites found across the appellations of the Central Vineyards. It may have travelled the globe, but the Central Loire is where you will find its finest iterations.





# Muscadet

**T**he prosaically named Pays Nantais encompasses various Muscadet appellations, and covers the westernmost part of the Loire, where the river spills into the Atlantic Ocean.

It is a large area and produces a lot of fairly neutral white wines from the Melon de Bourgogne grape. The wines' low selling prices have meant many producers in the region have sold up to larger companies or gone bust. But amongst those that remain fiercely independent are some standout producers who work hard to maintain, and indeed, raise, Muscadet's name.

So when you do find Muscadet worth its salt, it is one of the greatest bargains in the wine world: when quality over quantity is the focus, Melon de Bourgogne is lifted from a wishy-washy, pleasant but dull wine, to a thirst-quenching, tangy, and moreish white, great as an *apéritif*, even better with the local oysters.

The best are aged on their lees (the spent yeast cells) after fermentation, which gives them added complexity and a distinctive, slightly salty richness. The appellation rule for Muscadet Sèvre et Maine Sur Lie stipulates six months as a minimum.

And although the new vintage is released in the spring following the harvest, we believe that Muscadet tastes its best with at least a year in bottle, in which time it takes on weight and depth.

The region enjoys an exceptional climate, where the Atlantic Ocean regulates temperatures. But in 2019, even an ocean wasn't enough to protect the vines from the double onslaught of spring frost and summer heatwaves. Volumes in 2019 are therefore considerably down, whilst quality remains at the highest level, with an added concentration to these easy-drinking, thirst-quenching white wines.

In their youth they are fresh and breezy with just a hint of the tangy yeasty note of the lees; with age they will evolve into complex, savoury wines of great interest.

Did I mention they were good value?



*Domaine des Herbauges*

MUSCADET CÔTES DE GRANDLIEU

*Jérôme Choblet*

@domaine\_des\_herbauges

Jérôme Choblet has always got an exciting new project in the pipeline. He has taken what was the modest family domaine he inherited in 1994 to become the largest, and certainly the highest quality, domaine in the Muscadet Côtes de Grandlieu appellation today. He has done this through a combination of enthusiastic and brave leadership decisions, and sensitive, intuitive winemaking.

But 2019 tested Jérôme to the limit. On 3rd April 2019 he was in New York with customers, just sitting down to dinner, when his phone began to ping with alerts. The temperature in his vineyards was dropping, dramatically. Helpless to do anything, he could only look on in horror as the temperature on his phone screen plummeted. By the time the sun came up he had lost around 40% of his crop; some vineyards were so badly hit the loss was closer to 80%, including La Roche Blanche.

2019 continued as a year of extremes, with an extraordinary double heatwave in the summer. This kept yields low, and the wines are naturally concentrated with ripe citrus flavours and salty freshness. In the face of a challenging season, Jérôme has produced wonderful wines in 2019. They remain outstanding, almost unbelievable, value for money.

	Bottle	Case	Drink
<b>2019 La Roche Blanche Muscadet Côtes de Grandlieu sur lie</b>	£6	£36 per 6	2021 - 2024
Grown on schist and <i>galet roulé</i> soils between the Lac de Grandlieu and the Atlantic Ocean, where the thin topsoil produces a very fine example. In 2019 it has great body, with the concentration that comes from low yields. The perfectly ripened skins at harvest time add just a touch of tropical fruit to the creamy texture of this wine.			
<b>2019 Château de la Pierre Vieilles Vignes Muscadet Côtes de Grandlieu sur lie</b>	£6	£36 per 6	2021 - 2024
This beautiful property was bought by Jérôme in 2007. He says that, as well as a perfect place to grow vines, it's also the ultimate picnic spot, where the family like to shuck oysters with a bottle of the château's beautiful wine. The 2019 has such a pretty nose - citrus, floral, salty... you can just imagine how well this would go with a seafood platter. The sur lie ageing gives it a fine texture and a lively freshness which are so well expressed in this light-bodied, paradigm Muscadet.			





# Domaine du Grand Mouton

MUSCADET SÈVRE ET MAINE

Julien Rossignol

@domainegrandmouton

In late 2019 Julien Rossignol finally found what he was looking for: a small domaine with old, well-tended vines in Muscadet's celebrated Sèvre et Maine appellation. Even better, he persuaded previous owners Marie-Luce Métaireau and Jean-François Guilbaud to stay on for a two-year handover period. Marie-Luce's grandfather had planted the 10 hectare vineyard in the 1930s, so the vines have had plenty of time to dig deep roots into the gneiss soils.

The minerality and tension in the wines is a rare find in Muscadet, and it is clear that old vines and attention to detail in the cellar pay dividends in these genuinely artisanal wines. With the arrival of Julien, the domaine has a very bright future.

	🍷 Bottle	🍷🍷 Case	🍷 Drink
<b>2019 Muscadet de Sèvre et Maine sur lie, Grand Mouton</b>	£9.50	£57 per 6	2021 - 2025

This is the flagship wine of the estate, and offers the best of Muscadet: pale lemon yellow, a little citrus and blossom on the nose, an elegant, defined length, with some savoury structure from lees ageing bringing it all together. This is an absolutely charming Muscadet. In 2019 it has an effortless freshness, and poised balance.

<b>2019 Muscadet de Sèvre et Maine sur lie, Cuvée One</b>	£11	£66 per 6	2021 - 2028
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Made in much smaller volumes than the Grand Mouton cuvée, this is from a selection of the oldest vines on the property, planted in 1937. These vines reach excellent maturity, and the grapes are always picked on the first day of harvest. This has a wonderful perfume of lemon verbena and white flowers. There is a lively intensity here.





# Anjou-Saumur

**B**etween the towns of Angers and Saumur you will find a rich and varied winemaking community. Whilst other varieties are planted here, it is Chenin Blanc that predominates. Anjou-Saumur's various appellations produce this grape in all its fabulous guises: dry, sweet, and sparkling. Some are simple and fruity, others are profoundly complex and thought-provoking.

Anjou is a mosaic of soil types, including schist, sandstones, and volcanic rocks. Its most interesting appellation for dry Chenins in **Savennières**, whilst sweet wines thrive in **Coteaux du Layon**. On the limestone soils of **Saumur**, dry and sparkling wines are the mainstay. The wines are all produced against the backdrop of the Loire's fairytale castles.

## Savennières

**S**avennières sits at the geological meeting point of the Brittany (granite) and Parisian (limestone) plates. Their movement in the distant past pushed up magma, eventually resulting in this plateau of compressed magma - schist - and decomposing sandstone on which Savennières' 140 hectares are planted.

The small appellation is surrounded by an impressive 17 châteaux and their large parklands, many of which are given over to wild forest. Its geological singularity twinned with this rich biodiversity makes this a special place to make wine.

All the wines here are dry whites made from Chenin Blanc. The schist soils produce some of the Loire's most full-bodied and powerful dry Chenins. Their fleshy acidity combined with their majestic weight mean they can be some of the longest-lived, too. The best wines are found on the slopes of the various valleys, known locally as Coulées.

Just nine producers can call Savennières home, but many more ambitious young domaines from the surrounding area are investing in vineyards here.

The region is particularly prone to spring frosts, and the recent years have meted out some heavy blows, most notably in 2017 and 2019, where yields were decimated. 2018 offered a brief respite, and the wines are superb.



Domaine du Closel

SAVENNIÈRES

Evelyne de Pontbriand

@domaineduclosel

Evelyne de Pontbriand is not only exceptionally eloquent when talking about her own domaine, but is also a fount of knowledge on the Savennières appellation, and its place within the Loire canon. A few hours spent in her company enriched my wine knowledge no end. She is a passionate advocate of this characterful, tiny appellation, which, despite having just nine producers situated within its boundaries, attracts world-wide recognition for the quality of its savoury and structured dry Chenin Blancs.

The domaine's flagship wine is the Clos du Papillon, one of the finest sites in the appellation; its ageing potential should not be underestimated. In the nearer term, La Jalousie and Les Caillardières are two delicious and contrasting styles worth stocking up on. Both these cuvées in 2018 are drinking superbly now, and the Clos du Papillon is just starting to emerge from its chrysalis.

	£ Bottle	£ Case	Drink
<b>2018 Savennières La Jalousie</b>	£23	£138 per 6	2021 - 2027
This comes from various parcels of younger vines, aged around 20 years old. The name is a tongue-in-cheek nod to a dispute many years back with a neighbouring vigneron. In Savennières, the <i>vignerons</i> have a wicked sense of humour as well as great pride in their appellation. The grapes are picked at the beginning of harvest, and there is a pithy, almost spicy, salty tang to the dry but juicy palate. It has a floral elegance and its vibrant freshness makes it so delicious to drink right now. Precise, with plush fruit, and seriously refreshing.			
<b>2018 Savennières Les Caillardières</b>	£25	£150 per 6	2021 - 2029
These vines are grown on sandstone soils, and are picked around 10 days after La Jalousie, when the skins are a little thicker and beginning to turn golden brown. The wine is aged for 18 months in <i>demi-muids</i> , and the result is a wine that so perfectly captures the essence of Chenin Blanc. This is all crisp russet apple with just a hint of nutty complexity emerging. The palate is, whilst arresting in its freshness, also so silky in texture - a quality Evelyn says is typical of Les Caillardières. Captivating.			
<b>2018 Savennières Clos du Papillon</b>	£29	£174 per 6	2021 - 2034
This is the flagship wine of the estate, and the 2018 is a magnificent example. There is such sweet purity to the apple blossom and orchard fruit aroma. On the palate this is exquisitely long and fine; this should age with grace, increasing in complexity as the years go by.			





*Damien Laureau*

SAVENNIÈRES

*Florence & Damien Laureau*

@domainelaureau

Damien is a prime example of a first-generation grower with no previous ties to the region who has homed in on Savennières as the appellation for his winemaking ambitions.

He grew up on a farm near Versailles and set off to study agronomy. His early career saw him farming pears with his uncle, alongside a few vines. It wasn't long before the side project of grape-growing became far more interesting than the pears, and in 1999 he bought some vineyards in Savennières to pursue his ambition.

He brings to his viticulture the exacting attention to detail of an agricultural scientist. He is experimenting with high density planting, ploughing by horse, and adapting his pruning methods to keep yields low and concentration and quality high, all in the face of challenging global climate changes. This is a man who really understands his plants, and how to coax the best out of them in the vineyard. His wines have a striking character, with full bodied structure.

£ Bottle    Case    Drink

**2019 Savennières Alliance**

This is a new cuvée in 2019 made from young vines across three parcels, all of which Damien has planted himself. They have all been pruned in the goblet fashion, which encourages small bunches to ripen: Damien is seeking an intensity of flavour. This wine has a lovely white fruit, floral character in its maiden vintage. It has Savennières's structure, but with some pretty fruit, meaning it avoids seeming austere in its youth.

£18    £108 per 6    2021 - 2028

**2016 Savennières Le Bel Ouvrage**

This parcel is one of Damien's most prized sites, with rhyolite soil (he is very precise when it comes to describing the geology here) that is a "hot" soil, giving greater maturity than the schist soils across most of the appellation where tension is the signature. This is rich, creamy, supple, peachy, and structured. With a few years in bottle this wine is hitting its stride. Apricots and mango are intensely entwined with the punchy acidity, giving this wine dramatic drive.

£37    £222 per 6    2021 - 2030



# Coteaux du Layon

**C**oteaux du Layon has done something the rest of the Loire Valley hasn't managed: achieve grand cru status for its finest sites, Bonnezeaux and Quarts de Chaume, which have been recognised since 2011. The region is also home to some excellent premiers crus. This hierarchisation is a good thing, as many of the generic semi-sweet wines bottled under the generic Coteaux du Layon appellation are uninspiring.

All the wines here are made from Chenin Blanc, and range from the aforementioned semi-sweet to the unctuously rich botrytized wines of the finest sites. For the latter, the grapes are picked in various passes through the vineyards, where only the best berries at the perfect ripeness for the wine in question are selected.

In spite of the intensive work and the low yields this kind of winemaking necessitates, prices remain remarkably low here, and these are some of the best value sweet wines in the world.



*Domaine des Forges*

VAL-DU-LAYON

*Stéphane and Séverine Branchereau*

@domainedesforges

Situated in a beautiful corner of the Loire Valley, Domaine des Forges is run by Stéphane and Séverine Branchereau. Their sweet wines impress with their purity and lusciousness, as well as their staggeringly good prices. They have substantial holdings in some of the region's greatest vineyards for sweet wines, including the Quarts de Chaume Grand Cru, and 1er Cru Chaume. 2019 follows the outstanding 2018, and where its predecessor is rich, powerful, and will need ageing, 2019 is fresh, bright, and delicious already.

It's easy to think of the Loire's sweet wines - any sweet wines for that matter - as appropriate only for a dessert and/or cheese course, but Stéphane insists the best time to drink his wines is as an *apéritif*. The lively, zesty style of the 2019s lend themselves to this school of thought.

🍷 Bottle    🍷 Case    🍷 Drink

## 2019 Coteaux du Layon 1er Cru Chaume

This has got to be one of the best value sweet wines on the market. It is bottled in 50cl exclusively for Lay & Wheeler - the perfect size, we feel. It is a beautiful pale golden colour, and the aromas are focused around Seville oranges and acacia honey. The palate is singing with acidity: zippy, lightly bitter, fresh and just sweet enough. The finish is astonishing for such a modestly priced wine, with quince, tangerine, and honeycomb flavours lingering.

SOLD OUT

2021 - 2029

## 2019 Quarts de Chaume Grand Cru

A grand cru in every sense of the word. Intensely perfumed with honey, flowers, quince, apricot, with that zappy bitter orange freshness on the palate slicing through the richness of the sugar. It's like the best bits of a caramelized *Tarte Tatin*, where sweetness and acidity vie for attention. Brilliantly balanced, and a complete joy to drink.

£27

£162 per 6

2022 - 2035





# Saumur

**Just upriver from Anjou and its surrounding appellations (Savennières and Coteaux du Layon), Saumur’s limestone soils are more strictly an extension of Touraine to the east.**

Saumur and Anjou share in common the Chenin Blanc grape, but where Anjou’s volcanic ‘noir’ soils produce powerful, structured, sometimes austere Chenins that span the full sweetness range, Saumur’s limestone soils are home to bone dry still whites and sparkling crémants, with their own appellation, Saumur Brut.

The sparkling wines have that refreshing, mineral, pithy tension one finds in another of France’s limestone sparkling wine regions, Champagne, but married with the apple-scented, savoury Chenin Blanc grape.

The dry whites have a chalky, nervous, scintillating thread running through them. After a long search, their absence on this list has finally been filled, with promising young domaine Clos de l’Ecotard.

The calcareous soils, known locally as *tuffeau*, are easily quarried and the winemakers of Saumur have excavated a subterranean world of tunnels and cellars underneath their vineyards, perfect for ageing their wines.



## Clos de l’Ecotard

SAUMUR

*Thibaud & Michel Chevré*

Michel Chevré spent 25 years working as vineyard manager and right-hand-man to biodynamic legend, Thierry Germain, of Domaine des Roches Neuves, who himself had trained at Clos Rougeard. Michel’s input was so integral to Thierry’s famous domaine that his name adorned some of its labels. With Thierry’s encouragement, Michel bought some vineyards of his own, and started planting in 2009. Until he formally retired from Roches Neuves in 2017 to concentrate fulltime on his own project, he and Thierry had made the wines together. Michel is now joined by his son, Thibaud, and this young domaine is set for a bright future.

All work in the vineyard has been organic since the domaine’s inception in 2009, and much work is done along biodynamic lines. High density planting of diverse plant material is an important focus of the Chevrés, who work their vineyards by horse.

This is a father and son team on a mission. Plans are underway to add reds and a sparkling to the range soon, but for the moment it is their monopole, Clos de L’Ecotard Saumur Blanc, that steals the show.

### 2018 Clos de L’Ecotard Saumur Blanc

This monopole vineyard is found right on the edge of the Saumur appellation with Anjou. Its highly active limestone with clay soils produces wines that are taut and nervous, even in a warmer year like 2018. The wine is perfectly ripe, remaining fine and fragrant, with a salty freshness and chalky tension. Truly lovely Chenin Blanc.

£ Bottle	Case	Drink
£18	£108 per 6	2021 - 2029



## Bouvet Ladubay

SAUMUR BRUT





*The Monmousseau family*

@bouvetladubay

If there were such a thing as the Seven Wonders of the Wine World, the cellars at Bouvet Ladubay would probably be in there. Visitors tour them by bicycle, so long does it take to walk their 8km of underground paths.

This domaine in the heart of the Saumur appellation was established in 1851 by Etienne Bouvet and his wife Célestine Ladubay. Since the mid-twentieth century the story of Bouvet Ladubay has been the story of the Monmousseau family, who bought the domaine in the 1930s and established its current reputation.

Expertise from part-owners, the Taittinger family, informed the development of the business between the 1970s and 2005. Its history is long, complex, and revealing about twentieth century commerce. And through all this, it has retained its position as a premium producer of Saumur Brut wines in this special corner of the Loire. Their impressive range includes one of our best-selling wines - Saphir. Without exception, these wines are characterful, delicious, easy-drinking, and outstanding value.

	£ Bottle	Case	Drink
 <b>2018 Saphir Saumur Brut</b> 90% Chenin Blanc, 10% Chardonnay. Year in, year out, this is a firm favourite of ours for its deliciously smooth, creamy palate, and fresh, lightly citrus flavours as well as its unbeatable price. The 2018 Saphir is brimming with energy.	£8.50	£51 per 6	2021 - 2023
 <b>2015 Saphir Saumur Brut</b> 90% Chenin Blanc, 10% Chardonnay. 2015 is a superb vintage for this excellent value cuvée. With a few years in magnum this Saumur Brut has developed some complex savoury characters. With tension and energy on the palate, it has a good depth of flavour. This is a great format for celebrations.	£18.50 per magnum	£111 per 6 magnums	2021 - 2024
 <b>2017 Zéro Dosage Saumur Brut</b> As the name suggests, this cuvée has no dosage, and so has not a drop of residual sugar. As a result, the wine expresses abundant freshness and minerality, supported by bright citrus and green fruit. The 2017 has a bright refreshing acidity and subtle richness, thanks to its oak ageing.	£12.50	£75 per 6	2021 - 2024
 <b>2016 Instinct Saumur Brut</b> This cuvée has gone from strength to strength since it was first made in 2000. Ageing in oak barrels adds complexity and depth. The palate is nicely textured and vinous, and there’s a wonderful fresh bread and bruised apple character throughout. This is really impressive for the price.	£12.50	£75 per 6	2021 - 2025



# Touraine

This large region that surrounds the city of Tours is often referred to as “The Garden of France”, and is where you will find some of the Loire’s most beautiful châteaux and formal gardens.

Many varieties thrive here, notably Cabernet Franc in **Bourgueil** and **Chinon** and Chenin Blanc in **Vouvray** and **Montlouis-sur-Loire**, as well as Sauvignon Blanc, Gamay and Malbec (known locally as Côt) which all find a home in the appellation of **Touraine** itself, plus little-known Romorantin in **Cour-Cheverny**.

# Bourgueil

**B**ourgueil and Chinon sit on either side of the Loire river. Cabernet Franc thrives here.

Here, on the south-facing limestone slopes on the north bank of the river, Cabernet Franc produces wines with a firm tannic structure, and a rich raspberry fruit depth. The appellation is a prime example of how Cabernet Franc in the Loire is capable of producing fairly rich, intense, structured red wines as well as light-footed crunchy reds for easy drinking.

Like many Loire red appellations, Bourgueil has enjoyed a run of successful vintages recently, including 2019. No longer are stringy, thin wines from grapes that have struggled to ripen common. Instead, ripe, rich and expressive reds with the variety’s natural freshness and crunch are the mainstay.



Domaine de la Butte

BOURGUEIL

Jacky and Jean-Philippe Blot

Jacky Blot has made a huge contribution to the world of wine through his two estates, Domaine de la Butte in Bourgueil, and Domaine de la Taille aux Loups in Montlouis-sur-Loire. And between them, it’s hard to say whether we rate him more for his reds or his whites.

What is easy to say is that 2019 is a superb vintage for both domaines, both colours, both varieties. In recent years he has been joined by his son, Jean-Philippe. His influence has only been positive, and the reds showing greater precision than ever.

	🍷 Bottle	🍷🍷 Case	🍷 Drink
<b>2019 Bourgueil Pied de la Butte</b>	£12	£72 per 6	2021 - 2027
All the fruit for this blend comes from two parcels found at the bottom part of the slope. Some vines here are as old as 80 years, so although the attack of this wine is juicy, upfront, and invitingly drinkable, the finish is sustained and persistent with that old vine concentration taking this above a simple easy-drinking wine. This 2019 has a leafy, sour cherry note, with lightly smoky, vegetal notes so typical of Cabernet Franc. It really opens up in the glass, promising it should age well.			
<b>2019 Bourgueil Le Haut de la Butte</b>	£16	£96 per 6	2022 - 2030
As the name suggests, this fruit comes from the top of the slope. The fruit feels darker than that of the Pied de la Butte, and the tannins are more present. There’s a graphite, savoury complexity to the dark fruit. The texture on the palate is great, quite structured and tight now, but with the potential to carry this wine for many years.			
<b>2019 Bourgueil Mi-Pente</b>	£21	£126 per 6	2023 - 2033
This is the sweet spot of Domaine de la Butte - from right in the middle of the slope - and as such, produces the most complex and ageworthy of this triptych. Jacky and Jean-Philippe hold the wine back for an extra six months in the cellar before release as they know: this wine needs time. Its huge concentration and tannic stature are matched to slightly more new oak than the other wines. The density of fruit is more than a match.			



# Chinon

**O**n the south bank of the Loire river, facing Bourgueil, Chinon produces Cabernet Francs of a markedly elegant and ethereal expression. The appellation can produce whites from Chenin Blanc, as well as rosés, but it is its red wines that captures the imagination. They are fine-boned, with moreish acidity twinned with fine-grained tannins.

The appellation straddles a tributary of the Loire, the Vienne River, and the diverse soil types found here result in a range of expressions. Those wines produced from the sandy and gravelly vineyards are light and fruity, whilst those produced on the clay-limestone slopes are more structured, and can age gracefully for years.



*Serge et Bruno Sourdais*

CRAVANT-LES-CÔTEAU

*Bruno Sourdais*

Bruno took over from his father, Serge, in 2008, and continues this domaine's excellent work in producing hugely enjoyable Cabernet Francs that are charming and drinkable, and seriously good value.

These are refreshing red wines, with spicy, grippy tannins, and a firm backbone, all in an approachable and juicy style. The winemaking is traditional and fairly low interventionist, with the wines spending a little time in old oak. The balance in these wines is great from the off, so they drink well young and with some age. A visit to Bruno's cellar always involves some older bottles served for useful comparison. Their seamless integration in bottle in spite of their humble price tags remind us that there is still jaw-dropping value in the Loire.

	🍷 Bottle	🍷🍷 Case	🍷 Drink
<b>2020 Chinon, Logis de la Bouchardière</b>	£7.50	£45 per 6	2021 - 2027
The perennial red-wine-bargain of the list, this great little wine has succeeded again in 2020. After a short period of ageing the wine is bottled, and even in its first year it offers an upfront, fruity and refreshing style of red, centred on red cherry fruits with detailed little tannins, that give it a nice grip, but also slip down a treat, even in youth.			
<b>2019 Chinon Le Clos</b>	£10	£60 per 6	2022 - 2035
This is made from various parcels of old vines that are all located on the hillsides, with good drainage. This is a benchmark Chinon that has flourished in the 2019 vintage. There is nicely fragrant red fruit on the nose, with a touch of graphite and seaweed, giving it an iodine edge. The palate has a spicy, lightly herbaceous weight and fine, firm tannins, with lovely acidity.			





## Domaine de la Noblaie

LIGRÉ

Jérôme Billard

@la\_noblaie

Jérôme Billard is the exceptionally engaging and talented vigneron at the helm here. He studied winemaking in Burgundy, and trained at both Pétrus in Pomerol and Dominus in Napa before returning to Chinon to take over his grandfather’s estate.

Although he has built a new winery and is vigilant in his attention to detail in his vinification, he still likes to use some of the traditional equipment and old ways of making wines, such as the domaine’s fifteenth century cuve, hewn from the local *tuffeau* rock, and built into the wall of the old cellar. His dedication is equalled in the vineyard, which is organically certified. He makes pure, *terroir*-driven wines that age beautifully. His 2018 Chinon Pierre de Tuf is so good we’ve gone back for more. And this year we’re delighted to introduce his juicy Chinon Le Temps des Cerises, as well as a delicious rosé. All the wines have ripeness twinned with wonderful freshness.

	£ Bottle	Case	Drink
<b>2020 Chinon Goutte de Rosé</b>	£7.50	£45 per 6	2021 - 2022
This Cabernet Franc rosé is such a pretty pale pink. It comes from the domaine's young vines, which yield a fruity and open wine. It has delicate sweet red fruit aromas with a minty lift. A simple summer delight.			
<b>2019 Chinon Le Temps des Cerises</b>	£8.50	£51 per 6	2021 - 2024
This juicy, fruity style of Chinon has a vibrant violet aroma, with notes of sour cherry and graphite. Its leafy lift is typical of Cabernet Franc, as is the freshness of the palate. This is a zappy fresh red, perfect enjoyed a little chilled.			
<b>2018 Chinon Pierre de Tuf</b>	£12	£72 per 6	2022 - 2030
This is made from two parcels, both planted in the 1940s. Jérôme uses the fifteenth-century <i>tuffeau</i> cuve in the old cellar to do a long, slow fermentation to bring out some delicious complexity in this Cabernet Franc. This has a subtle, sophisticated nose, and the palate is fine and enticing. Supple tannins, a juicy dark fruit core, and a long flow with a mineral finish.			



## Domaine Charles Joguet

SAZILLY

Anne-Charlotte Genet & Kévin Fontaine

The sophisticated, nuanced, and delicious Cabernet Francs from Domaine Charles Joguet are not only some of the best Loire reds on our list, they are amongst our best reds full stop.

The domaine was established in the 1950s by Charles Joguet, ahead of his time in his focus on single vineyard wines in Chinon. It was sold in the 1980s, and the domaine’s reputation began to wane. But the appointment of winemaker Kévin Fontaine in 2006 marked a decisive change in the fortunes in this great estate. His dedication to organic farming and thoughtful, attentive winemaking have cultivated a superb range of single vineyard Chinons. This, allied to owner Anne-Charlotte Genet’s proactive leadership, has restored the domaine to its rightful place.

These single vineyard Chinons represent the diverse soil types found across the appellation, from the aromatic, fresh wines grown on sandy soils, to the supple, deep-fruited, more structured wines grown on clay-limestone slopes. A long *élevage* will see these 2019s bottled in summer 2022.

	£ Bottle	Case	Drink
<b>2019 Chinon, Les Varennes du Grand Clos</b>	£25	£150 per 6	2023 - 2033
This is the domaine’s ‘newest’ parcel, bought in 1976. Located near the cellar, in the south of the Chinon appellation, this is like a mini Clos de la Dioterie, on deep clay-limestone soils with colluvial topsoil. It typically shows great balance between tannins and acidity, and in 2019 has great poise. The tannins are already smooth and silky in texture, and glide through onto the floral finish.			
<b>2019 Chinon, Clos du Chêne Vert</b>	£30	£180 per 6	2023 - 2035
This parcel is quintessential Chinon: at the top of the hill overlooking the Loire river, its flood plains, and the charming eponymous town. It is named after the huge and statuesque oak tree that grows at its edge. Its excellent position affords it good ripening and drainage. The soil here is clay and sandstone, and produces a wine with a pretty red fruit structure, and some distinctively spicy notes. In 2019 it has harmonious balance, a little lighter in weight than the Varenne and Dioterie, it has this amazing freshness to the fruit.			
<b>2019 Chinon Clos de la Dioterie</b>	£32.50	£195 per 6	2024 - 2036
This vineyard lies right next to the domaine and was the first single vineyard that Charles Joguet focused on. Its north-east facing slope and old vines planted on clay-limestone soils produce a wine with outstanding energy, and spicy density. Profoundly deep but with no heaviness. There is such a sweet intensity to the Cabernet Franc fruit, and a mouthwatering salinity.			



# Vouvray

**V**ouvray is one of the best-known names of the Loire, and a calling card for Chenin Blanc. Its history and reputation were built on its semi-sweet still wines as well as the sparkling crémant wines produced here. But in fact today some of the most interesting wines coming out of the appellation are its dry wines, particularly in a year like 2019 that suited the dry Chenins to a T.

Vouvray Sec actually allows for up to 8g/l residual sugar, much higher than most other appellations, thanks to Chenin's famous acidity. This style works brilliantly in a vintage like 2019 which has produced dry wines that are so ripe yet thrillingly fresh and vibrant.

Over half the wine produced in Vouvray is sparkling, and traditional Vouvray Bruts are a good place to go for reliable, refreshing bubbles. But the far more interesting wines are those produced using the ancestral method, a trend that has only (re)emerged in the past 20 years.

Quality can vary enormously in Vouvray, so it's important to pick your grower well. We're delighted to introduce the wines of Vincent and Tania Carême to the list this year, whose domaine is performing brilliantly.



*Domaine Vincent Carême*

**VOUVRAY**

*Vincent & Tania Carême*

@vincentcareme

The domaine was only established in 1999, but in a relatively short period has confirmed itself as one of the top names in the appellation producing all styles of Vouvray.

Vincent is a charming and thoughtful winemaker, whose commitment to organic farming and low sulphur dioxide additions in the cellar has had a positive impact on the wider region, influencing other young growers to pursue his style of viticulture. He talked of how he'd set out early on to do things not as those before him had done, but how he thought they could be done. Organic certification in 2003 was early for the region, and his Ancestral cuvée, which he has made since 1999, broke new territory. Its ongoing popularity today is testament to his vision.

I've followed Vincent's wines for many years and jumped at the chance to add him to the list this year. Whilst chatting over Zoom, his South African wife and now business partner, Tania, burst in. She had passed her motorcycle test the week before and had been picking up her new Ducati so was running a little late. "It's bright yellow, Chenin yellow!"

Their ties with South Africa are strong; both Eben Sadie's sons have worked for the domaine. Vincent and Tania's characterful wines, honest and environmentally-minded approach to life, and their deep roots in both the Loire and South Africa make them a compelling new addition to the Lay & Wheeler list.

🍷 Bottle    🍷 Case    🍷 Drink

**£14.50    £87 per 6    2021 - 2030**



## 2018 Vouvray Plaisir Ancestrale

This sparkling wine is made by transferring the still sweet and fermenting grape juice into bottle, and then trapping the subsequent carbon dioxide as it continues to ferment to dryness in the bottle. No dosage is added, though the spent yeast cells are expelled, leaving a brilliant, crystalline sparkling wine behind. It has such a wonderful depth and complexity on the nose, with a vinous structure on the palate, and a salty zing. The creamy mousse wraps around crunchy apple fruit. Experience from tasting back vintages of this cuvée shows me this wine ages brilliantly, and will develop complex depth, and savoury precision with a few years in bottle. It's one of the most exciting wines on the list this year.

## 2019 Vouvray Sec

This is everything we've been looking for in a dry Vouvray: precise, chiselled Chenin fruit, balanced weight, sappy freshness, and flinty finish. It comes from clay and flint soils around the domaine, and is a great showcase for the 2019 vintage. So refreshing and well-made.

**£13.50    £81 per 6    2021 - 2027**

## 2019 Vouvray Sec Le Clos

This is the jewel in the crown of this domaine. It comes from a limestone (*tuffeau*) site overlooking the Loire which is so steep it has to be worked by horse instead of tractor. The nose has a chalky, mineral note alongside the apple and quince notes. The palate has a satisfying and silky weight, and a long, powerful finish.

**£18    £108 per 6    2021 - 2030**



# Montlouis-sur-Loire

Montlouis-sur-Loire is the smaller, lesser known sibling of much more famous Vouvray on the other side of the river. This overshadowed appellation shares much in common with its neighbour, producing both still and sparkling wines from Chenin Blanc.

The topsoil overlaying the limestone bedrock is a little lighter and sandier than that found in Vouvray, and the wines have a tenderness to them.

Many growers in Montlouis have vineyards on both sides of the river. But due to a (nonsensical) dispute with its more powerful neighbour, Montlouis-sur-Loire’s producers lost the right to use the Vouvray name on their labels if the wines are fermented on the Montlouis side of the river. As a result, these IGP wines are hidden gems, well worth knowing about if you can’t decide between Vouvray or Montlouis.



Domaine de la Taille aux Loups

MONTLOUIS-SUR-LOIRE

Jacky & Jean-Philippe Blot

Jacky Blot has made a huge contribution to the world of wine through his two estates, Domaine de la Butte in Bourgueil, and Domaine de la Taille aux Loups in Montlouis-sur-Loire. And between them, it’s hard to say whether we rate him more for his reds or his whites. What is easy to say is that 2019 is a superb vintage for both domaines, both colours, both varieties.

Jacky saw early potential in this little known appellation and did not hesitate to buy the best spots when he had the chance. He also built a gravity fed winery and repurposed a troglodyte cave as a barrel hall. Once known for his generous use of oak, Jacky is reducing the amount of new wood in his wines these days, perhaps thanks to the influence of his son, Jean-Philippe, who has recently joined him.

Their sparkling wine, Triple Zéro, was the runaway success of last year. It is joined this year by the delicious, light and breezy sparkling rosé.

## N/V Triple Zéro (2019 Base Vintage)

This sparkling Chenin Blanc has fast become one of our go-to fizzes. Just like the rosé, this has zero chaptalisation, zero liqueur de tirage, and zero dosage, and is as dry as they come. This ancestral methode is the same as that used to make Pet-Nats (pétillant naturel) where the fermentation is finished in bottle. But unlike a Pet Nat, this sees the lees disgorged at the end, meaning the finished wine is crystal clear. The crisp orchard fruit aromas combined with a complex biscuity character on the nose are followed by taut precision and depth of flavour on the palate, thanks to the electrifying quality of the 2019 vintage. The texture of the bubbles is spot on: creamy and persistent.

## N/V Triple Zéro Rosé (2018 Base Vintage)

This sparkling pink made from 100% Gamay has been the surprise find of this year’s rosé search. The ‘Zéro’ indicates zero chaptalisation, zero liqueur de tirage, and zero dosage. It is as dry as they come, and made much like a Pet-Nat (pétillant naturel), though the lees are disgorged at the end, meaning the wine is crystal clear and bright in colour. It has a beautiful pithy, pink grapefruit character, a light, scintillating line of freshness through it, and a gentle, creamy mousse.

### 2019 Montlouis-Sur-Loire Rémus

This is as good an introduction to Montlouis as you’ll find. The fruit profile is centred on apple and blossom, and the palate has the tart cooking-apple acidity of great Chenin Blanc, along with a lovely lightly phenolic grip. Rémus might be Jacky’s entry level white but its quality is not to be underestimated. It’s simply made in a style that Jacky thinks will drink well from youth, so don’t hesitate to pull the cork.

### 2019 Montlouis-Sur-Loire Clos Mosny

Clos Mosny is a monopole vineyard, and 2019 is a brilliant year for this wine. The nose is a little more restrained than the Hauts de Husseau, with white flowers, apricots, and a gently leesy, cream note. The palate is bright and zappy, with a fresh lemon zing, and just a hint of new oak. This opens up well in the glass and should age fantastically.

### 2019 Montlouis-sur-Loire Les Hauts de Husseau

In what was an extremely compelling line-up in 2019, this stole the show. Some of the vines here are over 100 years old, and in 2019 they dug deep. The fruit is perfectly peachy, with a cool and silken texture on the palate that is supported by the supremely well-integrated oak. It is so fresh and vibrant, with a complex evolution ahead of it.

### 2019 La Bretonnière

This vineyard is actually within Vouvray, but cannot use the AOC name since it is vinified in Montlouis. It’s another of Jacky’s monopole vineyards, and it has made a driven, energetic wine in 2019, with great lift on the nose: citrus and blossom. The palate has a saline dryness to it and zingy acidity, making it one of the most thirst quenching of the vintage.

### 2019 Clos de Venise

Like La Bretonnière, this vineyard is also within Vouvray, but cannot use the AOC name since it is vinified in Montlouis. It comes from a south-facing slope, and Jacky and Jean-Philippe are careful to get the picking date right here. Too early and it loses its drama, too late and it feels overweight. In 2019 it is poised and vibrant, with a saline tension running through, and smoky, floral complexity.

Bottle	Case	Drink
£14.50	£87 per 6	2021 - 2031

£15.50	£93 per 6	2021 - 2023
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£15	£90 per 6	2021 - 2027
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£20	£120 per 6	2021 - 2032
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£20	£120 per 6	2021 - 2033
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£20	£120 per 6	2021 - 2033
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£22.50	£135 per 6	2021 - 2033
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# Touraine

**A**s well as describing the region around Tours, which includes the appellations of Bourgueil, Chinon, Vouvray and Montlouis-sur-Loire, Touraine is also an appellation.

The large AOC produces wines of every colour from a range of varieties. The most famous here is probably Sauvignon Blanc, though Sauvignon Gris, Gamay, Cabernet Franc, Cabernet Sauvignon and Malbec, which is known locally as Côt, are also found here.

The wines can often be simple and lack interest although they offer low prices. But there are a few quality-driven domaines who are doing some exciting things in Touraine, making wines that offer superb quality and terrific value for money.



*Domaine Jean-François Mérieau*

**MONTRICHARD VAL DE CHER**

*Jean-François Mérieau*

In the hinterland of Touraine it can be difficult to find truly artisanal winemakers, but when we came across Jean-François Mérieau in the tiny town of Montrichard we were quick to add him to our list, and his wines have continued to impress with every new vintage.

He recently moved into a new cellar and tasting room, and quality continues to soar. He's a quiet and collected man, and highly respected by his peers. He makes a wide range of wines, and we've been following a few of our favourite cuvées for a few years now. These are beautifully pure, fruit-filled wines: ones that cry out to be drunk.

 Bottle	 Case	 Drink
<b>£8</b>	<b>£48 per 6</b>	<b>2021 - 2024</b>

## **2020 L'Arpent des Vaudons, Touraine Sauvignon**

2020 is shaping up to be a great vintage for whites in the Loire, and this early release from Touraine is just the ticket: fruity, mineral, fresh, with just an edge of Sauvignon's vegetal green tea notes over the blowsy gooseberry and blackcurrant notes the variety - in high yields and warm weather - is prone to. Jean-François explains he likes to play with the natural bitterness of Sauvignon Blanc, brilliantly controlled in this example.

## **2019 Cent Visages, Touraine Côt**

This is one of the most unusual and exciting wines we have on the list. It is made from Malbec, a variety that has long been grown in the Loire, known locally as Côt. Today it's hard to find much Côt, and this wine gets snapped up quickly every year. The 2019 has juicy ripe black fruits on the nose with a leafy lift. The palate pitches concentrated black cherry flavours against soft, light tannins and a peppery, bright freshness. Fleshy, spicy, and delicious.

<b>£9.50</b>	<b>£57 per 6</b>	<b>2021 - 2027</b>
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# Cour-Cheverny

In the far flung corner of eastern Touraine is this little known, historic appellation.

Well that's not quite true. The appellation was only created in 1993, specifically for the Romorantin grape grown around the commune of Cheverny, so its history in the narrow vision of the appellation system is recent. But when you peel back the layers of rich history of this forgotten pocket of the Loire you find there is something quite remarkable going on, with an exciting future ahead.

Legend has it the variety was introduced to the region by Francis I in 1519. Whilst it didn't travel any further, it made in the vineyards around Cheverny a stronghold in the centuries that followed. The larger appellation of Cheverny permits a number of other varieties, and the wines are simple and good value, if not terribly interesting. Cour-Cheverny is reserved exclusively for the electric wines of Romorantin.

Romorantin is both rich - you need to pick it before the sugar climbs - and has soaring acidity - so pick too soon and the wines border on the indigestible. In the past, the wines had tended to oxidation, but in the hands of a new wave of talented young growers, Romorantin is emerging as a source of thrilling acid-driven whites that are seriously food-friendly. This grape is at last ascending from the footnotes of vinous history.



Domaine des Huards

COUR-CHEVERNY

Alexandre Gendrier

@domainedeshuards

In this forgotten corner of the Loire Valley a small-scale revolution is taking place. Young, enthusiastic growers like Alexandre Gendrier are coming home full of ideas and ideals, with the aim of reigniting interest in the unusual variety of Romorantin.

The surrounding region, which falls under the larger Cheverny appellation, is home to some easy-drinking country wines from mainstream varieties like Sauvignon Blanc and Gamay. But where its neighbours are often large, pedestrian négociants, Domaine des Huards is family-owned, biodynamically certified, with lots of old vines, and quality aspirations at its core. The heart of its business is Romorantin of Cour-Cheverny.

Alexandre refers to his beloved Romorantin as the Swiss Army knife of wines: with both the acidity and richness to match with any number of dishes.

£ Bottle    Case    Drink

## 2018 Romo, Cour-Cheverny

£12.50

£75 per 6

2021 - 2032

This wine is made from the rare and exciting Romorantin grape. It has a fragrant nose of lilies, toffee apple, blossom, and notes of iodine. The palate has arresting, flinty freshness with a razor sharp acidity, giving it a stinging nettle piquancy, wrapped around by generous fruit. Don't be afraid to cellar this.



# Central Vineyards

**A**s we travel upstream, we reach Sauvignon country. In these easternmost limits of the Loire Valley you will find Sancerre and Pouilly-Fumé, arguably the most famous appellations of the Loire.

Their popularity and success ride on the supreme quality of a small number of growers in each appellation. We are proud to represent the very cream of the crop in this list, with the top names from the region.

In nearby **Reuilly**, **Quincy** and **Menetou-Salon** you will find less expensive alternatives which make for fantastic summer thirst-quenchers.

In several of the appellations Pinot Noir is planted, and fast gaining ground, as ambitious young winemakers are carving out a new, distinctive Loire style for this Burgundian grape. Warmer recent vintages along with lower yields are only helping their cause.

## Reuilly

**T**his small appellation is growing quickly, both in size and reputation. Its limestone slopes are proving the perfect place for light, fragrant Sauvignons and juicy, easy-drinking Pinots. It sits between the tributaries of the Cher and Arnon rivers to the southwest of Sancerre, and its wines are a great introduction to the wider region.

Reuilly's overlooked status isn't helped by its frequent, and understandable, confusion with Burgundy's Rully. Once you get to know the wines of Reuilly, you'll be glad you did.



*Denis Jamain*  
**REUILLY**  
*Denis Jamain*

Denis Jamain is the most significant producer of the small appellation of Reuilly. Indeed, his domaine also goes by the name of Domaine de Reuilly.

His family domaine was first planted in the 1930s, and now covers 21 hectares, all of which lie within 2km of the cellar in the very heart of the appellation. This size is modest in the grand scheme of things, but in Reuilly, this makes Denis one of the largest producers, and his wines certainly have the highest profile of any in the appellation. Indeed, it's thanks to his energy and dedication to the appellation that it exists in any meaningful way today.

The domaine is almost all converted to biodynamic farming, with over half already certified. The Pierres Plates vineyard on Kimmeridgian limestone and Denis's light touch make for a wine reminiscent of Sancerre, but at a much lighter price, perfect for drinking in its youth. And his juicy Pinot that we've followed for years has taken on an extra dimension and depth in 2020.

🍷 Bottle   🍷 Case   🍷 Drink

### 2020 Reuilly Blanc, Les Pierres Plates

£10   £60 per 6   2021 - 2024

This parcel is just behind the house, with Kimmeridgian limestone soils. It has fresh aromas of citrus fruits and oyster brine, with a lightly fruity and fresh palate, with nice minerality on the finish. Restrained and *terroir*-driven.

### 2020 Reuilly Rouge, Les Pierres Plates

£10   £60 per 6   2021 - 2025

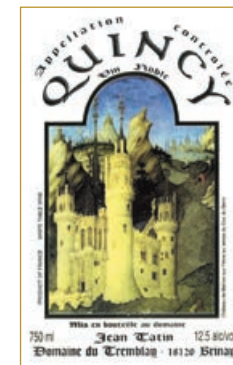
This Pinot is all vinified and aged in stainless steel tank. This method helps capture the variety's purest fruit, which in this case is ripe raspberries and redcurrants, with a charming minty lift. There's a subtle graphite note running through the palate, and slightly more weight and persistence than in previous vintages, though overall it remains light-bodied and thirst-quenching in style.



# Quincy

Quincy might be small, but it holds an important role in vinous history. It was the second appellation to be created after Châteauneuf-du-Pape in 1936, perhaps thanks to its distinctive soil type that marks it out from its neighbours.

Here you'll find sandy, gravelly soils rather than limestone. The wines have a steely, herbaceous lift on the nose, and a plump tenderness on the palate.



## Domaines Tatin

BRINAY

*Maroussia Wilk Tatin*

Jean Tatin had planted vines at the family farm (Domaine de Tremblay) to sell to the local co-operative. When the Quincy co-op inconveniently closed, he wasted no time in building a winery so that he and his neighbours could continue to vinify their wines together. Neighbouring *vignerons* happened to include his own parents and wife, and so the family domaines came together under one roof.

The wines they produce are benchmark Quincy. With winemaking now spearheaded by Jean's daughter, Maroussia, they are taking a step up in nuance and definition. She is careful to use a light hand in the cellar and during *élevage*, and has been the driving force behind the domaines' venture into single vineyard wines: the "Terroirs" range. She makes four in total, all from single parcels which are fermented with wild yeasts and aged on their lees in large old oak barrels. Our favourite changes from year to year, and in 2019 Gatebourse showed the greatest promise.

	£ Bottle	Case	Drink
<b>2019 Quincy Domaine de Tremblay Vieilles Vignes</b>	£11.50	£69 per 6	2021 - 2024
This is a blend of four parcels, with a high proportion of fruit from vines older than 50 years. It is smooth and fruity. Its brightness is piqued with a fine line of pithy bitterness. This is a great example of the appellation, and has taken on some definition and drive from its first year in bottle. This is so refreshing and quenching.			
<b>2019 Quincy 'Terroirs' Gatebourse</b>	£13	£78 per 6	2021 - 2026
This was our top pick from the domaine's four single vineyard wines. It comes from old vines planted on sandy gravel soils. It is always the first site to be picked, and in 2020 it captures the vibrant acidity and freshness of the vintage. The nose has subtle melon and green apple fruit, whilst the palate has beautiful energy, with crisp weight.			



# Menetou-Salon

Although this appellation is much smaller and less famous than nearby Sancerre, it shares many characteristics both on paper and in quality. Both appellations have chalky limestone soils, although the vineyards of Menetou are flatter and less compact than their neighbour to the east.

Like Sancerre, Menetou-Salon can produce red, white and rosé from Sauvignon Blanc and Pinot Noir. But the most important aspect that ties them closely is that both are capable of producing whites, in particular, of superb ageing potential. The best come from around the commune of Morogues, where single vineyard wines are beginning to reveal the potential of Menetou-Salon.



*La Tour St-Martin, Domaines Minchin*  
**MOROGUES**  
*Bertrand Minchin*

The vineyards of Menetou-Salon usually play second fiddle to their more illustrious neighbours, Pouilly Fumé and Sancerre. However, if you come and taste with Bertrand Minchin in the commune of Morogues you’ll enjoy some brilliantly ageworthy Sauvignon Blancs. In fact, they’d give many of the wines inside those better known appellations a run for their money.

The soil here is Kimmeridgian limestone with some pockets of clay. Bertrand has been isolating single vineyard cuvées for a few years now, and we love the distinction between the cool, north-facing Fumet and the richer, riper south-facing Honorine. No visit to Bertrand is complete without this bon vivant pulling the cork on a few old bottles. The white truffle and fragrant fennel aromatics of these wines with 10+ years in bottle is evidence of their brilliant ageing potential, so don’t be afraid to tuck them away.

Bertrand has kept the 2019s a second winter before bottling the spring, and in that time the wines have grown in depth and precision.

	Bottle	Case	Drink
<b>2019 Menetou-Salon Fumet</b>	£13.50	£81 per 6	2021 - 2027
This north-facing limestone site is cool and late ripening. In a warm year like 2019 its quality soars. There is such a fine acidity and outstanding length. I was really blown away by this, and can’t wait to see how the fruit and acidity entwine further with some bottle age. Nervous and tense, this warrants attention.			
<b>2019 Menetou-Salon Honorine</b>	£15	£90 per 6	2021 - 2027
This is a warmer, south-facing site than Fumet. In 2019 there is wonderful weight from the peachy nectarine fruit and a floral lift. Just gorgeous right now, and the weight will carry it so well through a few years in the cellar.			



*Antoine van Remoortere*  
**MOROGUES**  
*Antoine & Juliette van Remoortere*

Young, dynamic winemaker Antoine van Remoortere is only in his late 20s, but already his wines are the hot ticket in Menetou-Salon. And you have to take your hat off: this success has been hard won. His father had a domaine that was established in 1990, but Antoine knew he wanted to make a name for himself. However, when starting out on his own he was faced with the disastrous 2016 and 2017 vintages, where huge amounts of fruit were lost to frost which meant Antoine nearly had to pack up before he’d really got going. But he hung in there, and luck came his way with the 2018 vintage where yields returned to normal levels.

His outstanding 2019s followed, and with a year in bottle, are now looking like a new watermark for the domaine.

	Bottle	Case	Drink
<b>2019 Menetou-Salon Blanc</b>	£13.50	£81 per 6	2021 - 2025
This is packed with juicy concentration, with an impressive tension. This is <i>terroir</i> -driven Sauvignon Blanc, with the texture and balance to age well, though it’s probably too enticing to ignore right now. Impressive length.			
<b>2019 Menetou-Salon Rouge</b>	£14	£84 per 6	2021 - 2025
Around half this Pinot Noir is raised in oak, and half in tank. Antoine is clearly a skilled winemaker: this wine’s tannins are ripe and silky. The oak gives just a little lift and structure. This Pinot Noir stands out amongst its peers with genuine concentration of fruit.			



# Sancerre

**I have a confession: I am thoroughly biased to Sancerre. It is my favourite appellation in France. The reasons I love it so much are many: first of all, the people. This is an appellation rich in a talent, with great comradery between the growers. Its commercial success, well established since the 1970s, has meant growers have reinvested in technology and know-how here. Sancerre growers are on the front-foot when it comes to innovation and improvements to viticulture and vinification.**

Secondly, it is beautiful. The eponymous hilltop town is surrounded by charming villages nestled in the valleys carved into the Kimmeridgian limestone. There are many of distinction, such as Bué, Verdigny, and Chavignol. It's well worth familiarising yourself with these names, as they are home to some of the appellations' top growers.

Thirdly, it's the diversity of *terroir* coupled with Sauvignon Blanc's transparent and eloquent expression of its nuances. You'll find three major soils types across the appellations: *caillottes*, pebbly limestone soils found throughout (delicate, fragrant Sauvignon); *terres blanches*, Kimmeridgian marl around Chavignol and Amigny in the west (powerful, ageworthy wines, of which Les Monts Damnés is the zenith); and *silex*, flinty soils in the north and eastern part of the appellation (chiselled, smoky, perfumed wines).

And finally, it's the value for money. Amongst their neighbours they might not be the cheapest, but when it comes to ageing potential and sheer quality, I'm not sure there is a sweeter spot in the wine world (nor one more underrated) than old Sancerre. And given that most Sancerre is drunk on release, it's a rare treat too. My cellar is full of it, and every time I open a ten year old bottle, friends can't believe the complexity and depth these wines possess. In spite of the modest outlay, they have become my most prized bottles.



Domaine Paul Prieur et Fils

VERDIGNY

Luc Prieur

@luc\_prieur

Luc Prieur took over his family estate in Verdigny at the tender age of 21. After studying in Beaune and training in South Africa he took on this well-liked, classic producer of reliable Sancerre, and in a few short years has catapulted it to the very top of the appellation. Amongst his peers, this name is now whispered about among the greats of Sancerre.

His single vineyard wines in particular have earned him plaudits, but his classic Sancerre is an absolute blinder, and not to be missed. If you've avoided Sancerre recently, thinking it is too Sauvignon, try this wine. It is fragrant, defined, refreshing, and serene.

Luc's Monts Damnés comes from the only part of the great vineyard to lie within the Verdigny commune, just around the hill from Chavignol. It is more precise and delicate than some broader, more powerful examples in Chavignol.

	£ Bottle	Case	Drink
<b>2019 Sancerre Rosé</b>	£10	£60 per 6	2021 - 2023
This pale pink rosé made from Pinot Noir is vibrant, fresh, and so easy to drink. Lightly scented with redcurrants, this wine features Sancerre's signature acidity, which gives the palate drive and focus. Luc Prieur uses the fruit from his young vine Pinot, and the wine is juicy, bright, and refreshing: a brilliant alternative to Provençal rosé.			
<b>2019 Sancerre Blanc</b>	£13.50	£81 per 6	2021 - 2029
Luc Prieur's Sancerre Blanc is one of the best value in the appellation - detailed, balanced, so refreshing, and admirably ageworthy. It comes from parcels dotted around the village of Verdigny and is a blend of the three major soil types found in the region: <i>caillottes</i> , <i>silex</i> and <i>terres blanches</i> . The 2019 is poised and restrained, with a fine saline structure and impressive tension. This is exceptional <i>terroir</i> -driven Sauvignon Blanc from one of the finest young talents in the region.			
<b>2018 Sancerre Pieuchaud Silex</b>	£17	£102 per 6	2021 - 2031
Pieuchaud is a flinty-soiled lieu dit in the commune of Thauvenay in the south-east of the appellation. Luc decided to isolate this vineyard after noting it always produced fruit with great maturity whilst maintaining high acidity - the secret to single vineyard wines in his opinion. In a warm vintage like 2018, this stood out for its nerve, vim, flinty precision, and raw charge.			
<b>2018 Sancerre Les Monts Damnés</b>	£18.50	£111 per 6	2021 - 2032
Sancerre's best known and greatest site, this dramatic hillside of <i>terres blanches</i> in Chavignol wraps around the hillside and dips into the commune of Verdigny, where Luc's parcel lies. This 2018 has that signature power and depth you should expect from this exceptional site. The attack is ample and weighted, with a luminous acidity that drives through to a long, lingering finish. This will age with great style.			





## Domaine Vincent Pinard

BUÉ

Clément & Florent Pinard

@domainevincentpinard

This is one of the smartest addresses in Sancerre, and it was hugely exciting to add them to the Lay & Wheeler list last year. Brothers Clément and Florent Pinard are not only some of the greatest winemakers in the appellation and responsible for much of its current high repute, they are also some of the most popular amongst their peers.

They are the top producers in the village of Bué at the southern end of the appellation, and have parcels in all the best sites there and in the neighbouring village of Thauvenay. Their wines are incredibly popular in France and can be found on an inordinate number of top restaurant wine lists. They are the go-to producer for restrained, classical, true *terroir*-led Sancerre Blancs, which are always precise and detailed, and are truly gastronomic whites. And they are simply the best in the business when it comes to the reds.

	£ Bottle	Case	Drink
<b>2019 Sancerre Les Créots</b>	£15.50	£93 per 6	2021 - 2027
Les Créots is found in the relatively unknown village of Thauvenay at the south-eastern limit of the appellation. Its quartz-flecked clay soils are fertile ground for quality-minded producers seeking vineyard expression. For an introduction to the domaine's whites, you couldn't do much better than this. It is floral and delicate on the nose. The palate has an agile freshness. This is a wonderfully restrained style of Sancerre Blanc.			
<b>2019 Sancerre Harmonie</b>	£26	£156 per 6	2021 - 2028
Harmonie is one of best loved Pinard cuvées. It is a blend of the top vineyards in Bué: Chêne Marchand and Grand Chemarin. The nose is so complex: crushed seashells, anise, a touch of tropical fruit, and with some air a little camomile. There is such a nice volume and weight on the palate. This is Sauvignon Blanc at its rich but vibrant best.			
<b>2018 Sancerre Le Château</b>	£27.50	£165 per 6	2021 - 2030
Le Château is one of the best sites in the village, nestled in the heart of Bué, just north of Le Grand Chemarin and Chêne Marchand, on Kimmeridgian marl. The wine is tense and powerful with a racy richness and weight. Ageing in oak barrels (none new) gives this Sauvignon Blanc a roundness that works so well with the natural power of the site and this vintage.			
<b>2018 Sancerre Rouge Charlouise</b>	£29	£174 per 6	2021 - 2030
This comes from a blend of parcels in the village of Bué, thought to be the best source of Pinot Noir in the Sancerre appellation. 50 year old vines and low yields of around 30hl/ha give wonderful concentration. This means volumes are small, and demand will far outstrip supply for this wine. It has deliciously fresh, ripe red fruit at its core, and silky tannins, it is an exceptionally well made Pinot Noir in any context.			



## Domaine Claude Riffault

SURY-EN-VAUX

Stéphane Riffault

@steph\_domclauderiffault

Stéphane Riffault, who now runs this family domaine, has a top class winemaking background. He studied in Beaune and trained at Olivier Leflaive in Puligny-Montrachet. Whilst he returned to Sancerre to take over the family domaine, his brother, Benoît, became winemaker at Etienne Sauzet in Puligny-Montrachet. So it is little surprise Stéphane's wines capture the flinty *terroir* of Sury-en-Vaux in the north-east of the Sancerre appellation with the chiselled precision and intensity of a great white Burgundy.

His focus on single vineyard wines is well-placed. But up in the north-east of the appellation, he is out on a limb here. However his wines consistently prove that there is merit in his methods. Long, slow fermentations in large oak foudres encourage complex savoury expression from the Sauvignon, and each site shows its hand so distinctly, and so well. These 2019s have some of the most stingingly vibrant acidities in the appellation: a superb set of wines.

	£ Bottle	Case	Drink
<b>2019 Sancerre Les Denisottes</b>	£20	£120 per 6	2021 - 2026
This parcel of Kimmeridgian marl, known locally as <i>terres blanches</i> , gives wines full of flavour and texture. The acidity and alcohol are so perfectly matched in 2019. This is all about power and precision.			
<b>2019 Sancerre Les Chailloux</b>	£21	£126 per 6	2021 - 2027
<i>Chailloux</i> is the local Sancerrois name for flint (more commonly known as <i>silex</i> ), and this parcel is tucked up in the north-east of the appellation where this soil type predominates. It has a northwest aspect and is shaded by a large forest. Flinty sites are often a little warmer, but this one keeps cool, and produces profound acidity. This 2019 is so pure and fresh. After its 12 month <i>élevage</i> , it promises to be irresistible.			
<b>2018 Sancerre Rouge La Noue</b>	£17	£102 per 6	2021 - 2023
Of the many Sancerre Rouges we tasted, this stood out as one of the best in the charming, early drinking style. It has lovely concentration of fruit with well managed ripeness. Whole bunch vinification gives it a delicate juiciness. Extremely pretty and nicely weighted. Drink this young and slightly chilled for a superbly refreshing glass of red.			





# Domaine François Cotat

CHAVIGNOL

*François Cotat*

François is unquestionably one of Sancerre’s most famous and celebrated producers. His wines are highly sought-after, and though they are always of outstanding quality, they are frequently atypical for the appellation. Even people who claim to not like Sancerre will scramble to get hold of his wines.

His minimal intervention approach in the cellar means he makes some of the most expressive wines when it comes to *terroir* and vintage. Indeed, the Sauvignon Blanc grape’s character is often utterly obscured by the sense of place in his wines. In many ways, he makes wines that define the appellation, whilst also being unlike any that his neighbours produce.

François is a shy, kind farmer, famously camera-shy and with such a humble opinion of himself one wonders if he has any idea how popular his wines are. His vineyard holdings include the greatest sites across the terres blanches hillsides of Chavignol and Amigny. If anyone needs convincing that Sauvignon Blanc can age, just try one of François’s wines from the 1980s or 1990s.

**These wines have not yet been released, and will be allocated exclusively to Cellar Circle members, who are invited to register interest on our website.**

	Bottle	Case	Drink
<b>2020 Sancerre Caillottes</b>	POA	POA	2022 - 2030
This comes from parcels around the village of Chavignol, on the chalky limestone soils. It is the most approachable and early drinking of the Cotat range, but even this will improve over many years. The juiciest and most approachable in youth of François’s wines.			
<b>2020 Sancerre Les Culs de Beaujeu</b>	POA	POA	2022 - 2034
This <i>terres blanches</i> site rises up behind the village of Chavignol and although it is only shared amongst a few growers, is one of the most famous sites in Sancerre. It shares the power of neighbouring Monts Damnés, with a tender, fleshy fruit and floral texture on the body.			
<b>2020 Sancerre Les Monts Damnés</b>	POA	POA	2023 - 2035
This is the defining site of Sancerre, and akin to a grand cru in the appellation. It is the steep slope that runs the length of the Chavignol village and its south-facing aspect and <i>terres blanches</i> soils produce the appellation’s most powerful and long-lived wines. François’s wine perfectly captures the power and finesse of this great site, with statuesque poise.			
<b>2020 Sancerre La Grande Côte</b>	POA	POA	2023 - 2035
Another <i>terres blanches</i> site, this is in the small hamlet of Amigny, and is considered by many as the defining wine of the Cotat collection. It often needs the longest time in the cellar, too. With time it will reveal a level of volume and density uncommon in Sauvignon Blanc, taking the variety far beyond its usual earthly bounds.			





# Pouilly-Fumé

**P**ouilly-Fumé and Sancerre go hand-in-hand. They are close neighbours, and share many similar characteristics, not least their ability to produce the world's finest examples of Sauvignon Blanc.

And though their top wines might be difficult to pick apart in a blind tasting, there are some points of difference worth noting. Pouilly is not even half the size of Sancerre, and though it too sits on the ancient sea bed of fossilised sea shells and limestone bedrock, Pouilly-Fumé has a high proportion of flinty soils, and its wines are often taut and smoky in their youth.

One other point of difference is Pouilly-Fumé is exclusively Sauvignon Blanc, with no Pinot Noir (and thus no reds nor rosés). Pouilly-sur-Loire, on the other hand, is the appellation reserved exclusively for the rare Chasselas grape grown in the region.



*Domaine Jonathan Pabiot*

POUILLY-SUR-LOIRE

*Jonathan & Nina Pabiot*

@jonathanpabiot

Jonathan Pabiot is making waves in Pouilly-Fumé: this appellation is no longer defined by just one name. Comparisons are easily drawn with Daguenau, but whilst his neighbour champions the flinty soils of Pouilly, Jonathan has carved out a distinctive style of his own: one that is restrained, detailed and vibrant, and focused on the limestone soils of the appellation.

The wines drink well from early on, but have the potential to age in excellent style. Organic farming and fastidious attention to detail in the cellar mean that every one of the Pabiot wines is worth close consideration, including the rare Pouilly-sur-Loire made from Chasselas.

These wines are an important voice of Pouilly; both its present state and its future. You understand, when tasting his wines, this is a man who will be at the top of the appellation for many years to come.

	£ Bottle	£ Case	Drink
<b>2020 Pouilly-sur-Loire</b>	£16	£96 per 6	2021 - 2024
This is made from the Chasselas grape, the lesser-known variety of Pouilly, with only a handful of hectares remaining today. Jonathan's is one of the best examples: refined and floral, juicy and refreshing. What it lacks in Sauvignon Blanc's razor sharp edges it gains in its delicate proportions.			
<b>2019 Pouilly-Fumé Florilège</b>	£16	£96 per 6	2021 - 2025
From a blend of parcels across the limestone soils of the appellation. The cool nights during the warm 2019 harvest help keep the freshness locked in here. This has a limestone salinity and a brilliant tension. Such a great example of the appellation.			
<b>2018 Pouilly-Fumé Aubaine</b>	£22	£132 per 6	2021 - 2029
This is from a limestone parcel near Tracy-sur-Loire and in 2018 is ripe but full of energy. The wine has spent 18 months ageing in concrete tanks before bottling. It has a creamy texture and a deliciously long, fresh finish, with classic limestone drive at the end.			
<b>2018 Pouilly-Fumé Eurythmie</b>	£31	£186 per 6	2021 - 2030
Eurythmie is the domaine's top wine and comes from a mixture of marl and flint soils. The wine is aged in <i>demi-muids</i> (large oak barrels), and the plump 2018 fruit carries the toasty, slightly spiced aspect of the oak with panache. This is a great match of vintage with vinification, which are excellently integrated. Superb.			





# Domaine Didier Dagueneau

SAINT-ANDELAIN

Louis Benjamin Dagueneau

Didier Dagueneau can take much credit for reinventing Sauvignon Blanc’s image. What had been an everyday quaffable white was transformed into a variety capable of producing some of the finest white wines in the world in his hands.

His untimely death in 2008 left the wine world in shock. His son, Louis-Benjamin, was thrust into the running of this Pouilly-Fumé estate in his twenties, and anyone who is lucky enough to have followed this domaine for decades will tell you he has done a fine job of maintaining the highest quality and distinctive character that Didier had carved out.

The domaine has, in fact, recently departed from the Pouilly-Fumé appellation, but their wines remain the defining pinnacle on this side of the river, and no discussion of Pouilly is complete without Dagueneau front and centre.

Today their cult following is as strong as ever. These wines have dazzling tension, precision, and power. This is the tightest, fiercest winemaking out there, and just one bottle in your cellar will become something to treasure.

These will be allocated exclusively to Cellar Circle members, who are invited to register interest on our website.

	🍷 Bottle	🍷🍷 Case	🍷 Drink
<b>2018 Blanc Etc...</b> This cuvée had formerly been known as Blanc Fumé. It is a blend of equal parts marl, clay, and flinty soils from across the Pouilly-Fumé appellation. It’s hardly fitting to call this Dagueneau’s ‘entry level’ wine, but it is probably their most accessible. There is ample green fruits and a superbly expressed chiselled texture.	POA	POA	2022 - 2031
<b>2018 Silex</b> <i>Silex</i> is one of the Dagueneau signature wines, and has brought an obscure name for a type of soil - flint - into the fine wine mainstream. The 2018 has a sublime power to it, and a smoky, ethereal perfume.	POA	POA	2023 - 2035
<b>2018 Pur Sang</b> Pur Sang is French for thoroughbred, and his is indeed a first rate cuvée. It is a ripe and enticing style, with peachy fruit, and the toasty caress of a little new oak. Sublime winemaking, drawing out the weighty concentration of Sauvignon with the nervous and brilliant freshness of this region.	POA	POA	2023 - 2035
<b>2018 Buisson Renard</b> This comes from a similar site to the <i>Silex</i> parcel, but is slightly lower and north-west facing, making it fractionally cooler. This means it excels in warm vintages. Indeed, tasting this, you’d never associate this vibrating, scintillatingly wine in your glass with a millésime solaire. Outstanding.	POA	POA	2023 - 2035
<b>2018 Sancerre Le Mont Damné</b> This is the only parcel Didier bought on the other side of the river in Sancerre, and he chose the appellation’s greatest site. It remains one of the defining wines of the Sancerre appellation to this day, expressing the profound complexity and regal power of the white Kimmeridgian marl soils of the famous slope.	POA	POA	2023 - 2036







*Loire*

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