



CHÂTEAU DE VILLENEUVE SAUMUR CHAMPIGNY 2016



The town of Saumur, and its castle of the 11th century overlooking the left bank of the Loire River, is where start this single hillside of "Turonian" limestone, locally called "Tuffeau", that offer the best Terroir of the Anjou-Saumur region for the production of Chenin Blanc and Cabernet Franc.

It is there in the small village of Souzay-Champigny, in the heart of this 7 miles plateau dominating the river, that Jean-Pierre Chevalier farms organically his 60 acres single plot of vines surrounding the family *Château*.

In conversion to organic culture since 2009, the vines have always been farmed in respect of nature with no use a phytosanitary products. In order to guarantee the best purity of fruit Jean-Pierre harvests his entire production in small cases at optimum maturity and use sorting tables. Vinifications still happen in the old troglodyte caves of his ancestors curved into the "Tuffeau", and offering the ideal conditions of temperature.

SOIL TYPE _____

Clay and "Tuffeau" limestone (Turonian chalk).

VARIETAL _____

100% Cabernet Franc. 40 years-old vines.

CULTURE _____

Certified organic Ecocert

The Soil is worked under the row. Natural grass cover between the row. Severe winter pruning leaving 6 buds per branch. Base-bud removal. Leaf-thinning at the "Veraison" in order to optimize the maturation of the grapes. Harvest is made exclusively by hand in small cases. Final sorting of the destemmed grapes on a sorting tables.

VINIFICATION _____

Cold pre-fermentary maceration during 4 days. Fermentation and maceration during 28 days at 77°F. Ageing during 9 months for 40% in old 4,000 liters French oak tanks and the rest in 400 liters French oak barrels.

TASTING NOTES _____

A great example of a Cabernet Franc harvested at optimum maturity. The fruit is bright and dominated by black cherry. It is showing an elegant tannic grip balanced with a nice acidity. From an outstanding vintage and a unique terroir bringing a lovely depth and distinct character.



Other wines from the same estate:

Château de Villeneuve, Saumur Blanc 2017
Château de Villeneuve "Le Grand Clos", Saumur 2014

