



DOMAINE VACHERON

Sancerre Le Paradis

Domaine Vacheron is one of Sancerre's elite properties, producing both white, pink, and red Sancerre of amazing purity and definition. The domaine has been completely converted to biodynamic farming (certified by Biodyvin in 2005) with two young cousins, Jean-Laurent and Jean-Dominique Vacheron, at the helm. No synthetic material is used in the vineyard, harvests are carried out exclusively by hand, and the only fertilizer used is produced from the compost pile. Yields are kept extremely low. Having inherited some of the most coveted parcels in the appellation (and being smart about current land purchases), the cousins are trying a Burgundian approach to Sancerre winemaking, with parcels being vinified by terroir and blends varying from year to year. Pinot Noir is not an afterthought chez Vacheron, but a focus, and on soils just a couple of hours west of Burgundy, the cousins are making grand, expressive bottlings from the variety.

ORIGIN

France

APPELLATION

Sancerre

SOIL

Limestone

AGE OF VINES

40+

ELEVATION

320-340 meters

VARIETIES

Sauvignon Blanc

FARMING

Certified biodynamic (DEMETER)

FERMENTATION

Hand harvested, natural yeast fermentation in tank

AGING

12 months in foudres

Vacheron is mainly a "silex" producer. Silex (flint) is found primarily in the eastern part of the appellation (and also across the river in Pouilly Fumé) and almost all of Vacheron's holdings are on this hard, mineral soil type. Flint produces vertical, long-aging Sancerre bottlings and the Vacheron boys' biggest aim is to let this shine.

The Vacheron cousins own 1 hectare of vines in the lieu-dit of Le Paradis. Their plot is on a steep south-facing slope with shallow limestone soils. The soil is so thin and poor that the vine roots grow deeply into fissures in the bedrock below. Le Paradis is an explosively aromatic wine, dense on the palate with a broad mineral character kept in check by a sinuous acidity that keeps things lively.

ACCOLADES

93 – 2020 Sancerre Paradis – Wine Enthusiast

92 – 2020 Sancerre Paradis – Vinous Media

93 – 2019 Sancerre Paradis – Wine Advocate



**JON-DAVID
HEADRICK
SELECTIONS**