



DOMAINE VACHERON

Sancerre Les Romains

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

Flint

AGE OF VINES

60+

ELEVATION

320 meters

VARIETIES

Sauvignon Blanc

FARMING

Certified biodynamic (DEMETER)

FERMENTATION

Hand harvested, natural yeast fermentation in tank

AGING

12 months in neutral French oak barrels

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.

Les Romains is a flint terroir located in the eastern part of Sancerre. Here the soils have a strong resemblance to the terroir across the Loire river in Pouilly-Fumé. There is a definite smoky and flinty quality to the wine that is backed with a piquant and delicate citrus fruitiness reminiscent of grapefruit.

ACCOLADES

94 – 2014 Sancerre Les Romains – Wine Advocate

91 – 2012 Sancerre Les Romains – Wine Advocate



JON-DAVID HEADRICK
SELECTIONS