



# LA TOUR SAINT MARTIN

## Menetou Salon Fumet

The wines of the central Loire are dominated by the juggernaut appellations of Sancerre and to a slightly lesser degree, Pouilly-Fumé. At the far southern edge of the vast deposit of Kimmeridgian limestone and situated just southwest of Sancerre, Menetou-Salon is often viewed as a satellite or country cousin to its neighbor. Standing in these vineyards, situated on gentle slopes that stretch from Humbligny to Pigny, you would be hard-pressed to identify what makes these terroirs different from Sancerre. So generally well-accepted is this assessment, that many renown domaines in Sancerre also tend vines of Sauvignon Blanc and Pinot Noir in Menetou-Salon.

And if anyone could be a better ambassador in defining Menetou-Salon and placing it firmly on the map other than Bertrand Minchin, we've yet to meet them. To describe Bertrand as irreplaceable is an understatement. Whether it is conducting other vigneron in various singalongs and chants, or in crafting minutely detailed renditions of his terroirs, Bertrand is a natural and gregarious leader. Bertrand was born in the province of Berry where his family grew cereal crops and tended orchards in the tiny hamlet of Crosses. His passion for wine started in his youth and after returning home after he completed his studies in 1987 he restored and replanted the vineyards his grandfather had planted – Sauvignon Blanc in the village of Morogues and scattered, south-facing plots of Pinot Noir on the slopes that stretch from Sancerre to the outskirts of Bourges. These vines and his family's traditional farmstead became La Tour Saint Martin in 1994 with the construction of a winery and his first vintage of Menetou-Salon. La Tour Saint Martin is currently 17 hectares in size with 10 hectares of Sauvignon Blanc and 7 of Pinot Noir.

Selected from his most profoundly Kimmeridgian soil in the village of Morogues, Bertrand Minchin treats his Fumet like a top Sancerre by fermenting it in oak vats and aging the wine for 10 months in foudre and French oak barrels. Balanced between rich fruit with a deft touch of oak spice and a precise citrus minerality in its youth, it also rewards cellaring for a few years - placing it on par with some of the finest cuvées of Sancerre and Pouilly-Fumé.

### ORIGIN

*France*

### APPELLATION

*Menetou Salon*

### SOIL

*Kimmeridgian clay limestone  
(terres blanches)*

### AGE OF VINES

*30*

### ELEVATION

*240 meters*

### VARIETIES

*Sauvignon Blanc*

### FARMING

*Sustainable*

### FERMENTATION

*Hand harvested, gentle whole cluster  
pressing, natural yeast fermentation in  
oak vats*

### AGING

*10 months in foudre and French oak  
barrels*

### ACCOLADES

91 – 2019 Menetou Salon Fumet– Decanter World Wine Awards

91 – 2019 Menetou Salon Fumet– Wine Enthusiast

**JON-DAVID  
HEADRICK  
SELECTIONS**