

MATHIEU COSME

Vouvray Les Enfers

THE ESTATE

Domaine de Beaumont is located just outside of Noizay, a village in the far southeastern corner of Vouvray. Founded in 1930 it is currently headed by the fifth generation of the Cosme family, Mathieu. After a degree in oenology and an *étage* of Domaine Huet, Mathieu has made a name for himself by making precisely dry Vouvrays from 13 hectares of vineyards with southern and southeastern exposure - wines that suit a former rugby player who is more comfortable behind a horse-drawn plow than behind a desk.

It is a cliché to view a vigneron's wines as a reflection of their physicality and personality but this is the indelible human element to terroir. At first blush, the wines are not only substantial and impressively nuanced renditions of terroir, but they also develop in the glass (and in the bottle!) revealing a sensitivity and a nurturing aspect reflective of his work both in the cellar and among the vines. If blessed, each generation in an appellation can boast only a handful of rising stars – and Mathieu Cosme is certainly among them in Vouvray.



The Domaine has been certified organic since the 2014 vintage and Mathieu has plowed the soils by horse since 2005 when he finished his *étage* at Huet and returned to run his family's estate. Harvest is manual and fermentations are indigenous. The wines are fermented and aged in 400L French oak barrels as has been the tradition in Vouvray for centuries. For years we've searched for an estate in Vouvray making chiseled and forthright dry wines and made with minimal intervention. With Mathieu Cosme, we not only got that, but the rising star of Vouvray.

THE DETAILS

Les Enfers is located on the *première côte* of Vouvray – the plateau just above the flood plain formed by the Loire and its tributary, the Cisse. The *première côte* is where all the great vineyards of Vouvray are situated due to its shallower soils and ideal southern exposure. Les Enfers is notable for its dark flint gravels, its warm climat, and the opulently rich but precise and dry wines it is capable of producing.

COUNTRY

France

APPELLATION

Vouvray

ELEVATION

90 meters

VARIETIES

Chenin Blanc

SOIL

Clay limestone, flint gravel over tuffeau

VINE AGE

40 years old

FARMING

Certified organic (ECOCERT) & practicing biodynamic

FERMENTATION

Hand harvested, natural yeast fermentation in 400L French oak barrels

AGING

Aged 12 months in 400L French oak barrels

FOR THE RECORD

An obvious name, where the sun beats down in summer, Les Enfers is a true furnace. Here I obtain dry wines with a high level of maturity. It is an early terroir where 20-25% of the berries can begin to shrivel on the vine before harvest.

– Mathieu Cosme

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