

Domaine de la Semellerie

History of Domaine:

Fabrice Delalande is the 6th generation to make wine here, joining his father in 1989

Vineyard holdings in hectares:

45ha of 20-30 year old Cabernet Franc vines, mostly on slopes

Organic/biodynamic certified or principles?

They have HVE certification (High Environmental Value) which has strict requirements around biodiversity, environmental impact, and additions of fertilisers

How many wines produced in total? How many bottles produced?

4 - main Chinon cuvee, rose, and 2 old vine cuvees raised in oak

Description of soils/climate:

Some of the best vineyard sites in Chinon, with high altitude location and good exposure, they are relatively cool but with lots of sunlight. Soils are stoney/clay which provide warmth/ripeness as well as good drainage.

Brief description of viticulture practices:

Low yields, practice green harvests to keep production low and quality high. Hand harvested to pick each bunch at optimum ripeness and avoid the need for corrections in the winery

Wines

Destemming? Skin contact? Pressing method?

Rose 3/3 saignee and 1/3 pressurage direct

Fermentation vessel? Natural yeasts used?

Stainless steel.

Describe maturation vessels used. How long?

Cement for red, stainless for rose.

Fining? Filtration? (vegan?)

The wines are vegan friendly but not certified

Residual sugar (or dosage)/acidity/Sulphur levels?

Tasting notes (S&P):

Chinon Rouge 2019 - Crunchy, red and black fruits with a hint of raspberry leaf and graphite. Perfect ripeness and freshness with classic Cabernet Franc qualities. Medium bodied and delicious served a little bit chilled.

Chinon Rose 2020 - Dry and mineral with berry fruit and lip-smacking acidity. Clean, refreshing, and everything you could want from a rose!