



FRANÇOIS CHIDAINE

TOURAINE ROUGE 2019



"Chidaine is to Chenin Blanc, what Didier Dagueneau is to Sauvignon Blanc"

"You have to look to the historical collections of regional leaders Foreau and Huet to find comparable consistently high quality, making it clear that Chidaine is one of the world's finest craftsmen in the medium of white wine" David Schildknecht VN

Facing Vouvray, the other side of the river, Montlouis-sur-Loire is just 2 miles as the crow flies, from its illustrious older brother. Like in Vouvray, Montlouis is exclusively dedicated to Chenin Blanc, but the subtlety of Terroir, Flinty for Montlouis and Chalky for Vouvray, make them truly distinctive. It is there that François Chidaine started his venture in 1989, when he took over after his dad. Since then, he caused a mini-revolution in this tiny appellation, in many ways that the contemporary history of Montlouis is the history of his. Organic since 1992 and biodynamic since 1999 he shaped this appellation to be a natural wine heaven, with a swag of winemakers following his footsteps. His estate is now made of 90 acres, 50 acres in Montlouis, 25 in Vouvray and 15 in Touraine.

SOIL TYPE

Clay & flint (Côt) and Clay & limestone (Pineau d'Aunis, Cabernet Franc)

VARIETAL

40% Côt (Malbec), 40% Pineau d'Aunis, 20% Cabernet Franc

Pineau d'Aunis, or Chenin Noir, is an indigenous grape to the Loire that predates Cab Franc by 200 years. Close to extinction 30 years, for its complex growing cycle, it regains fame in the last decade. Loire has now a great resource of old vines, few being even "Franc de pied"

CULTURE

Vines conducted in Biodynamy. No phytosanitary products. Natural grass cover between the row. Working of the soil under the row. **Manual harvest**.

VINIFICATION

Fermentation in stainless steel tanks with native yeast at low temperature. Bottled in April 2020 after few month of ageing in the same stainless steel vats.

TASTING NOTES

A blend of three grapes of character that here compliment each-other in an elegant fashion. Côt, or Malbec, give its backbone and dark fruit notes, Cabernet Franc its floral notes of violet and cherry aroma and Pineau d'Aunis its spicy and sour liveliness. An easy drinking red with ample character and soft tannins.

From the same Winery :

*Touraine Sauvignon Blanc 2020
Montlouis-sur-Loire "Les Tuffeaux" 2018
Vouvray "Les Argiles" 2018*

