



Manoir de la Tête Rouge

Region: Loire Valley – Saumur AOC

Information: The Manoir de la Tête Rouge, was built in 1649 at the foot of the majestic Puy Notre Dame hill. Purchased in 1995 by Guillaume Reynouard, the 32 acre vineyard boasts the best clayish limestone of the Saumur terroirs.

Guillaume decided to “stop polluting the ground” as he so eloquently puts it, in 1998. He decided that the only way to go forward was organic. At first, the change was a difficult process as the parcels that had not been worked for about 30 years made it hard for farming instruments to work them and it was almost as if the vines were surprised and shocked to have their superficial roots snapped off. After all, no one had been bothered before...

Nowadays, the vineyard yields (17hl/acre) have been stabilized and the soils are richer than ever. Plants and insects, killed by chemicals, came back and are now contributing to the equilibrium of the terroir, thanks to the grass patches growing along the vine rows which are home to many species.

Guillaume also recently started planting a long forgotten and disenchanted varietal known as Pineau d’Aunis, which had been ostracized from the Saumur AOC area.

The soils are tilled only superficially (no deeper than 2 inches) to get rid of the plants growing around the roots. The paths between the vines are loosened on a depth of 10 inches to allow for winter rains to seep into the grounds of the parcels and replenish underground water storage.

Certified Biodynamic Estate
Winemaker: Guillaume Reynouard

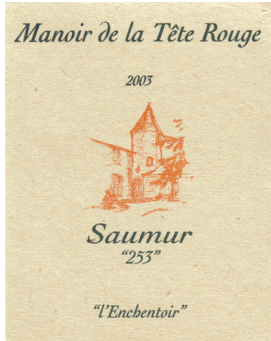
The Wines:



Cuvée Bagatelle – Blanc

The 2005 Saumur Bagatelle from the biodynamically run domain of Guillaume Reynouard reflects great care in growing and simplicity of (cement tank) vinification. Blueberries with green herbs, nutmeg and walnuts waft from the glass. In the mouth this is delightfully luscious, pure and polished, with finely-integrated tannins and a hint of chalk in the finish.
David Schildknecht

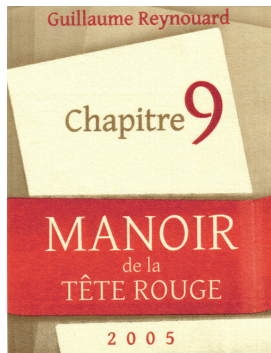
100% Chenin Blanc



Cuvee l'Enchantoir – Rouge

This wine comes from a 6 acre parcel of Cabernet Franc planted between 1960 and 1961 on the “Enchantoir” area. This selective variety is unique and very well implanted in the terroir. The soil it feeds on is made of a splendid Turonian with a southern exposure.

100% Cabernet Franc



Cuvee Chapitre 9 – Blanc

This wine comes from a parcel by the name of Palna planted exclusively in Chenin Blanc on clayish limestone. It gets its name from the fact that this is the 9th vintage I created.

100% Chenin Blanc



Cuvee Bagatelle – Rouge

This wine is a blend of grapes from 4 parcels with very different environments (gravel, nutrient, poor sands and clayish turonian limestone).

100% Cabernet Franc