## PATRICE COLIN 'LES PERLES ROUGES' PETILLANT NATUREL

100% Gamay. Vibrant red colored natural sparkling wine. Beautiful aromas of red fruit. Flavors of cranberry with slight flintiness and a smoky character. Medium bodied and dry with pleasant tannins. The aftertaste is crisp and fresh. Developed at the property, according to ancient natural methods and aged in their cellars. It will amaze you with the finesse of its bubbles and the quality of its aromas. Organic.

The vineyard is located in the bends of the Loire River, in the village of Thoré La Rochette in the Coteaux-du-Vendômois. It benefits from a very favorable microclimate with little rain and ideal sunshine. The Domaine today has 62 acres of vines, and the soils are very sandy and flinty with clay-lime subsoil. The vineyard is certified organic and soil cultivation is practiced to nourish the soil, ventilate and promote intense microbial life; the vines draw their mineral elements in depth and thus best expresses their terroir. The wines are all raised in the reconstructed cellar in the center of Thoré. Vinification is non-interventionist; the grapes are usually de-stemmed and sorted, fermented in stainless steel vats or barrels thanks to their indigenous yeasts. Chaptalization (the correction or improvement of the must by the addition of calcium carbonate to neutralize acid, or of sugar to increase alcoholic strength) is never practiced. The wines perfectly represent the spirit of the vintage and the terroir where they were born.

The origin of the farm dates back to 1735, and there have been eight generations of Colins who have worked the vines in Thoré-la-Rochette. The latest, Patrice, who joined his father at the start of the 1980s, has been fortunate to have inherited plantings made by his grandfather and great-grandfather. The oldest, a parcel of Pineau d'Aunis dates back to the 1890s. It is the oldest winery in Coteaux-du-Vendômois, the most northerly of the Loire appellations. In an area where winemaking is all too often a part-time activity, Patrice Colin works at it fulltime since he is one of the few in the region who has considerable holdings and his family has been in the area since 1735.

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## Tasting Note:

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## Shelf Talker:

