

PATRICK NOEL MENETOU-SALON ROUGE



100% Pinot Noir. Deep, shiny purple color. Very ripe aromas of cherry and strawberry with a spicy, peppered character. The mouth is round and rich. The tannins are silky and melted. The balance is on fruit and spices.

A limited cuvée made from a single southwestern-facing, 3.45-acre vineyard located near the village of Morogues, 11 miles southwest of the village of Sancerre. The vines are 30 years old. The soil is clay and limestone. The grapes are hand-harvested, with 50% destemmed. Ten-day maceration with twice-daily pumpovers that are short and gentle to preserve fruit characteristics. Fermentation with indigenous yeast. The wine is raked once, then aged in enameled stainless-steel tanks until bottling the following summer. Malolactic fermentation is spontaneous.

The domaine was created in 1988 by Patrick Noël in his native village of Saint-Satur, at the base of the Sancerre hill. Patrick is descended from more than three centuries of vigneron, all from the village of Chavignol. Historically in the Noël family, the vines have been transmitted from mothers to daughters; Patrick is an exception to this rule, but his daughter Julie, is today part of a long matriarchal line. The domain farms over fifty plots totaling over 44 acres in Sancerre, Menetou-Salon and Pouilly-Fumé. The cellar was built within the 14th-century monastery vineyards of the Abbey of Saint-Satur, buried in the hillside where they work exclusively by gravity, overlooking the entire Loire Valley with breathtaking views of Sancerre. They bottle only estate fruit, fermented with indigenous yeasts. They are certified through an ecological farming program in France known as Haute Valeur Environnementale (HVE); an approach that focuses on the ecology and balance of the vineyards with the surrounding ecosystems. Julie Noël is undoubtedly among the rising stars of the Loire Valley. With her impressive historic family vineyards and extensive winemaking experience, Julie has the blueprint to make the great Sancerre wines of the future.

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Tasting Note:

GAL TIBOR MENETOU-SALON ROUGE

Estate Pinot Noir. Very ripe aromas of cherry & strawberry with a spicy, peppered character; the mouth is round & rich; silky, melted tannins; balanced fruit & spices.

Shelf Talker:

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