

## CHÂTEAU YVONNE SAUMUR CHAMPIGNY ROUGE

100% Cabernet Franc. Inviting earthy aromas of red fruit and herbs. Smooth flavors of cherry, blackberry, chocolate and a hint of olive, with a wonderful earthy, savory depth. Silky and elegant with a velvety finish, a terrific wine! Organic.

Yvonne Rouge is the original red wine produced at the domaine from the exceptional terroir around Parnay, Saumur-Champigny, known as "La Côte". It's one of the finest Cabernet Francs from the Loire & has the seemingly indefinite aging potential of all truly great wines. From 4 parcels, covering 5 acres, scattered over 'Château Gaillard', 'Le Beaumeray', 'Le Bourreau' and 'Les Pierres Blanches'. Clay/limestone soils over tuffeau stone. The vines were planted from the 1940s-2010s. Harvested by hand. The cold temperature in their caves delays fermentation and gives a natural pre-fermentation maceration. Native yeast fermentation in foudres for 4 weeks. Malolactic fermentation occurs naturally during aging in oak (20% new barrels for 12 months). Unfined/unfiltered.

Founded in 1997, Château Yvonne, located in Parnay in the Loire Valley, has been surrounded by vineyards since the Middle Ages. (The château dates to the 16th century, but not much became known of it until 1813 when a local winemaker moved in & began producing wine on site.) In 2007, Mathieu Vallée took over & decided to keep the name Château Yvonne, in homage of the incredible work done by the previous owners who had recreated the abandoned vineyard. Today, Matthieu Vallée has taken his place as one of the leading producers & the domaine is one of the best in Saumur. The vineyards are spread out amongst over 30 different small parcels, with many of the best vineyards located in "La Côte", or the plateau next to the church of Parnay overlooking the Loire River. The estate is composed of 27 acres of vines, all of which have been farmed organically since 1997, with biodynamic practices since 2012.

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## Tasting Note:

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## Shelf Talker:

