

Domaine de la Soufrandière

JEAN-GUILLAUME BRET



Grandfather Bret bought this property in Vinzelles in 1947. In 2000 Jean-Philippe and Jean-Guillaume Bret took their vineyards out of the local co-operative and established Domaine de la Soufrandière with four hectares of vines in Pouilly-Vinzelles. They also have a négociant business, Bret Brothers. Their vines are, mostly, on a perfectly situated eastfacing slope of Vinzelles called Les Quarts, on Bajocian limestone with a high silica/quartz content. They are organic and biodynamic.

The Bret brothers dub 2016 a "vigneron's vintage", which is to say that the key was to be in the vines. The hail on 13th April did significant damage but hard work in the vineyards (spraying biodynamic treatments from a backpack) paid off and ensured quality fruit. The Brets have added new vineyards in St Véran and Pouilly-Fuissé to the Soufrandière domaine, thus the whole range we buy is now from estate-grown fruit.

White

ST VÉRAN, LA COMBE DESROCHES

With freshness atypical for St Véran, the nose is inviting with plenty of white stone fruit. This follows through onto the palate alongside intense, crisp acidity which builds to give a clean finish. Drink 2018-2022.

E2919B 12x75cl bottles in bond

@ £162.0

POUILLY-FUISSÉ, EN CHATENAY

This is a cool site which produces wines of tension and freshness. True to form, there is plenty of energy and verve here, a certain deftness but it is not lacking in fruit ripeness. The finish has a lovely chewy bitterness that gives the thirst for another sip. Drink 2020-2024.

E2921B 12x75cl bottles in bond

② £216.00

POUILLY-FUISSÉ, AU VIGNERAIS

The opposite side of the coin to Chatenay, Au Vignerais produces a much broader, more masculine style thanks to its red clay soils and the vines' tendency to produce small, concentrated berries. Only two barrels were made this year. Almost golden, it is rich, dense and spicy, with pleasing minerality. Drink 2020-2025.

E2922B 12x75cl bottles in bond

@ £222.00

POUILLY-VINZELLES, LES LONGEAYS

A faint touch of reduction on the nose adds complexity here, while the palate has crisp pear notes and vibrant energy. There is just a touch of phenolic grip on the finish, extending its length. Drink 2020-2025.

E2920B 12x75cl bottles in bond

② £222.00

POUILLY-VINZELLES, LES QUARTS

From vines aged over 80 years in the mid-slope sweet spot, the grapes were harvested at a concentrated 35hl/ha. Sparkling pale lemon in colour, this is very energetic with wonderful layered complexity and a lingering, mineral finish. Drink 2020-2026.

E2923B 12x75clbottlesinbond

@£258.00

POUILLY-VINZELLES, LES QUARTS, CUVÉE MILLERANDÉE

This is the special <code>cuvée</code> from a few rows of vines which produce tiny, ultra-concentrated grapes. A very classy and intense nose offers notes of reduction, while there is incredible density on the palate. Full-bodied and powerful, but with sizzling minerality. Bottled for us exclusively in magnum. Drink 2021-2030.

E2924M 6x150cl magnums in bond

