

Château Gaillard's 'Touraine-Mesland' Chenin white wine

By Paul Cooper

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A sumptuous white wine from Vin Vino Direct ...read more on our Fine Wine blog via the web-site.

The vineyards of Château Gaillard are situated on the hills that dominate the northern side of the river Loire between Amboise and Blois in the very heart of the appellation 'Touraine-Mesland AOC'. Since 1978 Vincent Girault has sought to produce wines true to the character of their 'terroir' - from 1989, the Château adapted its production to establish true biodynamic methods. With 17 hectares of red grape varieties grown on sandy soil, and 13 hectares of white grape varieties on flinty clay, the vines benefit from a southern exposure to the sun in the rich and fertile Loire valley.

This wine is the quite rare, Gold Medal winning, Mesland Blanc, made from the delicate Chenin grape, which the locals call 'Pineau de Loire'. It is a clean silvery colour, with a soft dry body expressing a bouquet of exotic lychee and quinces, melting in the mouth with considerable length - ideal with chicken and pork dishes.

Vin Vino Direct are proud to have Vincent's Chenin for sale at only £8.50 - use the link here to order ...but we only have some 40 bottles left, so be quick - <http://www.vinvinodirect.com/shopexd.asp?id=569>

A few words from Vincent Girault; "To me the world of wine producing can be compared to a pyramid: a pyramid with four distinct levels with each interacting with each other: Firstly the basic level: the land, the soil, the Mother Earth and the terror, as without a good soil you can never produce a good wine.

Next level up the climate, here in the Loire Valley we are very fortunate in having an excellent microclimate very much suited to our type of wine production. Followed by the ideal range of grape types: one or more for each soil type, each variety suiting different circumstances: Gamay, Cabernet, Chenin etc. Finally the wine producer himself, the creator, the architect of his or her own wine. Each of these four factors are important in themselves but cannot act on their own; it is the combination of all four which leads to the magic of a great wine!"

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