

LOIRE VALLEY
JASNIÈRES & COTEAUX DU LOIR
DOMAINE DE BELLIVIÈRE
L'HOMME


OVERVIEW | Domaine de Bellivière is run by Eric Nicolas, his wife Christine and their family. Together they run a 13 hectare domaine which, from looking at its recent history, is still in a process of metamorphosis if not at least continued development, as Nicolas pushes the maximum out of his vines. Although the wines of these appellations may have once have been ignored as 'country wines' of no interest, Nicolas' efforts are making this notion very outdated. The estate's vines are in Jasnières and Coteaux du Loir Appellations. The parcels located in 5 parishes (Lhomme, Ruillé sur Loir, Chahaignes, Marçon and Dissay sous Courcillon) offer different soils which constitute the richness and diversity of the different wines of the estate.

VINEYARD AREA: 13 hectares

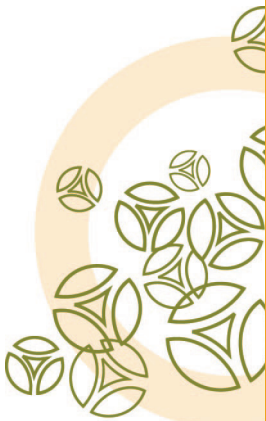
ANNUAL PRODUCTION: 3500 cases

SOIL TYPES: tufa limestone and marine organisms

GRAPE VARIETIES: chenin blanc, pineau d'aunis

VINEYARD/CELLAR PRACTICES | The vines, including old vines, are cultivated by ploughing, harrowing etc. Progressively, parcel by parcel, this fundamental work has enabled Eric to build a natural resistance that he is continually improving. In 2008 he converted the whole estate to Biodynamic agriculture.

WINES | The majority of the wines are white, and beginning with the Coteaux du Loir there is **L'Effraie**, a young vines cuvée harvested at 35 hl/ha, followed by the **Vieilles Vignes Éparses** which is produced from vines aged between 50 to 80 years harvested at 25 hl/ha. From the lieu-dit **Haut-Rasné** comes the cuvée of the same name, notable for its tendency to botrytis, and in exceptional years which are blessed with significant amounts of Noble Rot the sweet wine Philosophale may make an appearance in the range. From the Jasnières appellation there is **Les Rosiers**, a young vines cuvée harvested at up to 35 hl/ha, **Calligramme**, which is made with the fruit of vines over 50 years of age harvested at 35 hl/ha, and then there is **Discours de Tuf**, a tender wine which is the result of selective harvesting. As with the Coteaux du Loir, there may in some favorable vintages be the opportunity to make more noticeably sweet wines, in this case named **Elixir de Tuf**. The red wines originate from the Coteaux du Loir, and include **Le Rouge-Gorge** (the French name for the red-breasted robin), a cuvée of Pineau d'Aunis harvested at less than 25hl/ha. Up until the 2003 vintage this also included a small quantity, just 3% of the final blend, of Gamay Noir, but from 2004 it has been pure Pineau. Then there is the **Hommage à Louis Derré**, an old vines cuvée, made from the fruit of vines aged between 80 and 100 years harvested at 25 hl/ha, which was added to the range in 2000.


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