



The vineyards of Saint-Véran



Nicolas Potel

MAISON ROCHE DE BELLENE 2015 Saint-Véran



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Nicolas Potel founded his new micro-négociant, Maison Roche de Bellene, in 2009. The focus at Roche de Bellene is on individual terroirs from *vieilles vignes* (old vines – 40 years or older) that are farmed responsibly. All of the growers Nicoas works with are either BIO certified or farming according to the principles of *lutte raisonnée* (sustainable viticulture). This enables Nicolas to consistently produce the expressive, terroir-driven style that is his vision.

SAINT-VÉРАН

The Saint-Véran appellation lies in the south of the Mâconnais region. It is split into two separate islands by its close relative Pouilly-Fuissé. Both occupy slopes forming part of the chain of hills to which the Rock of Solutré belongs. This rocky backbone is made of fossiliferous limestone from the Middle Jurassic. This part of Burgundy is known for a clean, vibrant and mostly un-oaked style of Chardonnay.

2015 VINTAGE NOTES

Nicolas Potel: “2015 is a magnificent vintage for the dedicated vigneron. Harvest began on September 5th and ended on September 15th. Although the vintage seemed to be early, we preferred to wait until the maturity of the grapes was optimal to harvest. The wines are rich and show a complex aromatic palette and a beautiful structure.” The 2015 Saint-Véran is bright, lively and juicy, with a forceful minerality and a long, mouth-watering finish.

TECHNICAL INFO

Grape Varieties: 100% Chardonnay

Vineyard Surface: 1.091 ha

Density of Planting: 10,000 vines per hectare (4,000 per acre)

Age of Vines: 50 years

Exposition: Southeast; 240 meters elevation

Soil Type: Clay, limestone

Vineyard Management: Lutte raisonnée (sustainable)

Harvest Method: Hand picking

Harvest Date: September 7, 2015

Yield: 55 hl/ha

Vinification: Native yeast fermentation, 100% malolactic fermentation

Elevage: Nine months in oak barrels; no new oak

Bottling Date: November 9, 2016 (Biodynamic fruit day)

Alcohol: 13%

Total Production: 667 cases

UPC: None