

PASCAL & ALAIN LORIEUX

CHINON « Thélème » 2018

Single Vineyard – GPS 47.1638, 0.2988



ORIGIN

Loire Valley

APPELLATION

Chinon

VINEYARD

Clay-limestone soils
Yield: 32 hL/ha

BLEND

100% Cabernet Franc

FARMING

Hand-sorted and 100%
destemmed.

WINEMAKING

Maceration for 5-6 weeks with
daily pump-overs during the
fermentation phase.

AGING

Aged in stainless steel tank for
8 – 12 months.

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

14.5% Alc. |

Pascal et Alain Lorieux's Chinon 'Thélème' is a terroir driven wine with a nose full of dark fruits, arthy notes such as tobacco and leather that is supported by a palate full of incredible structure and firm tannins.

2018 in the Loire Valley could not have been any better. The spring weather was beyond favorable as the summer came with heavy rains and high temperatures. By the end of August, the conditions personified excellence and were able to carry through to October's harvest.

The Lorieux vineyard is in the village of Cravant le Côteaux. The Cabernet Franc vines come from the best hillside vineyards that overlook the Chinon valley. These vines dig their roots into shallow chalky clay/limestone soils derived from a chalky bedrock known locally as *tuffeau*. These strong soils produce an equally powerful wine with fine silky tannins representing the terroir.

Thélème is named in the spirit of famed local writer Rabelais' The Life of Gargantua and Pantagruel. In this tale, there is a utopian abbey by the name of Thélème where there is only one law-- "Do What You Will." Pleasure and leisure are the rule, and this wine is a little reminder of the good things in life...

ACCOLADES

2018 Wine Enthusiast Magazine – 94 points

“Rich with black fruits, this smoothly textured wine has a smoky character from wood aging. Still young and with tannins still present, it is just beginning to show its full richness. It will be best from 2022.” –W.E.

