



Alain Lorieux «Expression» CHINON AOC

A true expression of the land — 100% Cabernet Franc from a single clay-silica vineyard above Cravant-les-Coteaux, bright, juicy, and built on freshness.

THE STORY



Domaine Alain Lorieux is a family estate in Chinon, known for traditional Cabernet Franc grown on the limestone and gravel soils along the Vienne River. Brothers Alain and Pascal work these lands side by side, with Alain producing the Chinon wines and Pascal the Saint-Nicolas-de-Bourgueil. Alain is based in the commune of Cravant-les-Coteaux, about five kilometers from the town of Chinon, where the estate's 8 hectares in the appellation are tended by observation rather than heavy intervention, and bottles rest in a cellar cut into the rock before release.

Expression comes from a single vineyard: 100% Cabernet Franc planted in clay-silica soils on the plateau that runs along the road from Chinon to the Cravant hills. The wine is meant to be a true expression of that land — smoky aromas with a touch of cherry, an open and deliciously juicy palate, and just the right amount of tannin.

THE VINEYARD — CRAVANT-LES-COTEAUX

Appellation	Chinon AOC
Commune	Cravant-les-Coteaux
GPS	47.1639, 0.2988
Grape	100% Cabernet Franc
Soil	Clay-silica soils on the plateau between Chinon and the Cravant hills
Farming	Hand harvested, sorted twice

WINEMAKING & AGING

A five-to-six-week maceration with daily pump-overs builds fruit and fine tannins, and the wine is then aged in stainless steel tanks to keep it fresh and bright.

TASTING NOTES

An aromatic lift of red currant, raspberry, violet, and subtle graphite and herbs, with smoky notes and a touch of cherry. Medium-bodied, with bright acidity, fine tannins, and a light earthy minerality typical of Chinon. The palate is open and deliciously juicy, closing on a clean, savory, smooth finish.

FOOD PAIRING

Roast chicken, duck breast, lamb, pork tenderloin, vegetarian dishes, and goat cheeses.

CRITICAL RECOGNITION

The 2023 vintage has not yet been reviewed by major critics. For reference, prior vintages of Expression have scored:

2022 Vintage

- **International Wine Report (92 pts)**

2021 Vintage

- **International Wine Report (92 pts)**

WHY THIS WINE

A bright, juicy, single-vineyard Chinon from brothers who have farmed this corner of the Loire together for decades — Expression delivers the freshness and clarity of Cabernet Franc on clay-silica soil, with back-to-back 92-point scores from International Wine Report.



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