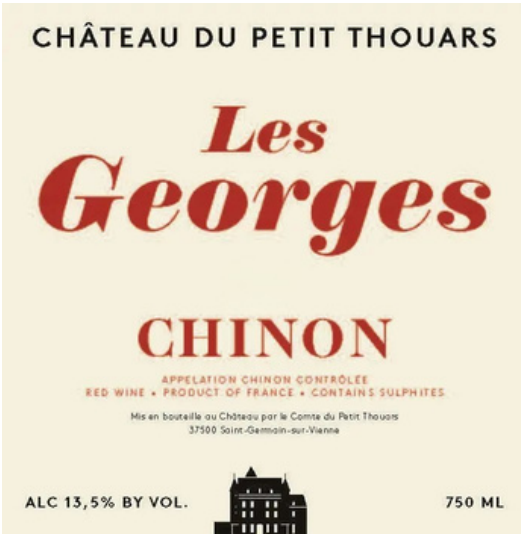
FACT SHEET

Chateau du Petit Thouars, Les Georges Chinon Rouge



The Chateau du Petit Thouars has an extraordinarily long and rich history. Built in the early 1500s as a sort of "low-key hunting lodge" (an amusing notion, given the house's immensity and grandeur) for a wealthy family from the town of Thouars (hence the name "Petit Thouars"), the 150-hectare estate is run today by Sebastien du Petit Thouars, the twelfth generation to dwell here since his ancestor George purchased the property in 1636.

Sebastien and D'Arcy have been working toward fully organic viticulture, having eschewed the use of non-organic treatments except as an ultimate last resort. The vineyards and cellar are managed by Michel Pinard, a born-and-bred Chinonnais who worked for many years as the right-hand-man of Charles Joguet-one of the appellation's most famous and respected vignerons. Michel uses his profound, bred-in-bone familiarity with the particularities of this cepage in these soils to craft beautifully balanced, classic, unforced Chinon of immense expressive power.

Wine

Sébastien named this cuvée in honor of his ancestors, nearly all of whom are named George (in fact, his real first name is George, too). The friendliest of the estate's three red-wine offerings, "Les Georges" is produced entirely from the free-run juice of the younger vines of Cabernet Franc, and is vinified and aged in steel tank. Far from a simple gulper, however, "Les Georges" is classic Chinon in its marriage of vibrant fruit, honest tannins, and refreshing earth-mineral interplay.

Vineyards

Country: France

Region: Loire

Appellation: AOC Chinon

Soil: Clay and limestone

Farming Practices: Organic

Winemaking

Fermentation: After sorting, crushing, and destemming, wine is vinified in stainless steel tanks

Varieties: 100% Cabernet Franc

Aging: 2 years in stainless steel

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