



DOMAINE HUET

'A Loire Legend'

- Decanter Magazine

Year Founded: 1928

Region: Vouvray, France
(Loire Valley)

Owners: Sarah & Hugo Hwang

Winemaker: Jean-Bernard
Berthomé

Known for: Being the finest
Chenin Blanc producer in the
world and lauded for making
some of the world's most
compelling white wines,
including some of the longest-
lived sweet wines.

Cool Fact: First vineyard in
France to use biodynamic
viticulture.

**-Certified Biodynamic,
Organic, Sustainable-**

Since its founding in 1928, Vouvray's Domaine Huet has been the standard-bearer for great, age worthy Chenin Blanc. And to this day, year after year, the estate produces some of the world's most compelling white wines—and in a remarkable range that spans sparkling, dry, semi-dry and breathtaking dessert styles.

Chenin Blanc has been identified with Vouvray since at least the 9th century, and many of its great vineyards were known by the 14th century. By those standards, the Huet estate is relatively young.

Yet it was this youngster that established, once and for all, that Vouvray was capable of world-class quality.

The estate produces Sec, Demi-Sec, Moelleux or Moelleux 1ère Trie ("first selection") from any of the three principal vineyards. All grapes are harvested by hand, which enables picking by successive tries - each tri being a separate pass by the workers through the vineyard, ensuring only the best bunches of ripest (or even botrytised) grapes. There is no encouragement of malolactic fermentation, thus many Huet wines remain rich in malic acid, a character that brings an age-worthiness to the wines which is compounded by early bottling, in either March or April following the vintage, so that all the maturation occurs slowly in bottle. The wines stored at the domaine are preserved in the *tuffeau* caves, where temperature is a constant 12 degrees centigrade and humidity levels are high - the perfect conditions to ensure a long life. Even in a moderate vintage, these wines are capable of retaining their character for a decade or more. In the resulting wines, the influence of the malic acidity remains constant regardless of the type of wine being produced, which is why even the sweeter examples have a succulent, juicy acidity to help balance out any residual sugar. With his years of experience working with the appellation's greatest terroirs, Jean-Bernard and his team are achieving incredible transparency, purity and balance in the wines of this world-renowned estate. 2019 marks Jean-Bernard Berthomé's final vintage at Huet. He has been saying for years that he wanted one more great Sec vintage, and 2019 offered up a gem. Despite a challenging summer, the estate enjoyed ample yields of powerful, concentrated, and razor-sharp Sec wines from all three vineyards; a direct contrast with the dessert-heavy 2018 vintage.



THE VINEYARDS

The estate's three vineyards sit atop Vouvray's esteemed Première Côte. The Côte's limestone-rich clay soils yield wines of intensity and great longevity. By any reckoning, these rank among the greatest vineyard sites in the Loire Valley.

Vouvray would not be Vouvray without its royal river, the Loire. Majestic, it brings the "Tourangelle sweetness".

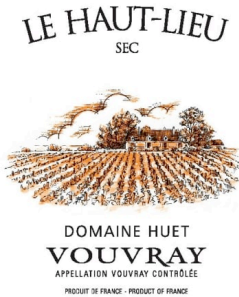
At the time of harvest, the vineyard disappears under the morning mist to better blossom than in the soft autumn sun.

These ideal conditions favor the maturity and concentration of white Chenin berries.

LE HAUT-LIEU

The original vineyard purchased by Gaston Huet in 1928. Its 15 ha of rich, brown clay soils generally yield the estate's most precocious and tangible wines.

2021/2022 Vouvray Le Haut-Lieu Sec



'Top 100 Wines' – Wine Spectator 2022

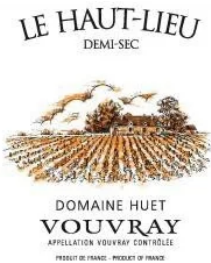
"Polished and elegant, with a mix of Granny Smith apple, kumquat and verbena notes underscored by flinty minerality and salted butter. Shows snappy acidity that offsets the concentration, while smoke wafts through the lengthy finish."

Le Haut-Lieu itself consists of 3 to 4 meters of heavy clay soil mixed with chalk, known locally as *aubuis*, which lies over a bed of limestone. It is the limestone subsoil that proves to be the constant link between the three vineyards owned by Huet, and it is the vines proximity to the porous, yellow *tuffeau* that is responsible for the overriding style of wines produced from each of the sites. This friable rock is from the Turonian Age and was laid down during the Cretaceous Period, which dates them at between 67 and 137 million years. This is the reason why Vouvray is made up of a labyrinth of caves and troglodyte dwellings.

94 Points – '22 Vinous – *"Full of phenolic, lip-smacking texture woven through its core, lending a sense of satisfying grunt to this dry yet balanced style. Clarity, precision and harmony are keywords in this wine's execution."*

94 Points – '21 Vinous – *"This is a very fine, fragrant and floral Le Haut Lieu Sec. While delicate, the 2021 fills the mouth with a cloud of pure fruit reminiscent of violets, apple and nectarine skin. There's a fine sinew that pulls the wine through on the finish. It can be approached in its youth but will go on and on."*

2020/2022 Vouvray Le Haut-Lieu Demi-Sec



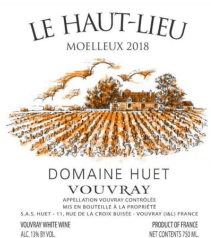
94 Points – '22 Wine Spectator – *"Bruised apple and persimmon give this a beautiful earthy dimension, while racy, pithy acidity powers the energy. The rich fruit and ripeness is well-matched by the notes of fleur de sel and crushed stone. Shows impressive depth, acid verve and coiled energy, which carries the off-dry profile."*

95-97 Points – '20 Vinous

95-96 Points – '20 Robert Parker – *"One of the finest Haut-Lieu's I have tasted from Huet."*

96 Points - '20 Wine Spectator - *"This broad, striking white is elegant and rich with complexity, featuring green melon, yellow fig, ginger and verbena notes, underscored with heather, stone, flint and spice details. Offers great energy and tension, showcasing expert craftsmanship."*

2018/2020/2022 Vouvray Le Haut-Lieu Moelleux

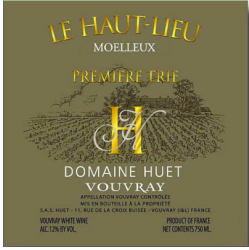


96 Points – '20 Vinous – *"Succulent, coating the mouth with its sweet embrace. A combination of white flowers and nectarine creates an appealing perfume. There's a sense of energy that runs through the wine, providing a sense of direction and purpose."*

96 Points – '20 John Gilman

94 Points – '18 Vinous - *"A perfect example of how 2018 wanted to be sweet and not dry. Harvested late, this sweet wine has 48 grams per liter of residual sugar. Beautiful pear and quince, as well as white blossoms on the nose. Pretty and complex on the palate, with lots of finesse and verve, this is a shapely, stunning sweet wine."*

2003 Vouvray Le Haut-Lieu Moelleux 1er Trie



93 Points – Vinous September 2022 - *“Rich and full, round and succulent with toasty and honeyed aromas, tangy citrus, almond and Indian spice. Concentrated, dense but never heavy. Light and gentle.”*

2020/2022 Vouvray Le Haut-Lieu Moelleux 1er Trie



93 Points – '22 Vinous – *“Supple and fine with a high level of purity and finesse. Delicate, light and precise.”*

96 Points – '20 Vinous – *“The 2020 Le Haut Lieu Moelleux Première Trie is pretty gorgeous with its sweet embrace (71g/L residual sugar) caressing the palate like a silky-smooth velouté. It sits calmly in the mouth, showing the typical fruit-forward character of the site, all oranges, chamomile and violets. The deeply satisfying finish provides the merest of grips, and fresh acid makes your mouth water. Already delicious in its youth, this wine has the concentration, acidity and sweetness to age gracefully, as Huet fans will know well.”*

96 Points – '20 John Gilman

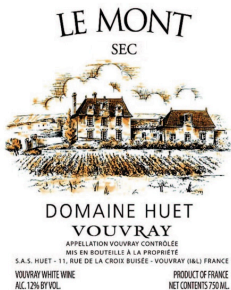
95-96 Points – '20 Robert Parker

95 Points – '20 Wine Spectator

LE MONT

Purchased in 1957, Le Mont's 9 ha of green-tinged clay soils are speckled with stone and mica. Often the most reticent wines at this estate, they develop profound character with age.

2021/2022 Vouvray Le Mont Sec

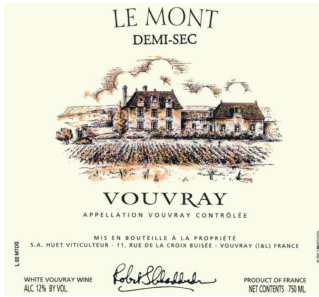


94 Points – '22 Wine Spectator – *“A very expressive, rich and inviting wine, with an enticing mix of juicy lemon, yellow apple and honeysuckle flavors flecked with dried thyme, brioche and chamomile tea. Shows a lot of stuffing, with vivid acidity and chalky tannins providing a framework for the density, extending through the quinine-laced finish.”*

96 Points – '21 Vinous – *“Fills the mouth with pear, pineapple, nectarine and violet flavors. There's a sense of seduction and succulence through the middle of this wine. The flint and the coolness of the site seem to bring a sense of tension and purpose through this wine, which seduces you then spits you out. Delightful fragrance and a mouthwatering, racy finish.”*

94 Points – '21 Wine Spectator – *“A concentrated, multilayered wine that is richly styled yet bristling with racy energy, featuring juicy apple and creamed pear flavors marked by ginger, cinnamon and allspice accents, with a firming core of salty mineral. Delicious now, this will only improve with time in bottle.”*

2019/2022 Vouvray Le Mont Demi-Sec

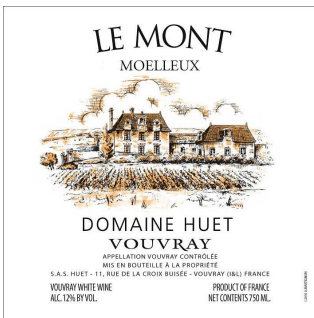


95 Points – '22 Vinous – *“Radish and pear notes linger on the long finish. This is grown-up demi-sec.”*

94 Points – '22 Wine Spectator – *“This has the structure and bitter-edged minerality to carry its weight and ripeness, white tea notes that overlay crunchy orchard fruit and pink grapefruit with peppery spice notes woven in. A lot of savory detail and acidity makes this super balanced and very food-friendly.”*

97 Points – '19 Robert Parker – *“Very elegant and refined on the palate, this is a round, juicy, seductively fruity yet firmly structured and piquant Le Mont whose sweetness is captured by fine tannins and a sustainably dense, vital and salty finish. The 2019 Demi-Sec is a great Chenin and it is doubtlessly a long-distance runner that should be cellared for at least a decade even though it's hard to resist today. Impressive! Fans shouldn't miss the chance to buy some of the world's finest Chenin Blancs, which are still spectacularly moderate in price. If you are a collector, you shouldn't miss the 2019s, but hurry up, quantities are much less generous than in 2018.”*

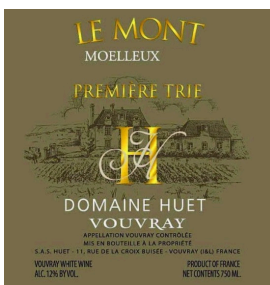
2022 Vouvray Le Mont Moelleux



95 Points – John Gilman – *“Domaine Huët's 2022 Vouvray “Le Mont” Moelleux is another prodigiously beautiful young wine. The bouquet is deep, precise and shows a lovely touch of exotica in its aromatic constellation of sweet quince, pear, orange blossoms, white lilies, honeysuckle, chalky soil tones, honeycomb and bee pollen. On the palate the wine is pure, full-bodied and a bit sweeter in personality than the le Haut Lieu Moelleux, with stunning depth at the core, a fine girdle of acidity, great focus and grip and a long, complex, seamlessly balanced and dancing finish. Great juice.”*

94 Points – '22 Vinous – *“A medium-sweet, tender style that is just so welcoming and appealing. It is the quiet type that doesn't show off. It offers breadth without weight, which I always like about the Huët wines - they're like clouds of Chenin floating over your palate. A fine floral and fruity fragrance reminiscent of lilac, pear and pineapple lingers off the tranquil finish. While the acidity in 2022 is a little gentle, it still has enough tension to sweep up the wine and hold it all together.”*

2020/2022 Vouvray Le Mont Moelleux Premiere Trie



'Top 100 Wines' - International Wine Report 2017

A beautiful medium-sweet, or Moelleux style Vouvray. The Premiere Trie, or first sort, sees the wine made from multiple selections through the vineyard, in order to obtain the best grapes at the peak ripeness. The proximity of the Loire brings the morning humidity which, combined with the autumn sun, favors the maturity and the concentration of the grapes.

95 Points – '22 Vinous – *“Balanced, fine and long. Yes, its sweetness fills the mouth and makes it blossom, but there's no suggestion of unctuousness or weight. It has a tranquility as if it has just finished a weekend on a retreat, calmly coating the palate with its curves. In 2022, its tender acidity makes for a gentle conclusion with a delicate floral fragrance. Nevertheless, the refined, chalky tension pulls this wine through, bringing line and length.”*

97-98 Points – '20 Robert Parker – *“Highly concentrated and complex on the nose that exhibits candied lemon zest and chutney aromas along with calcareous and walnut notes. Sweet (really sweet!) yet refined and elegant on the palate, this is a full-bodied, rich and generous yet piquant and firmly structured, greatly tensioned and salty 1ère Trie with pineapple flavors on the finely tannic and energetic, very sustainable finish.”*

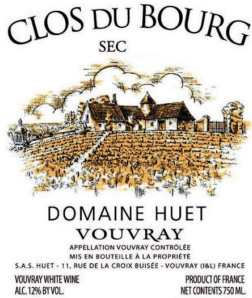
97 Points – '20 Wine Spectator

97 Points – '20 James Suckling

CLOS DU BOURG

This ancient, walled vineyard was acquired in 1953. It has the estate's shallowest, stoniest soils and produces wines of great depth and richness. Many consider the 6 ha of Clos du Bourg to be Vouvray's finest single site.

2021/2022 Vouvray Clos Du Bourg Sec

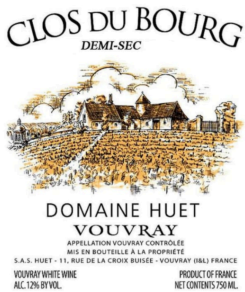


94 Points – '22 Wine Spectator – *“Perfumed and juicy, with a concentration that builds. Round and silky, this shows a lot of delicious fruit and a lot of complexity, with sea salt-dusted apple and honeycomb flavors layered with green herbs and cardamom, which bring an appealing savory edge.”*

95 Points – '21 Vinous – *“An ample, full bodied wine with a stream of acidity. Pure, floral and fragrant with aromas of pineapple, violets and fresh grapes. While rich, it is light in sensation, like a cloud of Chenin filling the mouth, and finishes with a fine, almost powdery and chalky texture.”*

92 Points – '21 Wine Spectator – *“Supremely elegant, fresh and juicy, with tightly coiled flavors of succulent apple and honeycomb highlighted by salted almond, pastry cream and a grounding base of mineral. Offers impressive concentration and purity, with a cashmere like texture that lingers long after the last sip.”*

2020/2022 Vouvray Clos Du Bourg Demi-Sec



Revealing the soul of a unique grape variety that takes root even in the tufa, the semi-dry vibrates and resonates in the mouth like a taste echo, the natural sugar and acidity of Chenin mingling harmoniously. Airy and complex, it is appreciated young on the fruit but also gradually reveals itself to those who know how to wait.

95 Points – '22 Wine Spectator – *“This voluptuous, full-bodied, off-dry white shows a lot of power, offering round pear, mango and honeycomb flavors that take a salty turn on the palate, with notes of brine, crushed flint and bitter almond skin, backed by a subtle hint of brioche on the finish. Opening up in the glass, this gorgeous wine offers loads of immediate charm, but should have a long life ahead in the cellar as well.”*

95 Points – '20 Robert Parker – *“Concentrated, deep and still somewhat untamed on the clear, fresh and lemon-fruity yet darker-toned nose compared to the Haut-Lieu. Round and refined yet still with a pretty firm tannin structure, this is a rich and powerful yet elegant and persistently salty Chenin with tension, grip and a sustainable, highly promising finish. The 2020 Clos du Bourg pairs juiciness with finesse and purity with complexity.”*

94 Points – '20 Vinous

93 Points – '20 Wine Spectator

2020 Vouvray Clos Du Bourg Moelleux Premiere Trie



Le Clos de Bourg is perhaps recognized as the most promising source for *moëlleux*, from grapes that have been affected either by botrytis or *passerillage*.

97 Points – Vinous – *“Succulent yet refined, the 2020 Clos du Bourg Première Trie Moelleux offers elegance and focus despite its sweetness. There’s no sense of heaviness nor unctuousity (yet there’s 93g/L residual sugar). Expect pineapple and smoky notes, florals and apple strudel, along with masses of concentration and impeccable balance. A real delight that has plenty of drinkability even in infancy but will evolve over the coming decades. Finished sample.”*

96-97 Points – Robert Parker

Cuvée Constance

Selected from the oldest vines in all three vineyards, and only made in top years. Since 1989, the estate has produced this magical, botrytized dessert wine selected from one, two or all three vineyards. When made, the Cuvée Constance (named for Gaston’s mother) ranks among the world’s greatest dessert wines.

2015/2018 Cuvée Constance

97 Points – ’18 John Gilman – *“A stunning young wine. The bouquet is deep, pure and youthfully complex, offering up scents of sweet quince, honeycomb, barley sugar, heather, chalky soil tones and a topnote of orange peel. On the palate the wine is pure, full-bodied, focused and complex, with a great core of fruit, lovely soil undertow and grip, zesty acids and a long, hauntingly balanced and refined finish. This is a puppy today, but also delicious to drink in its youthful guise. I would do my best to try and hold onto bottles for at least another decade and really let the fireworks unfold!”*

97 Points – ’18 Vinous

