

## James Molesworth's Recommended Wines From the Loire Valley

More than 350 wines were reviewed for this report. A free alphabetical list is available at [www.winespectator.com/111517](http://www.winespectator.com/111517). WineSpectator.com members can access complete reviews for all wines tasted using the online Wine Ratings search.

### TOP WINES

WINE	SCORE	PRICE
<b>DOMAINE HUËT Vouvray Moelleux Clos du Bourg 2016</b> A stunner, with beautiful pear, green fig, yellow apple and quince notes that are creamy and sweet, yet seamless and refined in feel.	97	\$50
<b>CHAMPALOU Vouvray Les Tries 2015</b> Offers an endless supply of orange peel, almond cream, glazed pear, peach and yellow apple fruit, all while staying lithe, pure and racy.	96	\$66 500ml
<b>DIDIER DAGUENEAU Sancerre Le Mont Damné Chavignol 2014</b> Shows a mature edge, with a slightly rounded feel to the lemon curd and gooseberry gelée notes that glide through.	96	\$135
<b>DOMAINE HUËT Vouvray Demi-Sec Le Haut-Lieu 2016</b> Delivers a beautiful display of purity and grace, with creamed Jonagold apple, star fruit, white peach and chamomile notes.	96	\$44
<b>DOMAINE HUËT Vouvray Moelleux Clos du Bourg Première Trie 2016</b> Ripe, taking a slightly more power-driven approach, with a mix of tropical mango and papaya fruit, backed by orchard fruit accents.	96	\$69
<b>DOMAINE HUËT Vouvray Moelleux Le Mont 2016</b> Bright, even exuberant in feel, with a parade of Jonagold apple, green melon, Bosc pear and quince flavors streaming through.	96	\$50
<b>DOMAINE HUËT Vouvray Moelleux Le Mont Première Trie 2016</b> Features an intense beam of glazed peach, dried apricot, fresh ginger and heather honey notes, backed by baked mirabelle plum accents.	96	\$69
<b>CHAMPALOU Vouvray La Moelleuse 2015</b> Intense, with racy quince, green fig, mirabelle plum and yellow apple fruit zipping through, all while keeping an unctuous hint.	95	\$45 500ml
<b>DIDIER DAGUENEAU Pouilly-Fumé Buisson Renard 2014</b> This has a rich hint, with notes of paraffin and lemon curd, but stays racy, showing honeysuckle, white asparagus, flint and sel gris flavors.	95	\$110
<b>DIDIER DAGUENEAU Pouilly-Fumé Pur Sang 2014</b> Chiseled, with a pure beam of gooseberry, white asparagus and white peach flavors inlaid with light talc, chamomile and mineral accents.	95	\$110
<b>DOMAINE HUËT Vouvray Demi-Sec Clos du Bourg 2016</b> Gorgeous, with creamy-edged nectarine, yellow and green apple, pear and quince flavors that are brightly defined from start to finish.	95	\$44
<b>DOMAINE HUËT Vouvray Demi-Sec Le Mont 2016</b> This tilts toward the flattering side of off-dry, showing a plump feel to the core of creamed pear, white peach and yellow apple fruit.	95	\$44
<b>DOMAINE HUËT Vouvray Moelleux Le Haut-Lieu 2016</b> Gorgeous crystallized ginger, dried quince, glazed pear and warm persimmon notes are seamlessly interwoven here. Lengthy finish.	95	\$45
<b>DOMAINE DES BAUMARD Savennières 2015</b> Alluring, with quince, creamed pear, verbena and green almond flavors allied to a creamy texture, all offset beautifully through the finish.	94	\$30
<b>DOMAINE DU CLOSEL Savennières Clos du Papillon 2015</b> Persimmon, quince and mirabelle plum notes form the core. Streaks of verbena, chamomile and quinine give this lift and cut.	94	\$50
<b>DOMAINE HUËT Vouvray Sec Le Mont 2016</b> Green plum and verbena notes lead the way for now, with a flash of quinine on the finish. This is juicy, but still a bit compact overall.	94	\$37
<b>FRANÇOIS PINON Vouvray Cuvée Botrytis 2005</b> Mature, with a broad marzipan texture that glides slowly, allowing dried orange peel, date, green fig and green tea notes to loll through.	94	\$45 500ml

### TOP VALUES

WINE	SCORE	PRICE
<b>CHAMPALOU Vouvray 2015</b> Sleek pear, green apple and green plum notes race through this white.	91	\$20
<b>CHATEAU DE COULAINÉ Chinon 2015</b> Lively, with a mix of olive and bay leaf along the edges.	91	\$18
<b>JEAN-MAURICE RAFFAULT Chinon 2015</b> Inviting, with a core of gently steeped cherry and damson plum fruit.	91	\$16
<b>VINCENT CARÈME Vouvray Spring 2015</b> Friendly in feel, with layers of quince, papaya and creamed pear.	90	\$20
<b>FRANÇOIS CAZIN Cour-Cheverny Le Petit Chambord Vendanges Manuelles 2014</b> High-pitched and fresh, with green fig, pippin apple and fennel notes.	90	\$19
<b>DOMAINE DE LA COTELLERAIE St.-Nicolas-de-Bourgueil La Croisée 2015</b> Alluring, with singed bay leaf, pepper, cassis and bitter cherry notes.	90	\$20
<b>DUVEAU FRÈRES Chenin Blanc Saumur 2016</b> Fresh, with a dry edge to the pear, yellow apple and verbena notes.	90	\$17
<b>DOMAINE DE L'ENCHANTOIR Saumur White Terres Blanches 2015</b> Bright and racy, with green almond, mirabelle plum and star fruit notes.	90	\$15
<b>BENOIT GAUTIER Vouvray 2015</b> Lovely, with persimmon, quince, verbena and lime notes.	90	\$16
<b>DOMAINE DU NOZAY Sancerre 2015</b> Offers a chiseled feel, with flint, lime pith and fleur de sel notes.	90	\$19
<b>DOMAINE DE PALLUS Chinon Messanges 2016</b> A fresh style, with high-pitched red currant and bitter cherry notes.	90	\$16
<b>JEAN-CLAUDE &amp; CHRISTOPHE PICHOT Vouvray Domaine Le Peu de la Moriette 2015</b> Offers a ripe feel, with creamed pear, ginger and quince flavors.	90	\$20
<b>CHATEAU DE LA ROULERIE Chenin Blanc Anjou 2015</b> Vibrant acidity backs anise, star fruit, white peach and apple flavors.	90	\$16
<b>DOMAINE DU SALVARD Cheverny 2016</b> Offers a good chiseled feel. Sauvignon Blanc and Chardonnay.	90	\$16
<b>HENRI BOURGEOIS Quincy Haute Victoire 2015</b> Offers a good crackling feel, with chive and gooseberry notes.	89	\$18
<b>DOMAINE DE LA CHANTELEUSERIE Bourgueil Cuvée Alouettes 2015</b> Fresh and racy, with bright red currant and bitter cherry notes.	89	\$16
<b>JÉRÔME CHOBLET Grolleau Gris Vin de Pays du Val de Loire Domaine des Herbauges 2015</b> Pink grapefruit and peach notes are backed by a nectarine nectarine.	89	\$15
<b>LACHETEAU Vouvray 2015</b> Offers lively pippin apple, green almond and green melon rind notes.	89	\$8
<b>NICOLAS MILLET Sancerre Champ Secret 2016</b> Sleek, with a flinty edge to the core of lemon pith, verbena and straw.	89	\$20
<b>CHATEAU DE LA MULONNIÈRE Chenin Blanc Anjou M de Mulonnière 2015</b> Plump, with bright ginger, quince and yellow apple flavors.	89	\$15
<b>PITAUULT-LANDRY &amp; FILS Bourgueil Domaine Les Pins Les Rochettes 2015</b> A bright, light-bodied red that relies on racy cherry and plum fruit.	89	\$18