

TUTTO

CLAIRE & FLORENT BEJON

Chinon, Loire



From a little cave in the village of Saint-Germain-sur-Vienne, Claire and Florent Bejon quietly go about making some of the best wines in all of the Loire.

Although the two have been growing grapes and making wine for the past two decades, until recent years their production was so small that the wines were almost impossible to find. Florent spent the past few decades travelling around the region helping other vigneronns bottle their wines without additives and his work led to him meeting influential figures such as Mark Angeli, who instilled a passion for sustainable agriculture and a search for purity in wine.

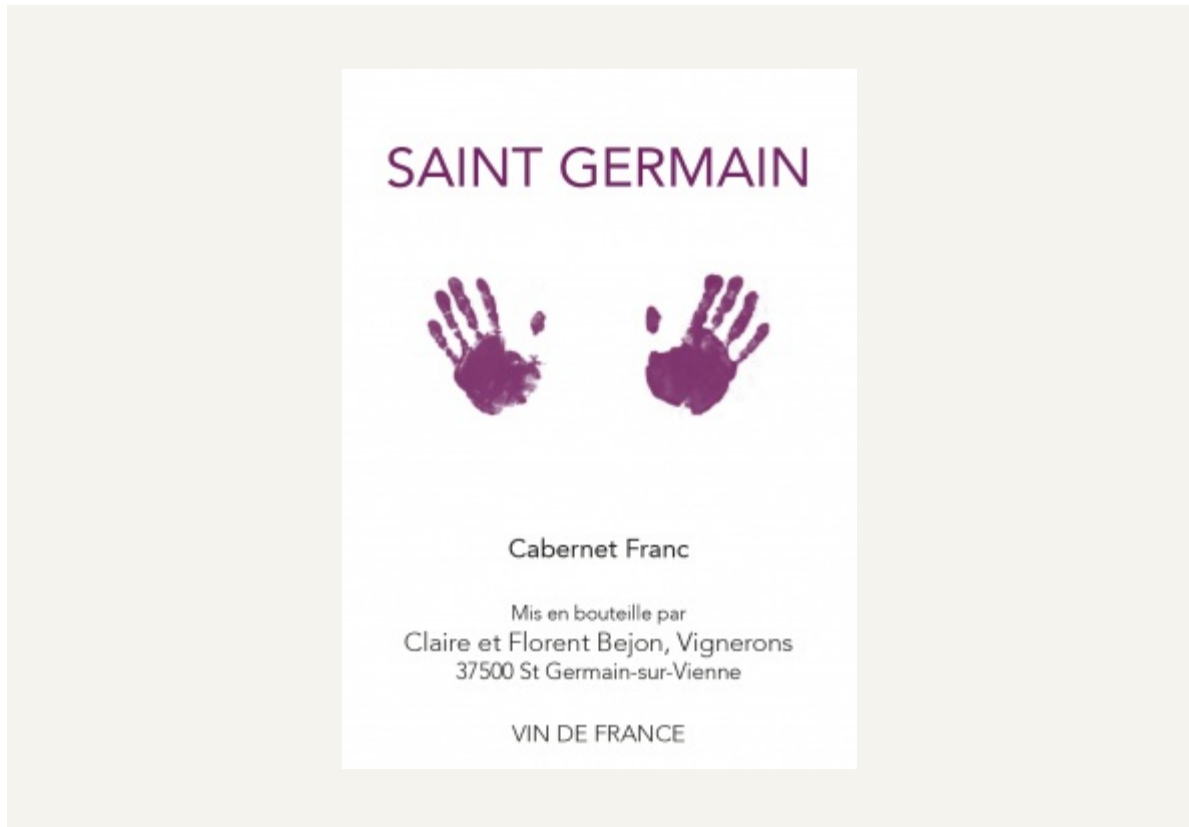
Claire and Florent now farm a total of five hectares of vines spread amongst tiny parcels on either bank of the Vienne, just to the west of Chinon. The vines are on average fifty years old and planted over complex and varied soils made up of clay, limestone and a large amount of silex. The majority of the vines are planted with Cabernet Franc, but they also farm a little over half a hectare of Chenin Blanc, producing tiny quantities of what is one of our favourite expressions of the grape.

All work in the vineyard is done organically and by hand. They prefer to let nature find harmony and rarely trim the shoots, flowers and weeds that grow between the vines. The wines are made in an old cellar dug into the tuffeau and here the Bejons display a real lightness of touch, with an emphasis on long, gentle infusions and a proper élevage in a mix of old casks, demijohns and earthenware jars.

Built on a backbone of pristine fruit, their wines are striking in their delicacy, purity and perfume.

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SAINT GERMAIN

2021

A blend of four tiny parcels of old vines of Cabernet Franc, which total less than a hectare and are planted over a combination of sand and limestone. The grapes infused as whole bunches for three months before being pressed to old barrels for a year of rest. Luminescent in the glass, this sees the grape at its most vibrant. Perfumed with brambly fruit and black pepper, it is awash with the kind of cleansing acidity that is so welcome alongside some charcuterie or a good hunk of goat's cheese.