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MARQUIS DE GOULAINÉ, LOIRE



Looking from the XV century Chateau across the *parterre* to the vineyards.

The Marquis de Goulaine Touraine Sauvignon is deservedly one of our most popular wines. Its success prompted a visit to the Chateau in the Loire Valley to meet Robert, the Marquis de Goulaine and try his other wines. The uniformly high quality and great value across the range means we are delighted to present this focus offer on the Marquis' wines. Muscadet is the speciality of the Chateau, but we are bowled over by the stunning Chardonnay; a 'humble' Vin de Pays tasting more like white Burgundy.

The Grand Chateau de Goulaine is situated on a small hill less than 5 miles east of Nantes, between the Loire and Sevre rivers. The 15th century chateau and its surrounding vineyards are currently owned by the eleventh Marquis, Robert. Monsieur de Goulaine is a charming gentleman - in the true sense of the word - who speaks perfect English and has remarkable energy and enthusiasm. He sees himself as custodian of the chateau and has devoted himself to its upkeep,

with no support from the French government. He was one of the first to open his house to the public and expanded its attraction by starting a tropical butterfly farm, the first in France.

The chateau's historic winery dates back to 986, which, Robert maintains, makes the Goulaines the oldest winemaking family in the world. Increased visitor numbers however made it difficult to run an efficient wine operation in the same place. Robert's son, Mathieu, looks after the estate's vineyards whilst winemaking is now carried out the Lacheteau family winery at nearby Valette. From a historical perspective Robert was sad to make the change. However, the improved quality resulting from the modern winery has made it worthwhile and allows the Goulaine's to focus on the soil and its unique product, which is their real heritage. The Marquis' Loire Valley wines all have great character and finesse and are perfect for summer drinking. They come highly recommended and we are offering free delivery on your own selection of wines or save up to £12 with our Sampler Case.



Robert, the 11th Marquis

Ch. de GOULAINÉ
Muscadet Sevre et
Maine Sur Lie 2007
VAL de LOIRE 12%



The Marquis is renowned for his Muscadet especially the flagship Centenaire, which is partly barrel fermented. In contrast, this great value entry level wine is made in a more typical unoaked style. It is fermented in stainless steel and left in contact with the yeast (*sur lie*) for a year. This gives the wine more body and weight whilst retaining the freshness and vitality. Indeed, the wine has an almost Burgundian weight and mouth-feel, and surprising ageing potential.

Crisp, fresh dry white aged on its lees for added flavour and complexity. Citrus and minerals flavours with a touch of grapefruit, lemon zest, melon and biscuit notes. Attractive modern style with pure fruit flavours and good persistence on the finish.

At Peak Now – 2011

FR0767W £5.99

MARQUIS de GOULAINÉ
Chardonnay
Vin de Pays 2007
VAL de LOIRE 12%



The Loire Valley is noted for Sauvignon Blanc in the east, Muscadet in the Atlantic west and Chenin Blanc in between. The appellation system effectively ignores Chardonnay, though the variety is in fact a cousin of Muscadet. So the Goulaine Chardonnay, gold medal winner at the 2008 Paris tasting for all French wines, is a 'humble' Vin de Pays despite its evident high quality.

Bright, pale straw colour with clean, fresh aromas of lemon, mango and grapefruit. Though youthful, the class is apparent on the palate with intense zesty flavours under-pinned by tropical fruits, minerals and well integrated acidity. The finish is long, well-defined and slightly creamy. Not that weighty, more impressively pure and refined.

At Peak Now – 2011

FR2147W £6.49

MARQUIS de GOULAINÉ
'Le Champ des Vignes'
Pouilly Fumé 2007
Central Vineyards 12.5%



A Loire selection would not be complete without a Sauvignon Blanc from the Central Vineyards of Sancerre and Pouilly Fumé. Whilst we enjoyed the Goulaine Sancerre, the Pouilly Fumé was even better and such is the current market demand for Sancerre at any price, the Pouilly Fumé was actually cheaper. Its smoky, flinty character is rather subtle, making the Goulaine 'Le Champ des Vignes' quite Sancerre-like. Another attraction is the exceptional value.

Pale straw colour with aromas of gooseberry, grass, lemon and guava. Refreshing herbaceous flavours with flinty notes and a long, slightly leafy finish with fresh acidity. A youthful, elegant and attractive wine that needs a little time to breath.

At Peak Now – 2011

FR2107W £10.99

Domaine des VARINELLES
Collection Marquis de Goulaine
Saumur Champigny 2006
Saumur 13%



Domaine des Varinelles is a small estate situated at Varrains, a few miles south east of Saumur. Here on the *tuffeau* soils Cabernet Franc is king and produces a light, fruity, aromatic wine much favoured in the bistros of Paris. Robert de Goulaine is a long-time friend of owners, the Daheuille family, and proposed their Saumur Champigny as a delicious extension to his range.

Deep purple colour and intense aromas of black cherry, pepper liquorice and exotic spices. Pure, ripe bramble fruit flavours with cherry, liquorice and subtle herbs overlay impressively fine tannins. Attractive, lingering finish; clean and refreshingly fruity. There is structure and balance to reward keeping but this elegant wine is great now.

At Peak Now – 2012

FR2136R £7.99

**save
up to
12%**

The GOULAINÉ SAMPLER CASE with 3 bottles of each wine is just £88.37 including Free Delivery – a saving of up to £12.

Alternatively, you can make up your own case and receive Free Delivery on your order.

GOULAINÉ SAMPLER CASE

List Price	£94.38
OFFER PRICE	£88.37
Case Code	FRC015M