

## **DOMAINE PASCAL COTAT Sancerre Blanc 'La Grande Côte'**

Cotat Sancerre is simply some of the most singular Sauvignon Blanc in the world. Like his cousin François, Pascal Cotat (with his winery in Sancerre) crafts uncanny wines that defy both time and definition. These are wines that can age for decades effortlessly, and that marry a plush richness with a laser-like cut and energy. Cotat as a rule harvests by hand and very late, as pushing ripeness to the extreme is one element that gives his wines their weighty texture and complexity. To wit, "They are some of the finest Sauvignon Blancs I have ever put to my lips," says Robert Parker.

WINERY: Domaine Pascal Cotat
WINEMAKER: Pascal Cotat
ESTABLISHED: 1940s

**REGION:** FRANCE • Loire Valley • Sancerre

**APPELLATION:** Sancerre AOC **BLEND:** 100% Sauvignon Blanc

**VINEYARDS:** Located in the village of Amigny. Vineyard soils are called, in French, "terres blanches." This chalk plateau (the same Kimmeridgian limestone as is found in Chablis) extends through Chavignol and is where most of the appellation's top vineyards are found. 'La Grande Côte' is perched on a steep hillside, facing south, with thin topsoils.

AGE OF VINES: 60+ years

**WINEMAKING:** Hand-harvested. Grapes are pressed whole cluster, then fermented on indigenous yeasts in older demi-muids. Aged in older, large tonneaux for more than one year. Bottled unfined and unfiltered.

**TASTING IMPRESSIONS:** Aromas of lime zest, fresh pear, light herbs. Juicy and penetrating, with lots of mineral expression. Textured yet very dry. Flavors of stone fruits, crushed stones, light pepper.

PAIRING SUGGESTIONS: Rich seafood; aged cheese; white meats

