

Domaine Merlin-Cherrier

Sancerre



Sancerre “Le Chêne Marchand” 2017

One of the top names in Sancerre, this vineyard has yielded a steely, crisp wine from this producer. Its tight, mineral texture and green fruits are still bright after three years. Although this beautifully textured wine can be drunk now, it would benefit from another few months. Wait until 2021.

92 pts- Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast, December 2020

Sancerre “Le Chêne Marchand” 2015

Some like their Sancerre lean and mean, as in 2014, and some like riper, plusher vintages such as 2015. I’m almost always in the former camp...until a wine like this comes along. It is really more melony than citrusy, and I have my doubts that I would even identify it as Sancerre if tasting it blind on a day when I wasn’t at my best, but damn...it is delicious. Really a medium-bodied wine, this is ripe and fruity on the nose and quite broad on first palate impression, though the acidity and minerality then start to gain traction and pull even in the finish. A wine that is both opulent and engaging, this is not to be missed.

93 pts- Michael Franz, winereviewonline.com, August 22, 2017

The 2015 Sancerre “le Chêne Marchand” from Thierry Merlin is a lovely wine, with the vineyard’s signature les caillottes chalkiness front and center in the wine. The bouquet is nascently complex and very refined, wafting from the glass in a mix of lime, green apple, just a touch of candied citrus peel, nuanced limestone minerality, very discreet grassiness and a floral topnote redolent of iris blossoms. On the palate the wine is pure, full and tightly-knit, with a good core, superb mineral drive for the vintage, bright acids and fine length and grip on the nascently complex and quite elegant finish. In the hot summer of 2015, it had to be quite difficult to retain this type of elegance and girdle of acidity in the finished wine! This could do with a few years in the cellar to properly blossom and will be excellent. 2020-2035.

93 pts- John Gilman, A View from the Cellar, October 2018