



# DOMAINE ROTIER GAILLAC LES GRAVELS BLANC

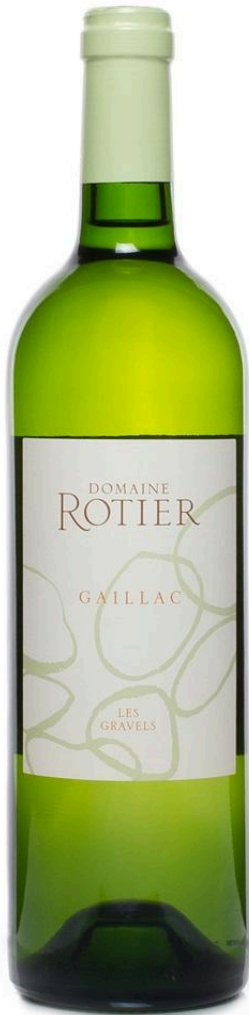
certified organic

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A little known fact is that 1,500 years before Bordeaux and 1,000 years before Burgundy, Gaillac wine was prized by the Romans. In the centuries since François 1er gave England's Henry VIII 50 barrels of Gaillac at their historic meeting in 1520, the region has remained out of the limelight. But among the cognoscenti, Gaillac never fell out of favor thanks to its small cadre of committed growers and their fidelity to the region's local varieties. An ardent proponent of such grapes as Duras and Loin de l'Oeil, Rotier has long been at the forefront of Gaillac's growers.

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## VINEYARD



- Site:** *Les Gravels* takes its name from the ancient and very high river terrace (or bench in American parlance) where the vines grow on the left bank of the Tarn River.
- Elevation:** A steep climb up 200 meters.
- Soil:** An alluvial terrace that's essentially a gravel mound (like the best sites of the Médoc peninsula).
- Vines:** Domaine went organic in 2005, then went for certification in 2009, and got it in 2012. Rows are sown with grasses and legumes.
- Varieties:** Loin de l'Oeil 85%, Sauvignon Blanc 15%. Both are venerable Southwest locals. *Loin de l'Oeil* translates as *far from the eye* (referring to the distance the grapes grow from the eye or bud--the bunches hang from unusually long stalks).

## CELLAR

- Vinification & Aging:** All grapes are destemmed. Raised entirely in tank on its fine lees.
- Bottling:** Bottled with 40-50 mg/l of SO<sub>2</sub> (max authorized by Demeter for white biodynamic wines is 90 mg/l).
- Production:** 1,400 cases.
- Profile:** A delicious take on dry white wine, Loin de l'Oeil gives texture while Sauvignon Blanc gives aromatics and lift.
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