

*Tasted with Jean-Philippe
Bret*

**Domaine de la
Soufrandière**

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On 2018: *“The most generous vintage we’ve seen since we started in 2000 – up to 55 hl/ha and we normally aim for 45. You can see on our labels – because the technical specs of each wine are all on the labels now – we have great pHs in 2018 – 3.1 for instance, I’m pretty sure that we can thank biodynamics for that. In 18 it was about harvesting with a good maturity too – we have 13.5-14° but also with great balance – so 45-48 pickers as we pick our contracts too!”*

It’s now 4 years of tests with some cuvées without sulfur before bottling, since 2017 they decide to make a cuvée apart – an that’s the aligoté Zen – as below – but there’s also the non-zen version – it still receives a little sulfur before bottling, this zen also has a test with a beeswax capsule – this capsule might migrate to all the others too – watch this space. In the vines making more and more treatments with milk to replace other treatments...

Key: Soufrandière is domaine, ‘Bret’ are maison wines:

2018 Soufrandiere, Aligato Zen

Name started as a joke in Japan around 2005 after tasting a wine from de Moor. Just 20 mg sulfur at bottling time.

Deep notes with more crystalline fruit above. Ooh, this is great over the palate, beautiful texture – planted in St.Véran Vergisson, 40 yo vines. Just a beautiful to drink indeed just to hold in the mouth. Bravo! This is, I think, the single greatest aligoté I've ever tasted...

2018 Bret, Mâcon-Chardonnay

One tank and one barrel! This is one wine that really took its time to ferment – nearly a year, then they promptly bottled it.

Hmm – that's an amazingly attractive, vibrant nose. Hmm, deep, layered flavour, so deep, slightly muscaté, generous but delicious flavour. A mouthful of deliciousness!

2018 Soufrandiere, St.Véran La Combe Desroches

Largest cuvée of the domaine – there's 10k bottles of this in 2018.

A lovely width, Really a great invitation to drink. Fine, crystalline, a wave of great flavour freshness over the palate. Very slowly fading, so well balanced – bravo!

2018 Soufrandiere, Pouilly-Vinzelles Climat Les Quarts

17-18 months of élevage.

A depth of vibrant aroma, slowly widening in the top notes too. Great texture and freshness again, driving flavour with a beautiful line of acid-led finishing flavour. More than excellent.

2018 Soufrandiere, Pouilly-Fuissé En Chatenay

A new wine here in 2016, just below the forest and the soils still has the humous of the forest.

Another nose of freshness and vibrancy. Bigger volume, perhaps more energy but all remains calm – the balance is so good. Beautiful, it's an overused word but not here, line of finishing flavour. Bravo!

Domaine Barraud

Tasted with Martine Barraud

Domaine Barraud

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On 2018: *“They are mainly bottled – though some just 7 days. In 2018 we had a year that had great weather conditions. The vines grew very well and had nice grapes. No maladies, good flowering and we could use all the grapes! It was a year that brought a surprise of-course as we had all these beautiful grapes at harvest – the clusters weren’t so big – but there was plenty of them. It reminds us very much of 1982.”*