

## Domaine Michel Thomas

### France - Loire Valley

In the Egrots, a small hamlet of Sury en Vaux, about 4 kilometers from Sancerre, Michel and Laurent Thomas farm 17 hectares. They took over the family estate in 1970, which was founded by Michel's father in 1946.

Their vineyards feature three different types of soil:

- 40% Terre Blanche-Argilo-Calcaire – clay-limestone, yielding wines with intense aromas of almonds and citrus. Highly aged and vinified in oak.
- 40% Caillottes-Calcaire – limestone and stony soil, producing fine and fruity wines; pleasant to enjoy young.
- 20% Le Roc-Silex – sedimentary rock; very hard siliceous, giving smoked aromas & rich mineral flavor, good for aging.

The 17-hectare (42 acre) vineyard is spread amongst 40 parcels in four villages, and it is planted with 11 hectares Sauvignon Blanc and 6 hectares Pinot Noir. The domaine's total production is 10,000-12,000 cases per year. They export 65-70% of their production, mainly to Japan and Russia.