

P R E S S P A C K 2 0 1 9



The world's **most diverse**
range of wines



INTERLOIRE
Interprofession des Vins du Val de Loire



Loire Valley 2018 – quite simply an **exceptional year!**

What a year! Even our oldest winegrowers can scarcely remember a better harvest, both for **quality and yield**. 2018 will be etched on all our memories as a **historic** vintage, some say on a par with 1959, which is ranked among the Loire's very best vintages. (Le Point, March 2019). From Nantes to Sancerre, we're seeing highly aromatic, flavourful wines across all three colours. Overall harvest volumes for Loire Valley AOC and PGI wines in the Interloire and BIVC area are predicted to soar to 2.9 million hectolitres, up considerably on 2017's 2.2 million hl, and a welcome return to normal figures after a run of low-yielding harvests. This gives us plenty of scope to meet the needs of the market and replenish stocks.

Spring weather was very favourable, promoting remarkably early flowering and excellent fruit set. Unhampered by hail or frost, the vines continued to develop normally with no major problems - until June. June brought bouts of heavy rain, followed by serious attacks of mildew.

On the whole, however, these were skilfully managed by winegrowers. **Summer temperatures then reached an ALL-TIME high**; grapes continued to grow well and remained in robust health, and harvests throughout the vineyards were almost as early as those of 2017. Conditions were consistently excellent from the end of August right through to October. Growers harvested their fruit with total peace of mind, knowing the grapes had reached full maturity.

OUTSTANDING AROMATIC COMPLEXITY IN WHITES (both still and sparkling) AND ROSÉS

In the Nantais, the first Melon grapes were picked in mid-August. Balance was excellent, with acidity lower than average. The grapes are **rich, with good aromatic complexity**.

The same goes for Chenins and Chardonnays destined for dry whites and sparkling wine bases, which were picked between the end of August and 20th September. This has been

a good year for sparkling wines, with conditions conducive to **excellent BALANCE**. Stocks are set to be replenished with a very high-quality product indeed.

In Touraine, the first Sauvignons show thiol-based flavours of citrus and pineapple. Those picked later are full of peach and apricot, giving plenty of scope for making **superb blends**.

For rosés, Cabernets are showing a wealth of **DELICIOUSLY FRUITY** flavours - particularly cherries and redcurrants - while rosés made from Grolleau, Côt and Gamay are brimming with delightful aromas.

Moving on to sweet wines, this year's hot weather caused a certain amount of passerillage, a natural drying-out of the grapes while still on the vine. Botrytisation - where grapes are affected by a microfungus - developed slowly due to lack of humidity. Again, the grapes were in robust health, and have produced some of the **truly great sweet wines which can only be made in a particularly good year**.

SMOOTH, WELL-ROUNDED REDS

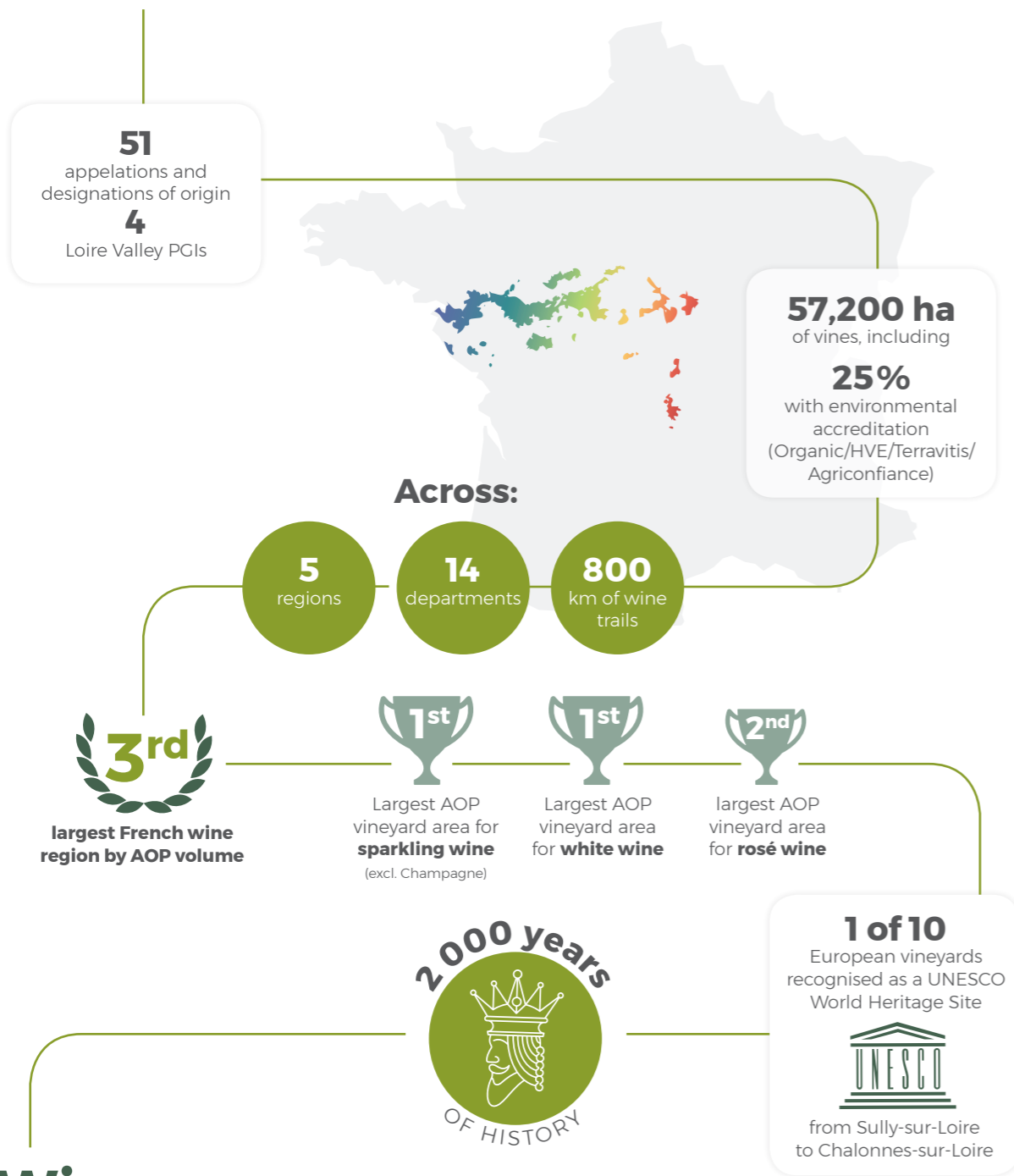
Harvesting finished around 10th October for Cabernet Franc and Côt, while Cabernet Sauvignons finished picking in mid-October. The future looks **as bright for reds as it does for whites and rosés**, in yield as well as quality, and the hot weather has led to higher-than-average potential alcohol levels. This year, the Cabernets from sandy terroirs show thiol-based flavours, with red fruit and florals, notably violets. Tuffeau wines are **FRUITIER** and more **CONCENTRATED**, with morello cherry and raspberry jam flavours. Colours are deep and intense, almost black. The wines are **well-ROUNDED**, velvety-smooth and **SILKY**; the Côts in particular are magnificent, their profiles quite unlike what we're used to. We're looking forward to seeing a good range of vins de garde this year, wines that will age for 10 or even 15 years.

Jean-Martin Dutour, President of InterLoire, sums it up:

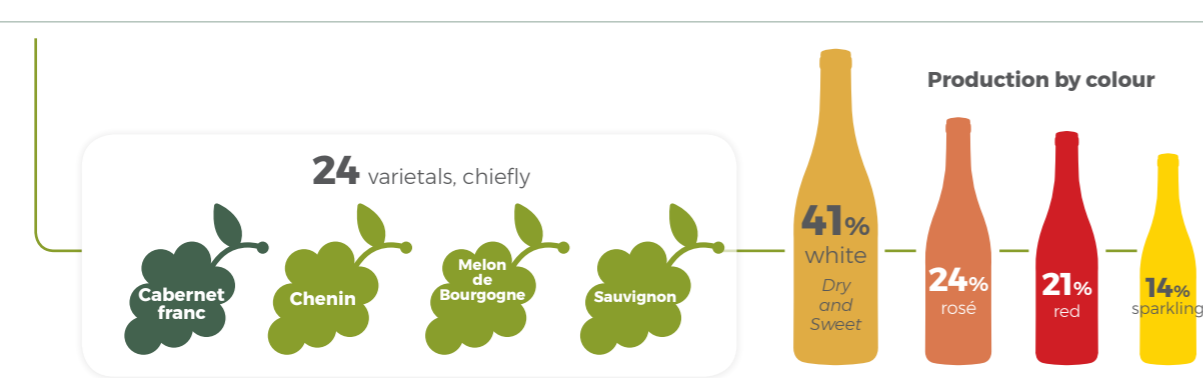
"Harvesting conditions were perfect throughout September and October, and harvests were managed calmly and confidently. This has been an outstanding year, the best in living memory: rich in quality and generous in quantity. A great year for the Loire Valley, putting us in a good position to meet market requirements."

cherry
maturity
delicious
floral
velvety
balanced
apricot
richness of aroma
morello cherry
citrus
round
fruity
redcurrant
smooth
Exceptional

Vineyards



Wines



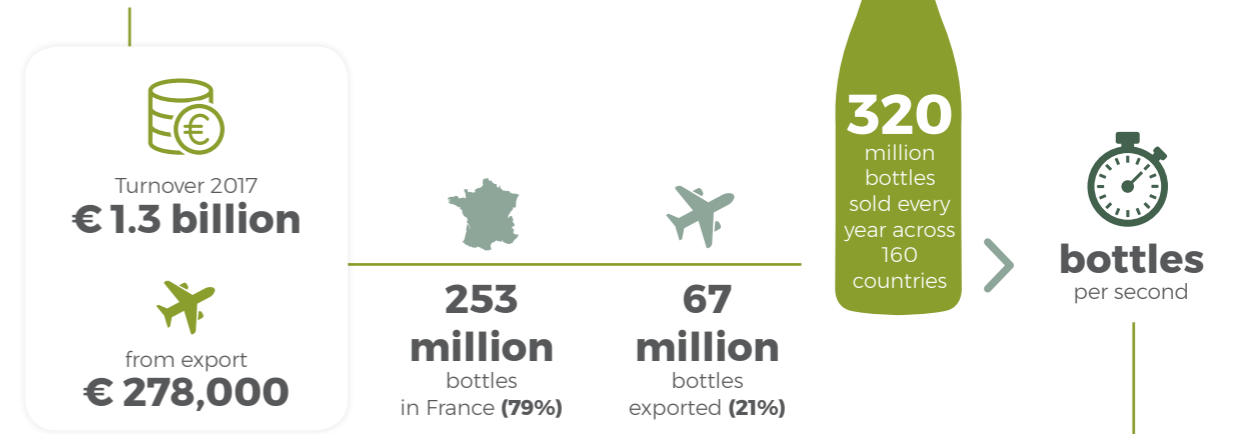
Vineyards Wine-Related Businesses



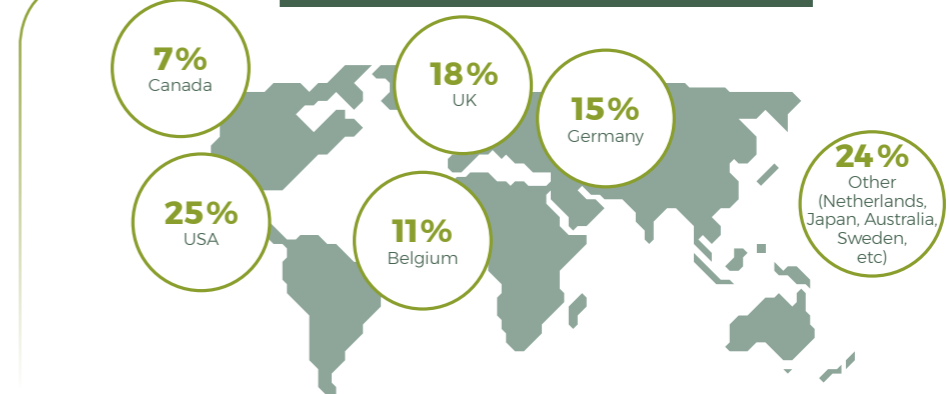
Wine Tourism



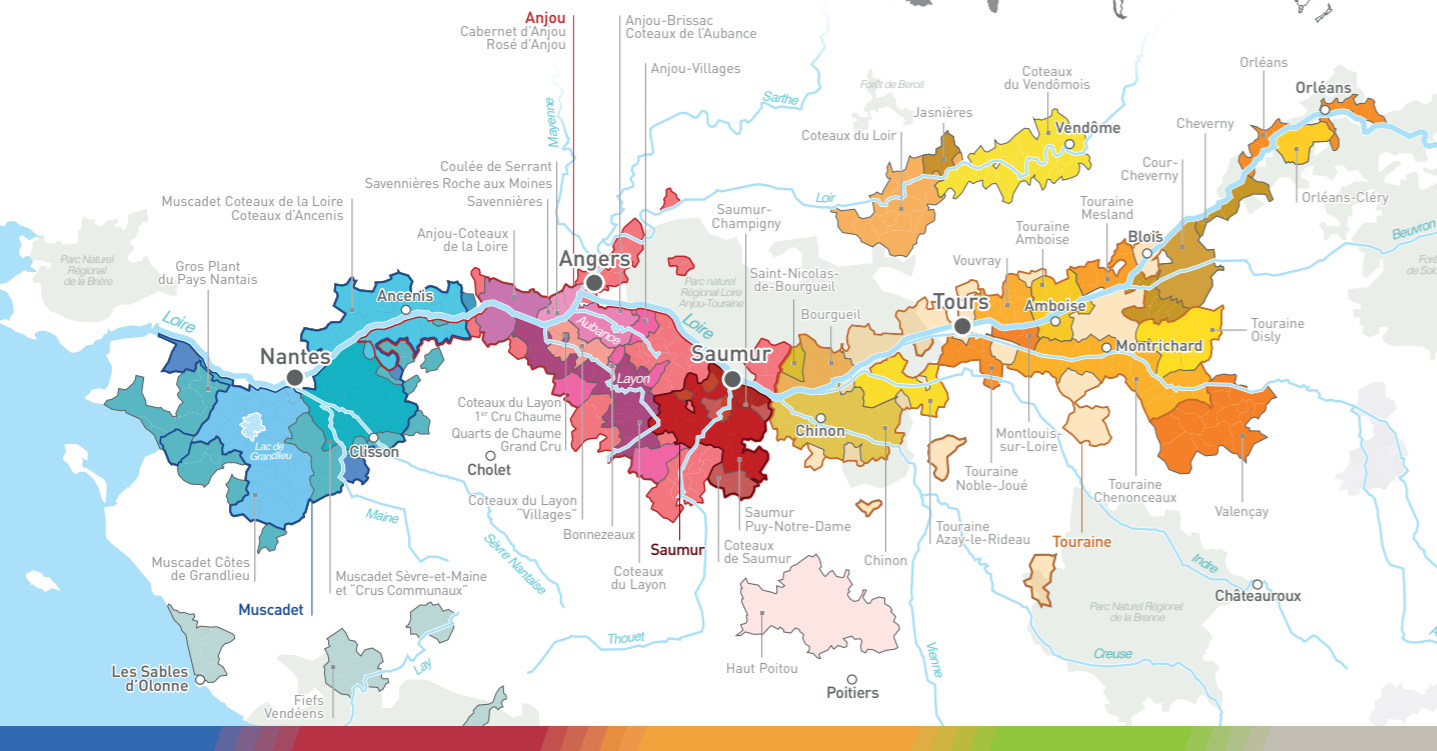
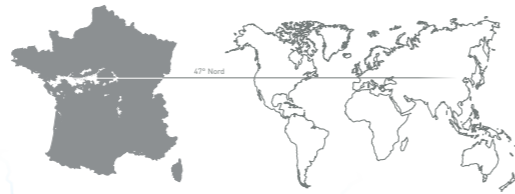
Sales



Breakdown of exports by volume/country



Sources : InterLoire, BIVC, INAO, Douanes, IRI, Bebetter



Zoom AOP PGI area InterLoire



THE ANJOU-SAUMUR AND HAUT-POITOU VINEYARDS

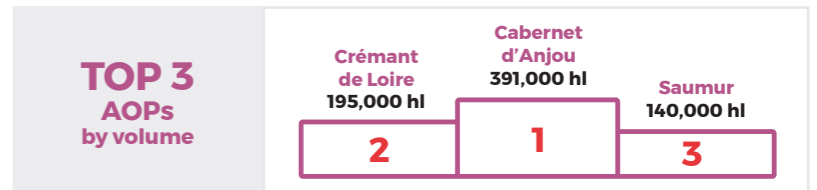
With their 19 appellations¹ and Loire Valley PGI, the Anjou-Saumur and Haut-Poitou vineyards cover 21,400 hectares and enjoy a tremendous amount of diversity, producing sweet and dry white wines, fresh and tender rosés, and reds ready to drink young or to lay down... the list is almost endless.

1. AOPs: Anjou*, Anjou-Coteaux de la Loire*, Anjou-Villages*, Anjou-Villages Brissac*, Bonnezeaux*, Cabernet d'Anjou*, Coteaux de l'Aubance*, Coteaux de Saumur*, Coteaux du Layon*, Coulée de Serrant*, Haut-Poitou*, Quarts de Chaume Grand Cru*, Rosé d'Anjou*, Saumur*, Saumur-Champigny*, Savennières*, Savennières Roche aux Moines*, Crémant de Loire*, Rosé de Loire*.
PGI: Loire Valley*

* Administrated by InterLoire

APPELLATIONS 19 appellations 1 PGI 8 designations	VOLUME PRODUCED 1,342,000 hl incl. 1,080,000 hl of AOP and 112,000 hl of PGI 37% of total Loire Valley production by volume	COLOURS Rosé: 44% Red: 18% Sparkling: 22% White: 16%
PRODUCERS Winegrowers: 2,083 Cooperative wineries: 5 Négociants: 45	SALES France : 83% Export : 17%	BOTTLES SOLD <h1>124 million</h1>

Sources : InterLoire, Douanes année 2018 pour la récolte et 2017-2018 pour la commercialisation (données AOP)



THE NANTES VINEYARDS

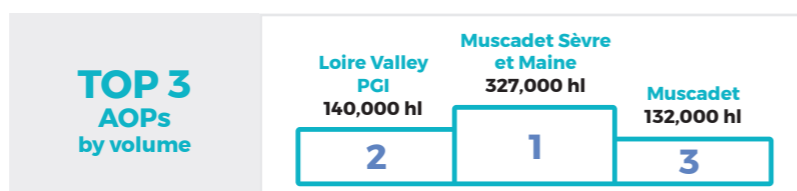
From the Atlantic coast to the farthest reaches of Anjou, the Nantes vineyards encompass 7 AOPs¹ and the Loire Valley PGI, and measure 12,500 hectares. Wines here - reds, whites and rosés - are startlingly fresh and crisp. The majority of wine made here is white, the star player being Muscadet made from the Melon de Bourgogne grape. Nantes Reds and Rosés are made under the Coteaux d'Ancenis appellation.

1. AOPs: Fiefs Vendéens, Coteaux d'Ancenis*, Gros Plant du Pays Nantais*, Muscadet*, Muscadet Côtes de Grandlieu*, Muscadet Coteaux de la Loire*, Muscadet Sevre et Maine*
PGI: Loire Valley*

* Administrated by InterLoire

APPELLATIONS 7 appellations 1 PGI 3 designations 4 gaining formal recognition	VOLUME PRODUCED 880,000 hl incl. 492,000 hl of AOP and 140,000 hl of PGI 24% of total Loire Valley production by volume	COLOURS White: 82% Rosé: 12% Red: 6%
METTEURS EN MARCHÉ Winegrowers: 1,270 Cooperative wineries: 2 Négociants: 45	VENTES AOP France: 83% Export: 17%	AOP BOTTLES SOLD <h1>50 million</h1>

Sources : InterLoire, Douanes année 2018 pour la récolte et 2017-2018 pour la commercialisation (données AOP)



THE TOURAINE VINEYARDS

The Touraine vineyards stretch from Montsoreau at the borders of Anjou to Blois, encompassing 17 appellations¹ and the Loire Valley PGI - a total of 16,300 hectares.

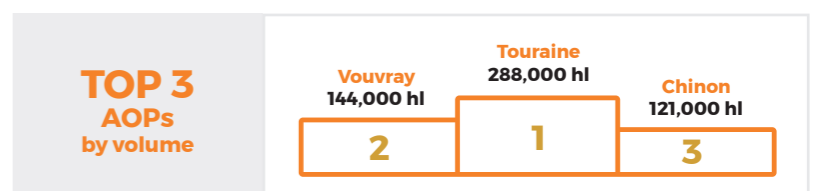
They include some of the Loire Valley's best-known appellations - such as Chinon, Saint-Nicolas-de-Bourgueil and Vouvray - on both sides of the Loire.

1. AOP : Bourgueil, Cheverny, Chinon*, Coteaux du Loir*, Coteaux du Vendômois*, Cour-Cheverny, Jasnières*, Montlouis-sur-Loire, Orléans, Orléans-Cléry, Saint-Nicolas-de-Bourgueil*, Touraine*, Touraine-Noble-Joué*, Valençay, Vouvray*, Crémant de Loire*, Rosé de Loire*.
PGI: Loire Valley*

* Administrated by InterLoire

APPELLATIONS 17 appellations 1 IGP 5 designations	VOLUME PRODUCED 992,000 hl incl. 818,000 hl of AOP and 70,000 hl of PGI 27% of total Loire Valley production by volume	COLOURS Red: 36% White: 35% Sparkling: 16% Rosé: 13%
PRODUCERS Winegrowers: 1,600 Cooperative wineries: 11 Négociants: 125	SALES France : 80% Export : 20%	BOTTLES SOLD <h1>59 million</h1>

Sources : InterLoire, Douanes année 2018 pour la récolte et 2017-2018 pour la commercialisation (données AOP)



P R E S S C O N T A C T

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ABOUT INTERLOIRE

Interloire is the joint professional association for Loire Valley wines, and lies at the heart of France's 3rd largest appellation-wine producing area. It brings together 3,000 winegrowers, negotiants and cooperatives from the Nantais, Anjou-Saumur and Touraine. Interloire encompasses Loire Valley appellations, denominations and PGIs across 43,000 hectares, covering 14 departments from the Vendée to Puy-de-Dôme, accounting for 80% of the Loire Basin's wine production volume.

With a 6 millions Euros budget, Interloire's missions include:



**economic governance
and forward planning**



**research and
development**



**the safeguarding
and promotion of Loire
Valley wines**

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