

NOËLLA MORANTIN
(Thésée, Loire)

November 2025



With Noëlla Morantin

I first met Noëlla Morantin one year after she opened her own domain. That was in 2010. For years, she worked for other wineries before she decided to purchase her own vineyards. After three moves of relocating her cellar, she is finally happy. Her cellar is now located in the village of Thésée. It is an unique and fascinating village in terms of wines because the majority of cellars are located on one side of village, where the *chais* and cellars are dug into the hills of limestone. The best vineyards are on the hills above the cellars. Noëlla's cellar is charming, small and personable.

Noëlla is not from a wine family. She is from Normandy, which is the Atlantic coastal area known for butter and ciders. So, being a *vigneronne* is a calling for her. With help from her partner Philippe, Noëlla's vineyards have become even healthier as all her vineyards are now farmed with extraordinary care. Her wines were always great but they now have taken a leap of quality. Noëlla and Philippe do all the work themselves in the vineyards and cellar, except during harvests. Noëlla's total vineyards are only six hectares and she has no intention of expanding her vineyards. All her vines are in the appellation of Touraine.

STELLA MARIS (Sauvignon Blanc) 2023

SKU: 68323 Speculative 750 ml 12 bottles/ case
\$29.49 Wholesale / \$38.00 Retail per bottle



A crunchy, minerally Sauvignon Blanc from the Loire. This wine has all the hallmarks of great Loire Sauvignon. A hint of flowers and honey adds complexity. Exuberant and yet elegant. 100% Sauvignon Blanc from the vines grown on clay and flint with limestone underneath, which gives freshness. Stella Maris means starfish in French. Noëlla grew-up in Normandy and has fond memories seeing starfishes on the beaches.

(Note: The labels shown are not current vintages and are for illustration purposes only)

MON CHER 2021

SKU: 608000 Speculative 750 ml 12 bottles/ case
\$30.69 Wholesale / \$40.00 Retail per bottle



Noëlla has a parcel that has Gamay vines that are over 60 years old, which are in flinty clay soil. Peony-like nose. Some spices and dusty earthy-mineral character add complexity. *Mon Cher* reminds me of a Burgundy. Perhaps, Noëlla's internship in Burgundy has had some influence on this wine. The fermentation is rooted in the Burgundy tradition. Half of harvest is destemmed while the other half is with stems. This wine spends about ten months in neutral *demi-muids* (500 litre barrels) to settle down. Lovely.

LES PICHIAUX (Sauvignon Blanc) 2023
SKU: 68329 Speculative 750 ml 12 bottles/ case
\$33.58 Wholesale/ \$44.00 Retail per bottle



It has been a while since we received some of this cuvée. For some reason, when I get around to reserving wines, Les Pichiaux is often sold out. Tiny production is the culprit. This wine is made from the tiny parcel that bears its name. Exotic fruit taste with searing intensity and magical balance. The presence of silex in clay with limestone bedrock is doing its magic. This vineyard is particular as it is tilted gently southeast. So, the vineyard gets the morning sun but avoids the late afternoon summer sun. I have walked this parcel many times through the years. *Les Pichiaux* is raised in neutral demi-muids for about a year prior to bottling. One of loveliest Sauvignon Blanc to kiss my lips.

LA BOUDINERIE 2021
SKU: 223990 Speculative 750 ml 12 bottles/ case
\$27.03 Wholesale / \$35.00 Retail per bottle



Very pretty in this vintage. Summer berries. Fresh. Quaffable. Immensely drinkable. *Digestible* as the French would say. Made with 100% Gamay grown on flinty sandy soil. The sand soil gives this Gamay airy structure. Maceration is intentionally kept short to make wine *vin de soif*. This wine spends about nine months in neutral *demi-muids* (500 litre barrels) to settle down in Noëlla's icy chalk cellar. At 12% alcohol, this wine is immensely pleasurable. Best served slightly chilled.

CHEZ CHARLES (Sauvignon Blanc) 2023
SKU: 168633 Speculative 750 ml 12 bottles/ case
\$38.61 Wholesale / \$50.00 Retail per bottle



Elegant. Complex. Inimitable perfume and texture of finely made Sauvignon Blanc from the Loire. Beautiful. Hand-harvested Sauvignon Blanc grapes are fermented with ambient yeasts - like all of Noëlla's wines. *Élevage* in neutral demi-muids (500 litre barrels) for about a year, followed by many months in bottles to settle down. Relatively long *élevage* really brings refinement and texture. It has that illusive engaging marrowy richness without the weight. Grace of old vines shining through. The vines come from the parcel that used to be farmed by a gentleman Charles Buchet before Noëlla purchased the vineyard. In honour of him, Noëlla named the cuvée after his name. The vines were planted in the 1960's.

LBL (Sauvignon Blanc) 2020

SKU: 68335 Speculative 750 ml 12 bottles/ case
\$42.85 Wholesale



Pure. Smooth texture with flowers and citrus notes. Compelling. Elegant. Willowy. A mineral backbone with seamless structure. Unified taste that is only present in a great *cru*. This is very singular Sauvignon Blanc. From the old Sauvignon Blanc vines grown silex-clay soil over limestone hill. The exposure is ideal southeast. The vines were planted in 1943. It is rare to see Sauvignon Blanc vines this age, even in the Loire. This wine sees the second winter in demi-muids, followed by many months in bottles prior to release. LBL mean *Les Bois Lucas*, which was the first domain that Noëlla worked. Noëlla used to farm the same parcel, where she used to vinify the very Sauvignon Blanc. When the owner of *Les Bois Lucas* retired, Noëlla bought the vineyard. This is her top wine.

TANGO ATLANTICO 2023

SKU: 68332 Speculative 750 ml 12 bottles/ case
\$32.34 Wholesale / \$42.00 Retail per bottle

Vin de France
TANGO ATLANTICO
Noëlla Morantin



Gently earthy, summer berry-fruits. Dare I say this wine tastes like a beautiful Bordeaux. Not so surprising as this wine is a blend of about 60% *Côt* (aka *Malbec*) and 40% *Cabernet Franc*. Two Bordeaux varietals that have a long history in this part of Loire. Each varietal is picked and vinified separately. While *Cabernet Franc* is fully destemmed, about half of *Côt* is with stems. Then, the two are blended. *Élevage* is about eighteen months in demi-muids (500 litre barrels). Then, the barrels are assembled. The assemblage is rested and bottled without filtration.

TANGO ATLANTICO 2020 (MAGNUMS)

SKU: 361130 Speculative 1.5 Litre 6 bottles/ case
\$66.11 Wholesale / \$85.00 Retail per bottle

Noëlla had some older vintage of magnums of Tango Atlantico available. Eh voilà.

MARIE ROSE (Pétillant Naturel) 2023

SKU: 856906 Speculative 750 ml 12 bottles/ case
\$30.32 Wholesale/ \$39.00 Retail per bottle



Pétillant Naturel Rosé made from 100% Gamay. This *Pét Nat* is *sur lie* for about a year. Then, the wine is hand-disgorged and topped-up with the same wine. Then, the bottles rest for a few months for refinement. Much love and care go into this sparkler, like all of her wines. Delicious.

OSIANAN 2023
SKU: 262562 Speculative 750 ml 12 bottles/ case
\$27.50 Wholesale / \$36.00 Retail per bottle

This is a new rosé for Noella. It is a blend of Côt and Gamay. Côt naturally has a deep colour and it certainly shows in this rosé. Exuberance from Gamay and spices from Côt that make this rosé compelling. While everyone else is sitting at dining table with purple lips from drinking heavy wintery wines, drink this rosé instead and chill. This rosé, like so many great rosés, sings with just about all dishes.



www.racinewineimports.ca