



BENOÎT CANTIN

Country: France

Region: Burgundy

Appellation(s): Irancy

Producer: Benoît Cantin

Annual Production: 6,500 cases

Farming: Sustainable

Website: www.cantin-irancy.com



There are less than fifty active *viticulteurs* in the relatively small northern Burgundy Appellation of Irancy, only twelve of which are situated in the commune of Irancy. Located just southwest of Chablis, Irancy is a picturesque canvas of vineyards planted on hillsides and amphitheatres, all favorably facing south for maximal sun exposure. While it shares the Kimmeridgian limestone soil also found in Chablis, the combes of vineyards here are planted exclusively to red grapes—mainly Pinot Noir—with instances of Gamay and César. Historically, the land was co-planted to vines, wheat, and cherry trees, and not unlike the reds of Sancerre, its wines were a favorite of Parisians due to its close proximity to Paris.

Benoît, with the continued support of his father, Bernard, runs the domaine, farming 16 hectares in Irancy across several *lieux-dits*. Following in the footsteps of many Cantin generations before him, Benoît began working at the domaine in 1991, bottling his first solo vintage in 1994. His wines display a rustic elegance, an earthy, Burgundian soulfulness, and a structure and depth well above their price point. They are wines of character, with a strong sense of place and typicity, as well as great freshness thanks to the limestone soils in which they are grown.

<u>Wine</u>	<u>Blend</u>	<u>Vine Age</u>	<u>Soil Type</u>	<u>Vineyard Area*</u>
Irancy	Pinot Noir	30-40 years old	Kimmeridgian limestone	16 ha total
Irancy <i>La Grande Côte</i>	Pinot Noir	30-40 years old	Kimmeridgian limestone	16 ha total

* “ha”=hectares; one hectare equals roughly two and a half acres



KERMIT LYNCH WINE MERCHANT

BENOIT CANTIN (continued)

VITICULTURE / VINIFICATION

- Vineyards are tilled, without the use of fertilizer, insecticides, or herbicides
- Grapes are hand-harvested, sorted in the vineyard, and destemmed in cellar
- Grapes are fermented with natural yeasts in temperature-controlled underground cement tanks for 10-15 days
- Wines are aged in 228L oak barrels (15% new) for one year. The oak comes from the family's own land and from the Les Bertranges forest.

Irancy

- A blend of several *lieux-dits*

Irancy *La Grande Côte*

- A single-vineyard *lieu-dit* bottling.
- *La Grande Côte* faces south/southwest and produces concentrated, full-bodied Pinot Noir with pronounced structure and ageability.