

Domaine Facchin

Condrieu



The Domaine at-a-glance

Owners / Winemakers: Christian and Mauricette Facchin
Soil: friable granite, sand, seams of quartz
Year Established: 1984
Size: 2.5 Ha **Location:** Verin, Northern Rhône Valley
Appellations Produced: Condrieu



Christian and Mauricette Facchin

Domaine Facchin is a tiny estate nestled into the hillsides of Condrieu. The domaine at one time stretched from the top of the hill of Condrieu through the town of Verin, all the way down to the Rhône River. The current domaine is built on the remnants of that large ancestral vineyard that once belonged to Mauricette's family. The domaine was divided through the centuries and finally reduced to its current 2.5 hectares. The small plot that the Facchin's now cultivate is a *lieu dit* called Les Grand'Maisons. The dizzyingly steep vineyard sits right in the sweet spot of the hillside with a southeastern exposure. In 1984 when they decided to create their own domaine, the vineyards were abandoned and the stone house was in ruins. Little by little they have restored the old stone house and have replanted the vineyards. Through meticulous work at every step of production, they have been slowly refining their style, to produce a rich structured Condrieu. Their work is now paying off, the house that was once a ruin is now a jewel and the vineyards that were once abandoned are now producing a Condrieu of exceptional quality and finesse.



Viognier 100%



A view from Facchin's vineyards of their home and winery, above the Rhône River

Domaine Facchin, Condrieu - 2005

Technical Notes: The very low yields and great vineyard sites at Domaine Facchin, add additional complexity to these already great wines. The grapes are all hand-harvested (the only possible way to harvest on these steep hillsides). The grapes are then pressed and fermented in 1, 2, and 3 year old French barriques. The wine is then aged in barrel until it is bottled in the spring.

Tasting Notes: In 2005 Condrieu produced amazingly rich, complex, and structured wines. The nose is bright and full of white flowers with hints of mango and tropical fruit. In the mouth rich peach and apricot fruit flavors mingle with mineral and citrus elements. The finish is long, silky, and clean. This is clearly a classic Viognier from a classic Condrieu vintage.