

DOMAINE JEAN VESSELLERatafia de Champagne

For nearly 300 years, the Vesselle family has been tilling the chalky soils of Bouzy and cultivating some of the village's best-placed Pinot Noir vines. The family's collection of top terroirs and generations of leadership in championing Pinot Noir is what makes wines from Jean Vesselle such eloquent examples of Blanc de Noirs Champagnes. Wines here combine a classic elegance with the signature Bouzy power, which extends to the estate's very small-batch yet delightful Ratafia de Champagne. The name "ratafia" comes from the Latin phrase, rata fiat, or "the deal is done," while a liqueur or other spirit shared between two parties would cement the agreement made.

COMPANY: Domaine Jean Vesselle

CREATOR: Delphine Vesselle

ESTABLISHED: 1800s

REGION: FRANCE • Champagne • Bouzy

STYLE: A fruity, generous liqueur made by combining freshly pressed Pinot Noir juice and eau de vie. Natural sweetness comes from the press juice. Grapes sourced from vineyards in and around Bouzy. Aged for three years in barrel.

ESSENTIAL INGREDIENTS: Pinot Noir grapes; eau de vie from Pinot Noir

ABV: 18%

CLOSURE: Cork

TASTING IMPRESSIONS: Lightly sweet and suave, notes of sauteed

nectarines and red berries, light toast

