

# Jean-Maurice Raffault in Wine Spectator On line— January 14, 2011

## WINE SPECTATOR ON LINE

15 Red Values from France

New reviews of impressive Cabernet Francs from the Loire Valley, many priced under \$20

James Molesworth

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Here's a selection of recently released Loire wines that represent the heart of this sprawling region's reds—Cabernet Francs from Chinon and Bourgueil.

We do get an early look at some '09s here, including the delicious, mouthwatering Les Galuches bottlings from Rodolfe Raffault, whose family domaine is also among Chinon's quality leaders....

JEAN-MAURICE RAFFAULT Chinon Les Picasses 2008 Score: 91 | \$22

Very fresh, delivering lively chalk, tobacco and cherry pit notes backed by more plum, red currant and cassis bush. A mouthwatering grilled herb edge frames the sleek finish. Delicious. Drink now through 2015. 50 cases imported. —J.M.

JEAN-MAURICE RAFFAULT Chinon Les Galuches 2009 Score: 90 | \$16

Very fresh and racy, displaying a great core of black cherry, cherry pit, bitter orange and sweet tobacco, all held together by lots of chalky minerality. A nice briar twinge completes the finish. Drink now through 2014. 500 cases imported. —J.M.