



ARTISAN *Portrait*

CLAUDE THIBAUT
sparkling winemaker

Claude smiles warmly as he fills a delicate glass with Thibaut-Janisson sparkling wine, the golden bubbles a sea of shining gems celebrating their emergence into the open air. Claude lifts his glass and slowly savors the wine's radiant fragrance—notes of apple, white peach and hazelnut.

This vibrant sparkling wine is one of many lovingly produced by Thibaut-Janisson Winery, a partnership between esteemed French winemakers Claude Thibaut and Manuel Janisson based just outside of Charlottesville. While each classically trained in the art of winemaking in France's Champagne region from a young age, Claude and Manuel united behind the vision of creating an original sparkling wine together. Drawn to the Virginia countryside, they found the rolling hills of Charlottesville to be the ideal landscape to bring their vision to fruition.

The Thibaut-Janisson label is endearingly abbreviated

as T-J, a sweet reference to Charlottesville's beloved Thomas Jefferson, lover of winemaking and all things French. Following in Jefferson's footsteps, Claude and Manuel's labor of love and passion for outstanding wine has yielded an impressive collection of critically acclaimed sparkling wines—Blanc de Chardonnay, Virginia Fizz, and Virginia Xtra Brut.

The grapes used by Claude and Manuel are locally grown, ensuring that each bottle perfectly captures the quaint, playful spirit of the Charlottesville countryside. Couples seeking an authentic farm-to-table wedding experience will go "ooh, la la!" for locally crafted Thibaut-Janisson sparkling wines. Guests also will be delighted by the way that the joyful, effervescent notes and French elegance perfectly complement the day of ultimate celebration.

WRITTEN BY NICOLE PERRIER