

Danilo Thomain Enfer d'Arvier Vallee d'Aoste

THE FACTS

COUNTRY: Italy

REGION: Valle d'Aosta

APPELLATION: Valle d'Aosta

THE STORY

Home of the second-highest winegrowing zone in the valley, the Enfer d'Arvier is a splendid amphitheater of steeply terraced vines overlooking the Dora Baltea/Doire Baltée river below. Covering a scant 5 ha, the majority of the Enfer d'Arvier's output is via the local co-op, and with his single hectare in production, Danilo Thomain stands as the zone's only independent bottler of wine. Amazingly, he is currently clearing and de-foresting another hectare's worth of hillside above his current holdings in order to expand production, thereby reclaiming some of the long-unused but prime terrain whose viticultural records date back to the 13th century.

