

*Sommellerie*

PRESS KIT

⊗ CONSTANCE  
CELLAR



## Introduction

# THE ART OF WINE AT CONSTANCE HOTELS & RESORTS

Constance Hotels & Resorts is renowned for its love and knowledge of wine. At the heart of each of its luxury hotels, the Constance Cellar houses the most comprehensive collection of wines from the very top wine regions around the world. Our sommelier team take pleasure in guiding both oenophiles and budding wine enthusiasts alike to discover new labels and learn more about the world of wine.

The aim is to take the guest on a journey through a glass of wine and reveal the uniqueness of each vineyard. With this in mind, the sommeliers of Constance Cellar travel around the world's vineyards selecting the very best wines for guests and responding to latest trends. From the iconic domains, such as Le Domaine de la Romanée Conti, Petrus, Tenuta San Guido or Egon Muller, to the rising stars, each wine is carefully selected.

It is important to transcribe the work of the winemaker, his passion and his terroir. It is through the relationships that are forged with these winemakers - building friendships based on trust, the sharing of knowledge and the mutual passion for wine that makes the difference in Constance Cellar. In the constant quest for quality, the wines are sent from the vineyard directly to our hotels in refrigerated containers. Upon arrival, these wines are immediately stocked in our state of the art, temperature-controlled cellars.

The heart of Constance Cellar is the people behind it, 96 sommeliers across our eight hotels. These sommeliers are extensively trained and have the expertise to guide our guests in their choice of wine. They will know how to create the best wine pairings, encouraging guests to discover various wines and create special moments by offering a memorable wine experience.

It is Jérôme Faure who has been managing the Sommellerie department of Constance Hotels & Resorts for the past 15 years. Jérôme is supported by our Assistant Corporate Sommelier Jorald Julie and Sommelier and Wine Events Coordinator Shani Ramasawmy.



## Our Team Members

### JÉRÔME FAURE

#### *Our Group Corporate Sommelier*

Jérôme manages and supervises the sommelier department, taking care of recruitments, wine selections and the relationship with winegrowers and suppliers.

Jérôme was born in the Rhône valley – the land of wine – and always had a love of gastronomy. From the age of four, he knew he wanted to be a chef and he started at the École Hôtelière in Grenoble when he was 14. He soon stood out. At the Jacques Pic – Trophée Grand Marnier Pastry Competition, he wowed the judges with his inventive response to a chocolate desert, which caused a few surprises and won him first prize. He switched to being a sommelier early in his career and soon developed a taste for competitions, twice being named as the Vice-Best Young Sommelier of France and being a finalist in the Sommellerie section of the Meilleur Ouvrier de France competition.

When Jérôme Faure joined Constance Hotels & Resorts in 2004, there were just two sommeliers. Today, this Corporate Sommelier oversees a team of 96 sommeliers working across the eight hotels in the group.

As Head Sommelier, he is passionate in his belief that sommellerie is one of the reasons that Mauritius is becoming known as a gastronomic destination, and with that in mind he founded the Association of Sommeliers in 2008. This active group now has 70 members and helps to train young sommeliers from Mauritius.

Knowing how competitions pushed him to better himself, Jérôme in turn founded the 'Best Sommelier of Mauritius' competition in 2010. The competition has received endorsement from a 'Meilleur Ouvrier de France', Antoine Woerle, as well as from David Biraud, and has proved to be an excellent springboard to propel young sommeliers towards international competitions.

According to Jérôme Faure, the transmission and sharing of knowledge is the key to promote the profession in Mauritius. As the President of the 'Mauritius Sommelier Association', he strives to help Mauritians working in the wine industry to learn more about this particular field and improve their skills.

At Constance Hotels and Resorts, our Sommeliers benefit from several practical training courses throughout the year, which offer them new opportunities and ensure the proper transmission of know-how.



## JORALD JULIE

### *Our Assistant Corporate Sommelier*

Jorald takes care of the Old World purchases, the wine shipments and the daily operations. His passion and knowledge of wine meant he won the 'Best Sommelier of Mauritius' in 2012, before winning the first place of Best Sommelier at the 10th Vatel Convention in Bordeaux. For the first time, in 2016, he proudly represented Mauritius at the World's Best Sommelier Competition. Jorald is well-known as one of the most brilliant Mauritian sommeliers.

Discovering all the work that goes in to creating each bottle remains exciting. Watching over 200 000 bottles is a source of great pride for him, especially as a Mauritian having a career in the wine industry which is still something quite unusual. Jorald believes that Constance Cellar highlights the very best of sommellerie in the Indian Ocean, and he has proudly contributed to its evolution. For 18 years, he has worked in the profession, enabling him to earn his living through his true passion. It was the support and encouragement from Jérôme Faure that changed his entire life.



## SHANI RAMASAWMY

### *Our Sommelier and Wine Event Coordinator*

Hand in hand with Jorald, Shani is among the youngest sommeliers within the group, and takes care of the New World purchases and responsibility for all the wine events.

Passionate about gastronomy and wine, Shani is our Sommelier and Wine Event Coordinator. Best Sommelier of Mauritius 2022, Shani has been attracted to the sommellerie industry at a young age and decided to take a South African trip during her second year of studies in gastronomy in order to broaden her knowledge. It was discovering the vineyards there that motivated her to pursue a dream career as a sommelier.

Even though people warned her about the challenges of a career within this field, she managed to find an internship at Constance Hotels and Resorts, where she met Jérôme F. and Jorald J. Conquered by the beauty of this profession, she continued her studies at Le Cordon Bleu in Paris. Once she graduated, she gained further work experiences before returning to Mauritius as a sommelier, to work alongside Jérôme and Jorald.

Her passion for wines is in part due to its complexity - she appreciates the whole transformation process that turns the raw material of the grape into a luxurious product. One of the job aspects that she most enjoys as a sommelier is to reflect the hard work of the winegrowers and farmers by transmitting her love for wine.





## About us

Constance Hotels & Resorts is a Mauritian hospitality brand with seven eco-chic resorts across Mauritius, Seychelles, Maldives and Madagascar. High flying gastronomy and fine wine is integral to the brand's proposition, with over 5000 references for the whole group. Constance Hotels and Resorts is an Indian Ocean expert offering guests unique experiences in each location.

All our hotels around the Indian Ocean offer a wide variety of wine experiences including...

## Our Wine Experiences

### WINE TASTING

Wine degustation is an art; this experience is proposed to our guests and executed by our outstanding sommeliers who will share with you their passion and knowledge of wine. Our selection of wines from the Old World and New World will surprise you! Each tasting is designed differently in each hotel to create a real discovery for our guests.

### CHAMPAGNE SABERING

We invite our clients to commemorate their celebration with an impressive trick as old as the Napoleonic Wars! Champagne Sabering which is also known as Sabrage is one technique that will add a touch of exclusivity to our guest's events. Our team will be glad to share the specific tips of this particular art.

### WINE DINNER

The pairing between a dish and a wine is an art. Our Sommeliers will assist our guests in the pairing of your dishes while explaining the rules of the pairing.

## WINE FLIGHT CORAVIN

Wine flight also known as tasting flight is the tasting of multiple wines, which allow the taster to feel the depth of wine and explore new ones. Through this activity proposed in any of our Constance Cellar with our Coravin wine preservation system, we encourage our clients to elevate their wine experience.

For example, at Constance Belle Mare Plage the customers may discover three wines with three tapas. This wine experience allows you to choose from different options in order to compose your Wine flight – the Cheese Flight, the Flight Around the Grenache or the Flight First Class.

Alternatively, at Constance Prince Maurice the sommelier team recommend one glass of red wine, one glass of white wine and one glass of desert wine with various canapés.

## ORGANIC WINE TASTING

An experience that goes beyond taste and terroir, Organic & Biodynamic wine tasting is another way for Constance Hotels & Resorts to push forward a green action. With the importance of well-being today, the respect of the nature and the sustainability, it is important for our Cellars to offer guests the possibility of wine discovery from the organic and biodynamic agriculture.

## CHAMPAGNE BREAKFAST

A lavish breakfast, magnificent tropical view and a bottle of chilled Champagne. Start your day in paradise with an unforgettable experience. We offer our guests the opportunity to start their breakfast with Champagne and an assortment of options such as salted croissants, poached eggs and smoked salmon or toasts.

## AROUND WINE EXPERIENCE

Around Wine Experience is a concept where the guest selects the wine they would like and the head sommelier with the chef then develops a menu to compliment it. This concept is also applied in the different hotels with various menus and wines. A concept like no other – with this experience, our team and Head Sommelier offer to our guests a private dining experience in the wine cellar – where they can choose their wines and then let our chef and sommelier team take them through a unique gastronomic journey.





## Our Wine Cellars...

We are proud of our extensive selection of international wines that are available throughout all of our resorts.

### CONSTANCE MOOFUSHI MALDIVES

- 125 references in the all-inclusive wine selection, over 160 references in total.
- Comprising 10,000 bottles from around the World.

### CONSTANCE HALAVELI MALDIVES

- Constance Halaveli wine cellar totals 18,000 bottles, from all over the World.
- Its wine cellars have one of the biggest selections of international wines in the Maldives.



### CONSTANCE PRINCE MAURICE

- With an area of around 122m<sup>2</sup>, the Archipel restaurant counts 16,000 bottles of wine, from around the world.
- The Cellar also includes an area for wine tasting and a collection of more than 2,500 rare wines.

### CONSTANCE BELLE MARE PLAGE

- With a capacity to shelter 35,000 bottles of wine, Blue Penny Cellar has over 2,300 references from wine-growing establishments around the world.

### CONSTANCE EPHELIA SEYCHELLES

- Constance Ephelia's award-winning list features more than 1,000 references from across the globe, with over 25,000 bottles contained in the wine cellar.

### CONSTANCE LEMURIA SEYCHELLES

- With an extensive range of more than 1,400 labels from different regions and styles, guests are sure to find the most suitable wine to their palate. All wines, go through a rigorous selection process, which is the assurance of quality and shelter 23,000 wine bottles.

### CONSTANCE TSARABANJINA MADAGASCAR

- With 50 different wines from around the world, Constance Tsarabanjina counts 400 bottles of wines.



## EVENTS

Throughout the year, Constance Cellar host various wine events in our different hotels in a sharing and convivial spirit. We have the pleasure to welcome a number of top winemakers during the year and organize wine pairing dinners around their products.

Our outstanding team of Sommeliers participate actively in the organization of some Constance Hotels, Resorts and Golf gastronomic events such as the Constance Culinary Festival. A whole week event, with a great focus on gastronomy with various Michelin star Chefs and worldwide sommeliers, to create a moment of sharing and exchange in Mauritius.

### La Paulée at Constance Prince Maurice

La Paulée is an exclusive and much awaited event for all. It is strictly reserved for wine lovers, in order to create the “Burgundy spirit of generosity and camaraderie” with a touch of Constance, which bring together five prestigious vineyards under the unique roof of the Archipel Restaurant. Our guests have the opportunity to taste, savour and enjoy a first-class collection of fine wines from top producers present during the event, to share in a ‘bons vivants’ spirit.

### Music & Wine at Constance Prince Maurice

Wine & Music is an innovative sensorial experience over the duration of a week, dedicated to your five senses. Wine tasting is already an assemblage of sight, smell, taste and touch, all that is missing is hearing. With music, we want to make this exclusive experience a complete one. Each day, one wine maker and one musician will be in the spotlight with a presentation of their creation & sharing their passion over a musical wine-pairing dinner.

In the spirit of saving the best for last, there will be a unique gala dinner with all the different winegrowers and guests in a pleasant musical soiree.







Constance Hotels & Resorts is well-known for its love and knowledge of wine and our cellars are renowned for being among the most prestigious in the Indian Ocean, if not the world.

With an extensive offering from different regions and appealing to all different palates, our aim is to take guests on a journey of discovery, transporting them through a single sip of wine.

Our sommeliers travel around the world selecting the very finest wines while also responding to the latest trends. All wines go through a rigorous selection process from our wine experts to ensure we offer only the very highest quality.

Constance Hotels & Resorts take great pleasure in inviting you to join us and savour the very best of both the old and new world wines with the Constance Cellar.



*True by Nature*