

## Celebrate Earth Day With These Sustainable Sparklers

While April is devoted to all things earth friendly, the 22nd day of the month is designated as [Earth Day](#), a global celebration of sustainability and planet consciousness. What better day to pop open a bottle of bubbly from a producer that's "earth first"? Here are a few from France who truly have boots on the ground when it comes to environmental stewardship.

Champagne's severe climate and growing conditions make it notoriously difficult to farm organically, but a number of producers are finding ways to go green. The [Association des Champagnes Biologiques](#) reported 114 organically certified winegrowers and houses in its membership and a pipeline of nearly a dozen more candidates. Regionally, the [Observatoire Régional de l'Agriculture Biologique en Champagne-Ardenne](#) reports nearly 2 percent of the region's vineyards are certified organic.



A bevy of bubbly from earth-friendly producers in France PRODUCERS

**Champagne Bollinger**, the wine preferred by British secret agents, also cultivates its vines under the HVE certification and the latest release of its signature La Grande Année (vintage 2014) is a demonstration of tradition meeting up with the [environmental] times. Made of 61% Pinot Noir and 39% Chardonnay, it expresses lemon and brioche in a full rich style—a “Bolly” hallmark—supported by mouth-cleansing minerality. Also not to be missed: its well-structured La Grande Année Rosé 2014, with a bright saline character, along with pithy pink grapefruit, orange peel and some Bing cherry notes. More fruity than autolytic.