



LES VIGNERONS D'ESTÉZARGUES

La Granacha Vieilles Vignes

Les Vignerons d'Estézargues is a co-operative in the small town of Estézargues which is located near Avignon. The co-op is truly unique in the wine world. All over France the co-ops still play a very important role in the production and sale of wine. They receive grapes from members and then make wine from them in large batches from many different vineyards blended together with the focus on producing wine in bulk rather than quality. Les Vignerons d'Estézargues takes a fundamentally different approach; starting in 1995 the ten different growers in this co-op began to vinify their wine separately and make single cuvées from their best plots. On the heels of the single cuvée project, Les Vignerons d'Estézargues began to practice natural winemaking – possibly one of the only co-ops in the world to do so. They use no cultured yeasts, no filtering, no fining and no enzymes during vinification or aging and only add a small amount of SO₂ at bottling. They produce both site-specific wines such as Domaine d'Andezon or old-vine cuvées blended from the site-specific wines after fermentation is complete like La Granacha.

Some years later creating Domaine d'Andezon, Eric tasted a sample of wine from spectacular parcel of old vine Grenache from the village of Signargues which would be developed into “La Granacha.” Created in 2000, its name is a nod to the Spanish origin of this varietal as well as the name of this variety in the local dialect. A small amount of Mourvèdre is included in the final blend.

ORIGIN

France

APPELLATION

Côtes-du-Rhône Villages Signargues

SOIL

Clay limestone, galets

AGE OF VINES

80+

ELEVATION

80

VARIETIES

Grenache, Mourvèdre

FARMING

Sustainable (TERRA VITIS)

FERMENTATION

Hand harvested, destemmed, natural yeast fermentation in tank, 21-28 day maceration

AGING

8 months in tank (50%) and neutral French oak barrels (50%)

ACCOLADES

90 – 2016 La Granacha Vieilles Vignes – Wine Advocate

89 – 2013 La Granacha Vieilles Vignes – Wine Advocate

91 – 2012 La Granacha Vieilles Vignes – Wine Advocate



ERIC SOLOMON
SELECTIONS