



DOMAINE DE LA JANASSE

Côtes-du-Rhône Reserve

Over the last quarter-century, Domaine de la Janasse has become one of the most highly-regarded estates in Châteauneuf-du-Pape. Led by siblings Christophe and Isabelle Sabon, the estate combines the best of both traditional and modern techniques to craft a collection of truly riveting wines from “simple” value-priced VDP’s to their benchmark Châteauneufs.

The estate was founded in 1976 by Aimé Sabon, the father of Christophe and Isabelle, who still oversees the vineyards. The property consists of 40 hectares, spread over as many as 70 different parcels throughout the appellation. Their terroirs range from sandy soils, in their well-known plots in the North of the appellation – Chapouin and La Janasse– to lightly-colored clay-limestone soils and gravelly red clay and galets, most notably in La Crau in the South. While Aimé works the vineyards organically, his children, Christophe and Isabelle, are in charge of wine production. Christophe is a self-proclaimed “great defender of Grenache,” which represents 75% of their vines. With assistance from Aimé’s farming and Isabelle’s efforts in the cellar, he harnesses the typical exuberance of Grenache-based wines through careful vinifications that respect both terroir and vintage. The results are a wide range of rich and flavorful Châteauneuf-du-Papes, Côtes-du-Rhône, and Vins de Pays that are complex and balanced – often in contradiction to a region better known for sheer size and power.

LOCATION

France, Côtes-du-Rhône

SOIL

Clay, sand

ELEVATION

50 meters

FARMING

In conversion to organic

VARIETIES

Grenache, Syrah, Mourvèdre, Carignan, Cinsault

AGE OF VINES

10-60 years-old

FERMENTATION

Hand harvested, 20% whole cluster, fermentation in tank, 12-15 day maceration

AGING

12 months in foudre

Domaine la Janasse was one of the first properties represented by European Cellars and for many years we sold their dependable and quaffable bistro-styled Côtes-du-Rhône. A few years ago while tasting in their cellar we sampled a portion of this cuvée out of foudre and the Côtes-du-Rhône Reserve was born. It’s a more serious effort than the regular Côtes-du-Rhône bottling that showcases the estate’s ability to marry richness with finesse

ACCOLADES

90 - 2022, James Suckling

92 - 2016, Jeb Dunnuck

92 - 2015, Jeb Dunnuck

