



DOMAINE DE CÉBÈNE

Belle Lurette

Leaving her native Bordeaux and the employ of Jean-Luc Thunevin, for whom she was the export manager, Brigitte Chevalier settled in Faugères with the intention of starting her own estate. For years she had been drawn to the unique terroirs of Faugères and its rugged landscape hugging the Massif Central in the far northwest corner of the Languedoc. Faugères is a borderland where the gentle climate of the Mediterranean meets the wild and unpredictable weather of the central upland of France. Through diligent research, Brigitte was able to locate a group of vineyards in a remote part of Faugères centered around a ziggurat-shaped hill at an elevation of 320m above sea level. This location affords a range of exposures from north-facing, then around the slope of the hill facing east before finishing with full southern exposure. Underneath these sites is the classic soil of Faugères – schist. This distinctive soil stretches from Faugères southwestwards into Saint-Chinian creating wines with pronounced acidity and minerality – qualities that make these two regions stand apart from their neighbors. These factors: soil, exposure and climate, combine to allow Brigitte to make wines that suit her palate, what she calls, “Vin du Nord in the South.”

An idiomatic expression in French, Belle Lurette means, “a long time ago.” This is a cuvée based on old-vine Carignan planted on the north-facing and terraced slope of Brigitte’s vineyard situated at the northern edge of Faugères. Here the soils are schistous and rocky and the exposure allows for a simultaneous ripening of the sugars and phenols of this challenging variety. The remaining varieties in this cuvée, Grenache and Mourvedre, are planted nearby and benefit from the same exposure and long maturation.

ORIGIN

France

APPELLATION

Faugères

SOIL

Schist

AGE OF VINES

15–90

ELEVATION

320 meters

VARIETIES

Carignan, Grenache, Mourvedre

FARMING

Certified organic (ECOCERT)

FERMENTATION

*Hand harvested, whole cluster fermentation
in concrete tanks, basket press*

AGING

11 months in tank

ACCOLADES

94 – 2016 Belle Lurette – Jeb Dunnuck

92 – 2015 Belle Lurette – Wine Advocate

93+ – 2013 Belle Lurette – Wine Advocate

