



E. GUIGAL

Above: The Guigal family spent nearly 15 years restoring Château d'Ampuis, the iconic 11th century property perched on the banks of the Rhône river. For generations, the building has remained a symbol of the region and of the world-renowned vineyards which surround it.



Côtes du Rhône Blanc 2019

Rhône Valley, France

ESTATE

The more you learn about the Guigal family, the more astounding their story becomes. Their wines are the benchmarks for every Rhône appellation, and over the last thirty years they have become arguably the most lauded producer in the world. Year after year the Guigal family produces wines of exceptional quality that in all classes offer exceptional value.

WINE

Guigal's Côtes du Rhône Blanc both sets and steps outside the standard for the appellation and showcases one of the great secrets of the Guigal family: their specialization in the great white Rhone varieties. While only 2% of the Rhone's production is white, a full 25% of Guigal's production is white. This wine, based on Viognier, is both fresh and rich, with complex aromas and flavors of honeysuckle, pear, and kiwi, and a deep mineral streak. It is a beautiful, seamless wine that represents unbelievable value. Guigal produces an almost completely distinct Cotes du Rhone Blanc due to their Northern Rhone mindset. Wines under this general appellation are dominated by Southern Rhone grapes such as Clairette, Grenache Blanc, and Bourboulenc. Since 1991, the Guigals have searched for and encouraged plantings of Viognier for their Cotes du Rhone Blanc, as they believe it adds critical freshness and aromatics to the other varieties.

VINEYARD

Soils: Sedimentary, limestone and granite soils, with many pebbles and alluvial deposits.
Yields: 1.8 tons per acre, average age of the vines is 35 years.

WINEMAKING

Grape Varieties: 60% Viognier, 15% Roussanne, 10% Marsanne, 8% Clairette, 5% Bourboulenc, 2% Grenache Blanc

Fermentation: Low temperatures, temperature controlled alcoholic fermentation in stainless steel.

Aging: 9 months in stainless steel tanks.

Alcohol: 13.5%

VINTAGE

2019 is another excellent vintage for the Rhône Valley, with exceptional potential quality in both the North and South. A dry spring was followed by a moderate summer featuring three distinct heat spikes; harvest occurred normally in mid-September. The grapes were ripe and concentrated with excellent natural acidity, and the wines are rich but balanced and expressive. Another superb vintage for the region.

JEB DUNNUCK

"The quality of this cuvée has soared over the past decade, and the 2018 Côtes du Rhône Blanc is another terrific vintage. Tasting like a mini Condrieu with its floral, orange blossom, and honeysuckle aromas and flavors, it's medium-bodied, fresh, and lively on the palate, with an attractive mix of richness and freshness." - JD, 12/2019

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Wine Enthusiast