

CLOS DU MONT-OLIVET Châteauneuf-du-Pape Rouge 'Compagnons Inconnus' 2019

The family estate of Clos du Mont-Olivet is the collector's choice for traditional, aromatic and age-worthy southern Rhône blends. This multigenerational estate was one of the first wineries North Berkeley Imports partnered with in the south of France more than 25 years ago; since then, the estate has come to symbolize both what we seek out in winemakerpartners and importantly, what we hold true and dear in great wine. Always elegant, aromatic and long-lived, these wines reflect not only the rich character of southern Rhône terroir but also the subtle, spicy personalities of the region's native grapes. Clos du Mont-Olivet is "one of the great estates of Châteauneuf-du-Pape," says the Wine Advocate.

WINERY: Clos du Mont-Olivet

WINEMAKER: Thierry Sabon

ESTABLISHED: 1932

REGION: FRANCE • Rhône Valley • Châteauneuf-du-Pape

APPELLATION: Châteauneuf-du-Pape AOC

BLEND: 32% Mourvèdre, 25% Vaccarèse, 9% Counoise, 9% Muscardin, 9% Terret Noir, 9% Picpoul Noir, 4% Cinsault and 3% Grenache.

VINEYARDS: A selection of fruit from two estate vineyards: lieu-dit 'Montalivet,' where soils are sandy, with some clay; and lieu-dit 'Pied de Baud,' also sandy but covered with 'galets roules,' or large quartz stones.

AGE OF VINES: 30-40 years

WINEMAKING: Hand-harvested. Full-cluster fermentation (with all grape varieties co-fermented) on indigenous yeasts in cement tank. Free-run and press wine combined; aged in clay (sandstone) jars for six months; then in older demi-muids for seven months. Bottled unfined and unfiltered.

TASTING IMPRESSIONS: Aromas of bright red fruit, brown spice, red plums, southern lavender and white pepper. Lots of spice and energy; notes of ginger, chocolate, wild garrigue.

PAIRING SUGGESTIONS: Grilled steak; lamb roasted with prunes; olive tapenade



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