

CLOS DU MONT-OLIVETVin de Pays du Gard 'Confluence'

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 winemaker-partners 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: Vin de Pays du Gard **BLEND:** 95% Carignan, 5% Grenache

VINEYARDS: Estate vineyards are located on the "rive droite" (right bank) of the Rhône river, due west of Châteauneuf-du-Pape, near the village of Saint-Laurent des Arbres. A majority of the Carignan vines in lieu-dit 'Le Clau' were planted in 1901. Soils mix sand and clay.

AGE OF VINES: 20-30 years

WINEMAKING: Hand-harvested. Destemmed; fermented on indigenous yeasts in cement tanks. Aged 55% in demi-muid and 45% in older French oak barrels. Bottled unfined and unfiltered.

TASTING IMPRESSIONS: Aromas of red and black cherry, raspberry, baking spice, licorice, smoke. Smooth tannins, full-bodied, juicy.

PAIRING SUGGESTIONS: Grilled pork sausages with herbs; lamb burgers; smoked meats

NOTES: Winemaker Thierry Sabon calls this wine "confluence" as it represents the coming together of new and old: new vineyards and terroir with the estate's generations-deep winemaking talents.

