



## DOMAINE GRAND NICOLET

### Rasteau Vieilles Vignes

One of the founding family cellars of Rasteau, Grand Nicolet got its start in 1875 when Joseph Nicolet owned just over two acres of vines in the village. Winemaking in earnest began in the 1920s, and through the decades, the domaine grew as winemaking duties were passed from father to son and daughter. Today, winemaker Jean-Pierre Bertrand tends by hand some 70 acres of vines, many of which are Rasteau's oldest. The family's Côtes-du-Rhône in particular is a cut above, an older-vine red blend that delivers an energy and concentration that is the signature of the finest Rasteau wines. Extraordinary quality-price ratio!

**WINERY:** Domaine Grand Nicolet

**WINEMAKER:** Jean-Pierre Bertrand

**ESTABLISHED:** 1921

**REGION:** FRANCE • Southern Rhône • Rasteau

**APPELLATION:** Rasteau AOC

**BLEND:** 65% Grenache, 25% Syrah, 10% Mourvèdre

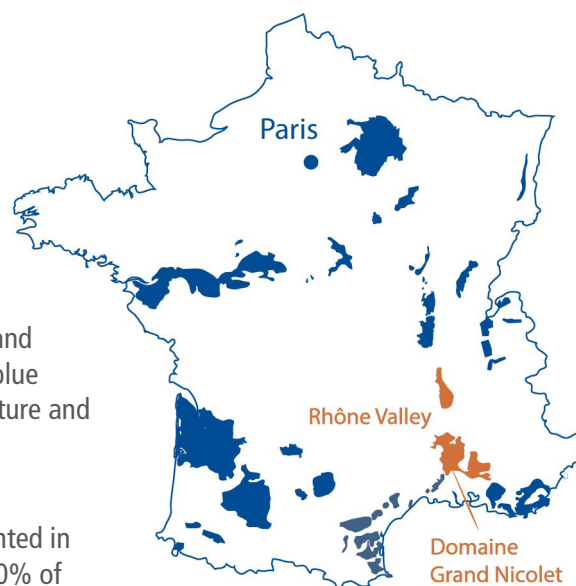
**VINEYARDS:** Estate hillside vineyards face southeast. Soils mix red and yellow clay (rich in minerals) with limestone, and unique subsoils of blue marl, which is believed to contribute to Rasteau's characteristic structure and complexity.

**AGE OF VINES:** 20 to 50 years

**WINEMAKING:** Hand-harvested. Partially destemmed (80%); fermented in temperature-controlled, cement tanks on indigenous yeasts. Some 10% of Syrah is aged separately for one year in three-year French oak barrels; the rest of the blend is aged in cement tank for 18 months.

**TASTING IMPRESSIONS:** Aromas of red and black raspberries, cherries, incense, pepper, licorice. Full-bodied, medium tannins; refined, concentrated.

**PAIRING SUGGESTIONS:** Pork terrine; grilled sausages with herbs; roasted chicken



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1601 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Berkeley, CA 94709 [northberkeleyimports.com](http://northberkeleyimports.com)