

## DOMAINE DES PIERRES SÈCHES

### Saint-Joseph Blanc

After wine studies in Beaune, winemaker Sylvain Gauthier decided to explore native Rhône grapes first with Michel Chapoutier and then with Stéphane Robert, before he was ready to start his own project in the true center of the Saint-Joseph appellation. He founded his micro-domaine in the village of Cheminas in 2007, the name "pierres sèches" inspired by the hand-built, ancient stone walls that support vineyard terraces on the steep slopes of the northern Rhône. Farming organically and using little sulfur at bottling, Sylvain's wines are vibrantly flavored and energetically spiced—in sum, serious northern wines that have quickly become a must-have from an up-and-coming talent.

**WINERY:** Domaine des Pierres Sèches

**WINEMAKER:** Sylvain Gauthier

**ESTABLISHED:** 2007

**REGION:** FRANCE • Northern Rhône • Cheminas

**APPELLATION:** Saint-Joseph AOC

**BLEND:** 100% Roussanne

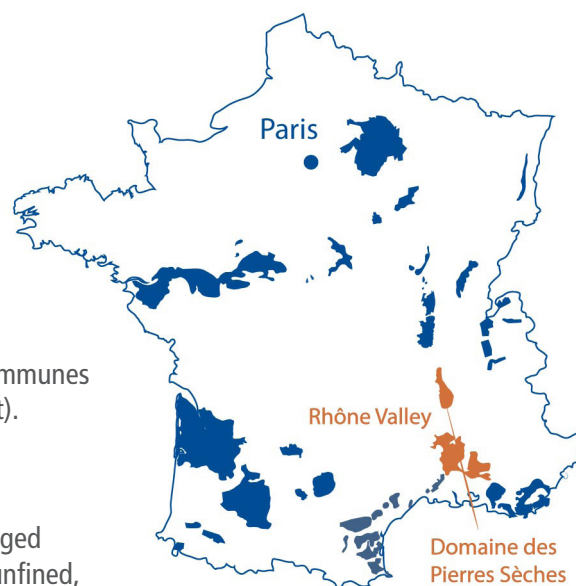
**VINEYARDS:** Estate hillside vineyards face south/southeast in the communes of Sarras and Ozon. Soils are mostly schist and more fertile loess (silt).

**AGE OF VINES:** 10-20 years

**WINEMAKING:** Hand-harvested. Pressed full cluster; fermented in temperature-controlled, stainless steel tanks on indigenous yeasts. Aged for six months in older French oak barrels (three years old). Bottled unfiltered, with minimal added sulfur.

**TASTING IMPRESSIONS:** Aromas of citrus, green apple, crisp pear, crushed stones, floral notes. Fresh, juicy, refined.

**PAIRING SUGGESTIONS:** Air-dried salami or other charcuterie; as an aperitif; grilled chicken



## NORTH BERKELEY IMPORTS

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