

DOMAINE CHRISTOPHE BILLON

Côte Rôtie 'Les Elotins'

At the very top of the hill overlooking the northern Rhône town of Ampuis, you'll find the modest yet rising-star estate of Christophe Billon. Since 1991, Christophe has crafted honest, authentic Syrah wines from these steep, terraced slopes. His family's roots go back generations in Ampuis; the family's oldest parcel of vines was planted by Christophe's grandfather in 1942. The family crafts three Côte-Rôtie cuvées, each generously structured and stunningly pure, and each a faithful representation of the power and purity of these "roasted slopes."

WINERY: Domaine Christophe Billon

WINEMAKER: Christophe Billon

ESTABLISHED: 1991

REGION: FRANCE • Rhône Valley • Ampuis

APPELLATION: Côte-Rôtie AOC

BLEND: 97% Syrah and 3% Viognier

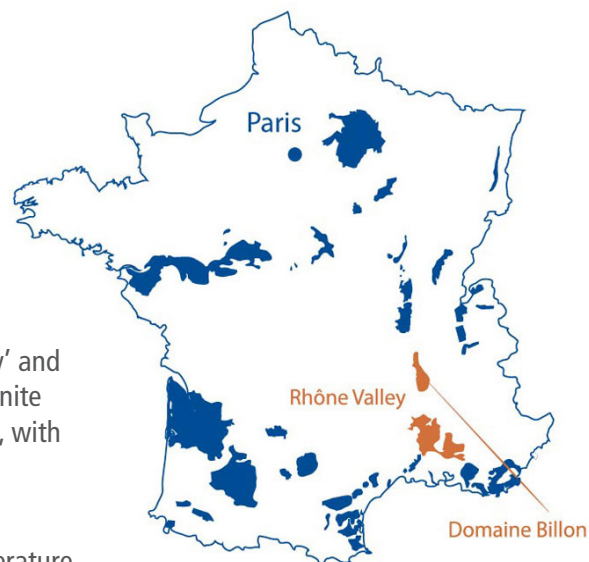
VINEYARDS: A selection of fruit from four separate parcels. 'Le Goutay' and 'Combard' are located in the 'Blonde' side of Côte-Rôtie, with more granite and quartz soils; 'Les Moutonnes' and 'Côte Baudin' in the 'Brune' side, with schist-mica soils.

AGE OF VINES: 40 years, on average

WINEMAKING: Destemmed; fermented on indigenous yeasts in temperature controlled, stainless steel tanks. Aged for 22 months in older French oak barrels (one- to two-year old barrels).

TASTING IMPRESSIONS: Aromas of black cherries, raspberries, pepper. Full-bodied and deep; present yet fine-grained tannins

PAIRING SUGGESTIONS: Red meat or autumn stews; aged French cheeses



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