

## DOMAINE CHRISTOPHE BILLON

### Côte Rôtie 'Côte Rozier'

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:** 100% Syrah

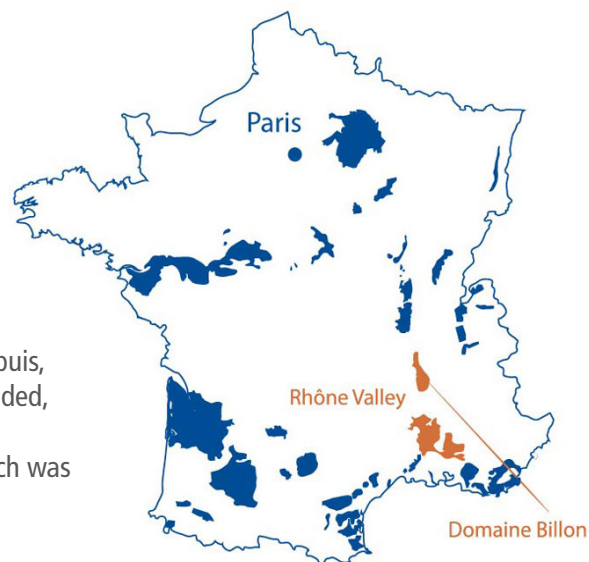
**VINEYARDS:** The vineyard 'Côte Rozier' sits north of the village of Ampuis, on the same, east-facing flank of hillside as 'La Landonne.' Steeply graded, the plot's soils are mostly schist, with some mica pieces; classic 'Brune' terroir. The family farms three small parcels within 'Rozier,' one of which was planted in 1942 by winemaker Christophe Billon's grandfather.

**AGE OF VINES:** 45 years, on average; oldest vines 80 years

**WINEMAKING:** Partially destemmed (70%); fermented on indigenous yeasts in temperature controlled, stainless steel tanks. Aged for 26 months in French oak cask (300L; 50% new wood).

**TASTING IMPRESSIONS:** Aromas of black fruits trending toward purple, pepper, crushed stones. Full-bodied, concentrated; structured tannins, serious depth.

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



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