

CLOS DU MONT-OLIVET Châteauneuf-du-Pape Rouge Cuvée Unique 2018

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: Châteauneuf-du-Pape AOC

BLEND: 80% Grenache, 10% Syrah and 10% Mourvèdre; a special blend exclusively imported by North Berkeley Imports

VINEYARDS: Estate vineyards represent a perfect cross-section of Châteauneuf terroir, unique in its complexity and variety. The lieu-dits 'Montalivet,' 'La Crau,' 'Blachieres,' 'Coste Froide,' 'Bois Seneseau,' 'Palestor,' 'Bois Dauphin,' 'Pied de Baud,' 'Les Bosquets,' 'Les Parrans' and 'Les Marines' are found in the north/northeast of the appellation. Soils range from clay and sand to alluvial gravel and 'galets roulés,' the large quartz stones characteristic of Rhône Valley vineyards.

AGE OF VINES: 30-40 years

WINEMAKING: Hand-harvested. Partially destemmed; fermented on indigenous yeasts in cement tank. Aged exclusively in older foudre. Bottled unfined and unfiltered.

TASTING IMPRESSIONS: Aromas of blackberry, red cherry and baking spices. Smooth, concentrated yet balanced; flavors of tart cherries, red plums and light licorice. Very long.

PAIRING SUGGESTIONS: Grilled steak; lamb roasted with prunes; olive tapenade

