

CHÂTEAU DE JANICON Graves Rouge

The Graves region in Bordeaux for centuries has produced red and white wines with an aristocratic mien and effortless elegance in perfume and flavor. The region's name points to its terroir strength: "graves" describes a gravelly terrain, these poor, well-draining soils a veritable nirvana for Cabernet Sauvignon—a fact used to great effect by our partners in Castres, Château de Janicon. With vineyards surrounding their 16th-century home and cellars, the Rochet family sustainably tends 40 acres of Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot vines in equal proportion, the backbone of Graves red blends, in addition to Petit Verdot and Malbec.

WINERY: Château de Janicon WINEMAKER: Lou Rochet ESTABLISHED: 1980s

REGION: FRANCE • Bordeaux • Castres

APPELLATION: Graves AOC

BLEND: 52% Cabernet Sauvignon, 44% Merlot, 4% Petit Verdot

VINEYARDS: Estate vineyards surround the family home and cellars in Castres, an ancient village near the Garonne river south of Bordeaux. Soils are stony (the region's classic "graves"), with subsoils of clay and silica above a core of limestone rock, deep under the surface.

AGE OF VINES: 15 to 50 years

WINEMAKING: Hand-harvested. Grapes destemmed and briefly cold macerated; fermented (by grape variety and parcel) on selected yeasts in temperature-controlled, stainless steel tanks. Aged in French oak barrel for one year.

TASTING IMPRESSIONS: Aromas suggest black cherries and plum, ripe cassis and herbal notes. Full-bodied and smooth, ripe tannins and a lightly spiced finish.

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

