



The Guigal family spent nearly 15 years restoring Château d'Ampuis, the iconic 11th century property perched on the banks of the Rhône river. For generations, the building has remained a symbol of the region and of the world-renowned vineyards which surround it.



## Côtes du Rhône Rouge 2020

Rhône Valley, France

### ESTATE

The more you learn about the Guigal family, the more astounding becomes their story. Their wines are the benchmarks for every Rhône appellation, and over the last thirty years they have become arguably the most lauded producer in the world. Year after year the Guigal family produces wines of exceptional quality that in all classes offer exceptional value.

### WINE

The Guigal family owns some of the most hallowed vineyards in the Rhône Valley and the world and makes some of the most sought-after wines in the world. Yet you are undoubtedly more likely to spend time with them speaking about their Côtes du Rhône Rouge. Given that this particular wine can be the introduction to the entire Rhône Valley for a drinker, as well as the position the Guigals occupy in the Rhône Valley, it is not enough for the Guigals to make a good Côtes du Rhône, they are relentlessly driven to produce a distinctive and outstanding wine that drives interest in exploring the Rhône.

### VINEYARD

*Soils:* Sedimentary, limestone and granite soils, with many pebbles and alluvial deposits.

*Yields:* Average of 2.1 tons per acre, average age of the vines is 35 years

### WINEMAKING

*Grape Varieties:* 50% Syrah, 40% Grenache, 10% Mourvèdre

*Fermentation:* The wine sees a traditional lengthy maceration in stainless steel, punching down twice a day for good extraction

*Aging:* 24-30 months in neutral oak

*Alcohol:* 15%

### VINTAGE

2020 is another excellent vintage for the Rhône Valley. A dry spring was followed by a moderate summer featuring, this time without the extreme heat spikes of 2019. Harvest occurred early – particularly for whites and Rosés – but the weather was even and temperate throughout. The grapes were ripe and concentrated with superb natural acidity – The wines are rich, balanced, and expressive.

90

## Decanter

*"Modern, lifted [...] attractive and evocative. Black cherry inkiness segues into a dense palate where all the fruit is crammed into a structured body with drying tannins. Herbs and stones hemmed in by a firm grip. A good all rounder." -T.M. 12/23*

90

James Suckling