



# E. GUIGAL

Above: The Guigal family spent nearly 15 years restoring Chateau 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.



## Châteauneuf-du-Pape 2018

Châteauneuf-du-Pape, France

### ESTATE

The more you learn about the Guigal family, the more astounding their story becomes. 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

While the Guigal's grow and purchase fruit in the Northern Rhône, because they cannot be on site in the Southern Rhône they purchase wines as soon as possible after harvest, often before malolactic conversion is finished. They look for wines of depth, balance and, above all, the ability to age and become great wines.

### VINEYARD

*Soils:* This Châteauneuf represents work with 43 different growers, on the unique rocky alluvial vineyards (the famous "galets") and red clay soils of the area.

*Yields:* Vines average 50 years of age, with yields of 33 hl/ha

### WINEMAKING

*Grape Varieties:* Composed of old-vine Grenache (70%), Mourvèdre (15%), Syrah (10%), and the remaining balance of traditional grapes of the appellation.

*Fermentation:* Traditional winemaking with temperature controlled alcoholic fermentation. 3 weeks maceration in tanks.

*Aging:* 3 years in oak foudres

*Alcohol:* 15%

### VINTAGE

Spring in the South was very wet, interrupting the flowering and causing significant crop loss (up to 40%). The Summer was stable and dry, leading into perfect autumn which allowed even ripening and excellent phenolic development. Harvest took place in late September under clear skies. The reds are classic – with ripe tannins, adequate but fresh acidities, and excellent concentration (due to the low crop).

92

## Wine Spectator

"Round and softened by time, this wine's bottle aging has brought out softened tobacco notes that layer over cherry and bitter almond skin. Reveals orange peel acidity and cocoa bean on the palate, with campfire and olive tapenade accents." -K.B. 9/23

92 James Suckling

89-91 Wine Advocate

90 Jeb Dunnuck