

Domaine des 3 Cellier 2018 Chateauneuf-du-Pape "Alchimie"

Producer	Dom. Des 3 Cellier
WineWise Code	F3C-CHA18
Country	France
Region	Rhone
Color	Red
Case Size	12x750
Pricing	NET
ABV	14.5
Acidity	3.29
Residual Sugar	1.4
Closure	Natural Cork
Annual Production (this wine only)	1000
Varieties	Black Grenache 60% , Syrah 16% , Mourvèdre 10% , Counoise 4% ,Vaccarèse 4% , Black Terret 4% , Pink Clairette 2%
Pumpover or Punchdown?	yes
Destemming	Complete
Fermentation Vessel	Concrete
Fermentation Duration	4 weeks thermoregulated fermentation
Aging Method	Big Oak Barrels
Aging Duration (Months)	12
Filtered?	Yes
Fining_Agents	Gelatine
Yeast	Cultured
Malolactic	Yes
Added Sulfur?	Yes
Vineyard Name(s)	Les Bosquets, Les Brusquières, Les Galimardes, Les Serres, TerresBlanches, Palestor, Cabrières
Soil Type	Rounded pebbles, Alluvial
Vine Age (years)	45
Vine Yields (hl/ha)	32
Farming Practices	Certified Organic
Vine Training Notes	goblet pruning and Royat Cordon pruning
Grape Picking	Hand-harvested

WineWise Notes:

The estate's flagship wine is composed of seven varieties (60% is Grenache) planted in seven different liux-dits. With its glossy texture and dark-toned, almost tarry fruit, it screams of its origins and delivers a dollop of deliciousness in every mouthful.



Notes about the producer:

The Cellier (that really is their name!) family domaine goes back eight generations. Its current title alludes to the three brothers (and one sister-in-law) who took the reins from father Marc in 2007. 13 of their 14+ hectares of vines are distributed among no fewer than 24 parcels that are scattered throughout the appellation, including one 4 hectare plot in the northern Terres Blanches that makes an important contribution to the estate's quality. The average age of their vines is 45 years. Viticulture has been certified organic by Ecocert for many years now.

What attracted us to the wines was a sense of authenticity to accompany the flamboyance and power one comes to expect in modern examples of this storied appellation. They are also strikingly reasonable in price for their quality, even after the unexpected and unwelcome extension of the Trump Tariff to them. They make a nice counterpoint to the more classical wines of our Châteauneuf pioneer, Domaine du Banneret.