

Domaine des 3 Cellier 2018 Châteauneuf-du-Pape "Marceau"

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| Producer | Dom. Des 3 Cellier |
| WineWise Code | F3C-CHM18 |
| Country | France |
| Region | Rhone |
| Color | Red |
| Case Size | 12x750 |
| ABV | 15 |
| Acidity | 3.2 |
| Residual Sugar | <1 |
| Closure | Natural Cork |
| Annual Production (this wine only) | 330 |
| Varieties | Black Grenache 30% , Mourvèdre 50% , Counoise 10% , Vaccarèse 10% |
| Pumpover or Punchdown? | yes |
| Destemming | Complete |
| Fermentation Vessel | Concrete |
| Fermentation Duration | 4 weeks thermoregulated fermentation |
| Aging Method | Used Barrique 40%, Big Oak Barrels 60% |
| Aging Duration (Months) | 18 |
| Filtered? | Yes |
| Fining_Agents | Gelatine |
| Yeast | Cultured |
| Malolactic | Yes |
| Added Sulfur? | Yes |
| Vineyard Name(s) | Terres Blanches |
| Soil Type | Rounded pebbles |
| Vine Age (years) | 45 |
| Vine Yields (hl/ha) | 28 |
| Farming Practices | Certified Organic |
| Vine Training Notes | goblet pruning and Royat Cordon pruning |
| Grape Picking | Hand-harvested |

WineWise Notes:

Only 2000 bottles were produced of this stunning wine whose origin is entirely in Terres Blanches. With its unusual basis in Mourvèdre (more even than Beaucastel), it is well-suited to its élevage in barriques and foudres, which serves to soften and bolster this famously robust variety. The wine is simultaneously succulent and firm, and has justifiably garnered some glowing reviews.



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.