



E. GUIGAL



Crozes-Hermitage 2016

Crozes-Hermitage

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

Crozes-Hermitage brings you into the Northern Rhône Valley, where the red wines have a profile unlike anywhere else in the world, an irresistible combination of warm flavors of red and black fruit, exotic spice notes, and certainly in the case of Crozes, with pleasure and approachability in youth. It's important to note that most of Crozes-Hermitage is produced from the plains to the south and east of Hermitage, and these wines tend to be straightforward. Guigal's approach is to make a more serious Crozes that also has vigor, intensity and depth. In Guigal's hands, Crozes becomes a wine that delivers quality and pleasure far beyond its price.

VINEYARD

Soils: Guigal first produced a Crozes-Hermitage in 1999 after the acquisition of low-yielding, hillside vineyards. Since then they have continued to purchase similar quality vineyards, exclusively on hillsides, on soils that tend to limestone, clay silt and sandy gravel, with vine age averaging 35 years. The vineyards are grouped in the north of the appellation, specifically around the villages of Gervans, Mercuro, Larnage and Crozes-Hermitage itself.

Farming: The Guigal's work with organic and sustainable growers and practices.

Grape Variety: 100% Syrah

WINEMAKING

Fermentation: In stainless steel

Aging: 24 months in 228 liter barrels exclusively produced at Guigal's Château d'Ampuis cooperage.

VINTAGE

Climate: Following the benchmark 2015 vintage, 2016 did not fall far behind. A wet spring and hail in the Hermitage region reduced the crop, but hot weather from July through September promoted ripening. The season enjoyed an Indian summer through October, which resulted in a ripe, focused vintage that expresses the best of the terroir.

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VINOUS

"Powerful aromas of fresh dark berries, pungent flowers and smoky minerals, along with a hint of licorice that builds with aeration. Silky and expansive on the palate, offering spice-tinged blackberry and bitter cherry flavors and a touch of spicecake. Closes on a gently sweet violet pastille note, showing strong persistence, supple tannins and lingering spiciness."