



E. GUIGAL

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.



Côte-Rôtie Château d'Ampuis 2016

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 spent 15 years restoring Château d'Ampuis, a historic property whose oldest sections date back to the 11th century. The Château d'Ampuis has been the symbol of the town of Ampuis and the world-renowned Côte-Rôtie vineyard area for ten centuries. When the Guigal family learned that there was at one time a wine produced with the name Château d'Ampuis, they decided to produce an exceptional wine that would showcase the best that Côte-Rôtie has to offer. This is an emblematic expression of the terroir and flagship of the Guigals.

VINEYARD

Soils: A blend of 7 hillside vineyards located on the Côte Blonde and the Côte Brune: La Garde, Le Clos, La Grante Plantee, La Pommier, Le Pavillon Rouge, Le Moulin, and more recently, La Viria.

Yields: Average of 1.5 tons per acre, average age of the vines is 50 years

WINEMAKING

Grape Varieties: 93% Syrah, 7% Voignier

Fermentation: Temperature controlled, lasting 4 weeks in closed stainless steel tanks

Aging: 38 months in new oak barrels

Alcohol: 13.5%

VINTAGE

2016 began with a cool and rainy spring, with some threat from hail and mildew early on, and very late flowering. However, fine weather through August and September provide perfect conditions for a classic vintage, and the Côte Rôtie vineyards were harvested between late September and mid-October. The resulting wines are excellent, with great purity, concentration and balance. Philippe Guigal calls 2016 a 'classic' vintage for this cuvée, with expected aging potential of 25 years or more.

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"Extremely dark ruby. Powerful, mineral-accented cherry and dark fruit preserve, exotic spice, licorice and incense aromas show sharp delineation and pick up hints of candied flowers and olive with aeration. Sweet, seamless and broad on the palate, offering intense boysenberry, cherry liqueur, fruitcake and floral pastille flavors that slowly tighten up on the back half. Repeats the blue fruit note on an impressively persistent, spice-tinged finish that features sneaky tannins and an appealingly sweet cola flourish." - JR, 12/2019