



OUTSTANDING ARTISAN ESTATE
SOUTHERN RHÔNE VALLEY

DOMAINE DE VILLENEUVE

WALLUT & ROY DE BLICQUY FAMILIES, PROPRIETORS

Châteauneuf-du-Pape Vieilles Vignes
(Grenache, Mourvèdre, Syrah, Cinsault, Clairette)

Located in northern Châteauneuf-du-Pape adjacent to Beaucastel's southern border, Domaine de Villeneuve enjoys a mixture of soils including the appellation's signature river-smoothed cobblestones over subsoils of red clay and sand. Purchased in 1993 and entirely restored by the du Roy de Blicquy and Wallut families, Villeneuve is run by young Stanislas Wallut who adheres strictly to the tenets of biodynamics. Wallut believes this extreme school of organic farming, including the harnessing of natural forces and use of homeopathic preparations, is key to maintaining the living soil necessary for continued health of the domaine's precious old vines, 90% of which are 30-100 years old! Operations in the modern, three-level, subterranean winery are carried out by gravity, eliminating oxidative pumping and reducing the need for sulphur. Stan's painstaking year-round vineyard regimen, meticulous fruit selection, and non-manipulative practices yield age-worthy Châteauneuf with terrific purity, depth and concentration.



Located in the North of the Southern Rhône Valley appellation, Villeneuve is at the crossroad of several very ancient geological evolutions of the soils. Red clay and loess lie on sand from a sea which covered the area millions of years ago; the movement of this ancient sea was responsible for the famous round stones of Châteauneuf du Pape. Yellow clay also lies on sedimentary deposits, and these clays together are the "bones" of the soil while loess, sand and stones lend porosity.



The 8.4-ha estate produces about 25 hl/ha – i.e. less than 3,000 bottles per vintage. The varietal breakdown: Grenache 72%, Mourvèdre 15%, Syrah 5%, Cinsault 4%, with the remainder in white Clairette, Muscardin, Vaccerese; the Grenache, Cinsault, Syrah, and Mourvèdre are 30 - 95 years of age while the Syrah is 5 - 11 years old. The estate is entirely plowed, using no weed killers and avoiding all chemicals except sulphur. The proprietors use Camomille tea, infusion of nettle or horsetail, and other special preparations used in biodynamic culture. Marie-Christine du Roy de Blicquy carefully sorts all grapes in the vineyard, preventing any rotted bunches to be in contact with the sound ones.

2009 CHÂTEAUNEUF-DU-PAPE Vieilles Vignes

92 POINTS "There's a wild edge to this red, with bay leaf and alder wood notes up front, followed by a chewy core of tobacco, fig paste and mulled black currant fruit that melds into the charcoal-tinged finish. The taut tannins need time to soften, but there's plenty of fresh fruit here as well. Grenache, Mourvèdre, Syrah, Cinsault and Clairette. Best from 2012 through 2022." - WS

Thank you for your order and for your interest in Connoisseur Wines