

Côtes du Rhône

Les Vieilles Vignes

Domaine: Domaine Santa Duc

Cuvée: Les Vieilles Vignes

Vintage: 2005

Producer: Yves Gras

Website: <http://www.santaduc.fr/english/index.html>

Variety: 70% Grenache 25% Syrah 05% Mourvèdre

Country: France

Region: Rhône Valley

Background

Yves Gras of Domaine Santa Duc is a legendary producer of Gigondas, and has bottled for us this old-vines cuvée of Côtes du Rhône. He lives in a section of Gigondas known as the garrigue. The garrigue is the arid, rocky section of vineyards that run north and south mid-slope between the Ouvéze and the Rhône Rivers. The roasted, dry soils are decomposed rock and the area is characterized by wild herbs, sage and cedar.

The Vieilles Vignes is a blend of fruit from Gigondas' neighboring villages of Vacqueyras (25%), Rasteau (25%), Seguret (25%) and Rouaix (25%). This wine is technically a Côtes du Rhône Villages, as it comes from the best designated villages in the appellation.

- The Vieilles Vignes is 70% Grenache, 25% Syrah, 5% Mourvèdre
- Average vine age is 40+ years
- Fruit is harvested very late – sûr maturité (super ripe)
- Yields are 42 hecto/hectare (or 2.5 tons per acre) – not the 52 hecto/hectare allowable for Côtes du Rhône Villages
- As is traditional, this cuvée is all tank made – with no destemming, and is bottled unfiltered

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 APPELLATION CÔTES DU RHÔNE CONTRÔLÉE

Soil type: Guarrigue (arid and rocky)

