



Maison Les Alexandrins

TAIN L'HERMITAGE - FRANCE



Maison Nicolas Perrin Côte-Rôtie Rouge - 2012

AOC Côte Rôtie, Vallée du Rhône, France

DESCRIPTION

History has it that vines were planted here centuries ago. Two thousand years ago the Latin authors Martial, Pline l'Ancien, Columelle and Plutarque called the wine from Côte Rôtie "Vin Viennois".

During the Middle Ages and Renaissance, the reputation of the wines from Ampuis just grew bigger. Before the revolution wines from Côte Rôtie were sent to Royal tables around the world; England, Russia, Prussia and France. The vineyard reached its peak in 1890. Every inch of sunny hillside was planted with vines. At this time, the outbreaks of Phyloxera and other diseases didn't demotivate the winegrowers. Unfortunately World War One will ruin all their efforts. Over 150 men were sent to war and the vineyards were abandoned. It is only in the sixties that the vineyard was attended again.

TERROIR

The vineyard of Côte Rôtie is located on the hills of the right bank of the Rhône river. Some of the slopes exceed 60%. The vineyard is located at an altitude ranging between 180 and 325 metres and is composed of 73 localities.

The main stone is granite covered in places by schist but also sand and calcareous soils.

For the most part, our wine comes from the southern part of the appellation; Côte Blonde and Coteau de Tupin. We wished to make wines with great distinction but also with elegance and finesse rather than wines from the north that tend to be harder and more powerful.

THE VINTAGE

After a very dry winter and beginning of spring, Mai and June were rainy and sunny at the time, which was beneficial to the vine. On the edge of summer, we were in advance but an intense heat wave blocked the maturities. These conditions needed an exceptional effort in the vines to prevent illnesses and to get the grapes into a very satisfying sanitary state. The harvest started in middle of September. We noticed differences in the maturities depending on the areas, which led to continuing the picking until the first days of October. The yields were also quite different depending on the appellation and parcels.

LOCATION

The vineyard of Côte Rôtie is located on the hills of the right bank of the Rhône river to the north and south of the village of Ampuis. Some of the slopes exceed 60%. The vineyard is located at an altitude ranging between 180 and 325 metres and is composed of 73 different localities.

PROCESS

The grapes are cold-macerated before being fermented to increase the aromas of fruit. Maceration and fermentation for about 20 days with pumping-over for the first few days followed by punching-down. Ageing in 1-year-old barrels for 15 months.



VARIETALS

Syrah 98%, Viognier 2%

TASTING

The dark colour shows a good concentration.

The nose is a bit closed when first opened but after airing, aromas of black fruit and spices appear.

The mouth is silky, elegant and very flattering. The finish is long and shows that the wine has plenty of life in it.

SERVING

Currently this wine needs to be decanted at least an hour before serving.

Drink in it's youth: Slow roasted lamb will be a great match for this wine.

REVIEWS AND AWARDS

Wine Spectator **92/100**
"Focused and racy, with lively loganberry, blackberry and boysenberry fruit flavors that ripple along, guided by anise, sweet tapenade and juniper notes. Shows good focus through the finish."
James Molesworth, Wine Spectator, 15/10/2015

