



# Domaine Les Alexandrins

TAIN L'HERMITAGE - FRANCE

## Domaine Les Alexandrins Crozes-Hermitage Rouge - 2022

AOC Crozes-Hermitage, Vallée du Rhône, France

Domaine les Alexandrins - The Expression of the Rhône Valley Terroir. Made from old vines, our Crozes-Hermitage is a great classic, elegant and refined, vinified using methods that faithfully uphold local traditions.

### DESCRIPTION

A partnership between two winegrowers in the Rhône Valley – Nicolas Jaboulet and Alexandre Caso – Domaine les Alexandrins crafts wines in the purest tradition of the Crozes-Hermitage and Saint-Joseph appellations. They are made from exceptional terroirs, ensuring the very finest expression of the appellation. Our Crozes-Hermitage come from a superb, four-hectare vineyard planted with old vines located in the heart of the appellation, around the villages of Chanos Curson (Chassis), Pont d'Isère (Les Flouris) and Roche de Glun (Saviauds).

### TERROIR

Sandy-clay soil covered in pebbles. The vines are tended in a traditional way, using methods that respect the terroir, thereby encouraging biodiversity and drawing out the very best from the grapes. This is why some of our centenary vine stocks are able to withstand the tests of time and continue to give their best.

### THE VINTAGE

After a particularly hot and dry summer, the harvest began on August 17th with a perfectly ripe crop of white grapes, early enough to preserve all their freshness and natural balance. The reds followed, benefiting from a few saving rains that gave them more refinement. We favored infusion over extraction on our Crozes-Hermitage and our Brézème, preserving the crunchiness of the Syrah and the very delicate fruit of the vintage. In the cellar, the punching down and pumping for the 3 weeks of maceration released power and character for our Cornas, Saint Joseph and Hermitage. After devatting, a long aging will allow the wines to develop their aromatics, refine their tannins and gain in amplitude. The balance is already beautiful with controlled degrees and a lot of depth.

### LOCATION

An Appellation d'Origine Contrôlée in the northern Rhône Valley since 1937, the Crozes-Hermitage vineyard lies on the left bank of the Rhône, between the Hermitage and Saint-Joseph appellations. The earliest vines in this terroir were first grown in Roman times. Its name comes from two place names: "Crozes", from the Latin *crucem*, which means "cross" or "crossroads", and "Hermitage", from the Latin *heremitagium*, meaning "hermitage" in English. It refers to the hill rising above the Rhône, on the summit of which the knight Henri Gaspard de Stérimberg settled to live as a hermit on his return from the Albigensian Crusade.



## PROCESS

- Harvested by hand.
- Traditional vinification.
- 70% destemmed.
- 3-day cold maceration.
- Punching down and pumping over in alternation to break down and push in the pomace cap and draw out the aromas and tannins.
- Barrel fermentation for 20 days.
- Aged for 12 months in 2-year-old barrels.

## VARIETAL

Syrah 100%

13.5 % VOL.

Contains sulphites.

## TASTING

Beautiful, intense and deep purple, almost black colour. Very concentrated, the nose needs to be aerated to reveal the full extent of its powerful aromatic bouquet with notes of ripe black fruit and blackcurrants. Very elegant, the palate offers a beautiful tannic structure that is very persistent, with a delicate velvety texture and superb aromas that extend into a long, persistent finish. A very fine wine to taste in the next ten years.

## FOOD PAIRINGS

Grilled red meat, spicy dishes or stews with lots of flavour.

## SERVING

Serve between 15°C and 18°C. Right now: packed with black fruit notes. Cellaring time: ideally, drink within 5 years.

## REVIEWS AND AWARDS

JAMES SUCKLING.COM

93/100

"A well-crafted, textural and precise red from 100-year-old syrah vines on echalas training. The nose shows notes of dark cherries, raspberries, strawberries and black pepper. It's medium-bodied with finely grained tannins. There is a subtle, powdery texture with a refined character and pure quality of fruit toward the finish. Drink or hold."

James Suckling, 17/06/2024



94/100

"This is in the corner of the Thalabert vineyard that Jaboulet don't own. 30% of this plot was planted in 1919, the rest has been replanted more recently. There's a 12-18 month elevage depending on the vintage, and it's matured mostly in demi muids, 1-3 years old, with some in a tronconic vat. 30% whole bunch. Lovely concentration here with a core of sweet fruit. Well balanced with notes of mint, olive and sweet cherry and raspberry. There's good concentration here with ripeness, but also balance and elegance."

Wineanorak

