



LOUIS BERNARD

As of 1976, Mr Bernard travelled throughout the Rhône Valley in search of exceptional winegrowers producing wines of great authenticity and true to their terroir. Since then, close partnerships have been established with more than 20 respected vineyard owners. 40 years later, the Louis Bernard spirit is still alive and has been given a new inspiration thanks to a young and dynamic team established in the village of Gigondas. Generous, convivial, accessible are the descriptions that come to mind when discovering these inspiring wines. **With Louis Bernard wines, enhance every moment!**

DOMAINE LA CRAU DES PAPES Châteauneuf-du-Pape

The origins of the estate date back to the **17th century** vineyards which have remained all the time to the same family line. However the vines were destroyed by Phylloxera in the mid 19th century and were then replaced by ploughland. It is only in an act of succession of 1900 that land planted with vines in **the area of 'La Crau'** were again noticed. Some of these vines are still in the vineyard ! **Marius Puget** managed and enlarged the vineyard. He was also a **Provençal poet** under the pseudonym of Pierre de Châteauneuf and wrote about the nature, work in vines, the wines, Châteauneuf du Pape.



Châteauneuf du Pape is the most prestigious southern Rhône appellation. The wines derive their uniqueness from several sources. First, there are the round red and cream-colored stones or "**galets**" left in the soil by **ancient Alpine glaciers**. During the day, these 'galets' absorb the heat and then reflect it onto the vines at night, thus helping the grapes fully mature. The vines here benefit also from the cleansing Mistral wind, which keeps them dry and healthy.

His son, Pierre and grandson, **Thierry** have also enlarged the Châteauneuf du Pape property up to this nowadays 60 acres. The Domaine vineyards are located in the area of "La Crau" which is notable for pebble-and stone-strewn landscapes and ranks as one of the best and most historic terroirs of the **Châteauneuf du Pape Appellation**. The owner of Domaine la Crau des Papes, **Thierry Puget and Maison Louis Bernard** have been partnering for more than **20 years**, vinifying in a traditional, yet up-to-date fashion within this **prestigious** AOC-designated **terroir**.



*« Un verre de vin de France
Vous verse de l'espérance;
Un verre de Châteauneuf
Vous remet à neuf! »*

from 'Vin qui brille'
of Pierre de Châteauneuf



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DOMAINE LA CRAU DES PAPES 2014

Châteauneuf-du-Pape

The spirit of Louis Bernard

Sylvain Jean, the Louis Bernard winemaker, with our winegrower partners is committed to sustainable agriculture and earth-friendly policies.

He is convinced that the quality of a wine depends above all on the selection and maturity of the fruit in respect of the environment. Together they guarantee the 'Louis Bernard style' is very much focused on **Grenache**, the king of grape varieties in the **southern Rhône Valley**.

Harvest 2014

The **unusual climatic conditions** during the growth cycle until the harvest necessitated **great vigilance** and a lot of involvement from our team. The harvest 2014 looks **qualitative**, advantage of a well-balanced development of all the vines. The very wet winter allowed to fill up with water supply before a beautiful very dry spring. The blooming took place in optimal conditions, the nouaison was excellent, particularly at the level of grenaches. **Grenache** has delivered wines that are **warm and round** on the palate, expressing the typical spiced blackcurrant and black berry flavors of the southern appellation. **Fruity**, elegant and harmonious **2014 vintage**.

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Grape Varieties

Black Grenache - Syrah
Average yield : around 42 hl/ha.

Winemaking

Grapes de-stemmed and put into stainless steel vats. Fermentation starts with natural yeast. Pumping-over is done 2 to 3 times a day. Maceration lasts for 15 to 20 days to extract as much color and tannin as possible. Running off is done at the end of fermentation to obtain malolactic fermentation. Matured in wine vats for 8-10 months before bottling.

Tasting notes

Ruby red colour.
Medium to full-bodied richness and ample texture. Outstanding potential with its ample strawberry, garrigue, raspberry and floral flavors.

Service & food pairing

Between 16° and 18°C (63°- 65°F).
Drink now-2021. Ideal with large game, spicy dishes, red meat in sauce and ripened cheese.

Notes & Awards

90 - R.Parker's Wine Advocate
90 - Wine Enthusiast
"silky in texture, this is an unusually graceful & elegant wine".
Silver Medal Vacqueyras 2015 Competition