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## Saint-Joseph Blanc 2019

Saint-Joseph, France

### ESTATE

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### WINE

The Guigals believe, as do a number of top producers working in the area, that Saint-Joseph will be one of the great stories in the next few decades, reaching the renown it received several hundred years ago. Saint-Joseph Blanc is a serious wine, with weight and complexity, and is deeply reflective of its vineyard sites. The 30 mile long district of Saint-Joseph, along the Western bank of the Rhône, extends from the southern part of Condrieu, through and around the town of Tournon, to the northern boundary of Cornas. Guigal only works in the southern area, around Tournon, the true heart and origin of the appellation.

### VINEYARD

*Soils:* Sedimentary, limestone and sandy soils, with many pebbles and alluvial deposits.  
*Yields:* Average of 1.8 tons per acre, average age of the vines is 20 to 50 years

### WINEMAKING

*Grape Varieties:* 95% Marsanne, 5% Roussane

*Fermentation:* In stainless steel, with slow pressing allowing for the wine to stay in contact with its skins. The entire wine goes through malolactic fermentation.

*Aging:* Partially in stainless steel vats (50%) and partly in oak (25%) coopered by Guigal at Château d'Ampuis.

*Alcohol:* 13.5%

### VINTAGE

2019 looks to be a nearly perfect vintage in the Northern Rhône. Following a cool spring, flowering was normal, setting a normal crop – a relief after two short harvests. Hail impacted Crozes Hermitage, but vineyards across the river in Saint-Joseph were not affected. July was the hottest on record in the Rhône, but August brought some welcome rain leading into a warm and even September with perfect harvest conditions. Guigal harvested their Saint Joseph whites on September 11th and 12th, bringing in supremely concentrated fruit with excellent acidity.

## JEB DUNNUCK

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"Pretty apple blossom, spice, and sappy flower notes dominate the bouquet of the 2019 Saint Joseph Blanc. This carries to a more medium-bodied, elegant white that offers a solid sense of minerality, good mid-palate depth and concentration, notable balance, and a great finish." - JEB DUNNUCK 11/2020

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Wine Spectator

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## Condrieu 2020

Condrieu, France

### ESTATE

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### WINE

Condrieu is one of the most exotic and distinctive wines in the world, with its intense aromatics and flavors of apricots, white peach and citrus, and its luscious, almost umami body. It happens to come from a dramatically steep area, and one so small that were it not for several influential people, Marcel Guigal among them, the appellation and its Viognier grape would have been swallowed by history. The tiny appellation (500 acres total) is located on steep granite hillsides beginning at a bend in the Rhône river just south of Côte Rôtie and continuing intermittently about 12 miles further south.

### VINEYARD

*Soils:* Sand and granite. Traditional cultivation by hand on steep terraced slopes.  
*Yields:* Average of 2.0 tons per acre, average age of the vines is 30 years.

### WINEMAKING

*Grape Varieties:* Viognier 100%

*Fermentation:* After hand harvesting and sorting, 1/3 of the wine was fermented in new oak barrels and was subsequently aged in barrel for 8 months. The remaining 2/3 of the wine was fermented and aged in stainless steel. All the wine underwent malolactic fermentation.

*Aging:* Partially in stainless steel vats (2/3) and partly in new oak (1/3) coopered by Guigal at Chateau d'Ampuis.  
*Alcohol:* 14.5%

### VINTAGE

2020 was another drought year in the Northern Rhône, with a warmer than average winter and early budbreak, and despite some rain during this time, the rainfall total for the North was the lowest in 30 or more years. The heat continued through the summer, but without the spikes seen in 2019, and the maturation and development of the crop was even, if rather early. Harvest in Condrieu commenced on August 26th and was finished on September 12th. The Viognier fruit was clean and concentrated, and the resulting wines are rich yet balanced, with excellent acidity and freshness, and perfect ripeness. A vintage to enjoy both early and in a few years' time!

### JEB DUNNUCK

*"The base Condrieu from Guigal always delivers and the 2019 Condrieu is stunning stuff, giving up a beautiful bouquet of ripe nectarines, orange blossom, honeysuckle, and exotic flowers. Just classic Condrieu in every way, it's medium to full-bodied, with remarkable purity, a fleshy opulence, and a great, clean finish. Readers looking for a textbook Condrieu can't go wrong with this."* - J.D., 11/2020

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Wine Enthusiast

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James Suckling

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# E. GUIGAL

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## Tavel 2022

Tavel, France

### ESTATE

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### WINE

The only AOC/AOP devoted singularly to rosé, Tavel is situated on the west bank of the Rhône River from Châteauneuf-du-Pape, producing France's finest rosé wine. Grenache and Cinsault dominate the blend, with smaller amounts of Syrah and Mourvedre, and occasionally including white grapes such as Clairette and Bourbolenc. Deeper in color than most rosés, Tavel is heady when young, but lasts well and can mature into a lovely rich wine 3-4 years after the harvest.

### VINEYARD

*Soils:* Clay/limestone marl soils, overlain by gravel and river-stones. While the Guigals grow and source fruit in the Northern Rhône, they purchase wines selectively for Tavel from six estates in the Southern Rhône as soon as possible after harvest (often before malolactic) because they cannot be on site for quality control. They then produce and masterfully blend the wine in Ampuis.

*Yields:* Average of 1.8 tons per acre, average age of the vines is 25 years

### WINEMAKING

*Grape Varieties:* 60% Grenache, 15% Cinsault, 10% Clairette, 10% Syrah, 5% other local grape varieties.

*Fermentation:* In stainless steel, left to rise to high temperature

*Aging:* 6 months in stainless steel tanks

*Alcohol:* 14%

### VINTAGE

The 2021 vintage in the Rhône Valley is probably best known for the devastating April frosts that made the worldwide news. Unsettled Spring weather was followed by a cooler than usual Summer, dry but without the intense heat that marked the previous three vintages, and September brought some welcome rain. Ripening occurred late, and unevenly, but the extended growing season was something of a return to a 'normal' harvest schedule. The grapes had good concentration, healthy natural acidity and normal sugar levels. The resulting rosé and white wines show excellent freshness and depth, while the reds will be full, rich, and lively – clearly benefitting from the extended maturation that the later harvest provided.

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**JAMESSUCKLING.COM** 

*"With its full body and prominent tannins this is a bold rosé with some red wine personality. Plenty of red plum fruit with some citrusy freshness. Matured exclusively in stainless steel tanks."* - S.P. 5/2023



# E. GUIGAL

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## Crozes-Hermitage 2020

Crozes-Hermitage, France

### ESTATE

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### WINE

Crozes-Hermitage is the perfect introduction to the Northern Rhône Valley, where the red wines have a profile unlike anywhere else in the world, an irresistible combination of warm flavors of red and black fruit, exotic spice notes and, certainly in the case of Crozes, offer pleasure and approachability in youth. It is important to note that most of Crozes-Hermitage is produced from the plains to the south and east of Hermitage, and these wines tend to be simple and straightforward. Guigal's owns vineyards and sources fruit from granitic terraces in the Northern sector, producing a more serious Crozes with vigor, intensity and depth. Guigal's Crozes-Hermitage is a wine that delivers quality and pleasure far beyond its price.

### VINEYARD

*Soils:* The vineyards are grouped in the north of the appellation, specifically around the villages of Gervans, Mercuro, Larnage and Crozes-Hermitage itself. Soils tend to limestone, clay silt and sandy gravel.  
*Yields:* Average of 1.8 tons per acre, average age of the vines is 35 years

### WINEMAKING

*Grape Varieties:* 100% Syrah

*Fermentation:* In stainless steel, left to rise to high temperature

*Aging:* 24 months in a combination of large foudres combined with and 228 liter barrels exclusively produced at Guigal's Château d'Ampuis cooperage.

*Alcohol:* 14%

### VINTAGE

2020 was another drought year in the Northern Rhône, with a warmer than average winter and early budbreak, and despite some rain during this time, the rainfall total for the North was the lowest in 30 or more years. The heat continued through the summer, but without the spikes seen in 2019, and the maturation and development of the crop was even, if rather early. The wines are fresh, full of fruit, and intensely aromatic. The 2020 is a perfect expression N. Rhone Syrah grown on granite soils.

## Wine Spectator

"A generous, alluring red, with red currant and cassis amped up with sweet spices, tarragon and singed cedar. Reveals cured salumi notes that add earthy, animal richness to the dense palate, firmed up by savory acidity and slightly chewy tannins. Offers a spine of iron that reins in the lushness." - K.B 9/23

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James Suckling

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Wine Advocate

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Jeb Dunnuck

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## Côte-Rôtie Brune et Blonde 2018

Côte-Rôtie, France

### ESTATE

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### WINE

Guigal is synonymous with the Cote-Rotie area, for bringing this great wine region to prominence. The incredible Syrah from this area, co-fermented with a touch of Viognier, has tremendously balanced concentration, depth and finesse. The name of this wine is a nod to the two areas of Cote-Rotie where fruit is used, the Cote Brune and the Cote Blonde. The historical legend is that long ago a lord deeded the Cote Brune to his dark-haired daughter and the Cote Blonde to his blond daughter.

### VINEYARD

*Soils:* Plots on steep slopes Côte Blonde are mostly silicone and limestone soils, while the plots on the Côte Brune are rich in iron oxyde

*Yields:* Average of 2.2-2.5 tons per acre, average age of the vines is 35 years

### WINEMAKING

*Grape Varieties:* 96% Syrah, 4% Viognier

*Fermentation:* The wine sees a traditional lengthy maceration in stainless steel, punching down twice a day for good extraction

*Aging:* 36 months in oak barrels, 50% new

*Alcohol:* 14%

### VINTAGE

2018 is now confirmed as one of the truly great vintages in the Northern Rhône valley. Following a very wet Spring, Summer was dry and hot – the warmest vintage since 2003. Harvest was quick and early, starting on the last day of August and finishing in Côte Rôtie on September 20th. Yields were slightly above average, but the fruit was uniformly ripe, with some vineyards in Côte Rôtie coming in at 15o potential. Due to the heat, the vineyards on the elevated slopes fared best, and Cote Rotie, Hermitage, and the granitic-terraced sites in Saint-Joseph and Crozes excelling. The red wines are dense and concentrated, with exceptionally deep color and rich tannins, similar to 2015 but with even more intensity. The whites are rich, juicy, and succulent.



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**JAMESUCKLING.COM**

All of the classic Cote-Rotie aromas (leather, smoked bacon, spices and black cherry) pour from the glass of this rich and fleshy wine. Very silky texture, in spite of the generous, fine tannins, which build beautifully at the long, complete finish. - J.S 2/22

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Wine Spectator

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# CHÂTEAU DE NALYS

The terroirs of Nalys realize a dream spanning three generations to join this leading prestigious and historic appellation.



## Saintes Pierres de Nalys Châteauneuf-du-Pape 2019 Châteauneuf-du-Pape, France

### ESTATE

Since their very first vintage bottled under the Guigal name, in 1946, the Guigal family has produced a Châteauneuf-du-Pape. The terroirs of Nalys realize a dream spanning three generations to join this leading prestigious and historic appellation. A property of 125 contiguous acres, Nalys is comprised of three spectacular plots within three of the best vineyards in the appellation: the famous "La Crau", Le Grand Pierre, and "Bois Sénéchal". Already listed in regional land registers at the end of the 16th century, Château de Nalys is one of the oldest properties in the appellation, and begins a new chapter in the hands of Guigal.

### WINE

Translated as "holy stones", a play on the soils and history of Châteauneuf-du-Pape, the second red wine to Château de Nalys is an altogether different animal. Differing varietal and plot selections, fermentation, and aging result in a wine that is rich and ample, yet offers immense direct and approachable pleasure; a wine of red fruits, supple structure and brightness. In comparison to the Grand Vin, this wine relies both on varieties and plots that bring freshness, and a vinification entirely in stainless steel and foudres that also emphasizes that freshness

### VINEYARD

Produced from three exceptional terroirs: 33% Nalys, with fine, red sandstone and sandy clay, with some limestone and soft sandstone; 34% La Crau, featuring the famous galets, large round pebbles derived from the Rhone river; 33% Bois Senechal, with slightly smaller galets and sandier, less structured soils than La Crau.

### WINEMAKING

Variety: 65% Grenache, 25% Syrah, 5% Muscardin, 5% (Mourvèdre, Cinsault, Vaccarese, Terret Noir)

Fermentation: Manual harvest and sorting, followed by temperature controlled vinification between 28-30°C (82-86°F). Fermentation takes around 4 weeks.

Aging: 24 months in stainless steel and foudres (10% new)

Alcohol: 15.5%

### VINTAGE

2019 is another excellent vintage for the Rhône Valley, with exceptional potential quality in both the North and South. A dry spring was followed by a moderate summer featuring three distinct heat spikes; harvest occurred normally in mid-September. The grapes were ripe and concentrated with excellent natural acidity, and the wines are rich but balanced and expressive. Another superb vintage for the region.

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## JEB DUNNUCK

"The 2019 Châteauneuf Du Pape Saintes Pierres De Nalys [...] has a medium-bodied, open-knit, sexy style as well as ample, garrigue-laced red and black fruits. It will certainly be an outstanding wine." - J.D 2/22

93 Vinous

92 Wine Advocate



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## Côtes du Rhône Rouge 2020

Rhône Valley, France

### ESTATE

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### WINE

The Guigal family owns some of the most hallowed vineyards in the Rhône Valley and the world and makes some of the most sought-after wines in the world. Yet you are undoubtedly more likely to spend time with them speaking about their Côtes du Rhône Rouge. Given that this particular wine can be the introduction to the entire Rhône Valley for a drinker, as well as the position the Guigals occupy in the Rhône Valley, it is not enough for the Guigals to make a good Côtes du Rhône, they are relentlessly driven to produce a distinctive and outstanding wine that drives interest in exploring the Rhône.

### VINEYARD

*Soils:* Sedimentary, limestone and granite soils, with many pebbles and alluvial deposits.

*Yields:* Average of 2.1 tons per acre, average age of the vines is 35 years

### WINEMAKING

*Grape Varieties:* 50% Syrah, 40% Grenache, 10% Mourvèdre

*Fermentation:* The wine sees a traditional lengthy maceration in stainless steel, punching down twice a day for good extraction

*Aging:* 24-30 months in neutral oak

*Alcohol:* 15%

### VINTAGE

2020 is another excellent vintage for the Rhône Valley. A dry spring was followed by a moderate summer featuring, this time without the extreme heat spikes of 2019. Harvest occurred early – particularly for whites and Rosés – but the weather was even and temperate throughout. The grapes were ripe and concentrated with superb natural acidity – The wines are rich, balanced, and expressive.

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## Decanter

*"Modern, lifted [...] attractive and evocative. Black cherry inkiness segues into a dense palate where all the fruit is crammed into a structured body with drying tannins. Herbs and stones hemmed in by a firm grip. A good all rounder." -T.M. 12/23*

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James Suckling