



E. GUIGAL

Hermitage Blanc 2015

Hermitage

ESTATE

The more you learn about the Guigal family, the more astounding becomes their story. Their wines are the benchmarks for every Rhone appellation, and over the last thirty years they have become arguably the most lauded producer in the world. Year after year the Guigal family produces wines of exceptional quality that in all classes offer exceptional value.

WINE

Hermitage is one of France's most spectacular and famous appellations, but Hermitage Blanc is one of the least-known yet most intriguing wines of the Rhône Valley. Composed primarily of Marsanne (95%) and small amounts of Roussanne (5%), it is relatively rare, accounting for only a small percentage of the production of the 309 acre Hermitage AOC.

VINEYARD

Soils: The vines are between 30-90 years of age, with the various blocks planted on granite limestone, clay loam and sandy gravel topsoils on the famous granite mother rock.

Farming: Yields are under 2.3 tons per acre, requiring extremely judicious farming.

Grape Varieties: 95% Marsanne, 5% Rousanne

WINEMAKING

Fermentation: Temperature controlled fermentation, between 60-65 degrees Fahrenheit.

Aging: 24 months in second year barrels.

VINTAGE

Marcel Guigal called 2015 "the vintage of a lifetime" and on par with 1929, 1947 and 1961, the anticipation while Guigal carried out their customary extended aging was almost too much to bear. From a vintage nearly as perfect as you could get, from vine dormancy right through harvest, the wines are spellbinding, with an utterly perfect balance of charm, complexity, and power.

Replenishing rain in the winter restored the water tables to supply the plants with nutrients, and then abundant sunshine and warmth helped the vines mature the berries to perfection as the generous diurnal shift maintained the acidity and freshness of the fruit.



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JEB DUNNUCK

"The 2015 Hermitage Blanc showed beautifully. From a number of lieux-dits (Beaume, Péleat, and Rocoules to name a few) and 80% Marsanne and 20% Roussanne, it has a crisp, mineral-laced style in its exotic aromas and flavors. With building richness and depth, a stacked mid-palate, and a big finish, drink it anytime over the coming 10-15 years. At this quality level, it should represent a terrific value."