



# E. GUIGAL

Above: The Guigal family spent nearly 15 years restoring Château d'Ampuis, the iconic 11th century property perched on the banks of the Rhône river. For generations, the building has remained a symbol of the region and of the world-renowned vineyards which surround it.



## Crozes-Hermitage 2020

Crozes-Hermitage, France

### ESTATE

The more you learn about the Guigal family, the more astounding becomes their story. Their wines are the benchmarks for every Rhône 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

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, Mercurol, 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

92

91

James Suckling

89-91

Wine Advocate

90

Jeb Dunnuck