





VARIETALS: 100% Viognier

## CONDRIEU LA GALOPINE 2023

Rhône, France

## **OVERVIEW**

On the right or west bank of the Rhône adjacent to the vineyards of Côte-Rôtie, the Condrieu area is one of the world's most elite. The steep vineyards are difficult to cultivate, and as a result only 50 acres in Condrieu are currently under vine. La Galopine comes from three plots located in Chavanay, Saint-Michel-sur-Rhône and Vérin. Soils are granite-based with a fine topsoil of decomposed mica that washes away easily. The Viognier is finicky with low yields (about 2 tons per acre), yet the limited quantities of wine it produces can be exquisite.

The climate is moderately continental, hot and dry in summer, regular rainfalls during the other seasons. The vineyard has often been a victim of history and almost disappeared on several occasions, during the barbarian invasions, in the days of the "Grandes Compagnies" (in the 17th and 18th centuries) and, more recently, at the end of the 19th century, with the phylloxera infestation. Well before the modern period, the trading port of Condrieu and its river fleet carried the reputation of its wines far and wide.

## WINEMAKING

Hand-harvested grapes travel to the winery in small boxes. Gentle pressing produces a must that is fermented at low temperatures between 61-64°F in temperature-controlled vats in order to make the most of the complex aromas of the Viognier variety. Each year, a variable part of the crop is fermented (20% max) in new oak casks.

93 POINTS JEB DUNNUCK Coming from two different parcels in the appellation, the 2023 Condrieu La Galopine is medium gold-hued with classic Condrieu notes of ripe stone fruits, peach, and apricot fruits as well as a beautiful floral character. It's medium to full-bodied, has wonderful freshness, and a great sense of minerality on the finish. Drink 2025-2030.

93 POINTS JAMESSUCKLING.COM® A bright and expressive Condrieu with a wealth of papaya, mango and ripe star-fruit aromas that deftly fill out the medium- to full-bodied palate. Excellent balance at the long finish that's very clean in spite of the modest acidity. Drink or hold.

