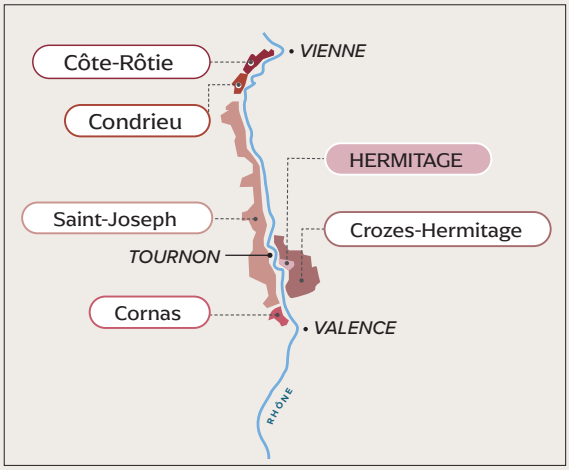
DELAS FRÈRES
18 35
SAPA VITAE

Hermitage
Domaine des Tourettes Blanc 2023
Rhône, France

VARIETALS:
90% Marsanne
10% Roussanne

OVERVIEW

Unlike most producers in Hermitage, who craft their white wines on the clay-limestone soils of the eastern slope, Delas Frères has made the bold choice to establish its white cuvée on the western side of the hill, on granitic terroirs traditionally reserved for Syrah. The cuvée conveys the full verticality of Hermitage through the singular blend of two of the hill's finest granitic terroirs: Les Bessards and Ligne de Crête. The former brings structure and volume, while the latter contributes fruit and acidity. It reveals the natural freshness and complexity of these terroirs by highlighting the aromatic bitters inherent to Marsanne.



WINEMAKING

The grapes are harvested at full maturity and kept in whole clusters. Pressing is carried out in an open cage, with rigorous control of oxidation phenomena upstream to preserve the aromatic integrity of the must. After a light settling, the musts ferment at low temperature in oak barrels. Malolactic fermentation is partially completed depending on the balance of the vintage. A passage in stainless steel tanks takes place both before and after ageing. The wine is aged in barrels for around 10 months, then in stainless steel vats for 2 months before bottling, with the aim of preserving the wine's natural freshness and avoiding any saturation of its expression.

97 POINTS
JAMESSUCKLING.COM

This great white Hermitage has terrific concentration and mineral energy on the medium- to full-bodied palate. The aromas of Mirabelle plums and fresh pineapple plus a hint of vanilla occupy the foreground, but behind them is a great stony intensity that powers the extremely long finish. A delicate touch of bitterness completes the compelling picture. From two plots, one at the bottom of Les Bessards with quite deep soil, the other on the highest point of Hermitage with a shallow and stony granitic soil. Drink or hold.

96+ POINTS
Robert Parker WINE ADVOCATE

In comparison to the 2022, the 2023 Hermitage Domaine des Tourettes Blanc is less introverted and more energetic at this stage. Unfurling in the glass with aromas of spring blossoms, ripe pear, white fruits and spices mingled with delicate notes of flowers with aeration, it's medium to full-bodied, layered and concentrated, rather rich and muscular yet elegant and fresh, concluding with a long, sapid and saline finish enhanced by gastronomic bitterness. Pure and elegant, this is a sumptuous rendition of this Hermitage hill, perfectly crafted by Jacques Grange and his team.

96 POINTS
JEB DUNNUCK

Just about all Marsanne and vinified and aged in 50% new barrels with malo blocked, the 2023 Hermitage Domaine Des Tourettes Blanc has a sensational bouquet of fresh quince, peach, white flowers, and crushed stone. Coming from the lower portion of the Bessards and the Le Grandes Vignes lieux-dits, it has medium to full-bodied richness, a concentrated yet ripe style, integrated acidity, and a great finish. Drink 2025-2034.