



Hermitage

Ligne de Crête 2023

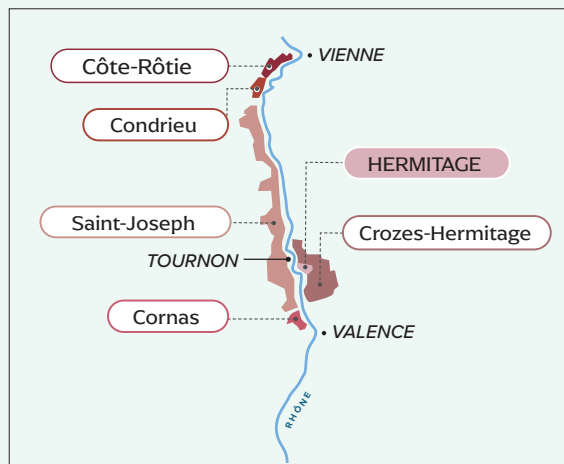
Rhône, France



VARIETALS:
100% Syrah

OVERVIEW

Ligne de Crête takes its name from its exceptional location: it is the highest plot in Hermitage, perched at an altitude of 325 meters, in a place called Les Grandes Vignes, at the western end of the hill. The soil is extremely poor, granitic, shallow, and subject to climatic hazards. At this altitude, the vines grow slowly, in intense light but without excessive heat. They produce a Syrah that is tense, mineral, and precise. Grapes are harvested from vines aged between 50 to 90 years located along the crest, where altitude and exposure bring a rare aromatic elevation for Hermitage. Vinification is sometimes carried out with a small proportion of whole clusters, adding complexity, and ageing in recent barrels preserves its floral precision. A prolonged ageing of 14 to 20 months depending on the vintage, followed by the additional bottle maturation, allows the purity of this high-altitude terroir to express itself with elegance and length.



WINEMAKING

The harvest is carried out by hand, and 30% of the grapes are vinified as whole clusters to enhance freshness, structure, and aromatic complexity. Fermentation and maceration last for approximately ten days. Extractions are gentle and focused on the early stages of fermentation, with pump-overs and punch-downs adjusted daily based on the tasting of each individual vat. After pressing, the wine is racked and transferred to barrels.

Malolactic fermentation takes place in oak barrels, followed by ageing for around 18 months, with the proportion of new oak limited to 30%. This is complemented by a further 18 months of ageing in stainless steel vats prior to bottling.

99
POINTS
JAMES SUCKLING.COM

How can a wine as powerful and concentrated as a great Hermitage have this mind-blowing finesse? The stony and wind-swept nature of this vineyard site is precisely reflected in this masterpiece of purity, delicacy and wild herb freshness. It's hard to put all this into words, most of all the extraordinary mineral energy in the almost endless finish. From a vineyard site with up to 320 meters altitude. Drink from release.

95-97+
POINTS
JEB DUNNUCK

A bigger wine from this estate that comes from the Grandes Vignes lieu-dit at the top of Hermitage Hill, the 2023 Hermitage Ligne De Crete Les Grandes Vignes offers ample blue fruits, violets, scorched earth, and huge minerality on the nose. It's full-bodied on the palate, with an incredibly lifted violet and floral character, ripe tannins, ample mid-palate depth, and a great finish.

