

RHONE 2013 EN PRIMEUR

The 2013 vintage in the Rhône is a beautiful year. There are some absolutely charming wines, back to traditional values of balance, lower alcohol and ease of drinking.

There is a danger these lovely wines could just pass us all by. As is so often the case, the slightly more subtle, understated vintages don't always catch the attention of the world's wine press. Unless it has absolute greatness stamped all over it, a vintage isn't

The Growing Season

The key influence on the vintage was the very cold winter, ideal for the dormancy of the vines and killing off any unwanted bugs. However, following a cold spring it led to the inevitability of a late flowering. With flowering not completed until well into the middle of June growers naturally start to worry about a potentially late harvest and the risks involved. Whilst a late picking date is great for development of complex fruit flavours due to the increased hang time of the fruit, it exposes the vines to the risks of poor early autumnal weather conditions, just prior to and during harvest.

Growers' optimism was further reduced by a cool June, which meant that the flowering did not take place in ideal conditions, with the inevitable result that yields would be significantly down. However there then followed three superb months in July, August and September. Whilst there was a small number of berries and bunches on the vine, they ripened superbly. Picking took place in excellent conditions with clean healthy grapes entering the winery boding really well for the quality of the wines.

deemed worthy to write about and the risk is that it will be ignored and overlooked. It would be a huge sadness if this happens to the 2013s.

One of the most enjoyable vintages for current drinking, from recent years in the Rhône valley, is 2008, a year which was denigrated by the press and yet today is simply delicious. The 2013s have the same lovely characteristics with a bit more depth and longevity and deserve a place in every cellar.

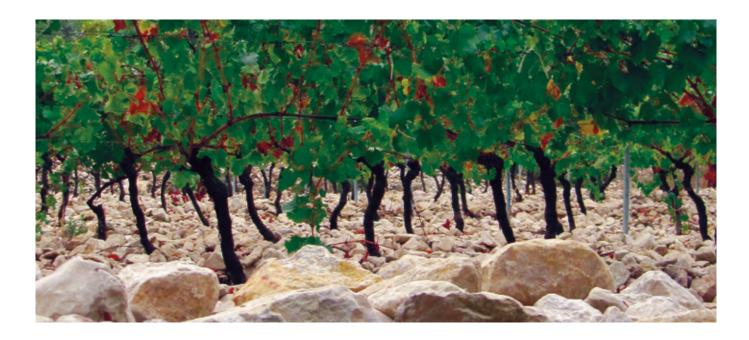
The Wines

When I returned from a week's tasting in October I described the vintage as a little bit of Burgundy in the Rhône and it is as close a description as I can get for this lovely vintage. We always want to make comparisons to another vintage, but for me the 2013s do stand alone. They are very fine, have a wonderful balance, the acidities are slightly higher than one expects from a southern French wine producing region, but for me this is to their advantage. It makes the wines more vibrant, with slightly less of the heavy weighted fruit characters that we have seen in recent years, while the lower alcohol makes them eminently drinkable.

These are wines for drinking; they may not necessarily receive huge scores, but they are certainly of a style where the bottles will be empty at the end of the evening. As the French say "I could drink a bottle of this not just a glass!"

I am a great fan of this fine vintage; the wines will be earlier maturing but maintain a balance which will certainly allow for aging. On top of this the Rhône continues to be the bargain "classic region"; for price and quality there is no better value and we hope you make the most of it.





Under £250	£/cs In Bond
Gigondas La Tour Sarrazine Domaine Le Clos des Cazaux	£120.00 per 12
Crozes Hermitage Cuvée Gaby Domaine du Colombier	£150.00 per 12
St Joseph Cuvée du Papy Domaine du Monteillet	£170.00 per 12
Châteauneuf du Pape Font de Michelle	£195.00 per 12
St Peray Fleur de Crussol Domaine Alain Voge	£230.00 per 12
Cornas Les Chailles Domaine Alain Voge	£230.00 per 12
£250 – £400	
Côte Rôtie Clusel Roch	£298.00 per 12
Condrieu Coteaux de Chery Domaine Perret	£320.00 per 12
Châteauneuf du Pape Blanc Domaine du Vieux Télégraphe	£185.00 per 6
Hermitage Domaine du Colombier	£198.00 per 6
Over £400	
OAGI T-100	

Hermitage Blanc Domaine du Colombier	£210.00 per 6
Châteauneuf du Pape Château de Beaucastel	£210.00 per 6
Côte Rôtie Côte Blonde René Rostaing	£485.00 per 6

BUILDING A CELLAR

For those clients who are interested in starting or developing their cellar, Rhône 2013 is the perfect addition for its excellent value and diversity. Goedhuis Cellar Plans are an easy, affordable route to a bespoke collection of outstanding wines built at your own financial pace whether for yourself, your children or godchildren. The minimum recommended

monthly payment is £50-£100 to build a drinking cellar. If you are looking to build an "investment" cellar we recommend a minimum monthly payment of £300 or more. For more information contact our sales team on sales@goedhuis. com tel: 020 7793 7900 or go to www.goedhuis.com/ courses-gifts-other-services/cellar-plans.html.

DOMAINE PATRICK & CHRISTOPHE BONNEFOND, Ampuis

Brothers Patrick and Christophe Bonnefond have been running their family estate for over 20 years and they make the perfect team. Patrick looks after the vines and Christophe the cuverie. The domaine style is always to make compactly rich wines, without going over the top; there is no excess of oak, with a preference for aging in larger demi-muid casks and with only a small proportion (10%) of new oak.

Christophe is rightly very proud of his 2013s which balance a characteristic natural power with an appealing openness making this a more accessible and drinkable vintage in comparison to some preceding years.

• Côte Rôtie Colline de Couzou

£270.00.00 per 12 Bottles In Bond

Dense purple colour, this has a very striking aroma of dark chocolate and black spiced fruits. Very dense and concentrated, whilst retaining some of the characteristic freshness of the appellation. A wine which will age extremely well. Drink 2017–2026

• Côte Rôtie Les Rochains

£180.00 per 6 Bottles In Bond

Beautifully contrasting to the Rozier, this is a deeper bigger wine, with structured spiced peppered dark berry fruits on the nose. In the palate, there is an absolute explosion of fruit sensations, with a deliciously rich volume and texture. Sweet, full and concentrated, its fabulously flamboyant finish guarantees it will give huge pleasure to all those lucky enough to try a glass. Drink 2018–2030

• Côte Rôtie Côte Rozier

£180.00 per 6 Bottles In Bond

Neighbouring the famed La Landonne this is one of the brothers' prized vineyards. Always a wonderfully perfumed and floral style, redolent of a Provençale summer. Stunningly attractive, balancing a refined purity of fruit with drive and direction. Not a powerful wine, but hugely classy. Drink 2017–2027





In just 25 years husband and wife team Brigitte Roch and Gilbert Clusel have, through sheer hard work and talent, quite simply made this modest estate one the "must buy" estates in the northern Rhône. Their wines are truly exquisite, with an almost Burgundian touch. They do not seek power and high alcohol, but purity and refinement in their wines. They credit the secret of their success to their work in the vineyards

following organic practices and then careful winemaking, avoiding the excesses of new wood, to allow the true expression of their Côte Rôtie fruit to come through.

The more delicate and lower alcohol nature of the 2013 vintage very much plays into the style of this domaine's wines which are absolute beauties this year.

• Côte Rôtie La Petite Feuille

£250.00 per 12 Bottles In Bond

Selected from their younger Côte Rôtie vines up to 12 years old, this is a lovely forward style almost in a 2nd wine category, easy drinking and great value. Delicious pure red cherry aromas, this has soft fine tannins, gentle freshness and the subtle finesse that one expects from the appellation. Very approachable. Drink 2015-2021

• Côte Rôtie La Viallière (limited)

£235.00 per 6 Bottles In Bond

Situated in the northern section of the appellation, this fine vineyard always makes a very precise style of Côte Rôtie. Its brilliant purple colour resonates through into the palate; this is a wine focusing on charm, elegance and harmony. An absolute beauty with subtly spiced wild summer fruits and a long rounded finish. Delicious. Drink 2018–2028

• Côte Rôtie (limited)

£298.00 per 12 Bottles In Bond



A blend from three different locations on the hills of Côte Rôtie, with the oldest vines reaching 50 years of age. Dense bright crisp berry fruits on the nose, this is a wine with natural purity and substance. The tannins are soft and easy and the subtle acidity provides for an uplifting and rewarding finish. Drink 2017-2025

• Côte Rôtie Les Grandes Places (very limited)

£290.00 per 6 Bottles In Bond

Again from the north of the appellation but a beautiful contrast to their Viallière. This is always a more powerful wine, with a feeling of masculine substance. Strong dark wild forest fruit flavours, this is a full mouth coating style with slightly firmer tannins while losing none of the purity and drive of fruit for which Côte Rôtie is famous. Drink 2018–2030

René Rostaing has been the patriarch of Côte Rôtie for the past 40 years, making some of the finest wines of the appellation. Our tasting this year was mixed part in sadness and in equal measure excitement as he announced that he has decided to stand down and his extremely capable son Pierre is taking over. René is determined not to breathe down Pierre's back. Once he has completed the bottling of the 2013 and

2014 vintages he will walk out the door and looks forward to travelling with his wife and tending his much loved garden.

In 2013 René has produced wines of which he is rightly very proud and will give him much pleasure in his retirement. Our advice is to buy now, before the great wines of René Rostaing become an ever increasing rarity.

Condrieu La Bonnette (limited)

£430.00 per 12 Bottles In Bond

This lovely unoaked cuvée of Viognier focuses on balancing an open vibrancy of apricot fruit aromas with a gentle opulence. René is very much of the opinion that Condrieu should be drunk young when all its delicious primary fruit characters are in full blossom. This is a fine example. Drink 2015–2019

• Côte Rôtie Côte Brune (limited)

£795.00 per 6 Bottles In Bond

A stunning new addition to the Rostaing stable of wines, this vineyard is situated in one of the most prestigious locations in the whole of Cote Rotie, with Jamet on one side and Guigal's La Turque on the other! A wine with real poise, with its sweet rich dark black fruits flavours, hints of white pepper and vibrancy on the finish. Beautifully complex. Drink 2019–2030

• Côte Rôtie Ampodium (limited)

£430.00 per 12 Bottles In Bond £435.00 per 6 Magnums In Bond

Brilliant purple colour, this is a very complete and benchmark example of the appellation. Spiced dark loganierry fruits on the nose, this balances harmony with brightness, fruit and a composed density and structure. Lots of class and a very long, complete finish. Drink 2017–2025

• Côte Rôtie La Landonne (limited)

£440.00 per 6 Bottles In Bond £440.00 per 3 Magnums In Bond

The sturdy and densely concentrated nature of this wine, meant that it was a little more backward when tasted from cask in comparison to the stunningly open Côte Blonde. Nevertheless it has all the makings of a wine of real class. Its brooding nature and defined layers of dark fruits mean it has huge potential. 2018–2032

• Côte Rôtie Côte Blonde (limited)

£485.00 per 6 Bottles In Bond £490.00 per 3 Magnums In Bond (G)

A voluptuous and silky wine, with wonderfully sweet dark black fruit flavours. Concentrated, with lovely rounded tannins. Very long and very delicious. Drink 2018–2029



Domaine de Monteillet is a very special estate indeed and almost unique to have its 16 ha of vines all together in a single location. Situated 300 metres above sea level overlooking the river Rhône, the vines are beautifully exposed for sunlight, drainage and the cooling Mistral winds which act as natural protection against humidity and risks of any rot in warmer autumnal conditions.

Stephane Montez's 2013s reflect his vineyards' great position, balancing a stunning level of concentration and richness of fruit, with a great freshness and precision. These wines have the potential to be perceived as one of his finest vintages of the past 10 years; they are sensationally good.

St Joseph Blanc

£175.00 per 12 Bottles In Bond

Light lemon colour with a subtle lime green tinge. This appealing blend of Marsanne and Roussanne balances a creamy volume of fruit with subtle perfumed flavours. A good balance between ripe viscosity and subtle freshness, this has weight and excellent long lingering flavours. Drink 2015–2019

Condrieu Les Grandes Chaillées

£245.00 per 12 Bottles In Bond

This barrel matured cuvée has a deep golden colour giving an impression of a richly warm and succulent styled Condrieu which is very much the case. Full of lovely flavours of peaches and apricots, this is a very layered textured wine, which envelops the mouth. Warm, long and concentrated without losing the all important ingredient of freshness. Drink 2015–2019

St Joseph Cuvée du Papy

£170.00 per 12 Bottles In Bond £180.00 per 6 Magnums In Bond



Dense purple colour, this is a fine cuvée from the northerly extremes of St Joseph at the edge of Côte Rôtie. This is wonderfully rich, with strong black forest fruit flavours. A rounded, rich and concentrated wine with lots of pepper and spice; a lovely generous style. Drink 2017–2024

• Côte Rôtie Fortis

£360.00 per 12 Bottles In Bond £370 per 6 Magnums In Bond

Sweet dense dark black fruit flavours with hints of cocoa and cinnamon. A round and full style, supported by an appealing freshness. Hugely rewarding, concentrated, deep and fresh. This is long and complex with finely layered berry fruits on the finish. Drink 2017–2028



Andre Perret, needs little introduction, he is in our opinion the master of Condrieu. The estate consists of 13 ha, all in the commune of Chavanay, covering St Joseph and Condrieu. His aim is to make wines which, whilst maintaining approachability when young, can also age extremely well in bottle. He skilfully balances

barrel élevage with a certain percentage of stainless steel vinification. This allows his wines to possess a richness and breadth whilst always maintaining an appealing freshness which gives them a tremendously uplifting feel. The style of 2013 very much fits in with his wine making philosophy.

St Joseph Blanc (very limited)

£145.00 per 12 Bottles In Bond

The secret to the success of this lovely wine, is the simplicity of its winemaking. A straightforward 50:50blend of Marsanne and Roussanne and 50:50 split barrel and stainless steel maturation creates a wine which, whilst golden yellow in colour with a natural plumpness, also retains a vibrancy and freshness. For those looking to experiment outside southern white Burgundy, this is a great place to go. Drink 2015-2020

Condrieu Clos Chanson (very limited)

£295.00 per 12 Bottles In Bond

A relative rarity in the Rhône valley, this walled vineyard of the Clos Chanson produces a ripe and concentrated style. The warmth of the enclosed vineyard helps to create a delicious viscosity of ripe apricot fruits. This is a juicy succulent style with masses of warmth and length. Lovely. Drink 2015-2020

Condrieu Côteau de Chéry (limited) £320.00 per 12 Bottles In Bond



From the southern end of the appellation in the commune of Chavanay. This is as benchmark a cuvée of Condrieu as one can get. Racy and refined, there is an extraordinary level of purity with its soft white peach fruit flavours. There is a lovely balance of breadth and volume with a feeling of life and vitality. A real stunner. Drink 2015-2020

• St Joseph Rouge

£135.00 per 12 Bottles In Bond

A fresh and open St Joseph Rouge with hints of herbaceous forest fruit aromas. This is a more forward style than some years, balancing a gentle degree of tannic structure, with good freshness and subtly sweet fruit on the finish. Drink 2016-2021

This 16 ha estate run by brothers David and Florent Viale is the ultimate family domaine. Having been founded in the 1920s, they are now the 3rd generation in charge, David tends to focus on the vineyard management and Florent the wine making. Vintages such as 2013 really suit their wine making philosophy, which is for minimum intervention. They want their wines to be representative

of each vintage and therefore they should be true in style to their appellation. There is no excess of use of wood or extraction, the secret to making the best wines this year. The Hermitage, always an exceptional cuvée here, has that fabulously bold breadth that makes the appellation's wines so very different to any other appellation in the northern Rhône.



Hermitage Blanc (very limited)

£210.00 per 6 Bottles In Bond



A big full flamboyant wine, with great texture and volume. Everything top end white Hermitage should be. Full of almonds and white fruits, this is a broad and concentrated wine. It is tremendously layered and the soft acidity makes it a wine of balanced charm and power. Lovely dense complex style. 2015-2021

Crozes Hermitage Cuvée Gaby





Deep dark cherry colour, whilst a little closed on the nose, there is no shortage of depth and power in the palate. This is a lovely concentrated style with loads of peppered blackberry fruits. A rich and giving wine. Drink 2017-2024

Hermitage

£198.00 per 6 Bottles In Bond £205.00 per 3 Magnums In Bond



Lovely rich full wild berry fruits with hints of dark Valrhona chocolate and vanilla. A classic contrast to the wines of Côte Rôtie, this is a big broad and concentrated style, with hints of leather and spice. Mouth coating in every way and the rounded tannins provide for a wine of real power and density. Drink 2019-2030

Having given his St Joseph vineyards to his daughter and son-in-law, this brilliant wine is sadly the only cuvée available from the delightful Bernard Faurie, one of the unquestioned masters of the appellation.

Bernard is slowly preparing for his retirement but, having spent a life in the vineyards, it is proving much more difficult than he thought. He has therefore kept his tiny parcel of Hermitage vines and will continue to make this stunning wine for as long as he can physically manage to tend his precious vines. I fear there will not be many more vintages under his name and I would strongly advise any Hermitage lover to snatch this up as one of the last vintages from the great man himself.

Hermitage

£225.00 per 6 Bottles In Bond

A deep densely structured wine. The nose is remarkably perfumed with hints of violets, lavender and crisp dark currants. This is an incredibly intense wine full of dark fruits with hints of truffle and spice. A wine with real potential and its finish is one of freshness and great purity. Drink 2018-2032

DOMAINE ALAIN VOGE, Cornas

Since taking over the helm of responsibility from Alain Voge, wine director Albéric Mazoyer has firmly established himself as one of the most progressive producers in the appellation. Albéric balances a modern wine making philosophy with a total respect for the history and characteristics of the wines of Cornas.

The schistous soils from the steep slopes create very distinct flavours to the wines providing great warmth with an equally important bite of acidity. The Voge 2013s are not heavy, power packed wines but have tremendous grace and poise. Albéric is most definitely one of my favourite growers in the northern Rhône.

St Péray Fleur de Crussol

£230.00 per 12 Bottles In Bond



 Cornas Vieilles Vignes £350.00 per 12 Bottles In Bond

A 100% Marsanne cuvée which goes through its élevage

in barrel, hence a broad fruit feel focusing on vitality. A good juicy style, with masses of weight and power for a white wine. Drink 2015-2018

An extremely fine cuvée using the very best fruit from their oldest vines, some as much as 70 years old. This is a very poised wine with brightly perfumed violet fruits on the nose. A beautifully balanced wine, with lovely defined fruits providing for a velvety structure, rounded tannins and great length. This is a beauty. Drink 2018-2030

Cornas Les Chailles

£230.00 per 12 Bottles In Bond



The best Cornas should be bright, crisp and mineral, highlighting the schistous nature of the soil for this underestimated appellation. This is a beautiful example with its brilliant red cherry and currant fruit flavours. It has a naturally direct and linear mouth feel, whilst always resting fresh on the finish. Drink 2018-2028

DOMAINE LE CLOS DES CAZAUX, Gigondas

Run by Jean-Michel Vache, Clos de Cazaux is one of the absolute gems of the southern Rhone. His philosophy blends 'lutte raisonnée' (addressing issues as they arise to avoid unnecessary chemical treatments) with organic and biodynamic methods in grape growing. Low yields and late harvesting are also critical as they want their wines to be as expressive and harmonious as nature

will allow. Winemaking is carried out as organically as possible with indigenous yeasts and at its own pace. The results are wines that are charming, pure and balanced. Outside Châteauneuf du Pape the wines of Vacqueyras and Gigondas produce the most characterful wines of the south, delicious when youthful but can age to produce real personality.

Vacqueyras Blanc Les Clefs d'Or

£98.00 per 12 Bottles In Bond

Brilliant, bright lime colour. This has a very perfumed nose of white peaches and pears. Vibrant, fresh and charming and a delicious alternative to Chardonnay! Drink 2015 - 2019

Gigondas La Tour Sarrazine

£120.00 per 12 Bottles In Bond



Striking gamey dark fruit aromas. This is a wine of real breadth and depth with its strong dark spiced black fruit flavours supported by tight grainy tannins. Rich, earthy and full, this is a fine example of the appellation. Drink 2017-2023

Vacqueyras Cuvée St Roch

£98.00 per 12 Bottles In Bond £108 per 6 Magnums In Bond

Brilliant purple colour, with lovely striking aromas of violets and damsons. In the palate there is a fine balance between the delicate silky tannins and appealing approachable dark fruits. A good early drinking style. Drink 2016-2020

DOMAINE CLOS DES PAPES, Châteauneuf du Pape

One of the oldest winemaking families in Châteauneuf du Pape, the Avrils began their vinous adventures in the early 17th century. Today, the domaine is run by Vincent Avril who took over from his late father Paul in the early 1990s. Traditional producers with a modern twist, Vincent uses no stems in vinification and ferments in large ceramic lined vats, but he does age his red varieties in large, old

foudres in a humidity-controlled cellar. In addition, his is one of the few domaines in Châteauneuf du Pape to use all 13 recommended regional varieties in their red and all 6 varieties in their white. His meticulous vineyard and winemaking practices have catapulted their reputation over the past 15 years and today they are considered one of the grandest growers in the appellation.

Châteauneuf du Pape Blanc

£180.00 per 6 Bottles In Bond

A blend of Clairette, Picpoul and Bourboulenc. The nose is a mix of orange and apricots with agreeable floral scents and spicy notes that linger on the palate. The finish is both fruity and refreshing. A wine to be enjoyed within 2–3 years of its release for its pure primary aromas or to keep longer to let the spicy and more mineral character emerge. Drink 2015-2020

• Châteauneuf du Pape (limited)

£255.00 per 6 Bottles In Bond £520.00 per 6 Magnums In Bond £195.00 per Jeroboam In Bond

Lovely mixed spices on the back palate. A beautifully, hedonistic wine which might not have the power of past vintages but which at 14.8% is certainly not fragile or lacking in mouth feel and body. The Grenache has managed to make a most valuable contribution adding freshness and a Pinot like silky quality to the tannins. Drink 2018-2028



This great estate bought by Jacques Perrin over 100 years ago was one of the Rhône Valley's very first estates to commit to organic and more recently biodynamic practices and so it is not surprising that naturalness and purity are very much the family's mantra.

The 2013 vintage required extreme attention in the vineyard and for those who were prepared spend the hours outside, they were certainly rewarded. The historical perception can be that the Perrins produce rather heavy powerful wines, but today the story is quite different, their wines focus on balance and great harmony, and will age extremely well.

Châteauneuf du Pape Blanc

£230.00 per 6 Bottles In Bond

An extremely generous and giving style, full of mango and tropical fruits. Ripe, full and concentrated with a delicious level of viscosity. This is everything that white Beaucastel should be, with its broad giving mouth feel, weight of texture and density on the finish. Drink 2015–2020

Châteauneuf du Pape Blanc Vieilles Vignes Roussanne (limited)

£375.00 per 6 Bottles In Bond

Unsurprisingly for a wine of this quality it was a little reserved at this early stage of its development, but the potential is extremely clear. A very broad and layered wine, with a feeling of hugely intense concentrated English fruits, quince, apples and pears. Gentle acidity and masses of class. Drink 2015-2023

• Vacqueyras Les Christins Famille Perrin

£99.00 per 12 Bottles In Bond

Always a standout wine from their family estates, this has bright crisp crunchy red fruit aromas. It is almost Burgundian in style with a lovely purity and bright fresh tannic structure. Good balance and appealing touch of sweetness on the finish. Lovely for early drinking. Drink 2016-2022

• Coudoulet de Beaucastel Rouge

£125.00 per 12 Bottles In Bond £135.00 per 6 Magnums In Bond

The Perrin's recipe for success for this lovely cuvée is quite extraordinary, it never fails. So classically southern Rhône with its juicy unctuous, plum and cherry fruits. The tannins are almost silky in style giving a feeling of succulence and femininity to the wine. Quite simply irresistible. Drink 2017–2023

Châteauneuf du Pape Rouge (limited)



£210.00 per 6 Bottles In Bond £430.00 per 24 Halves In Bond £430.00 per 6 Magnums In Bond £175.00 per Jeroboam In Bond

A real class act, balancing weight and density with a lovely degree of elegance and finesse. Blended with the compliment of the five principal grape varieties in the region Cinsault, Counoise, Grenache, Mourvedre and Syrah, this lovely wine balances understated power with a real touch of harmony and finesse. Beautifully poised, broad and yet fresh, this is very good indeed. Drink 2017–2033



Guillaume Gonnet is very much one of the new generation within the appellation of Châteauneuf. Having travelled the world, he is forward thinking and prepared to experiment with all aspects of viticulture and wine making in order to drive the wines of Font de Michelle onwards. As he says he will only have 40 attempts (vintages) in his lifetime so it is imperative to try new things and that is the fun of wine.

Guillaume has just made one cuvée in 2013. This is not a reflection of any weakness in the vintage rather, in order to make Etienne Gonnet and Cuvée Elégance de Jeanne, a year must be of exceptional quality. Consequently his 2013 has certainly benefitted from the additional quality of fruit in this fine cuvée of his straight Châteauneuf.

• Châteauneuf du Pape

£195.00 per 12 Bottles In Bond £210.00 per 6 Magnums In Bond



Fresh bright red cherry fruits and, as noted with one or two other wines for the vintage, this has a true Burgundian feel. Guillaume Gonnet decided to make just one single cuvée in 2013, so this lovely wine has all the best fruit from his top parcels. Bright pure and dynamic, not huge in power but lots of charm and great harmony. The soft tannins will allow this to be drunk quite young. Lovely and fine. Drink 2017–2026

Vieux Télégraphe, owned by the Brunier family, is unusual for a Châteauneuf du Pape estate in that not only is it sizable at 70 ha of vines but all its vines are situated in a single location on the plateau of La Crau. The pebbly soil is ideal for the growing of the three principal grape varieties, Grenache, Mourvèdre and Syrah and produces a very refined style in comparison to some of their neighbours. Famed for their excellent balance, the wines of Vieux Télégraphe have a superb ability to age.

The Brunier brothers' 2013 is not as powerful as some of their previous vintages, but has great balance and the subtleness of weight is almost misleading. As with all vintages of Vieux Télégraphe, these are wines for aging and will give extraordinary pleasure after a few years in bottle.

Châteauneuf du Pape Blanc

£185.00 per 6 Bottles In Bond



A very elegant white Châteauneuf, full of white fruits on the nose, peaches and soft tropical fruits. Lovely purity and delicately crisp and fresh on the finish. A move away from the heavily dense white Châteauneufs that one sometimes sees. Drink 2016-2022.

• Châteauneuf du Pape

£180.00 per 6 Bottles In Bond £190.00 per 3 Magnums In Bond £195.00 per 12 Halves In Bond £150.00 per Jeroboam In Bond

Brilliant red cherry colour, this is a succulent and generous wine, focusing on lovely defined red fruit flavours. The tannic structure is tightly woven in with the fruit and gentle acidity. A very complete style which will come through to give real pleasure in 3-5 years' time. Drink 2018-2028

DOMAINE LES PALLIERES, Gigondas

We still think of Domaine les Pallières as a new addition to the Brunier stable but in fact the 2013 is their 15th vintage in charge! From high altitude vines, at their highest point 400 metres, and from old vines up to 50 years of age, the Terrasse de Diable is one of Gigondas' most striking vineyards and is now rightly considered a flagship for the appellation. In some years the wine requires patience before it reaches its prime, the 2013 is a more forward drinking style which will give amazing pleasure when young.

Gigondas Terrasse du Diable

£185.00 per 12 Bottles In Bond £195.00 per 6 Magnums In Bond

Daniel Brunier makes two cuvées of Gigondas. I find the Terrasse du Diable the more appealing; whilst less mineral it has a greater feeling of breadth and a touch of earthy rusticity which I think gives it real character. This is a fine and weighted wine, strong on Black Forest fruit flavours, a good richness and appealing gamey finish. Southern Rhône at its best. Drink 2017–2028



MAS DE DAUMAS GASSAC, Aniane



Mas de Daumas Gassac needs very little introduction. Since the early 1970s, this singular and quite spectacular estate has been producing some pretty remarkable wines. One reason that this estate is so special is that they have a markedly unique microclimate. Housed in a deep valley, cool air is drawn down from the mountains, particularly in the summer evenings, creating daily temperature swings ranging from $0-30^{\circ}$ c. As a result, they are able to grow up to 40 different varieties successfully – all the while attaining excellent ripeness and retaining the varieties' fresh acidity.

The 2013 vintage is the perfect reflection of old and new. The wines possess the natural power and substance that was very much the signature of Samuel's father Aimé with a touch of purity and finesse which is the hallmark of Samuel's wines. Tasting the wines en primeur was very memorable indeed and these are a lovely selection. They epitomise why Mas de Daumas Gassac is considered one of the great estates of the modern era in Southern France.

Mas de Daumas Gassac Blanc 2014

£110.00 per 6 Bottles In Bond £120.00 per 3 Magnums In Bond £120.00 per 12 Halves In Bond

Bright lemon and citrus fruits. Whilst still a baby, tasting from vat it was instantly appealing with masses of flavour and brightness. A great blend of Chardonnay, Viognier, Petit Manseng and Chenin Blanc. This is always a superbly versatile food wine. Drink 2015–2020

• Mas de Daumas Gassac Rouge 2013

£110.00 per 6 Bottles In Bond £120.00 per 3 Magnums In Bond £120.00 per 12 Halves In Bond £95.00 per Jeroboam In Bond

In the estate's notes they wonderfully understate the blend, by saying 70% Cabernet Sauvignon and 20% rare grape varieties, in fact it is approximately 15 varieties! The "combo", as they say, really works. Deep purple in colour, the wine is a mouthful of wild bramble fruits and so characterful. It is structured and yet rounded, full and concentrated but most definitely not overworked. A lovely and very fine Mas de Daumas to maintain their tradition for producing greatness in the Languedoc. Drink 2017–2027

HOW TO ORDER?

Telephone: +44 (0)20 7793 7900

For advice or to place an order call us in London on +44 (0)20 7793 7900 or in Hong Kong +852 2801 5999.

Email: sales@goedhuis.com

Send an email to sales@goedhuis.com, hksales@goedhuis.com or directly to your salesman at their email address listed below.

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TERMS AND CONDITIONS

All wines are offered In Bond England. We will arrange shipment from the domaines in Autumn 2015. On arrival, your wines can either be delivered directly to you or stored Under Bond at our independent storage company, Private Reserves, at a cost of £10.50 ex-vat per case per annum.

When you decide to take delivery, Duty and VAT at the prevailing rate will become payable. These charges are at present £24.60 per 12-bottle case and 20% respectively.

All En Primeur deliveries will be charged at cost.