



# CHATEAU DE VALCOMBE



COSTIÈRES DE NÎMES RHÔNE VALLEY, FRANCE

The Costières de Nîmes region of the Rhône Valley is a study in contrasts. It is the southernmost appellation of the region, but it is simultaneously the coolest in the southern Rhône Valley. Despite its distinctly Mediterranean climate and iconic pebbled soils that most associate with Grenache, its reds are most often based on Syrah. And while it sits at the intersection of the Rhône Valley, Languedoc, and Provence, Costières de Nîmes wines are distinctly expressive of their specific, unique terroir.

If a single quality could describe the wines of Costières de Nîmes, it would be freshness. Nerve acidity carries through all of the region's styles, making them quite easy-drinking and approachable. The stress on the vines from growing and living in those rocky, relatively infertile, fast-draining soils means that the vines don't over-produce. This helps prevent flabby, unbalanced, and uninteresting wines.

## DESIGNATION

OCTOBRE ROUGE | RHÔNE VALLEY, FRANCE

## VARIETY

100% Grenache

## VINEYARD

Vines are rooted in deep, complex soil layers of classic Rhône rolled pebbles, or galets, over underlying alluvium of clay, silt and sand from an ancient river bed. The northern portion of the domain sits at the highest point of Costières de Nîmes, 360 ft above sea level. The Octobre Rouge cuvée comes from the oldest, as well as, the highest plot of Grenache on the estate.

## PROCESS

This parcel of Grenache, planted in 1972, ripens so late that the vines have already begun to take on their autumnal hues during the harvest. Hand-harvested and aged in French oak barrels for 24 months.

## TASTING

Fruity, racy and ripe. Offers a slight richness as well as minerality. Reveals notes of fleshy cassis, black cherry and crushed strawberry combined with subtle touches of licorice and thyme. The palate is fruity, well-balanced, and structured with a bright frame of acid. Tannins are fine and supple through a long finish.

## WINERY

Château de Valcombe, a family-owned property since 1749, is the southernmost estate in the Costières de Nîmes. Close to the Mediterranean Sea and planted on soils boasting the highest concentration of limestone in the region, Valcombe offers refined, concentrated wines with exuberant freshness and minerality. The vineyards planted in 1955 are still in cultivation and are, along with the entirety of the estates' vineyards, have been certified organic since 2018.