

JULIEN CECILLON SAINT-JOSEPH 'BABYLONE'

100% Syrah. Aromas of black fruits, blueberry jam, herbs de Provence and game. Flavors of black fruit, roasted meat, jam, blueberries and peppery spice. Elegant, charming, supple and fine with well-integrated, soft tannins. Smoke, earth and herbs on the smooth, long finish. Pairs perfectly with seared beef or a roasted chicken. A great cuvée to enrich your wine cellar! Organic.

The first cuvée produced by Julien and Nancy, the name Babylone refers to their joyful return to the region, as well as their bilingual life in the cellar and vineyards, and how they succeeded in building their own little tower. Saint-Joseph Babylone comes from old vine parcels near the historic center of the Saint-Joseph Appellation, in northern Côte du Rhone, France, including century old vines from the Côte des Rivoirs parcel in Tournon. Additional vineyard sources in Vion and Ozon round out the blend. (The vines were planted between 1899-1974.) The soil is granite de Touron, decomposed granite with sand and gneiss. The vineyards are South/East facing at 125-250m altitude. The grapes are harvested by hand and 75% destemmed (25% whole bunches). Fermentation with indigenous yeasts. Regular punchdowns and pumpovers. The vatting is spread out over 22 days. Aged 17 months 1-6 year old barrels. No fining and minor tangential filtration with ceramic filters (less agressive for the wine).

While the Cecillon label only recently began, Julien Cecillon's family has been making wine in Tournon for 11 generations. Acquiring small parcels by chance, opportunity & perseverance, Julien & his wife Nancy Kerschen have worked together with tireless focus to craft wines that establish their own reputation amongst the best producers in the Northern Rhône. Though they are running the winery on their own, the couple certainly benefits from the guidance of Julien's winemaking heritage. Their small winery is located near Tournon, in the historic center of the Rhône Valley. All of the wines at the domaine are produced with native yeasts & aged primarily in used barrels to create harmonious, balanced wines that highlight the unique terroirs of the Northern Rhône.

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Tasting Note:

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Shelf Talker:

