

# DOMAINE LA BOUÏSSIÈRE VACQUEYRAS



Grenache, Syrah and Mourvedre. Aromas of black fruits, violets, lavender and wild herbs. Flavors of black raspberries, baking spices and light smoke. Rich, fruit loaded and full bodied. Smooth tannins and a great finish. Try paired with red meat, charcuterie laced with black pepper or roasted pork with fresh herbs.

Practicing Organic.

The estate's two vineyards, 'La Ponche' and 'Bel Air,' are located on a stony plateau facing northwest that catches the cooling mistral as it sweeps down from the Alps. Soils combine quartz stones and clay. The vines are 15-50 years old. The fruit is grown sustainably, with as little intervention as possible, and is hand harvested. The grapes are destemmed only when the vintage dictates, lightly crushed, then fermented on indigenous yeasts in temperature controlled cement tanks. Aged in cement tank (35%) and in older, neutral oak barrels for a period of 4-10 years. Wine is moved via gravity; bottled unfiltered and unfiltered, with minimal sulfur addition.

Gilles and Thierry Faravel took over the estate from their father back in 1988, where they farm 22 acres on the steep upper slopes of Gigondas, under the Dentelles de Montmirail. (They also own land in Vacqueyras and Beaufort de Venise.) The Gigondas vineyards lie between 350-400 meters, allowing for late harvests (often mid-October). The cooler temperatures there allow for livelier wines than the vineyards lower down. They employ non-interventionist practices to make wines as naturally as possible, resulting in wines of immense concentration, freshness and depth, with true vibrancy and the capacity to age ten to fifteen years. They border on the fanatical when it comes to the health of their vines and grapes. Theirs are wines that are intimately tied to and faithfully reflect the rugged, sensual beauty of the Provençal landscape from which they're born.

AN EASTERLY WINE SELECTION • BELFAST, ME

## *Tasting Note:*

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## *Shelf Talker:*

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