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## Côte-Rôtie Château d'Ampuis 2017

Rhône Valley, France

### ESTATE

The more you learn about the Guigal family, the more astounding their story becomes. Their wines are the benchmarks for every Rhône appellation, and over the last thirty years they have become arguably the most lauded producer in the world. Year after year the Guigal family produces wines of exceptional quality that in all classes offer exceptional value.

### WINE

The Guigal family spent 15 years restoring Château d'Ampuis, a historic property whose oldest sections date back to the 11th century. The Château d'Ampuis has been the symbol of the town of Ampuis and the world-renowned Côte-Rôtie vineyard area for ten centuries. When the Guigal family learned that there was at one time a wine produced with the name Château d'Ampuis, they decided to produce an exceptional wine that would showcase the best that Côte-Rôtie has to offer. This is an emblematic expression of the terroir and flagship of the Guigals.

### VINEYARD

*Soils:* A blend of 7 hillside vineyards located on the Côte Blonde and the Côte Brune: La Garde, Le Clos, La Grante Plantee, La Pommier, Le Pavillon Rouge, Le Moulin, and more recently, La Viria.

*Yields:* Average of 1.5 tons per acre, average age of the vines is 50 years

### WINEMAKING

*Grape Varieties:* 93% Syrah, 7% Voignier

*Fermentation:* Temperature controlled, lasting 4 weeks in closed stainless steel tanks

*Aging:* 38 months in new oak barrels

*Alcohol:* 13.5%

### VINTAGE

Following the classic 2016 vintage, 2017 in the Northern Rhône was a year of contrasts and challenges. Following a very dry winter, spring was wet with hail and frost in some areas, reducing the crop considerably. Summer was characterized by periods of extreme drought, which continued through the fall, interrupted by some needed rain in early September. The crop in Côte Rôtie was about 20% smaller than usual, and harvest took place over two weeks beginning September 7th. However, the fruit was clean and extremely concentrated, with rich but round tannins, producing dense wines of balance, length and long aging potential. A great result!



### JEB DUNNUCK

"I loved the 2017 Côte Rôtie Château D'Ampuis. It's a ripe, expressive barrel sample overflowing with notions of black raspberries, cassis, vanilla bean, and incense. Medium to full-bodied, rounded, and silky, it has lots of ripe tannins as well as stunning balance. It's in the same ballpark as the 2016 yet shows the warmer, sunny nature of the vintage.." - J.D., 11/2020

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Wine Spectator