

DOMAINE DE FONDRÈCHE

VENTOUX – IL ÉTAIT UNE FOIS

RHÔNE

Story

The Domaine de Fondrèche estate is situated at the foot of Mont Ventoux, the famous mountain in the Vaucluse department of the South of France, and covers a surface area of 38 hectares. For over twenty years the vineyard has been tended using natural methods to create a harmony between the vines, the earth, and the surrounding environment, and to produce wines that reflect the local terroir. The yield of each varietal is reasoned, no chemical weed killers are used, and the earth is worked mechanically to strengthen the natural defences of the vines, encouraging the roots to burrow deeper and thereby protecting the vines from bad weather. Fondrèche is a unique place, with a special terroir and climate due to the influence of Mont Ventoux which brings currents of cold air and leads to big differences in temperature between day and night.

Grape varieties

80% Vieux Grenache, 10% Syrah, 10% Mourvèdre

Terroir

This wine (whose name means "Once upon a time") is made only in exceptional years and in limited quantities. Unique soil, sub-soil, microclimate, and exposure in a quest for perfection. The old Grenache vines were planted in 1936. The Syrah and Mourvèdre are coming from the very best terroir of the clay-chalk plateau.

Very low yields of around 15 hl/hectare

Winemaking

Partial destemming.

Fermentation with only a few pigeage operations to ensure slow and gradual extraction during the 3-week vatting period.

Aging in foudre and concrete egg for 12 months.

Tasting notes

Intense colour. Opens on notes of raspberry, pepper and garrigue. Beautiful persistence on the palate with aromas of spices and cocoa. A wine that is longer than it is wide and characterised by an incredible finesse, silky tannins and a rare freshness.

Pairing suggestions

Perfect with roast pigeon, leg of lamb, guinea fowl in a creamy mushroom sauce or quail with raisins.



Press ratings

93-95 pts Jeb Dunnuck – 2018 vintage

95 pts Jeb Dunnuck – 2017 vintage

92-94 pts Wine Advocate – 2016 vintage

95 pts Jeb Dunnuck – 2016 vintage

French
Libation