



Above: The Guigal family spent nearly 15 years restoring Chateau d'Ampuis, the iconic 11th century property perched on the banks of the Rhône river. For generations, the building has remained a symbol of the region and of the world-renowned vineyards which surround it.



Gigondas 2016

Gigondas, France

ESTATE

The more you learn about the Guigal family, the more astounding becomes their story. 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

Guigal's Gigondas is an incredible introduction to serious Southern Rhône reds, and a show-stopper at the price. In the hands of Guigal, the rich ripe fruit and savory character of the wine bursts with sheer pleasure, yet the wine displays terrific refinement, complexity, length and ability to age.

VINEYARD

Soils: The dry, stony slopes are mostly comprised of ancient alluvia, red clay, and gravel; the combination uniquely produces substantial wines that are deep in color, with flavors of ripe summer fruits and savory herbs.
Yields: Average of 1.68 tons per acre, average age of the vines is 40 years

WINEMAKING

Grape Varieties: 70% Grenache, 20% Syrah, 10% Mourvèdre
Fermentation: The wine sees a traditional lengthy maceration in stainless steel, punching down twice a day for good extraction
Aging: 2 years in oak foudres (50% new)
Alcohol: 15%

VINTAGE

The 2016 vintage to the Southern Rhône Valley is akin to the absolutely outstanding 2015 in the North. There was an extended growing season, which provided freshness in the Grenache and ripeness in the Mourvedre. The Syrah is supple and generous in style.

95

JEB DUNNUCK

"The finest effort I've tasted from this estate's Gigondas, their 2016 is a drop-dead gorgeous wine.. Loads of framboise, lavender, garrigue, and hints of game emerge from this sweetly fruited, full-bodied, powerful yet elegant. It's beautiful wine and I continue to believe that 2016 is one of the greatest vintages ever (if not the greatest) for the Southern Rhône" - JD, 9/2019

93 Wine Enthusiast

92 Wine Advocate

92 Wine Spectator