



The greatest French wines : Rhône valley, North : Saint Joseph, Hermitage, Crozes Hermitage



From Lyon, the Rhône runs through a region of steep hills of granite, shale and gneiss that are cultivated with grapevines. This region is characterized by granitic soil and steep and narrow slopes on which the grapevines must make-do.

So grapes are cultivated on terraces lined with stone walls that hold in the terraced soil, called « chalais ».

The vineyards have the benefit of a temperate climate with a lot of sunlight and also rains, which prevents the grapevines from suffering from drought.

For these reasons, this vineyard's is devoted to red wines made from a single variety, Syrah.

Many grape varieties are used for producing white wines like Marsanne, Roussane and Viognier. They are fragrant, fresh and elegant.

L'Hermitage is one of the greatest red vignards in the world. It occupies only 135 hectares and 3 townships.

With a deep ruby red color, these full-bodied wines develop an incredible range of aromas, characterized by notes of violet, spices and blackcurrant.

With great ageing potential, the best vintages develop greater finesse and harmony with time.

More supple and fruitier than L'Hermitage, but withholding the same intensity, Crozes-Hermitage is the largest appellation in the Southern Rhône region, since it totals over 1,280 hectares of vineyards.

Its brilliant red color is accompanied by aromas of red fruit, leather and spices, and is usually consumed when young.

With its 900 hectares, Saint Joseph is one of the greatest wine-producing sites in the region. Made of 100% Syrah, Saint-Joseph wines are fine and elegant. Delicate and fruity, they have a subtle fragrance of blackcurrant and raspberry, and acquire notes of leather and licorice with age.

Directed by Jacques VICHET

A documentary of 52'

French version
English version

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