



# E. GUIGAL

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.



## Crozes-Hermitage 2018

Crozes-Hermitage, 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

Crozes-Hermitage is the perfect introduction to the Northern Rhône Valley, where the red wines have a profile unlike anywhere else in the world, an irresistible combination of warm flavors of red and black fruit, exotic spice notes and, certainly in the case of Crozes, offer pleasure and approachability in youth. It is important to note that most of Crozes-Hermitage is produced from the plains to the south and east of Hermitage, and these wines tend to be simple and straightforward. Guigal's owns vineyards and sources fruit from granitic terraces in the Northern sector, producing a more serious Crozes with vigor, intensity and depth. Guigal's Crozes-Hermitage is a wine that delivers quality and pleasure far beyond its price.

### VINEYARD

*Soils:* The vineyards are grouped in the north of the appellation, specifically around the villages of Gervans, Mercurol, Larnage and Crozes-Hermitage itself. Soils tend to limestone, clay silt and sandy gravel.  
*Yields:* Average of 1.8 tons per acre, average age of the vines is 35 years

### WINEMAKING

*Grape Varieties:* 100% Syrah  
*Fermentation:* In stainless steel, left to rise to high temperature  
*Aging:* 24 months in a combination of large foudres combined with and 228 liter barrels exclusively produced at Guigal's Chateau d'Ampuis cooperage.  
*Alcohol:* 13.5%

### VINTAGE

2018 is shaping up to be one of the truly great vintages in the Northern Rhône valley. Following a very wet Spring, Summer was dry and hot – the warmest vintage since 2003. Harvest was quick and early, with yields slightly above average. Fruit was uniformly ripe, resulting in red wines that are dense and concentrated, with exceptionally deep color and rich tannins; similar to 2015, but with even more intensity.

*Robert Parker*  
WINE ADVOCATE

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"I loved the 2018 Crozes-Hermitage, which is similar to the 2017 yet offers a touch more purity of fruit. Blackberries, black raspberries, smoked game, and earth all emerge from this medium to full-bodied effort that's going to shine right out of the gate." - J.C. 11/2020

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91 Wine Enthusiast

90 James Suckling