

Domaine Vallet

Rouelle-Midi Condrieu

Louis Vallet and his son Anthony preside over this small artisan domaine. In addition to carrying on a 150-year-old family wine growing tradition on the steep slopes of Saint-Joseph, the Vallets still farm cherry and apricot trees on the plateau below.

They tend a combined 30 acres of vines including parcels in four distinct terroir zones around Serrières, one of Saint-Joseph's 26 communes located in the northern part of the 37 mile-long appellation. Anthony now calls the shots in both the vineyard and the cellar, but Dad is still a very active advisor.

The domaine produces three red wines from 100% Syrah, two limited-production white Saint Josephs, and a similarly limited quantity of Condrieu. The Saint-Joseph Cuvée des Muletiers is named for the men who used to transport wine up to market in St-Étienne by mule-drawn wagons. The Vallets push the envelope on ripeness with the domaine's oldest vine parcel (planted in the 70s), do more punching down, and age Muletiers longer in barrel than their cuvée Méribets.



Harvest is conducted entirely by hand using small bins. Whole grape bunches (without destemming) are separated during pressing of the free-run juice and press juice. 30% of the wine is aged in tank, and 70% in oak barrels for 7-9 months.

92 Points, Vinous Media. "Pale gold. Intense, expansive aromas of fresh nectarine, orange zest, fresh fig and jasmine, plus a hint of smoky minerals in the background. Sappy citrus and pit fruit flavors show very good energy and pick up a spicy element with air. The orange and mineral qualities come back on the vibrant, sharply focused finish, which shows a suave blend of power and delicacy."



APPELLATION
Condrieu

VINEYARD SIZE
1 ha

VARIETAL
Viognier

YIELD
33 hl/ha

FERMENTATION
Indigenous yeasts.

OAK
70% for 7-9 months.