

BOUTINOT

'LES COTEAUX', CÔTES DU RHÔNE VILLAGES

Rhone

WINEMAKER: Eric Monnin

LOCATION: Rhone, France

GRAPES: Grenache 85%, Syrah 15%

ABV: 14%

SUITABLE FOR: Vegetarians

CLOSURE TYPE: Cork

THE ONE-LINER: Immediately impressive this wine reveals its class from the start.

TASTING NOTE: Typical red berry, brambly fruit underpinned by subtle oaky nuances, lovely sweet spice, warm star anise with a touch of cinnamon. The flavours are densely packed, layer upon layer of primary red fruit are refined by smooth oaky subtleties bound up in a finely woven structure. Flattering as these words are, they just don't do this wine justice as the nose is so very alluring and attractive that you can't wait to taste it!... but you resist because you want more of these lush aromas to wash over...

PRODUCER DETAILS: Our love affair with the southern Rhône is both enduring and unswerving. We believe to our marrow that we can make great wine here. And for this reason, we have bought our first vineyard in France, here in the southern Rhône – in the village of Cairanne, you'll not be surprised to learn! Ten years ago we first glimpsed the potential of the vineyards of Cairanne when we released our 2000 vintage of La Côte Sauvage. Now we have several plots of old vines we can call our own and begin to realise our dream of making even better wine. Over the past decade or so we have built enviable relationships with a network of local growers and we will of course continue to source grapes and wine from their trove of prized vineyards for our full range of Rhône wines.

IN THE VINEYARD: Common practice in the Côtes du Rhône is to bottle the best cuvées as a single named Village wine and the rest as basic Rhône Villages. Boutinot's philosophy, on the other hand, is to start with the intention of making the very best Côtes du Rhône Villages possible by sourcing wine from the vineyards of named villages and enriching them with a small proportion of barrel-aged wine from Sablet, Séguret & Cairanne. Boutinot Rhone 'Les Coteaux' is therefore a selection of the best Grenache & Syrah from some of the 17 named Côtes du Rhône Villages. Eric Monnin sources wine from a number of growers with exceptional terroir allowing him the flexibility to select only the very best fruit each vintage and reject parcels which do not meet our high standards.

IN THE WINERY: Côtes du Rhône Villages enriched with barrels of 'classified' named Village wine from Cairanne, Sablet and Séguret. Mostly unoaked, a small proportion (15%) is part aged for 22 months in a few new but mostly older oak barrels to bring depth and subtle notes of complexity.

FOOD RECOMMENDATIONS: A delicious accompaniment to grilled meats, heartwarming casseroles or a classic shepherd's pie.

