

# **Saint Cosme - "Côte-Rôtie"**

## **AOP Côte-Rôtie - red - 2021**

"100 % Serine (ancient variety of Syrah).

Whole cluster fermentation. Schist and mica-schist in the Semons, But de Mont, Les Bercherries, Maison Rouge, Rozier, Côte Rozier, Besset and Bodin named vineyards.

Twelve months' ageing: 30 % in new casks – 70 % in casks used for one wine.

Rose, graphite, smoke and redcurrant.

Bottled unfiltered.

Fortunately, our fairly late-ripening Côte-Rôtie vineyard sites were not affected by frost in 2021. When we speak about frost, we are of course obsessed with the idea of losing a crop and that is perfectly normal. But we should not lose sight of the fact that frost is a tremendously stressful experience for vines and their physiology. The same is true of hail which, as an aside, never produces top vintages. That's because vines need calm, balance and regularity to give their best. In 2021, Côte-Rôtie reverted back to an authentically cold vintage, the likes of which it used to experience many a few decades ago. Spring began with wintry temperatures which set ripening back. Although the summer was quite nice, we entered the harvest season significantly late which led to picking that required a lot of precision. The wines matured well with successful aromatic renditions and a 'fleshiness' that gradually established itself.

The rapid and direct expression of the soil in the glass is astounding in this type of vintage – the result is perfumed, rounded and friendly wines that display the hallmark features of their birthplace. The 2021s are pure pleasure, reverting to fruitiness – they are best opened before the 2020s."