



Château de St Cosme - "Hominis Fides" AOP Gigondas - red - 2016

Very old mixed plantings of Grenache on limestone sand from the Miocene epoch in the 'Hominis Fides' named vineyard.

Whole cluster fermentation. Twelve months' ageing: 20% in new casks – 50% in casks used for one wine - 30% in casks used for two to three wines.

Henri Barruol used to say that we did not know the exact date 'Hominis Fides' was planted but that it was our oldest vineyard, apart from Le Claux. The vineyard register states 1902 as the year it was planted, but as the famous register was first introduced in 1902, all existing vineyards at the time were registered as 1902, making this vineyard older. When I was child, I would often hear my father complaining that he had got his plough stuck in the 'tufa' in Hominis Fides. Obviously, beneath the Miocene sand is the bedrock – 'safre' described as tufa. This strange name, that sounded like that of a comic book hero, fascinated me. Roots have to 'infiltrate' and constantly seek out depth, dampness and earth in these "very propitious viticultural soils" as my friend Georges Truc would say. It just so happens that this vineyard has always produced one of our finest wines. In great vintages, like 2016, it enhances the site. The grapes often ripen easily in Hominis Fides but never stray away from freshness which enables it to be self-sufficient and stand alone as a locality in its own right. The wine also shows distinctive depth and intensity.

Coal, bay, blackberry and pepper.

Bottled unfiltered.