



Château de St Cosme - "Le Claux" AOP Gigondas - red - 2015

Field blends of very old Grenache vines in the 'Le Claux' named vineyard. Whole cluster fermentation. Miocene limestone marl in the Font des Papes alluvial fan.

Twelve months' ageing: 20% in new casks - 50% in casks used for one wine - 30% in casks used for two wines.

In old French, 'Clos' used to be spelled 'Claux', in the same way that the first name Côme was written Cosme until the 19th century. You will have noticed that we like spelling words the old way, before spelling reforms over time slightly distorted them. Who today would dare write 'Vône-Romanée'?! A 'Claux', which in many French wine regions has become 'Clos', was originally spelled Claus, Clausas, Clausis or Clauzis, and designated an enclosed area after the Latin Clausum meaning 'closed'. A vineyard can be 'closed in' by a wall, a river, the sea, a lake or a cliff and in the case of our 'Claux', the enclosure is formed by a long cliff. Hence, the etymological origins of this vineyard's name date back aeons. Vineyard names always mean something, provided you go to the trouble of searching a little. I have a particular fondness for Le Claux, our oldest vineyard, which produces the wine most akin to Burgundy on our estate, extremely refined and fresh with lots of bouquet. Its propensity to mature is excellent and 2006 Le Claux is showing this fairly well at the moment. And of course, just like our other 2015s, this version of Le Claux will mark the estate's history for its superlative quality and ageability.

Wild strawberries, violet, peat, Oriental spices and camphor. Bottled without filtering.