



IPO WINES

2013 Domaine Giraud Châteauneuf-du-Pape "Les Gallimardes" Blanc

IMPORTED BY European Cellars (Eric Solomon)

COUNTRY

France

REGION

Rhône

APPELLATION

Côtes-du-Rhône

SOIL TYPE

Clay limestone, galets

VARIETAL(S)

25% Bourboulenc

25% Clairette

25% Roussanne

25% Grenache Blanc

FARMING

Organic

WINEMAKER

Marie and François Giraud

ABOUT THE PRODUCER

The "domaine" saw the light of day thanks to Pierre and Mireille Giraud's zeal and two families coming together. The story begins in 1974 when Pierre and Mireille, as their parents did before them, took on 4 hectares (10 acres) of vines. Little by little the Domaine has grown through years exclusively on the appellation. In 1998, Pierre was ready to pass on his love of the vine and wine to his children. Marie and François took on the estate hand-in-hand. Under their parents' watchful eye, they devoted themselves to tending vines and winemaking. They focused their efforts on selecting parcel by parcel, doing minimal treatments, upgrading their cellar to make finer and finer wines while respecting family traditions. François tries hard to tend each parcel and variety respecting the "terroir" as much as possible, that alchemy nature provides us with, to fully express our grapes' full character. Renowned late Rhône enologist Philippe Cambie consulted for the Domaine.

WINE NOTES

Vine age: 100 years old. Vineyards: From the Gallimardes, a single vineyard in the south of the appellation. Aging: In stainless steel except for Roussanne which is aged in barrels for 6 months. Of the 8 hectares of old vines that Marie and François Giraud farm in Gallimardes, a rocky and red clay soil on the road between the villages Châteauneuf-du-Pape and Sorgues, 1 hectare are white varieties – roughly equal parts Grenache Blanc, Clairette, Roussanne and Bourboulenc. Each variety is harvested exactly when it is ripe and is gently pressed into tank except the Roussanne which is fermented in French oak demi-muids. After 6 months of aging Marie assembles the final blend. Due to the age of the vines the exact blend changes from vintage to vintage as does the quantity of wine bottled. 93 points, "I think the finest vintage to date, the 2013 Châteauneuf du Pape les Gallimardes Blanc is a knockout blend of equal parts Grenache Blanc, Clairette, Roussanne and Bourboulenc that was aged all in stainless steel, except for Roussanne, which spent six months in barrel. Showing beautiful richness and depth, with notions of buttered nectarine, citrus, brioche, white flowers and tinges of minerality, this full-bodied, unctuous and layered white builds nicely in the glass and has a great mix of richness and freshness." - Wine Advocate

