



Xavier Vignon, Arcane XV Le Fou, Vin de France, Red

Vin de France, VSIG, France

Xavier Vignon is one of the top consultant winemakers in the south of France. He used to be a master Champagne blender (so he knows a thing or two about constructing wines) but now lives in the Rhône Valley from where he visits around 300 estates to advise them on viticulture and vinification. At the end of each year, as he hands over his bill, he offers some of his employers to exchange it for barrels to make his own blends - well, that's more or less how it works!

PRESENTATION

Blend of 5 vintages among the most popular in recent years, expressed around 10 terroirs in the Southern Rhône Valley, including Châteauneuf-du-Pape, Rasteau, Ventoux, etc.): composed of 15 different late ripening variations of Grenache (variety of rootstocks). Champagne-style Rhone Valley wine.

TERROIR

This blend is the most complex and well-honed vision of the Southern Rhône Valley. It is difficult to speak of just one terroir but rather a myriad of different terroirs in which the grenache varietal thrives.

WINEMAKING

Cold pre-fermentation maceration for three weeks in order to ensure the full integration of the aromatic components and polyphenols whilst preventing the extraction of tannins from the seeds of the grapes. Followed by traditional maceration. Ageing: 1/3 in French and Austrian oak barrels, 1/3 in truncated wooden vats, 1/3 in concrete vessels.

VARIETALS

Grenache noir 85%, Syrah 5%, Mourvèdre 5%, Caladoc 5%

14,5 % VOL.

GM: No.

Contains sulphites. Does not contain egg or egg products. Does not contain milk or milk-based products.

SERVING

Temperature of service: 15°C/59°F.

AGEING POTENTIAL

10 to 15 years





REVIEWS AND AWARDS

JEB DUNNUCK

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"The NV Vin de France Arcane Le Fou is another unique wine from this incredible winemaker. This cuvée focuses on different clones of Grenache as well as just about every permitted variety out there (although it's 85% Grenache). It has a big, sweet nose of blueberries, black cherries, lavender, and peppery incense as well as a full-bodied, layered, powerful yet seamless style on the palate. With no hard edges, silky tannins, and a big finish, it's a singular wine (it's mostly from vines in Châteauneuf-du-Pape) to enjoy over the coming 10-15 years."

Jeb Dunnuck, 16/08/2019

