

Under The Radar



There is no person that has done more to elevate the quality and prestige of the wines from Les Baux de Provence than Eloi Dürrbach, who began planting vines in the three valleys (Tre Vallon) in 1973.

Following the writings of Doctor Guyot, who claimed Cabernet Sauvignon had thrived in the area before the arrival of phylloxera, the Dürrbachs planted their holdings equally between Cabernet Sauvignon and Syrah, both on north-facing slopes to strategically minimize over-sunning. This 50/50 breakdown also represented their traditional whole cluster blend.

Twenty years later in 1993, the AOC legislation authorized a maximum of 20% Cabernet in the vineyards. The family chose to forego their appellation status and honor their blend, which had brought international attention to the appellation and to the domaine due to the pedigree and ageability of the wines. Today, Trevallon is heralded as a beacon for integrity and unwavering quality.

Renegade has seen their excellent wines come and go over the years but there has not been this much excitement about a vintage in ages.

Trevallon's 2019 is stunning. It's color is intense; deep red with purple hues.

On the nose, it is powerful and beautifully elegant, with ripe red and black fruits, against a background of white pepper and liquorice spice, very characteristic of Trevallon.

The palate is smooth and ends on a long, lovely finish showing very ripe and refined tannins of supreme quality.

The balance is impeccable suggesting this great wine will keep for at least twenty years.

Of course we could not wait but we did plan ahead: 5 hour decant before enjoying. One of our top wines (so far) in 2022.

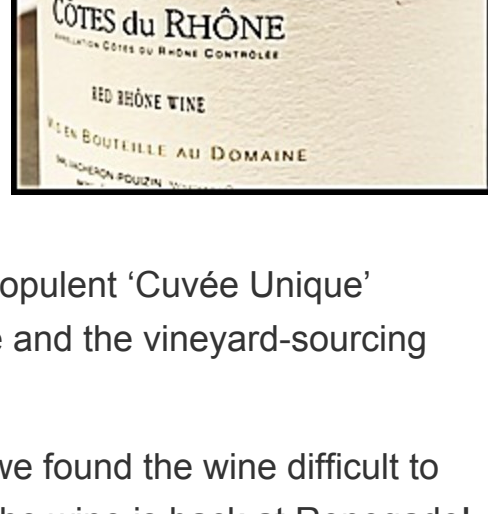
2019 Domaine de Trevallon
(France, Provence, Vin de Pays des Alpilles)
\$88 - 750ml / \$205 - 1.5 Liter

We did receive a few bottles of their rare white wine, a blend of Marsanne, Roussanne, Chardonnay and Grenache Blanc. 300 or so cases produced.

2020 Domaine de Trevallon Blanc \$138

Caillou in 3 Acts

2020 Le Clos du Caillou Côtes du Rhône Cuvée Unique Vieilles Vignes (France, Southern Rhône, Côtes du Rhône) **\$28**



What peaked our interest in this particular wine was a quote we read ages ago from some on-line publication:

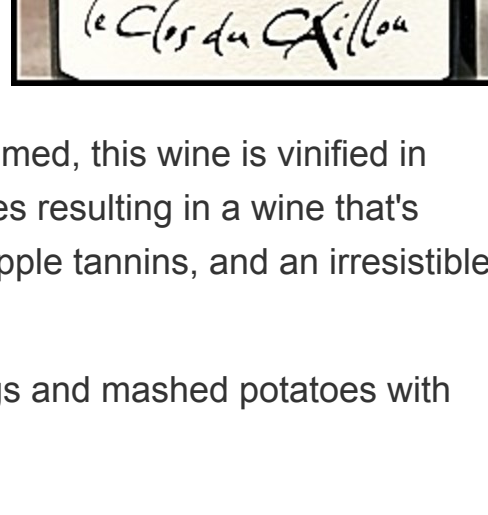
"We hoard Clos du Caillou's superbly opulent 'Cuvée Unique' whenever possible due to its low price and the vineyard-sourcing secrets that lie within the bottle."

We followed suit year after year until we found the wine difficult to come by. After a five vintage drought the wine is back at Renegade!

2020 release is a blend of 75% Grenache with splashes of Syrah, Carignan, and Mourvèdre, 25% whole cluster. This biodynamic dynamo has it all; beautiful red and dark berry fruit (raspberry and black cherry), a barrage of Mediterranean herbs (wild thyme, lavender and rosemary), opulence, balance, and oomph! This is a stunner and not a shy one at that. A Tremendous wine.

Act II

2020 Le Clos du Caillou Châteauneuf-du-Pape Les Safres (France, Southern Rhône, Châteauneuf-du-Pape) **\$75**

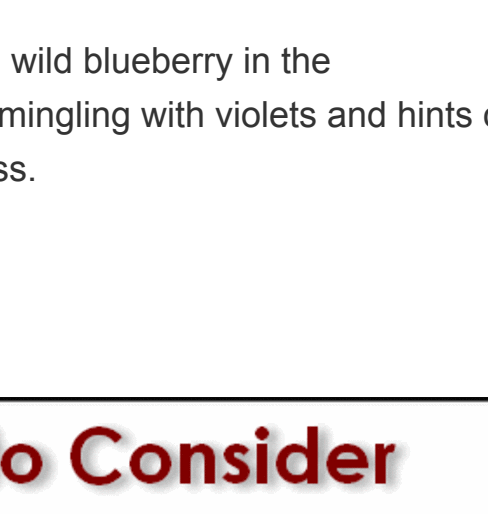


As the label art indicates the vines for this cuvee are grown on very sandy soil. A blend of 95% Grenache and 5% Mourvedre and 100% destemmed, this wine is vinified in concrete tanks then aged in old foudres resulting in a wine that's bright, fresh, and very elegant with supple tannins, and an irresistible, lengthy finish.

Try this one with roast chicken with figs and mashed potatoes with butter and thyme.

Act III

2020 Le Clos du Caillou Châteauneuf-du-Pape Les Quartz (France, Southern Rhône, Châteauneuf-du-Pape) **\$105**



From sandy and rocky soil, this wine - 80% Grenache, 20% Syrah - embodies full bodied elegance. This is a sexy wine with red and black fruit, wild blueberry in the background, with lovely pepper spice mingling with violets and hints of warm earth. Another smashing success.

A Few More to Consider

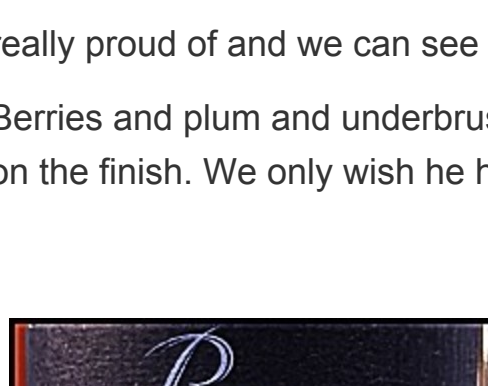


Straight Up Chablis

2020 Christophe et Fils Chablis (France, Burgundy, Chablis) **\$34**

We've returned to this wine again and again for its classic, Chablis-like demeanor. It is Chablis after all but where many of the 2020s lean towards the tropical, Christophe keeps the classical styling alive; minerals and chalk and acid where the fruit is only hinted at (at least until the wine has a hour or so to open). It's charming and friendly and a heck of a Chardonnay for \$34.

This is our Fall oyster wine.



Midas Touch

2019 Storm Wines Pinot Noir Donnachadh Vineyard (Sta. Rita Hills) **\$58**

What we have here is one amazing wine from a beautiful vineyard. Ernst mentioned this was one that he was really proud of and we can see why: It's darn right sensational.

Berries and plum and underbrush with good acid and a magical touch on the finish. We only wish he had made more (60 cases produced).



Super Duper!

2019 Rocca di Frassinello Poggio alla Guardia (Italy, Tuscany, Maremma Toscana) **\$24**

A Super-Tuscan for under \$30? Let's rephrase that: A Super-Tuscan for under \$30 that's REALLY GOOD???

You bet!

A blend of Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon, Sangiovese that's raring to go. Dark fruit, chocolate, spices and grilled herbs, and emerging mineral notes with nice acid to keep everything in place. Structured and savory with a nice breath of freshness. Pair with the grill, stews, or the end of your day.



2019 Domaine Sylvain Pataille Marsannay Les Longeroies

(France, Burgundy, Côte de Nuits, Marsannay)

\$74

We've looked at a few cellars over the years. The ones that hold great Burgundy wines, DRC, Roumier, Rousseau, Leroy, almost always have a few cases of wines from Sylvain Pataille near by.

We began to see this so often we searched out Pataille's importer and asked for a selection of bottles to sample (this was a few years ago). It was an auspicious beginning.

His 2019 wines are young but fantastic. We are featuring his Les Longeroies vineyard here, a vivacious and persistent wine that can only be called superb.

Call 805.568.1961 or email us to reserve your wines.

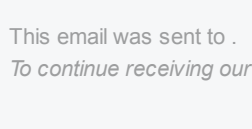
We appreciate your support!

Renegade Wines

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