

All about Côtes du Rhône

Côtes du Rhône



Côtes du Rhône

The Côtes du Rhône world



Rounded pebbles



Syrah

Muscat

The Côtes du Rhône vineyards run along the banks of the Rhone River **between Lyon and Avignon**. The great talent of the winemakers is to have known how to use the different kinds of soils and grape varieties to make the best wines appropriate to each parcel.

The vines benefit from a **semi-continental** climate between Vienne and Valence, where the **Syrah grape variety** is at its best. These wines are superb with elegance and subtleness with Lyon style cooking, often stews which have simmered for hours (beef stew, chitterling sausages, quenelles dumplings), creamy cheeses.

Between Montélimar and Avignon, the climate is fully **Mediterranean** with the **Grenache grape variety** far in the lead. Associated with the Syrah and Mourvèdre grape varieties, it brings spicy notes which enhance southern cooking : different vegetable dishes, lamb, grilled fish...

Enjoy yourselves ! The wide range of Côtes du Rhone wines is certainly big enough to satisfy your palate in all circumstances.

A.O.C : this mention guarantees a genuine relationship between the product and its terroir. A limited area of production, the soil, the climate, the selection of elegant and aromatic grape varieties, small yields And the production techniques employed by the winemaker. The notion of Appellation wines has existed in the Côtes du Rhône area since 1937!

The grape varieties indicate the type of vine used with distinct aromas for each grape variety found in the skins of the grapes.

A little background :

The Côtes du Rhône wines were already known by the Romans who delighted in tasting « wines from the Vienne area ». And of course, the Popes who resided in Avignon in the XIVth century contributed to the development of the surrounding vineyards.

Today, these wines are particularly appreciated in the greatest restaurants in France as well as in the United States, where famous wine critics rate them with exceptional notations.

Dentelles de Montmirail



Granite soils



Did you know ?

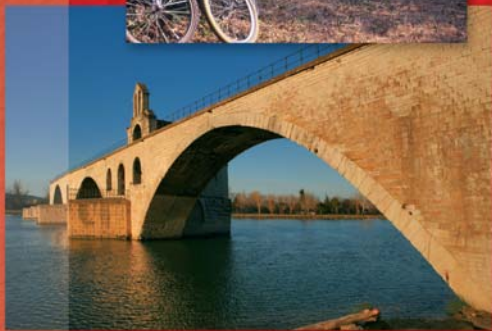
UNESCO classifies the Roman amphitheatre, the Arch of Triumph and the historical center of Avignon as world patrimonies.

A few figures :

- 60,000 hectares of vineyards
- 5,000 wineries
- 304 million bottles
- Drunk in 145 different countries
- Near to 1 million bottles of Côtes du Rhône wines are sold each day.

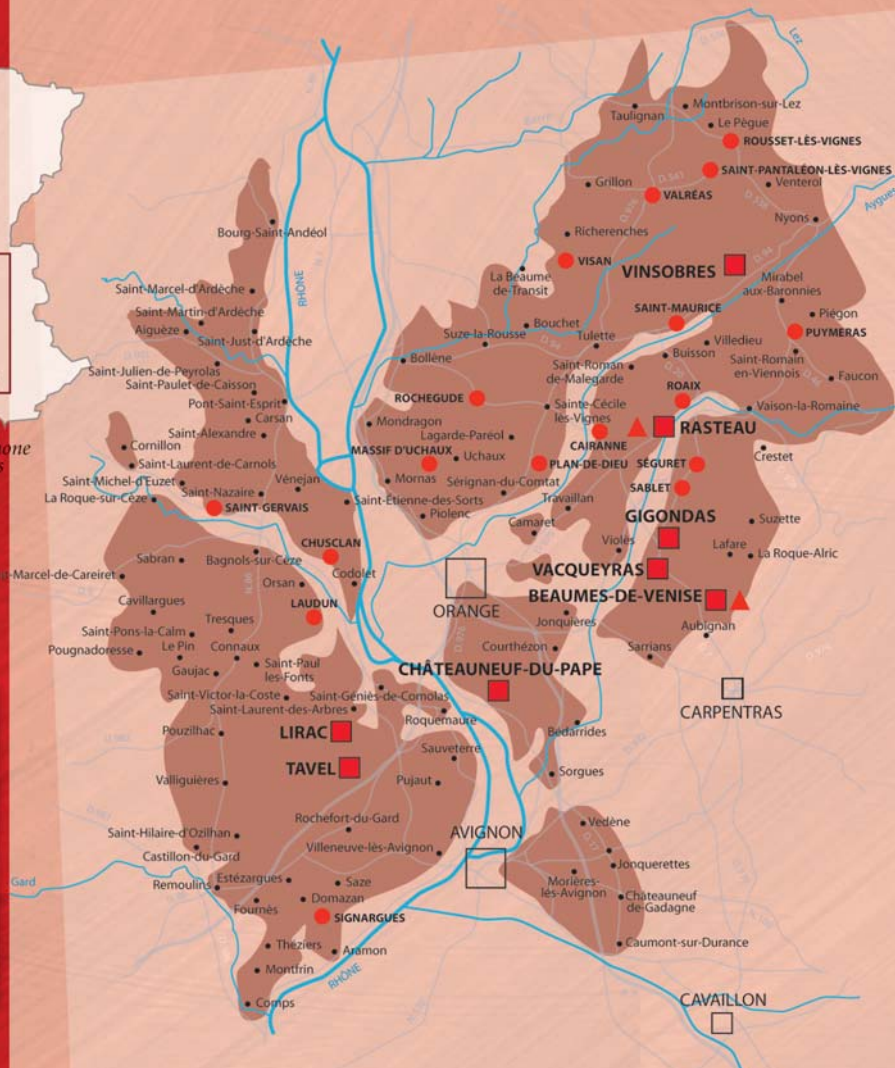


Spots of colour along the banks of the Rhône River

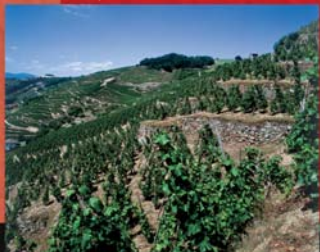


The St. Benezet Bridge in Avignon

Côtes du Rhône vineyards



Northern part of the Côtes du Rhône wines



Côtes du Rhône :

171 communes and 6 different counties :
Vaucluse, Gard, Drôme, Ardèche, Rhône, Loire.
40 000 hectares.

Côtes du Rhône Villages :

95 communes with 17 using their village name for the A.O.C. Côtes du Rhône Villages Appellation :

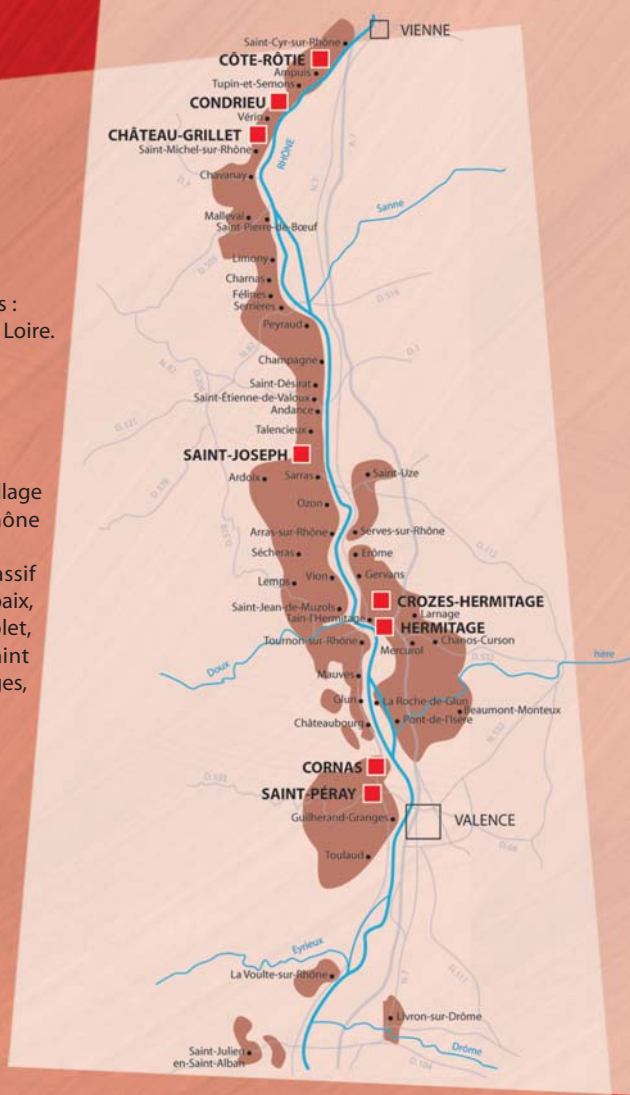
- Cairanne, Chusclan, Laudun, Massif d'Uchaux, Plan de Dieu, Puymeras, Roaix, Rochegude, Rousset les Vignes, Sablet, Saint Gervais, Saint Maurice, Saint Pantaléon les Vignes, Séguret, Signargès, Valréas, Visan.
8,000 hectares.

■ Côtes du Rhône Crus :

Numbering 16.

▲ 2 Natural sweet wines :

Beaumes de Venise Muscat wine
and Rasteau
12,000 hectares of vines.





Everyday pleasures for a highly sought after wine

The Côtes du Rhône wines :

To begin with, there are the **Côtes du Rhône** wines which are frank, generous and go so well with everyday dishes. Easy to drink, easy to appreciate.

Primarily **red wines**, they are powerful, round, frank and easy to drink. They can be drunk young to enjoy the fresh fruitiness straight away. They will develop a bouquet of subtle aromas : (fresh red fruit-strawberry, raspberry, or very ripe blackberries...).

The Côtes du Rhône rosé wines are delightful. Extremely pleasant with a few olives or pistachio nuts, and also with lamb chops or vegetable casseroles, they will immediately enhance your TV tray... Looking for the raspberry or red currant aromas can quickly become a favourite game.

The white Côtes du Rhône wines are unctuous with flowery aromas ... to be drunk as an aperitif also or with grilled fish.

The Côtes du Rhône Villages wines :

The Côtes du Rhône Villages wines have fragrances of the aromatic herbs characteristic of the countryside and hills contributing fieriness from **the Grenache grapes and spiciness from the Syrah grapes**. With these wines, summer memories come to mind. They are **convivial wines** ! If you want to vary your delights, choose among our « Villages wines » which will seduce you by their quality and quaff ability!

The Côtes du Rhône Crus :

These are the « Lords » of Côtes du Rhône wines. They are reputed worldwide, whether they come from a hill in Hermitage or from the Gigondas hillsides. The soils of each crus have been seriously inspected before being awarded the supreme distinction. Are you familiar with the heartiness of a Côte Rôtie or a Cornas, the fineness of a Saint Joseph or the smoothness of a Condrieu?

Did you know that Tavel is solely consecrated to rosé wine, the first rosé wine of France and considered to be the only « gastronomic » rosé?

As for serving suggestions, two rules apply :

The classical match, meaning marrying wines and dishes with similar characteristics, for example, a Côtes du Rhône with a T-bone steak or a Saint Péray with a cauliflower and salmon Parmentier.

The contrasting match, opposing for example, a wine such as a Beauges de Venise Muscat with Roquefort cheese.

Did you know?

■ 4 hectares for the A.O.C. Château Grillet wine : one of the greatest French white wines, is also the smallest appellation wine in the Côtes du Rhône region!



To learn more

■ **“ All about our Wines ”** ■

Each appellation is profiled in a few lines (terroir, production and food and wine pairings).

■ **“ Côtes du Rhône Wine Trails ”** ■

9 collectable maps showing the best wine tasting cellars as well as wine themed leisure activities.

■ **“ Vignobles en Fête ”** ■

The quarterly program of events and festivals in the heart of the vineyards.

■ And of course you find all information on our website ■

www.rhone-wines.com

Inter Rhône

6 rue des trois Faucons . 84024 Avignon Cedex 1. France

Tél. : 33.(0)4.90.27.24.00 - Fax : 33.(0)4.90.27.24.89



Côtes du Rhône