



# E. GUIGAL

Above: The Guigal family spent nearly 15 years restoring Château d'Ampuis, the iconic 11th century property perched on the banks of the Rhône river. For generations, the building has remained a symbol of the region and of the world-renowned vineyards which surround it.



## Condrieu 2017

Condrieu, France

### ESTATE

The more you learn about the Guigal family, the more astounding becomes their story. Their wines are the benchmarks for every Rhône appellation, and over the last thirty years they have become arguably the most lauded producer in the world. Year after year the Guigal family produces wines of exceptional quality that in all classes offer exceptional value.

### WINE

Condrieu is one of the most exotic and distinctive wines in the world, with its intense aromatics and flavors of apricots, white peach and citrus, and its luscious, almost umami body. It happens to come from a dramatically steep area, and one so small that were it not for several influential people, Marcel Guigal among them, the appellation and its Viognier grape would have been swallowed by history. The tiny appellation (500 acres total) is located on steep granite hillsides beginning at a bend in the Rhône river just south of Côte Rôtie and continuing intermittently about 12 miles further south.

### VINEYARD

*Soils:* Sand and granite. Traditional cultivation by hand on steep terraced slopes.  
*Yields:* Average of 2.0 tons per acre, average age of the vines is 30 years.

### WINEMAKING

*Grape Varieties:* Viognier 100%

*Fermentation:* After hand harvesting and sorting, 1/3 of the wine was fermented in new oak barrels and was subsequently aged in barrel for 8 months. The remaining 2/3 of the wine was fermented and aged in stainless steel. All the wine underwent malolactic fermentation.

*Aging:* Partially in stainless steel vats (2/3) and partly in new oak (1/3) coopered by Guigal at Chateau d'Ampuis.  
*Alcohol:* 13.5%

### VINTAGE

2017 presented very challenging climatic conditions that prompted harvest 10-15 days earlier than usual. There was no heavy rainfall, despite a few storms in August and September. Though lower yields, the wine produced is of excellent quality. There is a harmony between a beautiful freshness of fruit and creaminess for a dry wine. A remarkable minerality in this vintage.

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## vinous

"Pale, green-tinged gold. Heady citrus and orchard fruit aromas, along with a sexy floral overtone and a hint of peach nectar that gains strength as the wine opens up. Silky in texture and seamless on the palate, offering juicy orange, pear, white peach and honey flavors that show excellent depth as well as energy. The floral note repeats strongly on the long, penetrating finish, which leaves behind a sweet butter note." - JR, 5/2020

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Jeb Dunnuck

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Wine Advocate

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