



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.



## Côte-Rôtie La Landonne 2019

Côte-Rôtie, France

### ESTATE

The more you learn about the Guigal family, the more astounding their story becomes. 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

One of three single-vineyard Cru Côte Rôtie in the Guigal estate, La Landonne is a remarkable expression of terroir and one of the world's most coveted wines. And for good reason, as La Landonne is situated on one of the steepest vineyards of the Côte Brune, a 45 degree slope that remarkably requires harvesters to start picking from the bottom of the vineyard and work their way up, placing grape bunches in bins that are set on sleds and dragged up the hill. Along with its position at the northern end of the Côte Brune and the fact it is the last vineyard to ripen, La Landonne is the mirror of the feminine and voluptuous La Mouline: it is a wine of driving power, defined by its dark fruit and structure. Marcel Guigal assembled this vineyard over 10 years through parcel-by-parcel acquisitions from 17 growers. The vineyard was totally replanted in 1975, the year of Philippe Guigal's birth, and the first vintage was 1978.

### VINEYARD

*Soils:* Limestone clay very rich in iron oxide.  
*Yields:* Average of 2.59 tons per acre, average age of the vines is 35 years

### WINEMAKING

*Grape Varieties:* 100% Syrah  
*Fermentation:* La Landonne is one of the Guigal Côte Rôtie wines that is rarely destemmed. The wine is continuously pumped over, with fermentation and maceration lasting 4 weeks.  
*Aging:* 42 months in new oak  
*Alcohol:* 14.5%

### VINTAGE

2019 is the latest in an unprecedented string of magnificent vintages in the Northern Rhône Valley, with extremely high quality in all appellations and at all levels. The 2019 reds are powerful wines with deep, healthy colors and pinpoint balance. Acidity levels and tannin content are both higher in this vintage than in the two prior, framing the 2019s as a hypothetical cross between the classic 2016s and the rich, forward 2018s. Yields were impacted by hail in some appellations, but outside of Crozes-Hermitage the damage was slight, and 2019 overall was a vintage of average size. The intensely concentrated fruit, framed by healthy acidity and deep, ripe tannins is perfectly suited to Guigal's method of extended élevage, and the 2019s should prove to be among the longest-lived vintages in recent memory.

*Robert Parker*  
WINE ADVOCATE

*"The impenetrably dark 2019 Côte Rôtie La Landonne represents the essence of this fabled lieu-dit, combining peppery, herbal notions with espresso and roasted meat, all carried by ample plum and black cherry fruit. It's full bodied, concentrated, richly tannic and long on the finish—simply a superb wine that should be flirting with perfection when it is released."* - J.C., 12/2022

98-100

98-100 Jeb Dunnuck

97

James Suckling