



2019 Rhône En Primeur

2019 is an exceptionally elegant and harmonious vintage across the Rhône Valley, the wines combining ripeness and power with striking freshness and finesse.

Timely rainfall and cool nights during an otherwise intensely hot, dry summer were key to success here. Fortunately, ample rain fell during the spring of 2019, providing the soil with essential water reserves. But then, with the exception of an extraordinary, and damaging, 20-minute hail storm in Crozes-Hermitage on 15th June, not a drop of water fell in the valley in June or July. In the north, a welcome downpour arrived in early August, which stopped the vines from shutting down through heat-stress and drought, allowing for uniform ripening. Similarly, in the south, mid-September showers assisted in the final stages of the growing season.

Cool summer nights also helped the vines to regenerate and resist stress. A beneficial consequence of the wide diurnal temperature difference was that it allowed for pronounced aromatic development in the grapes, and for precious acidities to be retained.

At harvest time, the resulting grapes were not only sweet, juicy and in good health, but also had exceptional aromatic concentration and natural freshness.

It is with great pleasure that we recommend this vintage for both early drinking, vibrantly fruity styles and for intensely flavoursome, finely structured wines for the mid-to long-term.

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These wines are offered £ per case (as indicated) in bond UK, for delivery during 2021

Domaine Sainte-Anne, Saint Gervais

Originally from Givry in Burgundy's Côte Chalonnaise, Guy Steinmaier moved to the tiny, hillside hamlet of Les Cellettes in the 1960s, where he put down the roots of Domaine Sainte-Anne. Today the domaine is run by his sons, Jean and Alain, who focus on Côtes du Rhône Villages reds from the surrounding vineyards. We have consistently followed the estate, finding the wines to have astonishing intensity, power and harmony. For us, they are among the smartest buys in the region – embarrassing many a Châteauneuf du Pape at double the price. The wines below are fermented and aged in concrete vats, giving utmost purity.



Côtes du Rhône Villages Notre Dame des Cellettes

12x75cl 108.00

Domaine Sainte-Anne 2019

This cuvée was originally created to raise funds to renovate the chapel of Les Cellettes. It is predominantly old-vine Grenache (70%), with a balance of Syrah and Mourvèdre, from vineyards located around the hamlet. Mid ruby-purple colour, aromas are attractive and intense: sweet strawberries, with a lifted scent of orange zest. This is classically full bodied but has more lightness of step and poise than in previous vintages. Concentrated, fragrant fruitiness leads to a fine, lively finish (for drinking autumn 2021-2024+).



Côtes du Rhône Villages Saint Gervais Les Rouvières

12x75cl 129.00

Domaine Sainte-Anne 2019

Mourvedère always takes centre stage in this wine, once again comprising 70% of the blend, the remainder being equally split between Grenache and Syrah. The vines are 40-60 years in age, which naturally give low yields of highly concentrated grapes. Colour is vibrant, deep purple, aromas being floral and open, recalling blackberries and damsons. These lead to a powerful, fleshy palate, with layers of black fruit flavours. The tannins are silky-smooth and bring perfect harmony and freshness (for drinking winter 2021–2025+).

Domaine Font Sarade, Vacqueyras

The Burle family of Font Sarade has well-established roots in Vacqueyras, the domaine now being run by father and daughter team, Bernard and Claire. It was Bernard who initiated domaine bottling, when he took over from his father in 2002. His years of winemaking in this northern sector of Vacqueyras are complemented by Claire's more recent experiences in Adelaide. Having installed an immaculate new winery in 2015, which sits alongside the original cellar (built in 1936: "the oldest in Vacqueyras"), fruit purity and charm are key to the style of their wines.



Vacqueyras Les Hauts de la Ponche

12x75cl 126.00

Domaine Font Sarade 2019

This wine is from vines located just behind the family home, located at the top of the clay-limestone "La Ponche" plateau, which forms part of the larger Plateau des Garrigues. As in previous years, the 2019 is a blend of Grenache (50%), Syrah (25%) and Mourvèdre (25%). This is a beautiful, deeply coloured wine, with spiced, brambly, garrigue aromas. Body is full and supple, with intense, chocolatey, black fruit flavours and an attractive mineral freshness to finish (for drinking 2022–2025+).

Gigondas Les Pigières

12x75cl 150.00

Domaine Font Sarade 2019

A new listing with this superb, luscious 2019 vintage, the vines for this Gigondas lie alongside the garrigue, in clayey marl soils. Choosing to ferment and age this wine for 10 months in concrete tanks, the result is a transparent expression of the local grapes (60% Grenache / 35% Mourvèdre / 5% Syrah) and their terroir. Deep ruby, aromas are intense and densely packed, with red and black berry fruitiness. Full, rounded and fresh on the palate, this has power, depth and silkiness of tannins. A classic Gigondas (for drinking 2022-2025+).

Domaine Font de Courtedune, Courthézon

Brother and sister, Frédéric and Caroline Charrier run this domaine, with Frédéric in the vines and Beaune-educated Caroline in the winery. Their vines lie on the Rayas / Courthézon side of Châteauneuf du Pape. Here, sandy, beach-like soils give naturally fine, elegant, bouncy wines, which Caroline harnesses with her gentle, traditional winemaking approach. There is no destemming ("we do not own a destemming machine") or punching down during fermentation ("just a little pumping over of the juice"). This is a rising star of the appellation.



Châteauneuf du Pape

Domaine Font de Courtedune 2019

Vine age is an important contributory factor in the production of high quality Châteauneuf du Pape: a great number of the Charrier's Grenache vines are centenarians, these gnarled vines giving richly concentrated juice. A field blend, predominantly comprising Grenache (95%) with the other 12 grape varieties authorised for Châteauneuf production (most red, some white), this is a fine-boned Châteauneuf style. Deep ruby colour, with incredibly fragrant red fruit aromas, there is generous mid-palate power here that builds layer upon layer in the mouth. The texture is beautifully fine, tannins being elegant and bringing freshness. The finish is long, ripe and full of finesse (for drinking 2022-2030+).

12x75cl 222.00

6x150cl 237.00

Domaine Courbis, Châteaubourg

Located in the commune of Châteaubourg, where the rivers Rhône and Isère meet, this domaine has been in the family since the 16th century, with Courbis brothers Dominique (in the vines) and Laurent (in the winery) at the helm. Their Cornas wines opened our eyes to the beauty of the appellation several years ago, as we enjoyed older bottles in restaurants when travelling in the area. We were fortunate to start shipping directly from the domaine with the 2016 vintage. These 2019s are another enormous success.



Cornas Champelrose

6x75cl 135.00

Domaine Courbis 2019

From 3 hectares of Syrah vines located in the foothills that lead up to La Sabarotte (see page 7), this is the most approachable and open of the three Cornas cuvées ("my version of Village Burgundy", says Laurent). Opaque ruby colour, aromas are sumptuously perfumed, with notes of ripe black cherries. The palate is full, intense and tightly concentrated, having linear focus, purity and lift. Tannins are fresh and in perfect harmony (for drinking 2022-2028+).



Cornas Les Eygats *Domaine Courbis 2019*

6x75cl 198.00

The vines of Les Eygats grow on a high, windy, east-facing plot, 300m above sea level, on granite terraces. The grapes naturally retain good acidity, giving a vibrant wine with great ageing potential. Deep ruby-purple, this has gorgeously fragrant aromas of ripe black berries, violets and fresh mint. Palate is fleshy, with rich, dense fruit, all tightly held in a freshly tannic frame. This is a layered, long-flavoured bottle for the future (for drinking 2024-2034+).



Cornas La Sabarotte

Domaine Courbis 2019

La Sabarotte is the domaine's most powerful wine, from old, terraced vines planted in 1947. Aged 70% in new oak barrels, it has a splendidly complex nose, being at once spicy and richly aromatic with black fruits. This is a wine with a huge volume of mouth-coating richness. The fruit is exuberant and intense, with great depth and character. It is mineral and finely structured, with ample ripe tannins. A wine for the cellar (for drinking 2025-2036+).

Domaine Marsanne, Mauves

Jean-Claude Marsanne lives and works in Mauves in the southern part of the Saint-Joseph appellation. We have been shipping his brilliant, age-worthy Saint-Joseph since the 2010 vintage, it having become a firm HH&C favourite. His vineyards are on slopes that are, in effect, a continuation of the hill of Hermitage, on the opposite bank of the Rhône. With most of the wine maturing in old oak demi-muids, the remainder in tank, Jean-Claude's focus is on allowing the terroir and vintage character to shine.



Saint-Joseph

Domaine Marsanne 2019

Opaque ruby-purple colour, aromas are ebullient, recalling cassis and violets, with underlying floral smokiness. This is a broad, velvety, energetic wine. Powerfully structured, the fruit is rich and ripe, with harmonious, lifting acidity and fine tannins. Longflavoured on the finish, this has a great future (for drinking 2023-2030+).

6x75cl 258.00

12x75cl 204.00 6x150cl 220.00

Domaine du Colombier, Tain l'Hermitage

We were thrilled to rediscover the wines of Domaine du Colombier last year with the 2018 vintage, and these 2019s are another beautiful line-up. The Viale family planted their first vines at the foot of the Hermitage hill in 1929, Florent Viale being the third-generation owner-winemaker, tending 16 hectares scattered across some of the best sites over the communes of Mercurol and Tain. Florent is keen to emphasise the natural freshness and purity of Syrah grown in this sector of the valley. His wines have precision and intensity.

Crozes-Hermitage Primavera

12x75cl 126.00

Domaine du Colombier 2019

The grapes for Primavera come from the domaine's youngest vines, being 100% destemmed, fermented and held in stainless steel tank, and then bottled the spring after harvest. The result is a Crozes that showcases vital, youthful Syrah – offering superb value for money (£10.50 per bottle, in bond). Mid to deep ruby-purple in the glass, aromas are attractive and sweetly fragrant: blackberries, cherries and black olives. Palate is full bodied, with a charmingly fruity middle and a texture that is silky-smooth. This is a lively, springy wine, with a refreshing finish (for drinking as soon as shipped – 2023).



Crozes-Hermitage

Domaine du Colombier 2019

12x75cl 165.00

The domaine's flagship cuvée, partially aged in stainless steel tank to preserve primary fruit and partially in 600 litre demi-muids, bringing extra layers of flavour and mellowness of texture. Colour is deep ruby, aromas being expressive: floral red and black cherries with a touch of sweet spice. This is a full mouthful, with generous middle-palate, precise structure and fine, fresh tannins. The finish is long and harmonious (for drinking winter 2021-2025+).

Hermitage 6x75cl 252.00

Domaine du Colombier 2019

The cream of the domaine's crop, this outstanding 2019 Hermitage is an action-packed, classically dense, powerfully structured Syrah – a wine that will reward time in the cellar. Opaque purple in the glass, aromas are super-concentrated and intense, recalling spiced cassis, cherry blossom, sweet plums. Palate is currently tauter and tenser than the nose advertises, being tightly concentrated, with a fresh, minty-mineral tone, and fine, ripe tannins. The length goes on and on (for drinking 2025-2040+).

Domaine Vallet, Serrières

Anthony Vallet is a young wine-maker who exudes enthusiasm for his work in the vines of Saint-Joseph. He farms 11.5 hectares on the granite slopes surrounding the riverside town of Serrières, at the middle-point of the Saint-Joseph appellation, to the south of Condrieu. Vibrancy and charm are key features of his wines, which offer great drinking for the short, mid and longer term.



Saint-Joseph Rouge Les Méribets Domaine Vallet 2019

Les Méribets comes from 8 separate parcels, from the hills surrounding the domaine, aged in barrel for 10 months, with no new oak, to allow it to retain a bright, fruity character whilst developing velvety textures. Mid ruby colour, the nose is wonderfully perfumed, with notes of black cherry and liquorice. Full bodied, this is a vibrant, poised wine, with a fleshy middle, good structure and a finish that is full of finesse (for drinking 2021-2027+).



Saint-Joseph Muletiers

Domaine Vallet 2019

Muletiers comes from a single plot of older, 50-year-old vines, with their roots in pure granite soils. The result is a Saint-Joseph that has admirable depth and density. It has been ageing in 600 litre demi-muids, for bottling later this spring. Intense purple colour, the aromas are rich and deep, recalling ripe black cherries, black pepper and a hint of smoky bacon. Body is luscious and full, with tightly-knit flavours, a mineral frame and a finish that is thirst quenching and long (for drinking 2023-2030+).

12x75cl

6x150cl

12x75cl 182.00

153.00

167.00

Pierre Gaillard, Malleval

Producing wines that are generous and harmonious is what Pierre Gaillard and his daughter Jeanne strive for at their family domaine. Established in 1981, Pierre started out with 3 hectares in Saint-Joseph's Clos de Cuminaille, located in the high slopes of the commune of Malleval, at the northern edge of Saint-Joseph. He now makes wines from 70 hectares, spread across the northern Rhône. Understanding the minutiae and complexities of each parcel, Pierre skilfully translates these details into each wine he makes.



Saint-Joseph Clos de Cuminaille

12x75cl 192.00

Pierre Gaillard 2019

The wine for which Pierre is best known, from his original, walled Clos de Cuminaille vineyard, planted in 1981, this 2019 is a triumph. The nose is high-toned and alluring, boasting aromas of sweet cinnamon spice and floral black cherries. The high elevation of the vineyard sings through on the palate, the wine having a racy, airy quality, lifting richly textured, concentrated fruitiness. It has good structure, silky tannins and a long, elegant finish (for drinking 2022-2030+).



Côte Rôtie

6x75cl 180.00

Pierre Gaillard 2019

This is classic Côte Rôtie, from a blend of 90% Syrah and 10% Viognier from vineyards across the breadth of the Côte. These red and white grapes are co-planted, being picked and fermented together to give a deeply purple wine that has amazingly perfumed, apricot, black cherry and savoury grilled meat aromas. The palate is intense, supple and extrovert, with ample concentration and structure. Tannins are satin-smooth and beautifully fresh (for drinking 2023-2034+).



Côte Rôtie Esprit de Blonde

Pierre Gaillard 2019

As we have experienced in previous vintages, this is once again a show-stoppingly beautiful Côte Rôtie (very difficult to spit, when tasting in February 2021). A blend of 85% Syrah and 15% Viognier from vineyards exclusively on the Côte Blonde, the wine has been ageing in new oak barrels. The result is a deeply purple wine that has intensely perfumed, complex, peach, violet and spiced black fruit aromas. This is a full, layered, super-silky wine, with underlying mineral presence and impressive depth of fruit. Structure is fine boned, the finish being vital and powerful (for drinking 2025-2038+).



Côte Rôtie Rose Pourpre

Pierre Gaillard 2019

A different, but equally impressive style here, from 100% Syrah grown on the iron-rich, south-facing, vertiginous, schist slopes of the Côte Rozier. This is a mighty, concentrated wine, of substantial proportion and structure. Colour is impressive purple, with deep, complex aromas of blueberry and cassis. The palate is intense, with tremendous depth. Mineral and fleshy, the tannins are beautifully balanced, the wine finishing with superb, long-lasting flavours (for drinking 2026-2040+).

6x75cl 291.00

6x75cl 372.00

Domaine Stéphane Ogier, Ampuis

Stéphane Ogier has built a reputation as one of the Northern Rhône's most highly respected winemakers. From the domaine's new, state-of-the-art winery in Ampuis, precision and attention to detail are key elements to his success. Stéphane's wines have delicacy and a seductive quality, allied to concentration and fine structures. We recommend these bottles – both white and reds - with great enthusiasm.



Condrieu La Combe de Malleval

6x75cl 186.00

Domaine Stéphane Ogier 2019

From vines high in the hills, on the southern tip of Condrieu, Stéphane stresses the importance of retaining acidity and freshness in the Viognier grapes, not allowing a hint of over-ripeness to sneak in. Colour is a bright, pale gold, with intense aromas of spiced white peach and fresh apricot. This is a full bodied, rich, fragrant wine with a lusciously creamy texture. Natural power and firm concentration are held in place by the wine's tight, mineral, elegant finish (for drinking 2021-2024+).



Syrah La Rosine, Collines Rhodaniennes

Domaine Stéphane Ogier 2019

6x75cl 93.00

Here Stéphane creates a wine that is as close as one can get to enjoying Côte Rôtie when actually drinking a wine from a less grand appellation. The vines lie just on the other side of the border, on a granite slope that links Côte Rôtie and Condrieu. Aged for 12 months in 1-5 year-old oak barrels, colour is deep purple-ruby, with delicately floral aromas of ripe black fruits with a hint of black olive. Palate is ebullient and charming, with a wonderful, suave texture and a line of freshness from start to its long finish. A seriously smart buy, at £15.50 per bottle in bond (for drinking 2021-2025+).



L'Ame Soeur, Vin de Pays de Seyssuel

6x75cl 201.00

Domaine Stéphane Ogier 2019

This cluster of vineyards lies due north of Côte Rôtie, on the left bank of the Rhône, below the village of Seyssuel. The slopes were greatly prized as far back as Roman times, the aspect and schist soils being very similar to those of Côte Rôtie. In recent years, a number of Rhône vignerons have reignited interest in this area, Ogier's L'Ame Soeur being a splendid example. 98% Syrah with 2% Viognier (co-planted), colour is opaque purple, nose being beautifully floral, lifted and alluring: bramble fruits, violets, thyme. Palate is seductively supple, having gorgeous depth, mineral complexity and super-fine, refreshingly mouth-coating tannins. There is precise structure and great length (for drinking 2024-2034+).



Côte Rôtie Mon Village

6x75cl 228.00

Domaine Stéphane Ogier 2019

The Ogiers own 10 hectares of well-appointed vines in Côte Rôtie, split into 35 different parcels. These are picked, vinified and aged separately – before being blended 18 months after harvest. In 2019, this is a wine that exudes energy and finesse, bringing together the complex patchwork that is Côte Rôtie. The nose boasts an abundance of scented black fruits, with herbs, cocoa and smoke. Palate is captivating, being full, taut and intricately woven. There is great intensity with refinement, texture being freshly silky-smooth, structure poised, and the finish long-lasting and vivacious. This is great, irresistible Côte Rôtie, which will be delicious in both the mid and long term (for drinking 2024-2035+).

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Buying wine in bond

Prices in this offer are quoted 'in bond' per case of 12x75cl bottles, unless otherwise stated. Once shipped to the UK, they will incur duty and VAT (at the prevailing rate) upon release from bonded warehouse. Any wines not delivered by our own delivery vehicles will be subject to a carriage charge.

Transferring wine under bond

We are able to arrange under bond transfers of all the wines in this offer. For transfers into Octavian Corsham accounts there is no charge, however a charge will be incurred for transfers to accounts held at other bonded warehouses. If you would be interested in setting up a storage facility with Nexus Wine Collections at Octavian, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us.

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