

Château Coupe Roses (organic) Minervois



The Wines

- *Champ du Roy blanc*: A hugely aromatic, dry blend of Grenache Blanc and Muscat (roughly 30% and the variety is Petits Grains). Yearly production averages 1,000 cases.
- *Frémillant Rosé*: A rosé de saignée from parcels chosen for this rosé and harvested by hand. The blend is based on Mourvèdre (roughly 40%), then with by and large equal proportions of Cinsault, Grenache, and Syrah. *Frémillant* is old Occitane referring to a light red wine. Yearly production averages 1,000 cases.
- *Minervois Cuvée Bastide*: The first of four Minervois cuvées, Bastide is made of roughly equal parts Carignan and Grenache, with around 5% Syrah. The élevage is done in tank. A great buy for an eminently honest wine (that is, one made without modern cellar shenanigans and without any additives--has anyone ever told you that the hugely popular Aussie wine named after a yellow marsupial is not a healthy beverage?). In Bastide, you can often find high-toned blueberry notes underpinned by Carignan's tarry black fruits. Yearly production averages 3,300 cases.
- *Minervois Cuvée Vignals*: This is the south, so pronounce that final "s." Vignals is based on Syrah (roughly 60%), and filled out with Grenache (30% +/-) and then Carignan. Made entirely in tank. Deliciously medium-weight, fresh, spicy, long, and infused with *garrigue*. You should buy some. Yearly production averages 5,400 cases.
- *Minervois Cuvée Granaxa*: Granaxa is Occitan dialect for Grenache, and this is Coupe Rose's Grenache cuvée with 10% Syrah, raised in second and third-year oak barrels. Now we get into more weight and body, with distinctly earthy overtones in the red fruit. Yearly production averages 1,000 cases.
- *Minervois Cuvée Orience*: This is the domain's luxury cuvée based on Syrah with 10% Grenache, made in barrels, about one-third of which are new. The Syrah comes from their best clay/limestone parcels high up on the plateau above the village. Orience has blacker fruit, with spice, earth, and elegance in spades. Yearly production averages 600 cases.