

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 dialect meaning 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 terrific buy for a true *vin de terroir*. In this wine is all the *garrigue* underbrush of the high Minervois, laced with high-toned blueberry notes and underpinned by Carignan's tarry black notes. 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. This is the tier above Bastide and like Bastide, it is raised entirely in tank. Deliciously medium-weight, fresh, spicy, long, and infused with *garrigue*. Yearly production averages 5,400 cases. You should buy some.
- *Minervois Cuvée Granaxa*: Granaxa is Occitane 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 top 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 black/blue fruit with spice, earth and elegance in spades. It's with this cuvée that the mountain microclimate really shines through. Production averages 600 cases.