

Domaine de Pierredon

Côtes du Rhône



The Wine

- *Côtes du Rhône Villages "Signargues"*: The name Signargues, pronounced *see-nargues*, refers to the plateau: Plateau de Signargues. This plateau was created by the same forces that created the nearby Châteauneuf-du-Pape plateau and, a bit farther north, the terrace—it's an ancient glacier and river wash from back when the glaciers were melting and the Rhone River was much bigger than it is now. The composition is clay, sand, and *galets roulés* (those large, polished stones). This is a fundamentally different terroir from Gigondas or Cairanne or Beaumes de Venise. In the latter, the soils owe their origins to erosion from mountainous uplifts rather than from glacial deposits. They are limestone based and tend to be more edgy in flavors and mouth-feel, with a more pronounced sense of minerality. The river terrace terroirs give wine more power and breadth of flavor--a flavor profile that is far more broad than pointed.

Pierredon has the good fortune to have significant plantings of Mourvèdre, which contributes depth and structure to Grenache's overt generosity. Mourvèdre also ripens at considerably lower levels of potential alcohol, thus has the benefit of lowering the level of any blend with Grenache. This wine is a fifty-fifty blend of the two varieties.

Production averages 800 cases.