

2019 Châteauneuf- du-Pape Tasting

Steve Smith

February 5, 2022

Châteauneuf-du-Pape

Tasting Agenda

DON'T LOOK AT PAGE 4 OF THE HANDOUT

- 6:00 to 6:45 Taste the wine and post your votes.
- 6:45 to 7:00 Châteauneuf-du-Pape discussion led by Steve Smith.
- 7:00 Sharp Voting closes.
- 7:00 to 7:05 Comments on the wines in general from anyone.
- 7:05 to 7:10 Announcement of the Tasting Results.
- 7:10 to ? Discussion of the wines.
- ? Until 8:00? Social time (if needed – I will drop at 7:30).
- For voting go to CellarSocietySF.org and choose “Members Only”.
 - The password is “*****”.

Châteauneuf-du-Pape

Tasting Summary

- **Wine Details:**
 - Price range is \$34.99 to \$64.99.
 - Alcohol range is 13.5% to 16%.
 - Principle grapes are Grenache, Syrah & Mourvedre.
 - 6 wines are 80% to 95% Grenache.
 - 2 wines are 60% to 65% Grenache.

Table of Contents

- Where is the Rhone Valley?
- What are the Northern Rhone Wines?
- What are the Southern Rhone Wines?
- What are the Châteauneuf-du-Pape Rouge Grapes?
- Characteristics of Châteauneuf-du-Pape Rouge

Where is the Rhone Valley?

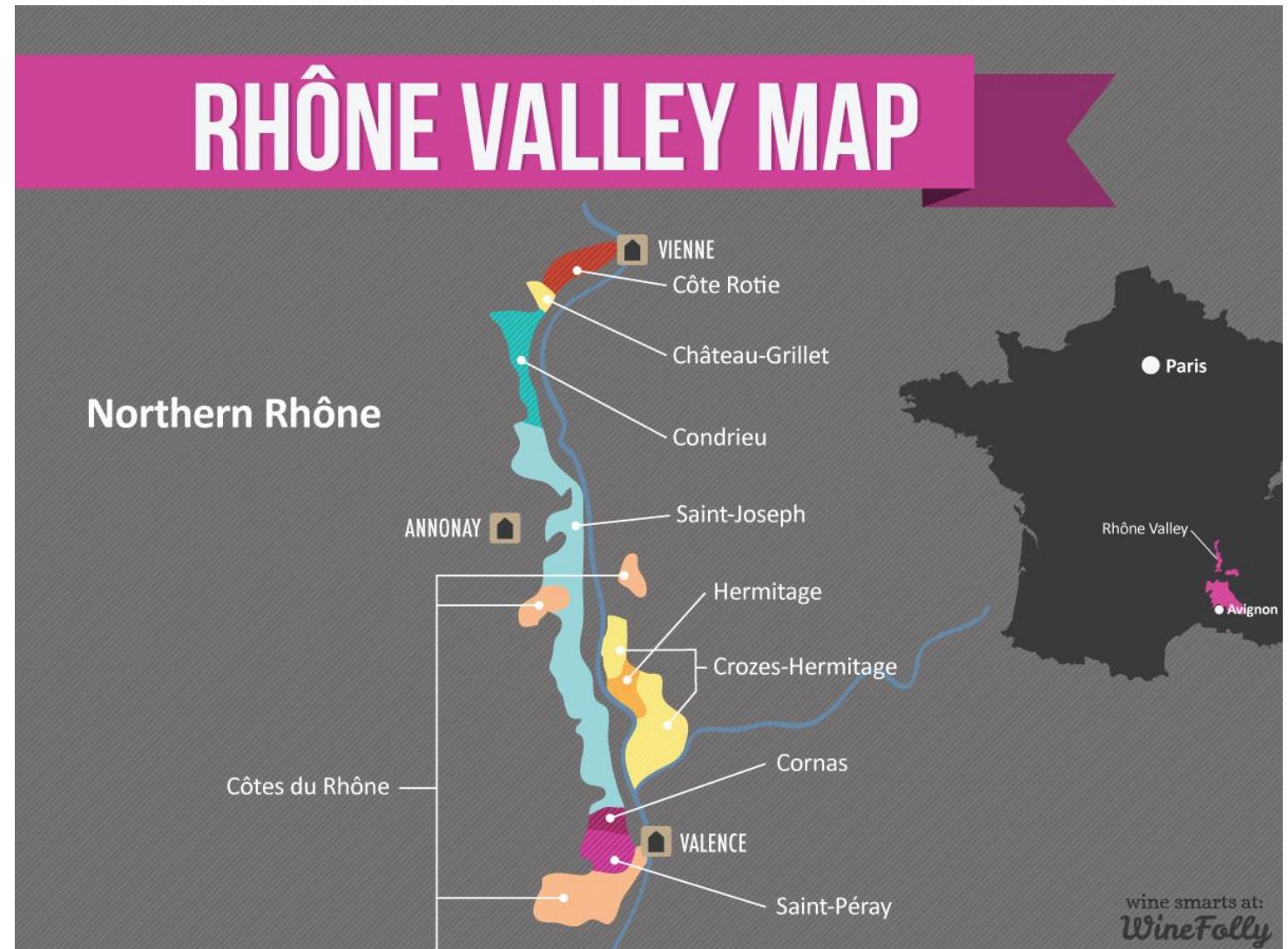
- The Rhone Valley is in South-Eastern France
- Most of the same grapes are grown further south in Languedoc – Roussillon and Provence, but not in any other region.
- Like the rest of France, the best wines use the names of the Cru Appellations (see the next 2 slides).



What are the Northern Rhône Wines?

- The reds are **Syrah** from Cote Rotie, Hermitage, Cornas, St. Joseph and Crozes-Hermitage.
- The white-only crus are **Condrieu & Ch. Grillet** (**Viognier**) and **St. Peray** (**Marsanne & Roussanne**).
- White wines from mostly **Marsanne** are made in **Hermitage, Crozes-Hermitage** and **St. Joseph**.

Grapes are Blue. Crus Red.



What are the Southern Rhone Wines?

- The most famous crus are small.
- The famous reds are **Châteauneuf-du-Pape**, **Gigondas** & **Vacqueyras** made from blends featuring **Grenache**, **Syrah** & **Mourvedre**.
- **Beaumes des Venise** is famous mostly for **Muscat** dessert wines.
- **Tavel** is famous for Rose.
- Less expensive red and white blends are labeled as **Cotes-du-Rhone**.
- Small amounts of the best southern white are made in **Châteauneuf-du-Pape** from an often-complex blend.



What are the Châteauneuf-du-Pape Rouge grapes?

- Châteauneuf-du-Pape Rouge is a blend of up to 18 grapes:

The Main grapes:

Grenache Noir
Syrah
Mourvèdre

Other allowed reds:

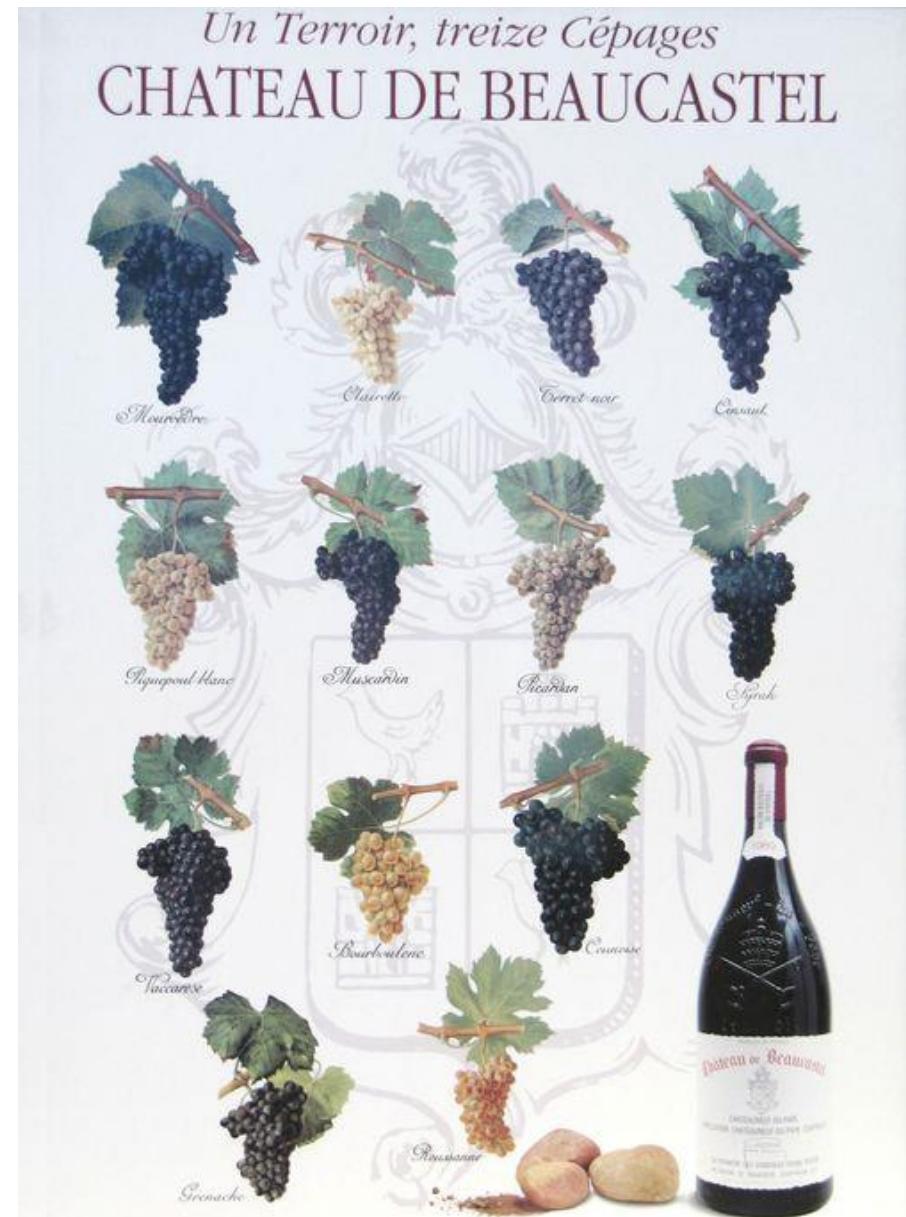
Cinsault
Counoise
Muscardin
Vaccarese
Picpoul Noir
Terret Noir

Allowed whites:

Grenache Blanc
Roussanne
Clairette
Bourboulenc

5 rare grapes:

Clairette Rosé
Grenache Gris
Picardin
Picpoul Blanc
Picpoul Gris



Characteristics of Châteauneuf-du-Pape Rouge

- Châteauneuf-du-Pape red wines are often described as **earthy with gamey flavors that have hints of tar and leather**. The wines are considered tough and tannic in their youth but maintain their rich spiciness as they age. The wines often exhibit aromas of dried herbs common in Provence under the name of garrigue.