

Bottle	Wine name and Vineyard	Description Reviews	Price
6	2018 Jean-Michel Sorrel Hermitage Le Vignon <i>Hermitage</i> is a fine wine microregion. The vineyards on 'Hermitage Hill', are more like a set of 3 south-facing hills that have been planted since 500BC. Famous emboldened wines usually need 5-10 years before you open them. Est 1937, only 137 hectares in vines.	<p>Aromas of black cherry, light toast, ripe blackberry. Full-bodied and fresh, great energy and length. Finishes with herbal notes and dark chocolate; grippy yet fine-grained tannins.</p> <p>One of the smallest and most important Syrah regions of northern Rhone, Hermitage is practically one single south-facing slope of crushed granite, thinly covered with varied, yet well-charted soil types. Many climats (well identified parcels) exist within Hermitage and while some smaller producers make single climat Syrahs, some larger ones blend to make one balanced expression of the appellation.</p>	\$99.99
8	2018 Vincent Paris Saint Joseph Vineyards are in the village of Ardoix about 30 km north of Cornas in the central part of the <i>Saint Joseph</i> appellation. <i>Saint Joseph</i> is the largest of the Northern Rhone regions, 30 miles long. Wines are unique within the region depending on slope, position of the vineyard and producer! Also, 'Syrah likes a view!'	<p>Jeb Dunnuck JD93</p> <p>The 2018 Saint Joseph Les Côtes from Paris is a beautiful, elegant wine that shines for its complexity and balance just as much as power and richness. Classy Saint Joseph blue fruits, violets, and damp rock-like minerality all define the bouquet, and it's nicely textured, silky, and elegant on the palate. I love the balance, and while it's going to be hard to resist on release, it should keep for over a decade, if you're so inclined. The Les Côtes is all destemmed and brought up in a mix of used barrels and stainless-steel tanks.</p> <p>Robert Parker's Wine Advocate RP91</p> <p>The 2018 Saint Joseph Les Cotes is forward, plush and silky, with oodles of ripe cherries. It's full-bodied but does show hints of granitic restraint and a briny freshness that comes to the fore on the lengthy finish. While approachable young, it's not just a simple fruit bomb, there's</p>	\$39.99

Bottle	Wine name and Vineyard	Description Reviews	Price
7	2017 Sky Terrace Vineyards Syrah Diablo Valley, California	<p>Deep garnet. Aroma of roses, violets and black cherry. Flavor with spice and black pepper amid blueberries' 2020 Intl . Home Winemaker Competition, Silver medal. (631 entries in Syrah). 2020 vintage received a Silver medal in the 2022 competition</p>	\$25
5	2018 Andrew Murray Tous Les Jours Syrah Santa Ynez Valley, Santa Barbara, Central Coast, CA	<p>Simultaneously bold and balanced, rich and smooth, fruit forward and earthy. It is impossibly dark and full-bodied, without ever going over the top. It is heavily inspired by Northern Rhone Syrah and Australian Shiraz. The aromas and flavors are dominated by black cherry, raspberry, white pepper, forest floor and toasty oak.</p> <p>WE93 This bang-for-the-buck bottling out of the Central Coast kicks off with aromas of lavender, rosemary and purple fruits that lead into a hearty palate, where blue fruit, asphalt and cracked pepper flavors arise. Strong acidity and elegant tannins ensure cellar worthiness as well. Editor's Choice</p> <p>JD91 Jeb Dunnuck</p> <p>Another value release from this terrific producer, the 2018 Syrah Tous Les Jours is all Syrah, from a mix of vineyards in the Santa Ynez Valley, that was mostly destemmed and brought up in neutral oak. It's deeper ruby/purple hue is followed by a ripe, textured, yet still complex, cool-climate-like Syrah that has lots of peppery herbs, smoke game, and assorted darker berry fruit aromas and flavors. It's California's answer to a terrific Saint Joseph and will evolve nicely for 4-6 years or more.</p>	\$17.99

Bottle	Wine name and Vineyard	Description Reviews	Price
1	<p>2018 Bernard Burgaud Cote Rotie Syrah/Shiraz , Cote Rotie, Rhone, France</p> <p>750ML / 14% ABV750ML</p> <p>Cote-Rotie is a tiny appellation (around 200 hectares of vines). It produces elegant, unique wines with prices to match its reputation.</p> <p>Two principal 'roasted slopes' are Cote Blonde and Cote Brune. Cote-Rotie consistently has up to 20% Viognier blended into the Syrah.</p>	<p>Black fruit (boysenberry, blackberry), coupled with savory herbs & olives. Some earthy and rustic flavors, too – irony & sanguine. A delicious wine that's very ageworthy.</p> <p>D95 Decanter</p> <p>Densely coloured but not opaque. Showing a smoky, meaty, expressive nose with a touch of fresh blood and garrigue herbs. Medium-bodied, you immediately feel the freshness and marked acidity. Extremely vibrant for the vintage. Well-balanced, this is really precise and intense. The oak is well-integrated, well-judged and not excessive, finishing with polished, fine tannins.</p> <p>JD94 Jeb Dunnuck</p> <p>The 2018 Cote Rotie (100% Syrah brought up mostly in neutral barrels) has a deeper, darker character in its blackberry and currant-like fruits as well as notes of scorched earth, peppered meat, graphite, and crushed stone-like minerality. It's rich and medium to full-bodied, with terrific balance and outstanding length. While the 2017 is upfront and ready to go, this is a longer-term prospect and needs a good 4-5 years of bottle age.</p> <p>Rating: 94+</p>	\$80.99
4	<p>2018 Melville Estates Santa Rita Hills Syrah Santa Barbara, Central Coast, California</p> <p>Five different clones are planted on well-drained sandy loam and fermented 40% whole cluster with skin contact for 35 days. The ripe plum and plum skin that define the palate are seasoned with spiced tomato, black peppered pomegranate, and a brushy heather finish. SJ93 The Somm Journal</p> <p>'This deep purple/plum-colored 2018 gives up gamey, Northern Rhône-like notes of peppery herbs, tapenade, smoked black fruits, and violets. It tastes like a Cornas from Matthieu Barrett and will drink beautifully for a decade.</p> <p>Jeb Dunnuck JD94</p>	<p>WE95 JD94 W&S94 SJ93 RP92</p> <p>Brilliant plum colors shine in the glass with intense notes of winter fig, bone marrow, eucalyptus and black peppercorns coming through initially. Dark lingering fruit, black olive and nori entice the palate on the back end with delicate tannins and a fresh streak of acidity that anchors a powerful and cohesive finish.</p> <p>WE95 Wine Enthusiast</p> <p>Extreme amounts of cracked black pepper spice up the crumbled lilac, dark-black-plum and snappy red-currant aromas on the dynamic nose of this cool-climate bottling. There's a wild zestiness to the palate, where the peppery spice plays well with black-raspberry, lavender and rosemary flavors.</p> <p>W&S94 Wine & Spirits</p> <p>This radiates coolness in its scents of smoke and pine needles, lavender and clove. The flavors are rich blackberry compote, but the wine has the acidity needed to deliver a precise finish.</p>	\$38.99

Bottle	Wine name and Vineyard	Description Reviews	Price
2	<p>2018 Juien Pilon Cornas d'Elegance du Caillo</p> <p>Cornas is typically the boldest and most tannic of all the Northern Rhone Syrah wines. Est 1938, 131 hectares under vine.</p> <p>Located in Roaix, one of the Cotes du Rhone-Villages just northeast of well known Rasteau, this domaine is owned and run by Olivier Tropet since 1998, when he was 25 years old. The winery has 12 hectares, and since 2009 the wines are tended according to organic growing principles, and the vines and winemaking processes are certified by Ecocert.</p>	<p>"Tongue staining flavors of blackberry jam, black pepper, violet, charcoal, chalk dust and smoke</p> <p>Quite a plush version by Cornas standards, with waves of juicy plum and blackberry compote rolling through backed by typical lavender, rosemary and bay accents that emerge steadily through the racy, iron-tinged finish. Best from 2022 through 2036. " Wine Spectator 94</p> <p>The different cuvees all have different amounts of Grenache, Syrah, Mourvedre, and Carignan. The wines have been heralded in the French press as well as other countries around the world.</p>	\$69.99
3	<p>2019 Morgan Double L Vineyard Syrah Santa Lucia Highlands Monterey, Central Coast, California</p> <p>Morgan Winery is family owned and operated since 1982. We craft artisan, terroir driven wines from the Santa Lucia Highlands and Monterey Bay, including our own organically farmed Double L Vineyard.</p>	<p>This wine shows inky purple hues in the glass, though the palate is light on its feet. Attractive aromas of blackberry, grilled meat, and graphite are supported by white pepper and black fruits. The flavors of dark fruit and savory spices go well with the bright acidity and elegant tannin structure – displaying classic cool-climate Syrah character. Conscientious, innovative farming regimens allied with traditional, "minimalist" winemaking techniques craft wines of balance, elegance and distinction. For Morgan Winery, this single-minded focus has produced a record of consistent, category leading, award winning wines.</p> <p>Nestled in the heart of Carmel at the Crossroads Shopping Center, Taste Morgan brings family winegrowing history to life through a relaxed tasting experience. We welcome you to taste through a flight of our locally grown and produced wines, also offered by the glass with small savory bites.</p>	\$49.99

Pretasting Wines

Bottle	Wine name and Vineyard	Description Reviews	Price
Pre 1	<p>2018 Alain Voge Cornas Les Chailles 2018 Syrah/Shiraz from Cornas, Rhone, France</p> <p>The 2018 Cornas Les Chailles comes from a mix of lieux-dits, including Combe, Les Saveaux, Cayret, Les Mazards, Chaillot, and Chapuzes. It was all destemmed and brought up in used barrels.</p>	<p>This wine is marked by elegance, while conveying the typical character of Cornas and Saint-Péray. Pair this wine alongside chicken-liver mousse with sweet wine and cep mushrooms.</p> <p>JD95 Jeb Dunnuck Offering gorgeous notes of black raspberries, cassis, spring flowers, game, lavender, and pepper, this is pure Cornas goodness on both the nose and palate. Medium to full-bodied and concentrated, with bright acidity, this complex, layered, beautifully balanced Cornas can be enjoyed any time over the coming 15-20 years. Count me impressed. WS93 Wine Spectator Very racy, focused version with a bright violet note leading the way for damson plum and red cherry coulis notes. Light white pepper and chalk hints emerge on the finish.</p> <p>RP92 Robert Parker's Wine Advocate 2018 Cornas les Chailles impresses for its distinct scents of crushed stone, red plums and red raspberries. Full-bodied and concentrated, it's nevertheless fresh and red fruited, with fine-grained tannins, a relatively open, generous feel and a gently tannic, softly dusty finish. It should drink well for at least another decade and possibly even improve over much of that time. Rating : 92+</p>	\$59.99
Pre 2	<p>2018 Emmanuel Darnaud Les Trois Chene, Crozes Hermitage, Rhone, France</p> <p>Crozes Hermitage has 1000 ha under vine, across 11 communes, and is the largest appellation in Northern Rhone. Terroir is both slopes and plains with clay and stony soil compositions. Climactic influence of the Isere and Rhone rivers changes growing and flavors.</p> <p>Rare value priced wines in 'a sea of high priced ones' Emmanuel Darnaud is a perfectionist and no small detail of the winemaking process goes ill-considered. From his meticulous</p>	<p>Ripe black plum and cassis flavors are shaded by fur, smoke and flint in this plump, spicy Syrah. Once harvested fruit is subjected to an extreme chill before going into the fermentation tanks for a cold pre-fermentation followed by the rigors of multiple foot-crushings each day in each tank during the three week fermentations. His attention to detail continues naturally through the 14 months of aging, as he tracks the progress of each barrel by racking and then reintroducing the wine into the same barrel, after cleaning, so that that he can follow the precise contribution of each</p> <p>cask. Production from 2001. This wine shows inky purple hues in the glass, though the palate is light on its feet. Attractive aromas of blackberry, grilled meat, and graphite are supported by white pepper and black fruits. The flavors of dark fruit and savory spices go well with the bright acidity and elegant tannin structure – displaying classic cool-climate Syrah character.</p> <p>2018 WE9</p>	\$39.99

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	leaf management that favors maximum aeration and exposure, to alternating the growth of cover grasses from row to row, which allows him to reduce the footprint of heavy machinery in the vineyard, he gives appreciation to the notion that great wines have their start in the vineyard through attentive and meticulous practices		
Pre 3	<p>2012 Carlisle Sierra Mar Vineyard Syrah From Santa Lucia Highlands, Monterey, Central Coast CA</p> <p>Carlisle is a small “Mom n’ Pop” Sonoma County winery specializing in the production of old-vine, vineyard designated Zinfandels and red Rhône varieties (Syrah, Grenache, Mourvèdre, and Petite Sirah). The goal is always the same - grow and source the finest fruit, do as little as possible to it, and bottle outstanding, pleasurable wine at the fairest price possible.</p>	<p>RP94 Robert Parker</p> <p>Harvested toward the middle of October and 70% destemmed, the 2012 Syrah Sierra Mar Vineyard spent 16 months in 23% new French oak prior to bottling. It has a broad, textured and full-bodied profile and knocks it out of the park with its black raspberry, cassis, violets, licorice and crushed flower nuances on the nose. Beautifully concentrated with ripe, sweet tannin, it's another superb Syrah from this estate that will have 8-10 years of overall longevity.</p> <p><u>2018</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JD95 • WS93 • RP93 	\$68

Bottle	Wine name and Vineyard	Description Reviews	Price
Pre 4	<p>2019 Jaboulet Hermitage La Maison Bleue Hermitage, Rhone, France</p> <p>Along the Petite Pierrelle street, not far from the stream of Torras and the road where the blackbirds sing, lies the pretty Maison Bleue. Leaning against the Hermitage Hill, one of the most beautiful vineyards in the world, this small stone house with blue shutters was once a real haven of peace for their winegrowers: a place to work, rest and share located in the heart of a legendary terroir.</p> <p>Today, this house of winegrowers has regained a new youth. Winegrowers and horses take shelter from time to time. The Maison Bleue still serves as a shelter for their grapes to dry the straw wine when they produce it. This year, they will use its space to dry their plants for biodynamic preparations. A new life in the respect of traditions</p>	<p>RP96 Robert Parker A superb Maison Bleue, the 2019 Hermitage La Maison Bleue seamlessly blends cherries and cassis into a purple mashup of fruit carried on rich, velvety waves of texture. Full-bodied and intense, it finishes complex and savory, adding notes of olive, clove and cedar on the long, luxurious finish. Already approachable, Best after 2023.</p> <p>JD96 Jeb Dunnuck Beautiful cassis, truffle, damp earth, and ground pepper emerge from the 2019 Hermitage La Maison Bleue. Coming from the eastern portion of Hermitage Hill, it hits the palate with full-bodied richness, a rounded, opulent texture, building tannins, and a great finish. It's certainly in the same league (and style) as the 2018, and while it's going to drink nicely at a young age, my money is on it evolving gracefully for 20-25 years.</p> <p>JS93 James Suckling</p>	\$75

WINE MAP OF CENTRAL COAST CALIFORNIA

LEGEND

- AVA (American Viticultural Area)
- County
- City

SOURCE: WINE MAPS

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SAN FRANCISCO BAY

- Pinot Noir
- Cabernet Sauvignon
- Merlot
- Chardonnay

MONTEREY

- Pinot Noir
- Cabernet Sauvignon
- Merlot
- Chardonnay

SANTA LUCIA HIGHLANDS

- Pinot Noir
- Cabernet Sauvignon
- Merlot
- Chardonnay

PASO ROBLES

- Pinot Noir
- Cabernet Sauvignon
- Merlot
- Chardonnay

SAN LUIS OBISPO

- Pinot Noir
- Cabernet Sauvignon
- Merlot
- Chardonnay

SANTA BARBARA

- Pinot Noir
- Cabernet Sauvignon
- Merlot
- Chardonnay

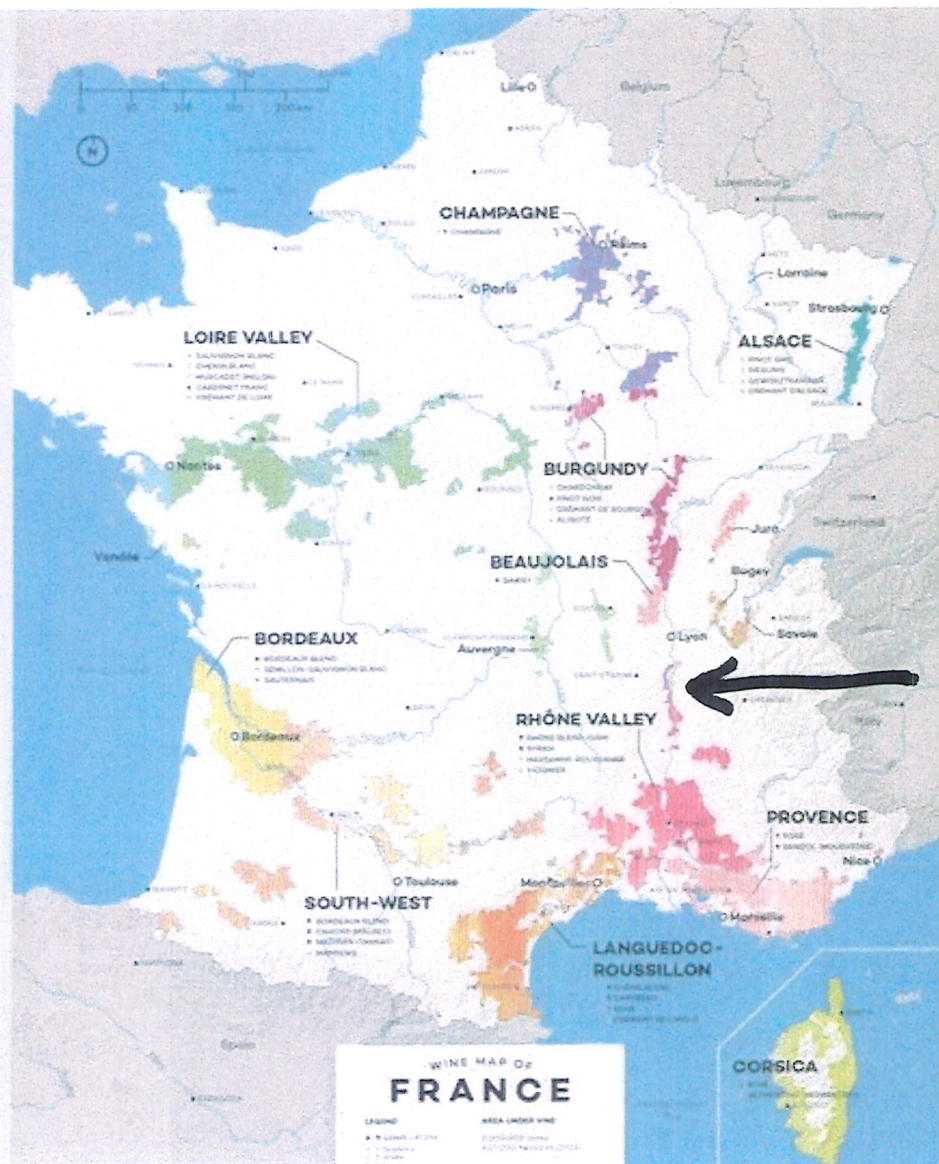
SANTA RITA HILLS

- Pinot Noir
- Cabernet Sauvignon
- Merlot
- Chardonnay

SANTA YNEZ VALLEY

- Pinot Noir
- Cabernet Sauvignon
- Merlot
- Chardonnay

FRANCE WINE GROWING REGIONS



Northern
Rhône

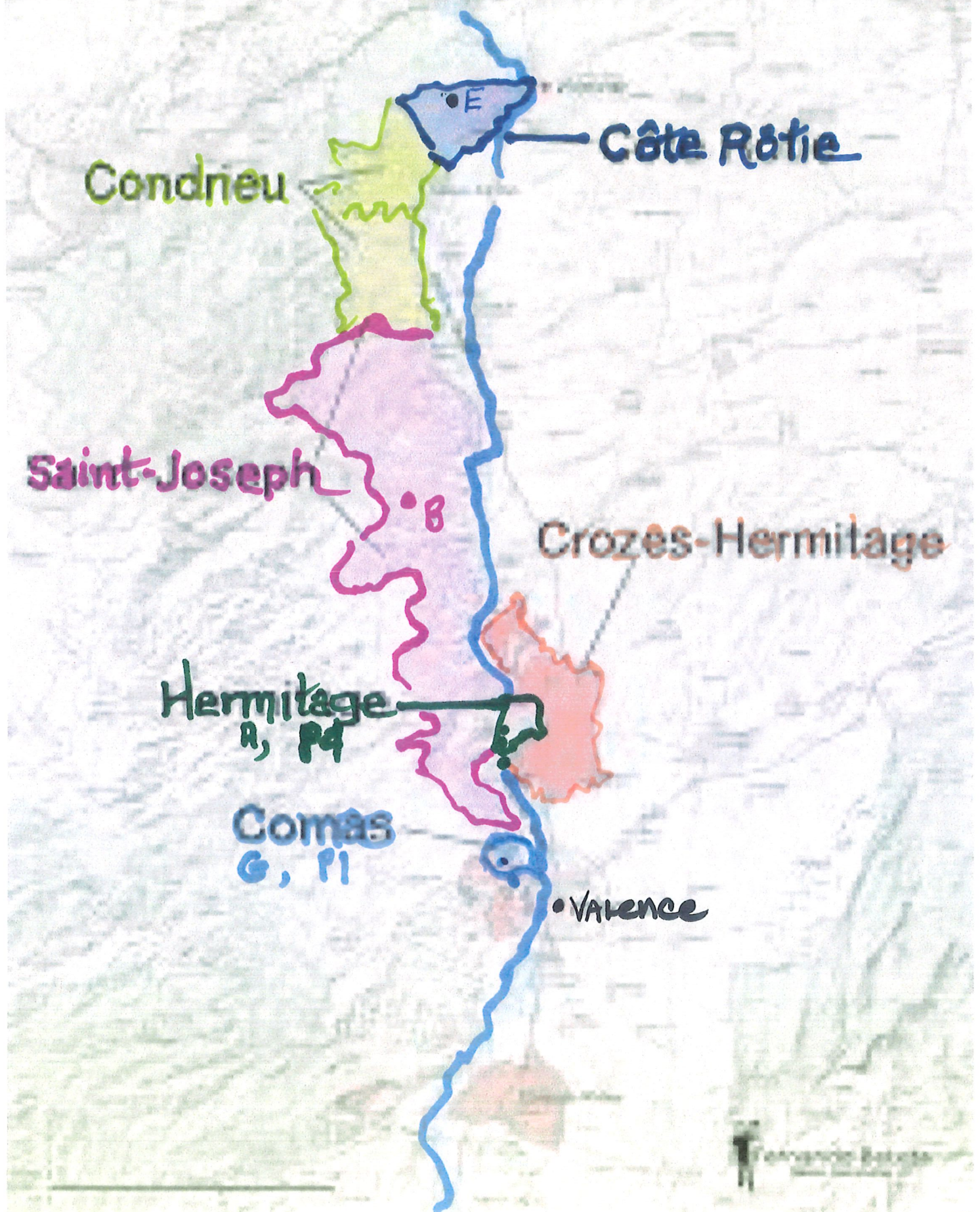


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The Rhone River Drainage



AVAS of the Northern Rhone.





The Northern Rhone 'The Land of French Syrah'
Cotes du Rhone Septentrionales 125 miles
8 major appellations and 1 simple Côtes du Rhône