

Domaine de Trévallon

Provence Cabernet Sauvignon & Grenache blend built to age

The Domaine de Trévallon is one of the greatest estates in Provence. The Trévallon vineyard covers 17 hectares and surrounds a large, blue-shuttered, Provençal farmhouse. It is divided into 15 hectares of red grapes, made up of equal parts of Cabernet Sauvignon and Syrah and 2 hectares of white grapes.

Since its inception, Domaine de Trévallon has been a trailblazer for quality wine production in the South of France. Near the town of Saint Etienne de Grès, Domain de Trévallon is located within the appellation of Les Beaux de Provence. Owner and winemaker Eloi Dürrbach planted his first 3 hectares of vines in 1973. Eloi literally had to dynamite the hillsides in order to plant.

Before his death in 2000, René Dürrbach, Eloi's father, designed a series of 50 labels for Domaine de Trévallon. René, a sculptor and painter, was close friends with many of the founders of the cubist movement, including Fernand Léger and Pablo Picasso (who was godfather to Eloi Dürrbach's brother). René Dürrbach originally bought the Domaine in 1955 as a vacation house. At that time there were no vines planted on their land. As homage to his father, each year Eloi chooses a new label painted by his father, that he feels captures the spirit of the vintage.

In 1993 local authorities changed the regulations for grape production in the appellation of Les Beaux de Provence, lowering the permitted percentage of Cabernet Sauvignon to 20%. Domaine de Trévallon's red is always a blend of 50% Syrah and 50% Cabernet Sauvignon. Refusing to change his style, Eloi opted to produce his wine as a Vin de Pays (Vin de Pays des Bouches du Rhône). By doing so Domaine de Trévallon, like todays "super-Tuscans", was among the first wineries to choose to go outside local appellation rules to produce higher quality wines.

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