



THERE IS NO SUBSTITUTE FOR QUALITY

# CHATEAU REDORTIER BEAUMES-DE-VENISE

## Château Redortier • Beaumes-de-Venise & Gigondas

After the catastrophic frost of 1956 which wiped-out lower lying vineyards and olive trees, the agricultural engineer, Etienne de Menthon, came to the town of Suzette seeking-out an unusual terroir. 1,500 feet above sea level in the storybook mountains "Dentelles de Montmirail," this tucked-away village was considered the finest stronghold in the Middle Ages due to its commanding view and isolation. The soils are a colorful DNA: white and yellowish limestone, dark grey schist, silvery quartz and brick-red sandstone. We can blame the Greek colonists for the region's odd obsession with Muscat (they were the first to plant this varietal in 600 BC), but the quiet treasure of the region is old-vine Grenache and Syrah.

Etienne planted his first vineyard in the late 1950s, sold his fruit to the Beaumes-de-Venise cooperative, and finally established his own cellar in 1981. For over 30 years, Etienne's twin daughters, Sabine and Isabelle, have lived and breathed Castle Redortier. They walk their vineyards almost every day, a collection of ten lieux-dits: Le Cholet, Les Clapas, Les Trois Yeux, La Martinelle, Le Coulet, Les Hauts, Les Joncas, Les Aubuns, La Patrone, and Chateauneuf. Their practices have been constant over trendy: organically farmed Grenache, Syrah, Cunoise, and a few acres of indigenous white varieties, no Mourvèdre and no Muscat. Guided by the freshness of altitude, they prefer to make wine without stems, followed by fermentation in cement vats with native yeasts, then extended aging in cement and old foudres. Like Leonardo and Simone of Il Macchione, Sabine and Isabelle are patient vigneronnes. Their "current releases" hardly seem current as they rest their wine in bottle in the cellar until they feel it is ready. Unbiased by critic or market hype, they are independent thinkers making independent wines. It's unknown Rhône at its finest.

### The Wines of Château Redortier

Beaumes-de-Venise Rouge

Gigondas [available in 750ml bottle & 1500ml magnum](#)

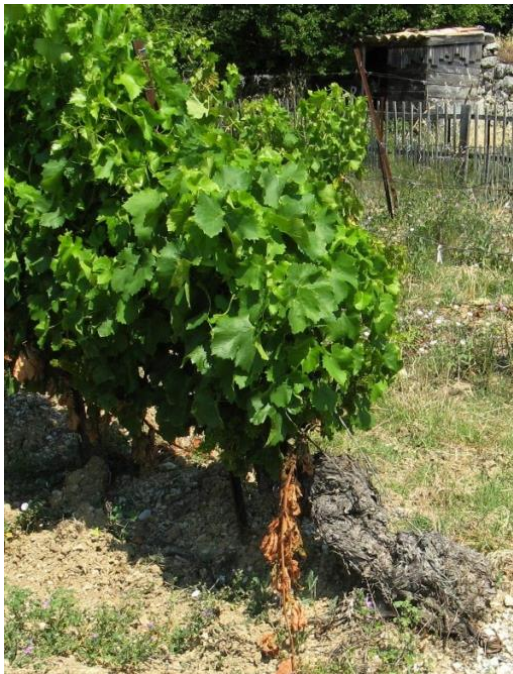




*Etienne with his twin daughters, Sabine and Isabelle*



*In the shadow of Dentelles de Montmirail*



*Old vines of Grenache in Gigondas*



*Same cement vats used since 1981*