## DOMAINE FOND CROZE

# Côtes du Rhône Rouge « Le Serre de La Garde » 2019 Single Vineyard - GPS 44.072, 4.95973



#### **ORIGIN**

Rhône Valley, France

#### **APPELLATION**

Côtes du Rhône

#### **VINEYARD**

40-year old vines from Lieu-dit "Serre de la Garde" Certified organic practices since 2009 (European standards)

#### **BLEND**

70% Grenache Noir 30% Syrah

#### **FARMING**

Hand-harvested and sorted separately based on ripeness.

#### WINEMAKING

Each varietals is vinified separately before blending

## TECHNICAL INFORMATION

14.5% Alc. |

Domaine Fond Croze's 2019 'Le Serre de La Garde' Côtes du Rhône is a brilliant wine. The nose introduces itself with fresh wild berries such as cherries and blueberries, that are only heightened by notes of nuanced spices and lavender. The wine coats your palate with its full-bodied texture which counterbalances itself with the light and delicate notes that follow from the nose. Consulting winemaker Philippe Cambie, named in 2010 as Winemaker of the Decade by Robert Parker, is the driving force behind the wine's style.

2019's Rhône Valley season was wonderfully strong. The winter was calm and carried into a dry spring which allowed for an early budbreak. Even with the challenges of a cold cell during April and May and heat of June and July, the grapes were able to flourish as the cooler nights helped to retain the crucial qualities of acidity and aromatic character.

Serre de la Garde is a lieu-dit with 40-year-old vines that sit in chalky clay soils on northwest-facing slopes in the south of the appellation. They face the slopes of Saint Roman de Malegarde (named for a Knights Templar outpost) in the southern Côtes du Rhône. With a blend of 70% Grenache Noir and 30% Syrah, the wine is only bottled when it reaches its full aromatic potential.

This cuvée is the culmination of work from three generations. After returning from World War I, Charles Long first purchased the land. His son, Raymond, expanded the vineyards and today, his sons Bruno and Daniel produce the wine at Domaine Fond Croze.

#### **ACCOLADES**

### 2019 International Wine Report - 92 Points

"The 2019 Domaine Fond Croze 'Serre de la Garde' Côtes du Rhône instantly opens to nuances of kirsch cherries and ripe boysenberries which are accented by sweet spices, floral and a touch of white pepper rounding out the aromatics. On the palate this is medium-bodied with a nicely concentrated core of sweet red and dark fruits that are wrapped in a round texture that leads up to the polished finish." –I.W.R.

