



Domaine du Pégau Châteauneuf-du-Pape

An excavation of the 14th century Popes Palace in Avignon unearthed a *pégau*, an ancient wine jug used by the local people. In the late 1980's the word became the new Domaine name for a winemaking family with a far reaching farming tradition in the area: the Féraud's Domaine du Pégau.

Winemaking Duo

Ancestors of father and daughter team Paul and Laurence Féraud farmed olives, cherries and grapes in Châteauneuf-du-Pape dating back to the 17th century. The methods established centuries ago carry on in the current vintages, creating robust, concentrated, traditional red and white wines.

Picturesque Plots

The family holds 11 vineyard sites throughout Châteauneuf-du-Pape, totaling 42 acres of vines averaging between 40 and 50 years old. 'La Crau' is one of the oldest of the vineyards, planted in 1905 on American Riparia stock. Here the famous *galets*, smooth glacial stones, cover the ground of the vineyard, surrounded by old pines, oaks, and herbs creating a beautiful and aromatic scene.

Following a Tradition

Prior to Laurence joining her father in the business in 1987, Paul sold much of the wine to négociants. Paul himself

learned the trade from his mother, a self-taught *vigneron* of local repute, who bottled wines under the family's previous label, Domaine Féraud et fils.

Traditionalist Production

Uncompromising winemaking established over the generations remains today. The ripe grapes from the low yielding, old vines are lightly crushed and then tipped into cement vats where

they macerate for about 15 days (or as Paul says, 'until it sounds as though it is done with fermentation'). The juice is run off and the must pressed in the Domaine's 1920 wooden press. The wine rests on its lees in large foudres until Paul

and Laurence determine it is time to bottle, a minimum of 18 months. The intense fruit and aromatics of the wine are not disrupted by filtering or fining nor by the over-use of sulfur.

The Current Release

Comprised of mostly old vine Grenache (80%), the Féraud's Châteauneuf-du-Pape includes all 13 of the regionally allowed grape varieties.

1998 Châteauneuf-du-Pape The press raves about the blockbuster 1998 vintage. Domaine du Pégau's release is super-concentrated, deep in color, boasting firm tannins and with a heady bouquet of local herbs.

California Case Price:

