Château Rayas

Côtes-du-Rhône Rouge La Pialade



ABOUT THE ESTATE

- The crown jewel in Châteauneuf-du-Pape legend Jacques Reynaud's holdings, nephew Emmanuel Reynaud assumed control of the estate following Jacques' death in 1997.
- Emmanuel, and now his sons Louis Damien and Benoît, followed in his uncle's footsteps, adhering to the same traditional techniques that made the wines so revered.
- The vineyards are tended with the same organic methods used in all of the Reynaud's properties and are unique in that they are planted in sandy soil instead of the galets common to the appellation.
- Hand-harvested grapes from 13 hectares of vineyards see whole-cluster fermentation and native yeasts.
- Entirely free from modern interventions, the wines of Château Rayas are always some of the most coveted in the Rhône.

APPELLATION
Côtes-du-Rhône

SUB-REGION
Southern Rhône

GRAPE VARIETY
80% Grenache, 15% Cinsault, 5% Syrah

FARMING
Sustainable, Organic

SOIL
Fine red sand base with smaller pebbles

VINEYARDS & VITICULTURE
Rayas is a secluded estate northeast of the village, not far from Courthézon. It is unusual because their 12 hectares of vines are north-facing and contain none of the fabled round pebbles (galets roulés). The vineyard is surrounded on all sides by forest and therefore is a cool terroir. Harvest here goes very late and these wines never lack for power or richness.

HARVEST & VINIFICATION
La Pialade is a second label in the traditional sense in that the fruit comes mainly from the Fonsalette estate, though a bit of Rayas estate fruit can find its way into the blend in some years. Usually comes from younger vines (20 years old).

ALCOHOL BY VOLUME
13.5

PACK SIZE
12x750mL