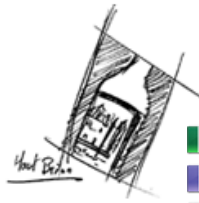


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DOMAINE DE LA SOLITUDE: RESPECT AND TRADITION

Posted by: Aliye Melton June 23, 2015

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©Domaine de la Solitude labels

Most Bordeaux wine lovers think of Pessac-Leognan when they hear the name Domaine de la Solitude, but they would be overlooking the true gem that is Chateauf-du-Pape's historical **Domaine de la Solitude**. Perched in the heart of the Southern Rhone Valley, this family estate is

driven by the philosophy: "we are only passing on earth." With a family history that can be traced to the early 13th Century, it is no wonder that the family wine estate is managed with a respect for the land and the traditions of history that have gone before.

The Matin family – today represented by brothers Jean and Michel Lancon – can trace their family roots back to the early 1200s in Tuscany. The family, then known by the name Barberini, eventually moved to Avignon, thanks to strong Catholic Church affiliations. In fact, Maffeo Barberini would serve as Pope Urban VII from 1623-1644. His tenure was followed by two of his nephews serving as Bishops. While not fondly remembered in the Catholic Church, the Barberin (the family Frenchified the name in 1604) would remain prominent citizens and local politicians in Avignon. A position solidified by the creation of the family winemaking estate in 1535 through an advantageous marriage and dowry.



© Jean and Michel Lancon

Historically known as Vin de la Solitude, due to popular demand the family began bottling their wines in house in the early 1900's. Today the estate consists of more than 35 hectares (approximately 86 acres) of red and white grapes in the Solitude lieu dit. With its prime location in the Southern Rhone Valley the



© Pope Urban VIII

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June 2015						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
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vines benefit from a soil composition of large quartz stones and sandy red clay as well as the Mistral winds for a slight cooling effect. Nonetheless the region remains warm and dry, yielding high quality fruit and stunning wines.

The Wines of Domaine de la Solitude

Cotes du Rhone 2012

(R)

Chateauneuf-du-Pape

2012 (W)



Elegant, deep berry and bramble fruit supplied in a classic Cotes du Rhone style.

Well balanced, in acidity the velvety texture and great length are delivered by a ruby colored robe. Pure and lively this wine is eminently approachable.

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