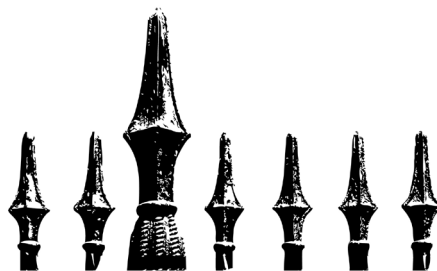


GRAMERCY CELLARS



2017 "L'IDIOT DU VILLAGE" MOURVÈDRE COLUMBIA VALLEY



BLEND: 100% MOURVÈDRE

VINEYARDS: ALDER RIDGE & OLSEN

AGING: 18 MONTHS IN NEUTRAL FRENCH
OAK PUNCHEONS & BARRELS

ALCOHOL: 14.0%

WINERY RETAIL: 42

CASE PRODUCTION: 321 CASES

DRINKING WINDOW: 2021 - 2037

WINE ENTHUSIAST: 93 POINTS *Editors Choice*

We've been thinking about Mourvèdre more and more this year and its place in Washington. Mourvèdre is a fantastic grape. What blows us away is its ability to retain red fruit characteristics. Most red varieties in hot areas will quickly turn to black fruit characteristics. While that can be okay, combined with the intense earthiness and funk, it would soon become tiring to drink. However, if one plants Mourvèdre in a blistering climate, it still stays red fruit and retains its freshness. It is a ripe, rich wine that somehow still manages to be a summer wine. We frequently break out a Bandol or L'Idiot even on the hottest Washington days.

Earlier this year, I hosted a Zoom tasting on the wines of Bandol. We tasted a number of the great properties of Bandol: Pibarnon, Tempier, Pradeaux, etc. We also tasted our 2012 Mourvedre. I was ecstatic that it's playing in the same league as the Bandol heavy hitters. Its definitely a wine that improves with a bit of age. I mapped my favorite wineries in the region on Google Earth. In addition, I also placed many of our Rhône vineyards for Mourvèdre, Grenache and Syrah on the map as well. A link to the project is here: <http://ow.ly/Ms2130r6qMX>

As I wrote last year, "The 2016 Mourvèdre is stunning, as is the '17! Just you wait." The 2017 vintage has not disappointed and perhaps exceeded expectations. In fact, we liked the 2017 Mourvèdre so much, we even made a tiny amount of Lower East Mourvèdre.

We continue to be blown away by the complexity and intensity of the Mourvèdre from both Olsen and Alder Ridge Vineyards. Each vineyard contributes something different. We always say Olsen is all about freshness and aromatics. Alder Ridge brings depth and structure. In 2017, the wine is 58% Alder Ridge and 42% Olsen Vineyard, a dance of elegance and power.

TASTING NOTES: SPICE – CUMIN, GARAM MASALA, CINNAMON, TURMERIC & EVERYTHING ELSE IN VJS SPICE CABINET. (IF YOU KNOW, YOU KNOW...) THAT CLASSIC MOURVÈDRE BURNED POT ROAST. SCREAMS WINTER IN FRONT OF THE FIREPLACE, BUT DRINKS SUMMER AT THE BEACH. DARK RED CHERRY, PLUM, BLACKBERRY, PEACH SKIN. PURPLE FLOWERS. IODINE, BLOOD & CURED MEATS. ON THE PALATE, ITS RICH & RIPE BUT STILL FRESH. EXPANSIVE & EXTREMELY LONG FINISH LASTING MINUTES.



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