

**2013 Domaine de la Janasse VDP
Terre de Bussiere**

Coming from a single vineyard just outside the border from Châteauneuf du Pape, near the town of Courthézon, the 2013 VDP Terre de Bussiere is a delicious, bistro-styled blend of Merlot, Syrah and Cabernet Sauvignon. Giving up Bordeaux-like notes of currants, plums, lead pencil shavings and tobacco leaf, it's medium-bodied, supple and textured. It's a wine that won't break the bank and is ideal for mid-week drinking over the coming couple of years.

These latest 2013 and 2014s from the brother/sister pair of Christophe and Isabelle Sabon are easily some of the finest wines in the vintages, with both vintages possessing impressive levels of fruit and texture. In addition to their stunning Châteauneuf du Papes (both red and white), their lineup of Côtes du Rhône continues to knock it out of the park and represents superb value. Looking at the 2014s, these were harvest from September 15 to October 2. Even though this was a large crop, yields here were down over 20% due to dropped crop. As to the 2013s, these were harvested almost all in October and wrapped up over two weeks later than the 2014s, finishing on October 18. When asked which vintage he preferred, 2013 or 2014, Christophe couldn't pick a favorite, but compared 2014 to ...

- Jeb Dunnuck (October, 2015)

**2013 Domaine de la Janasse
Cotes du Rhone Villages Terre
d'Argile**

Since there was no Côtes du Rhône Les Garrigues in the vintage, the 2013 Côtes du Rhône Villages Terre d'Argile got the grapes that are normally designated for that cuvée. A blend of Grenache, Syrah, Carignan and Mourvèdre raised in foudre, it offers lots of black cherries, crushed violets, loamy earth and pepper on the nose. Medium-bodied, elegant, and seamless with fine tannin, it's a rock solid Côtes du Rhône from a difficult vintage. Drink it over the coming 3-4 years.

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**2014 Domaine de la Janasse
Cotes du Rhone**

Just bottled, the 2014 Côtes du Rhône is made from 50% Grenache, 20% Syrah and the rest Carignan, Mourvèdre and Cinsault. Loaded with notions of earthy black cherry fruit, leather and pepper, drink this medium-bodied, fresh and well made Côtes du Rhône over the coming couple of years.

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Importer(s):

Eric Solomon. European Cellars, 2129 E Seventh St., Charlotte, NC 28204, (704) 358-1565, www.europeancellars.com

- Jeb Dunnuck (October, 2015)

**2014 Domaine de la Janasse
Viognier VDP d'Orange**

Seeing just partial malolactic and aging mostly in tank (there's a small part in barrel), the 2014 Viognier VDP d'Orange has solid Viognier character in its citrus blossom, peach, and honey-like aromas and flavors. Possessing good acidity, medium-bodied richness and a clean, dry finish, it will be versatile on the dinner table and drink nicely for 2-3 years.

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Eric Solomon. European Cellars, 2129 E Seventh St...

- Jeb Dunnuck (October, 2015)

**2014 Domaine de la Janasse
Cotes du Rhone Blanc**

A white that savvy readers should buy by the case is the 2014 Côtes du Rhône Blanc. Made from 40% Grenache Blanc, 15% Clairette, 15% Bourboulenc and the rest Viognier and Roussanne, aged 10% in barrel, it offers up terrific notes of honeyed peach, melon and apple blossom in a medium-bodied, textured, yet elegant style. It's a killer value I'd happily drink anytime over the coming 2-3 years.

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Eric Solomon. Eu...

- Jeb Dunnuck (October, 2015)

**2014 Domaine de la Janasse
Cotes du Rhone Villages Terre
d'Argile**

From the same terroir as the les Garrigues cuvée, the 2014 Côtes du Rhône Village Terre d'Argile should be a superb value. Possessing more dark fruit and earthiness than the les Garrigues cuvée, it has a similar level of concentration, medium to full-bodied richness and an outstanding finish. It should drink nicely from the get go.

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Importer(s):

Eric Solomon. European Cellars, 2129 E Seventh St., Charlotte, NC 28204, (7...

- Jeb Dunnuck (October, 2015)

**2014 Domaine de la Janasse
Cotes du Rhone les Garrigues**

While not made in 2013, there will be a 2014 Côtes du Rhône les Garrigues. Almost always one of the top Côtes du Rhône made in a vintage, this beauty comes from a small two-hectare plot of old vines, is raised all in foudre, and there's just under 300 cases made. Its vibrant purple color is followed by an elegant, medium to full-bodied wine that has classic black raspberry and berry fruit, spring flowers, licorice and a saline like minerality. It should easily be an outstanding wine, and truthfully, has plenty of similarities to the cuvée Chaupin.

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- Jeb Dunnuck (October, 2015)

**2014 Domaine de la Janasse
Chateauneuf du Pape Cuvée
Vieilles Vignes**

One of the more elegant and streamlined examples of this cuvée I've tasted, the 2014 Châteauneuf du Pape Cuvée Vieilles Vignes has terrific purity as well as classic notes of black raspberries, Provençal spice, licorice and leather. Medium to full-bodied and nicely concentrated, it offers tons of charm and I suspect it will drink nicely right on release (which isn't the norm for this cuvée).

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Eric Solomon. E...

- Jeb Dunnuck (October, 2015)

**2014 Domaine de la Janasse
Chateauneuf du Pape Cuvée
Chaupin**

One of the more charming, sexy and approachable versions of this cuvée, the 2014 Châteauneuf du Pape Cuvée Chaupin has beautiful ripeness and density to go with the classic perfumed, floral and sweetly fruited profile that this cuvée almost always shows. I always find an almost essence of Grenache character with this cuvée, and the 2014 is no exception. Drink it anytime over the coming decade or so.

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Importer(s):

Eric Sol...

- Jeb Dunnuck (October, 2015)

**2014 Domaine de la Janasse
Chateauneuf du Pape**

Made from 60% Grenache and 15% each of Syrah and Mourvèdre, the 2014 Châteauneuf du Pape is another polished, elegant and impeccably made wine from this top estate. Loaded with fruit, medium to full-bodied, nicely concentrated and with fine tannin, it will certainly be approachable on release, yet I suspect it will evolve for a decade or more on its balance and purity.

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Eric Solomon. European Cellars, 2129 E...

- Jeb Dunnuck (October, 2015)

**2013 Domaine de la Janasse
Chateauneuf du Pape Cuvée
Vieilles Vignes**

While the cuvée Chaupin comes mostly from sandy soils, the 2013 Châteauneuf du Pape Cuvée Vieilles Vignes comes more from the rolled pebble soils the region is famous for, and always shows the richer, more powerful profile imparted from these soils. Mostly foudre-aged Grenache, it incorporates 20% Mourvèdre and roughly 10% Syrah (slightly more Syrah in 2013) that's raised all in barrel. Exhibiting a deep purple color, it offers fabulous dark berry fruits, licorice, Provençal herbs and earthy/stony minerality on the nose. Medium to full-bodied, beautifully concentrated, ripe and with impressive sweetness to its tannin, it's a fabulous wine that will have 10-15 years of overall longevity.

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**2014 Domaine de la Janasse
Chateauneuf du Pape Cuvée
Prestige Blanc**

Unfortunately, there's just four barrels of the 2014 Châteauneuf du Pape Cuvée Prestige Blanc. Made from 60% Roussanne and the rest Grenache Blanc and Clairette, it goes completely through malolactic fermentation and is raised all in barrel before bottling without filtration (same for the traditional white as well). A profound effort that rivals Beaucastel's old vine Roussanne cuvée for the top white in the appellation, it reveals a medium gold color to go with lots of citrus oil, buttered peach, pineapple and mint. Full-bodied, layered, incredibly pure and clean, with a chiseled feel on the palate, it will be better this time next year and can be kept for as long as you'd like.

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**2014 Domaine de la Janasse
Chateauneuf du Pape Blanc**

Checking in as a blend of 40% Grenache, 30% Clairette and the rest Roussanne, the Sabons' 2014 Châteauneuf du Pape Blanc is one of the whites of the vintage. Raised 60% in tank and 40% in barrel, it offers killer notes of salted melon, ripe peach, pineapple and hints of salty minerality to go with a medium to full-bodied, layered and seamlessly textured style on the palate. While 2014 yielded mostly mid-weight, fresh and simple whites, this has real depth and length. If you love southern Rhône whites (and I do), don't miss this! It will have two decades of longevity if you're so inclined (bottles wouldn't last long at my house).

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**2013 Domaine de la Janasse
Chateauneuf du Pape**

A great wine - from a difficult vintage - that shows the talent and hard work of this brother/sister pair, the 2013 Châteauneuf du Pape reveals a healthy ruby/purple color to go with perfumed notes of black and red raspberry, pepper, licorice and violets. Medium plus in body and elegant, with gorgeous purity and fine tannin, drink this terrific 2013 over the coming 8-10 years.

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Eric Solomon. European Cellars...

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**2013 Domaine de la Janasse
Chateauneuf du Pape Cuvée
Chaupin**

One of the wines of the vintage is the Grenache-dominated 2013 Châteauneuf du Pape Cuvée Chaupin. Coming mostly from a cool terroir in the northeast corner of the appellation (just to the east of Beaucastel), this wine is vinified with a small portion of stems and aged mostly in foudre (one-third is in demi-muids). It has gorgeous Grenache flair in its black raspberry, garrigue, spring flower and licorice scented bouquet. This gives way to a medium to full-bodied, elegant, and layered 2013 that has more texture and sweet fruit than just about every other wine in the vintage. I'd drink it anytime over the coming 4-5 years, but it will have 10-15 years of overall longevity.

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