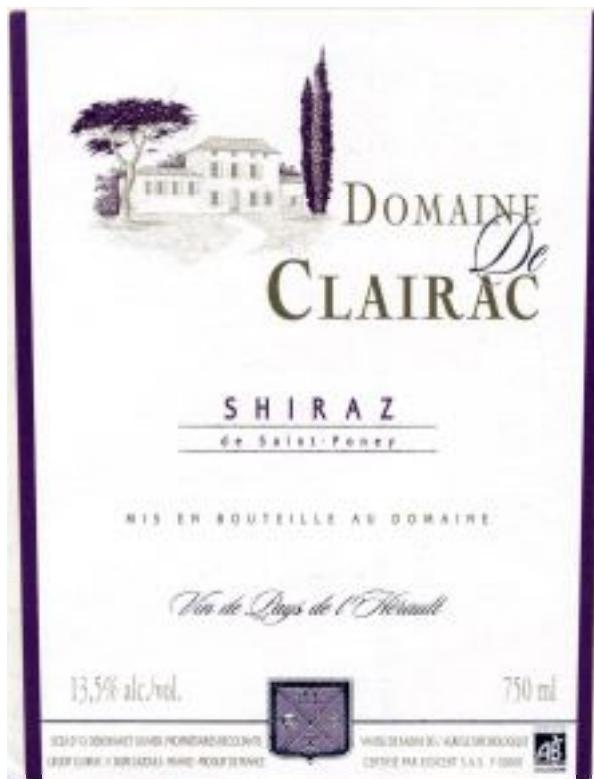


Domaine de Clairac Shiraz

This rich and tasty red wine is grown just west of Beziers in the Languedoc region of southern France. The Domaine de Clairac estate was cultivated organically by its original stewards, the Jouglas family, since the beginnings of French organic viticulture during the 1960s. The health and richness of their vineyards reflect the decades of biological activity maintained in the vines. The current owners, Deborah Knowland and Olivier Santal, are a dynamic and passionate duo, working with Françoise Jouglas, daughter of the former proprietor, to expand the reputation of their Domaine beyond European borders.

Formerly sold as Syrah, this wine was rechristened Shiraz for the international crowd, as the Syrah grapes are also known as Sirah and Shiraz in the New World. This grape is a traditional and basic ingredient in all red wines from southern France, including those of the Rhone, Languedoc and Provence, as the variety thrives in warm, dry climates. Shiraz may well become the next “in” grape variety among US wine lovers.

Tasting the current vintage, you will be pleasantly surprised by the fruit expression of the Syrah grapes and the softness of the tannins in such a recent vintage. Domaine Clairac Shiraz has classic aromas of Syrah which include ripe red fruits, leather, tar and chocolate. The taste continues an expression of sun-baked cherries, spices and leather or bacon. It has a solid robust structure for such an affordable Shiraz, is drinkable now and will continue to soften and evolve for several years in the bottle. The funky and complex nature of Shiraz adds a wonderful element to any spicy Mediterranean dish, grilled meats, cheeses and wild game. Try a bottle with your next barbecue and you will appreciate French Shiraz!



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