

## 2016 Domaine des Aspès Chardonnay -Viognier

### *Our Winery:*

We have been making wine in our family for several generations. Earlier we were located in Caussin-jozouls. Then my grandfather settled in AOC St. Chinian, which is very similar to the appellation Faugeres in terroir (schistous) and climate.

Domaine des Aspès consists of 16 hectares of vines which make red and white VIN DE PAYS D'OC. The vines are in the communes of Murviel-les-Béziers, Saint-Genies-de-Fontedit and Babeau.

Our domaine consists of 16 hectares of clay-limestone and two hectares of schist in Babeau, where our Viognier is planted.

Our climate is under Mediterranean influence, with hot and dry summers and Cers, a North-West wind. The Cers has a drying and cooling effect, favouring healthy vines. When it blows during vendanges, weather is dry, cool and propitious to a high quality harvest.

We only use organic fertilizer, and have been treating our vines following sustainable agriculture (*lutte raisonnée*) principles, avoiding unnecessary, systematic use of synthetic chemicals, for five years now.



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**Retail Price: \$16.95**

(Price subject to change without notice)

**Product # 673053**

**Release Date: Feb. 17, 2018**

## 2016 Domaine des Aspes Chardonnay - Viognier

**Variety:** Chardonnay 55% & Viognier 45%

**Vintage:** 2016

**Region:** Languedoc, St. Chinian, France

**Soil:** Clay-limestone

**Winemaker:** Jérôme Roger

**Vinification:** Handpicked harvest. Only the first and the second juice are used for the Cuvee, the last juice is vinified separately.

**Maturing:** Half of the Cuvee is vinified and aged in oak barrels on fine lees for 5 months (50 % are new barrels and 50% are one year old barrels of French oak.); the other half is vinified in tank at 16°C

**Alcohol:** 14%

**Tasting Notes:** Sara d'Amato "Bottled sunshine, this southern chardonnay-viognier blend offers lovely ripeness and concentrated flavours. Minimal oak ageing and a touch of lees toastiness on the palate. Fruity and full-bodied"  
Tasted February 2018.

## 2016 Domaine des Aspes Chardonnay - Viognier

**90 Points—Gothic Epicures ( Dean Tudor)**

### *The Winemaker:*

"... a rebel resides beneath his calm exterior. Instead of going to one of the five French universities that offer an advanced diploma in Oenology, he decided to go to the University of Tarragona in Spain, even though he didn't speak Spanish that well. His Spanish improved, and he's used his different perspective to viticulture and winemaking to make his wines distinctive from others in the Saint Chini-an appellation.

His curiosity has also taken him, during the months of February and March when his vineyard and winemaking demands are less demanding, to South Africa to participate in four different harvests. Roger says that it was particularly interesting making wine from the South African native grape Pinotage. Few New World wine regions have such an intimate relationship with one grape as South Africa and Pinotage—it's either loved or detested, and Roger appears to fall into the "for" camp." TOM FIORINA

