

Ultra-low yields and a dedication to *terroir* off the beaten track in the southern Rhône is not a get-rich-quick strategy.

However, in the case of Jérôme Bressy, over the past 25 years or so, it has earned him a loyal and well-deserved following.

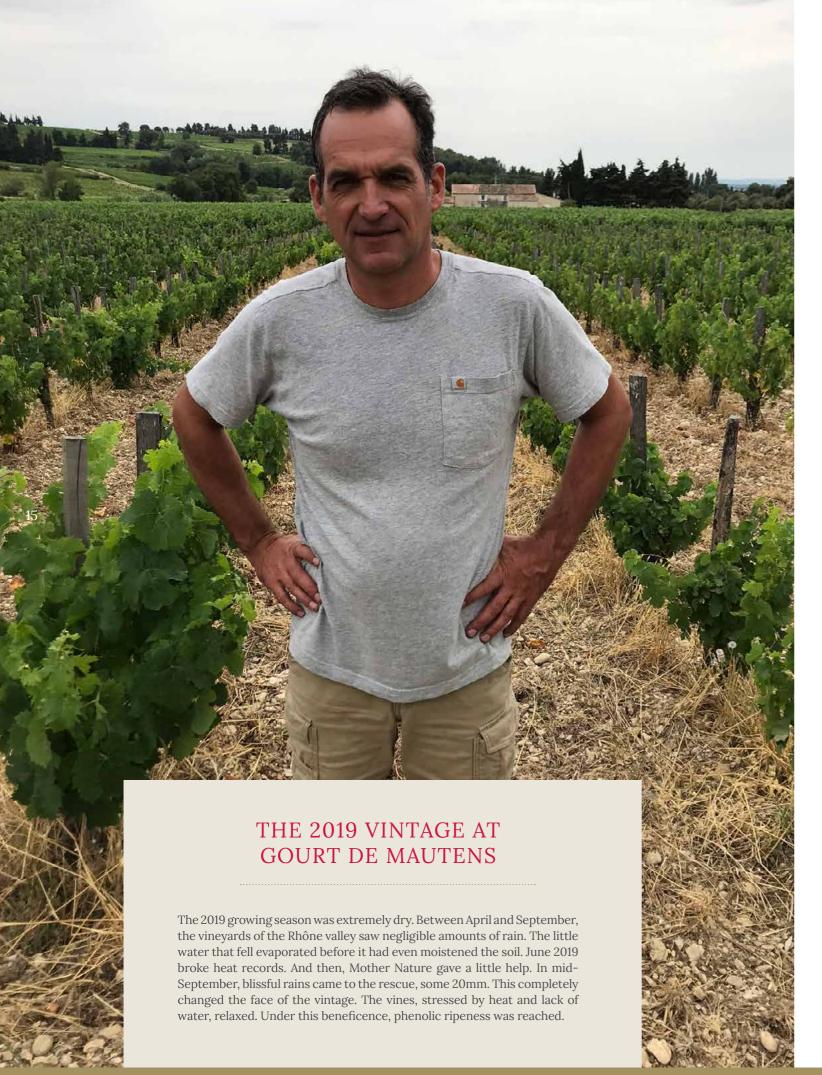
Jérôme's 15 hectare estate is in Rasteau, though due to the multitude of grape varieties in these very old vineyards, he chose to work outside the *appellation* rules, meaning the name Rasteau does not appear on the labels.

There are just two wines here, a white and a red, both made from Grenache – Grenache Blanc, that is, for the white, which makes up a minority of the estate's plantings. The domaine is certified biodynamic and organic. Yields average a tiny 10-15 hectolitres per hectare.

Jérôme's dedication to these beautifully sensitive translations of Grenache is admirable. They will never be mainstream, nor do they aspire to be, but they have had a phenomenal uptake since we started working with them in the 2015 vintage. And that, I suppose, says it all.

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## GOURT DE MAUTENS

## **GOURT DE MAUTENS BLANC 2019**

This is a blend of Grenache Blanc, Grenache Gris, Clairette, Picardin, Bourboulenc, Picpoul Gris and Blanc, Marsanne, Roussanne and Viognier, all interplanted. Tasted in June 2023 and again in September 2024. Mid amber-gold colour. Warming honey and apricot aromas, with candied ginger and orange rind. The full-bodied palate is almost chewably delectable, the powerful stone-fruit flavours balanced by a salty-mineral bite. A take-no-prisoners white for lovers of the southern Rhône. Fermented and aged for a year in six-year-old 600 litre demi-muids. 16% abv.

Corney & Barrow Score 17+ Recommended drinking from 2024 - 2026

£330/Case of 6 bottles, in bond UK

## **GOURT DE MAUTENS ROUGE 2019**

Predominantly Grenache, with Carignan, Mourvèdre, Syrah, Counoise, Cinsault, Vaccarèse and Terret Noir. From three plots, two of which are north west-facing, limestone-rich slopes, planted with 80-100 year-old vines, plus a third at 300m elevation. Aromas of bitter cherry, crushed coffee beans and warm earth. The full-bodied palate has a core of sweet raspberry coulis, around which sit darker berries and graphite, all framed by plush, powerful tannins. Not for the faint-hearted, this is as uncompromising as the baked landscape of Rasteau from where it comes. 16% abv.

Corney & Barrow Score 17.5 Recommended drinking from 2024 - 2032

£350/Case of 6 bottles, in bond UK £360/Case of 3 magnums, in bond UK

