

Domaine La Florane

Côtes du Rhône Villages - Visan



The Domaine at-a-glance

Owner: François Fabre
Winemakers: François and Adrien Fabre
Soil: Stony Clay-Limestone **First Vintage:** 1998
Size: 25 Ha **Location:** Visan, Southern Côtes du Rhône
Appellations Produced: Côtes du Rhône Villages - Visan

François Fabre is a third generation winemaker extremely dedicated to the quality of his wine. His son, Adrien, is now assisting him in the operation of his two domaines, Domaine La Florane and Domaine de L'Echevin. The south facing vineyards of La Florane are located in a small, wind-swept valley on the outskirts of Visan.

The land around Visan was once property of the Knights Templar and later in 1317 it became papal land. François recently modernized the winery which

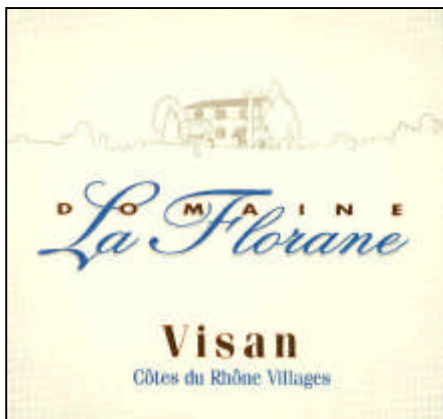


The Village of Visan



Adrien Fabre

is, by his own design, an impressive blend of new and old technology. He put in place a gravity fed system for processing the grapes. The grapes are loaded into a crusher/de-stemmer on tracks, suspended above the tanks. The crusher/de-stemmer then moves down the track to a desired location, and drops the grapes directly into the tank by gravity. This ingenious system saves time, labor, and allows the grapes to be processed in a short amount of time which helps prevent oxidation. François and Adrien use reasonably organic viticultural practices, restricts yields, performs a strict selection process in the field, and harvests the grapes by hand in order to produce concentrated wines without masking the terroir. They are currently in the process of being certified organic and biodynamic.



Grenache 80%
Syrah 20%

Côtes du Rhône Villages Rouge - Visan 2004

Technical Notes: Adrien Fabre is currently taking this domaine to the next level. Domaine de La Florane is now certified organic and biodynamic. The wine is fermented in stainless steel. The free run and press juice is aged separately. Half of the wine is aged in tank, and half spends 10 months in 2 year old French oak barriques. The wine is then assembled and bottled. The wine is fined, but not filtered.

Tasting Notes: This is a very seductive and feminine wine. A beautiful perfume of red cherry fruit dominates the nose. In the mouth there is plenty of bright concentrated red fruit, complemented by spicy *garrigue* and black pepper notes. The finish is silky with soft ripe tannins. This is a very versatile food wine, perfect for backyard barbecue.