TUTTO

LES PETITES MISES

Hérault, Languedoc



Nathalie Guillevic and Étienne Granier farm four hectares of vines hidden amongst woodlands in Quarante, a tiny village northwest of Béziers in the Hérault.

Having developed an interest in the kind of wines we love whilst living in Provence and the Ardèche, in 2017 they decided to settle here, drawn to the region's natural beauty, grape varieties and terroir.

The vines are planted over clay and limestone. The oldest are over a hundred years old and have been farmed organically for almost thirty years. The two work with a real attention to detail in the vineyards, which are treated only with a little copper, sulphur, herbal teas and essential oils. The grapes are harvested early in the morning, destemmed by hand in the afternoon and fermented in cuve. Once fermentation is finished, they are given a very gentle press to either fifty-four litre glass demijohns or large ceramic jars to rest. Exercising great patience, Nathalie and Etienne bottle the wines in small lots only when they feel they are ready, by gravity and with no additions.

Resolutely southern in spirit, Nathalie and Étienne's wines carry a rare sense of clarity and focus. Built on a backbone of pristine, characterful fruit, they offer a beautiful vision of grapes and place.

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AMANDUIR 2019

Macabeu from an eighty year old parcel planted over fine, silty soils down by the river, with a touch of Bourboulenc. The grapes were destemmed and fermented on the skins for a week, before being pressed off to glass demijohns until June. The name says it all here, the wine is a gorgeous shade of gold and displays delicate notes of almond, eucalypt and herbs. Compact and elegant, its firm tannins soften with air, revealing a complex wine where every little thing is in place.