

Xavier Gerard Condrieu l'Arbuel

THE FACTS

COUNTRY: France

REGION: Rhone

APPELLATION: Condrieu

THE STORY

The steep, craggy slopes of the vineyards demand that all work be done manually, and Xavier continues the traditional practices in the cellar, with spontaneous fermentation and classic Northern Rhone elevage, mostly in older barrels of demi-muid size. Xavier Gérard is an up-and-coming force to be reckoned with in the Northern Rhône. Having assumed control of his family's impressive holdings in Côte-Rôtie and Condrieu with the 2013 vintage, Xavier has been steadily honing his craft over the ensuing years; today, his svelte, pure, classicist renderings of Côte-Rôtie's unique terroir rival anything produced in the appellation. Furthermore, his nimble, acid-prizing touch with Viognier yields Condrieu of appealing restraint and foregrounded minerality.

