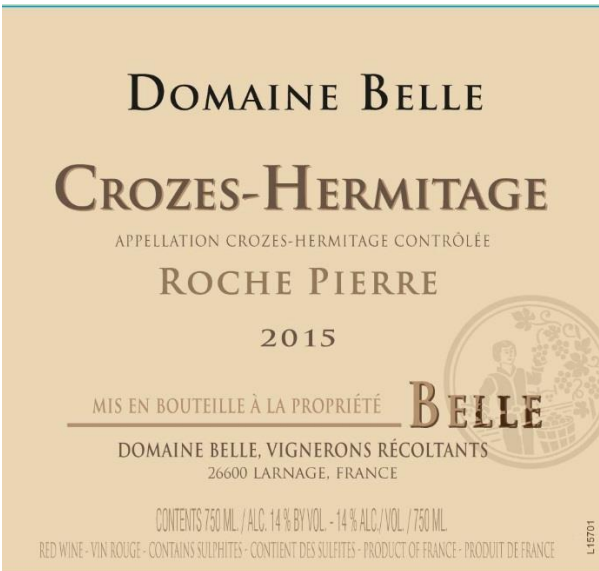


THE WINE TRUST®

EST 1973



Background

Winery: Domaine Belle

Country: France

Region: Crozes-Hermitage

Founded: 1769 (wine production) / 1990 (domaine)

Annual Production: 20,000cs

Description: Domaine Belle started producing wine under its own label in 1990, although the property has been under vine since at least 1769. Guided by third-generation vigneron Philippe Belle, the domaine combines a deep understanding of its terroir with modern winemaking techniques and facilities. Domaine Belle is universally acclaimed as one of the stars of Crozes-Hermitage.

Wine Notes – 2015 Domaine Belle Crozes-Hermitage Roche Pierre

Roche Pierre is Domaine Belle's flagship offering from Crozes-Hermitage. Sourced from south-facing 80-year old vines planted in granitic soils, the wine is vinified using native yeasts, followed by 26 months of aging in a 30/40/30 mix of new/one-year/two-year French oak barrels. This is WA's highest-rated Crozes-Hermitage of 2015.

Wine Advocate – 96 points / Jeb Dunnock – 93-95 points

Technical Specifications

Wine:	2015 Domaine Belle Crozes-Hermitage Roche Pierre
Varietal Composition:	100% Syrah
Vineyard Region:	Crozes-Hermitage (northern part of Larnage)
Vine Age / Yields:	80 years on average / 25 hl/ha
Production Volume:	200cs
Vineyard Characteristics:	Granitic soils
Wine-Making / Vinification:	Hand-harvested, partially destemmed grapes, sustainably-farmed vineyards converting to full organic certification (2017 vintage) Temperature-controlled fermentation oak barrels for 3 weeks, native yeasts, final warm maceration, daily pumpovers / punchdowns, 26 months aging in French oak (30% new / 70% used)
Alcohol / Volume:	14.0%
Residual Sugar:	0 g/L
pH:	3.66
Acidity:	3.29 g/L

THE WINE TRUST®

EST 1973

Simply one of the best (if not the best) Crozes Hermitage I've ever tasted, Belle's 2015 Crozes Hermitage Roche Pierre is a huge, full-bodied wine with immense richness and unfathomable length. Crushed stone and black olive aromas set the scene, then masses of fine tannins leave behind an indelible yet velvety imprint on the palate. Mocha, stone and spice elements whirl together on the finish, transporting the taster to gnarly old vines on craggy granite slopes. The Belle family treats this wine like Hermitage, and in this vintage, it even surpasses their Hermitage. Wow.

Wine Advocate (Joe Czerwinski) – 96 points (Dec 29, 2017)

Not yet bottled, the 2015 Crozes-Hermitage Roche Pierre is the flagship cuvee from Crozes-Hermitage and will spend a full 26 months in barrel. Cassis, toasty oak, espresso and floral notes all emerge from this beautifully concentrated, yet elegant Crozes that has ripe, present tannin and a great finish. It's more than a little impressive and easily the finest version I've tried from this estate to date.

Jeb Dunnuck – 93-95 points (September 2017)