

PATRICK ALLEN SELECTIONS

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Domaine Habrard Crozes-Hermitage

The Domaine at-a-glance

Owner: Laurent Habrard
Winemaker: Laurent Habrard
Soil: Limestone, silt, aeolian sand deposits **Size:** 15Ha
Location: Crozes-Hermitage, France



Laurent Habrard

Domaine Laurent Habrard is a small, family owned, winery. For generations they have tended their vineyards with care and love, in the heart of the Northern Rhône. Laurent owns about 15 ha of vines. Most of their vines are in the appellation of Crozes-Hermitage. However, they also own one small parcel in Saint-Joseph, and a tiny plot in one of the best vineyards of Hermitage. In Crozes-Hermitage, Laurent's vines are planted in two distinct terroirs. First, in the southern part of the appellation, "Les Chassis", which accounts for about one third of his vineyards. Second, in the areas of Gervans and Erôme, in the northern part of the appellation. This second area accounts for about two-thirds of his vines in Crozes-Hermitage. About 20% of Laurent's production is white wine, which is unusual in Crozes-Hermitage. In the appellation only 8% of the wine

produced is white, while the remaining 92% is red, since they do not produce a rosé in the appellation.

Laurent Habrard enjoys the good fortune to have vineyards planted with beautiful old vines. Many of his Syrah vines are between 40 and 60 years old, and some of his best parcels of Marsanne are over 80 years old.

The love for this exceptional terroir has led Laurent to convert to organic farming. The idea is to keep this family run operation on a human scale, with the utmost respect for the environment, and produce wines worthy of this exceptional vineyard area.



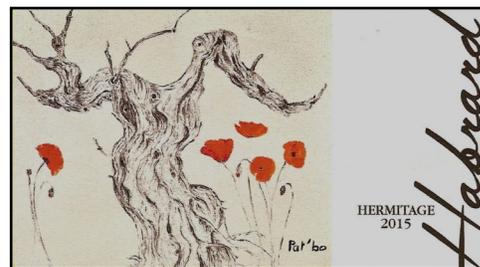
Winery at Domaine Habrard

Domaine Habrard - HERMITAGE, Blanc

100% Marsanne

Technical Notes: The vineyards are farmed organically (certified by Ecocert). The grapes are hand harvested, and only indigenous yeasts are used for fermentation (No added yeasts). Recently they have decided to produce their red wines without the addition of sulphites.

Only 183 Cases Produced



Tasting Notes: These old vines (some over 100 years old) are located in what is considered by many to be the very best vineyard for Hermitage blanc, "Les Rocoules", which is also where Jean-Louis Chave's Hermitage blanc is grown. The plot was purchased by Laurent's grandfather from General de Gaulle's son-in-law, Mr. de Boissieu. The soil here consists of limestone pebbles on high terraces. This Hermitage blanc is full of unctuous white peach and pear fruit flavors complemented by delicate aromas of white flowers. The finish is mineral, with hints of citrus fruit.

About the label: Each year Laurent has a competition in which artists can submit artwork to be used as the label for that vintage. The winning artist gets their image on the label, and 2% of the entire Hermitage Blanc production (usually about 4 cases.)

