

# PATRICK ALLEN SELECTIONS

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## Lou Belvestit Côtes de Thongue

### The Domaine at-a-glance

**Owner:** Emilie Alauze  
**Winemaker:** Emilie Alauze      **Year Est:** 2010  
**Soil:** Clay-Limestone soils  
**Size:** 20Ha      **Location:** Magalas, Côtes de Thongue  
**Appellations Produced:** Côtes de Thongue

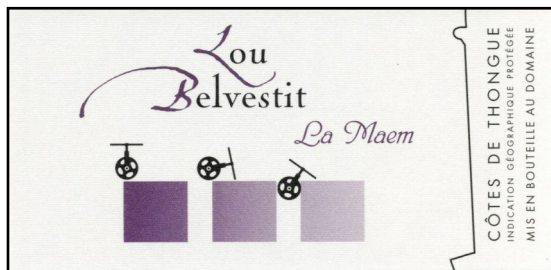
Emilie Alauze, the owner and winemaker at Lou Belvestit is the fourth generation to farm their land. This family-run estate is near the village of Magalas, in the Côtes de Thongue area of the South of France. The vineyards are situated between the towns of Pézenas and Béziers, just 15 miles from the Mediterranean Sea. This area, with its fantastic terroir and sunny climate, is perfectly suited to the Mediterranean grape varieties planted in their vineyards (Aramon, Carignan, Cinsault, Grenache and Syrah). The oldest vines at the domaine were planted at the end of the nineteen-thirties.



*Emilie Alauze*



Before Emilie took the reigns of the domaine, the family sold off their grapes to the local cooperative. In 2010, they produced and bottled their own wine for the first time. The family has a hands-on approach to winemaking and even goes as far as to graft all of their own vines. They also hand harvest the grapes, inspecting the condition of each bunch for optimal ripeness. Their philosophy is simple — minimize manipulation of the wine and allow the vineyards to express themselves naturally. This artisan approach to winemaking and love of their land, expresses itself beautifully in their wine.



### Lou Belvestit - Côtes de Thongue - "La Maem" 100% Carignan

**Technical Notes:** 70% of the Carignan in this wine comes from Emilie's "la Currelle" vineyard with vines in excess of 70 years old. The other 30% come from her rocky, "La Marseillaise" vineyard, where the vines are over 40 years old. The grapes are hand harvested and sorted, then fermented in temperature controlled tanks. The wines are gently fined, but not filtered before bottling. There is no oak aging for this wine.

**Tasting Notes:** The name "La Maem" is a combination of the name Emilie and her sister Marie's name. The combination of Emilie's great terroir and her very old Carignan vines produces dense, lush wines full of black fruit and exotic spice. La Maem is a concentrated and complex wine, ideal for grilled meats, barbeque, and lamb dishes.