Serge Doré Selections, Ltd.
MERCHANT OF SIGNATURE WINES

Domaine Fond Croze «Vieilles Vignes»

RASTEAU AOC

Four generations of the Long family and old-vine Grenache on clay-limestone soils and rolled stones — Rasteau's characteristic power, carried by vines averaging 75 years old.

THE STORY

Domaine Fond Croze is a family-owned, certified organic estate in the southern Rhône Valley, farmed by the Long family across four generations. Charles Long first purchased vineyard land near Saint-Roman-de-Malégarde after returning from the First World War; his son Raymond expanded the estate, and in 1997 Raymond's sons Bruno and Daniel formally founded Domaine Fond Croze — Bruno leading the winemaking, Daniel the vineyards. Daniel's son Guillaume has since carried the family's work into a fourth generation.

The Rasteau «Vieilles Vignes» comes from vines averaging approximately 75 years of age, planted on the clay-limestone soils and rolled stones (galets roulés) that give Rasteau its characteristic power and structure.

THE VINEYARD — RASTEAU

Appellation	Rasteau AOC, southern Rhône Valley
Classification	Single Estate
Grape	80% Grenache, 10% Syrah, 10% Mourvèdre
Vine Age	Approximately 75 years average
Soil	Clay-limestone topped with galets roulés (rolled stones) — storing daytime heat and releasing it overnight
Farming	Certified organic to European standards since 2009
Coordinates	GPS 44.26995, 4.96265

WINEMAKING & AGING

Manual harvest. Traditional vinification, with an extended cuvaison to draw out depth and structure from the old-vine fruit. Aged approximately 14 months in oak barrels before bottling.

TASTING NOTES

Blackberry, black cherry, plum, licorice, violet, garrigue, and black pepper. Full-bodied, with silky tannins and a long, savory finish that reflects the concentration of the estate's old vines.

FOOD PAIRING

Lamb, grilled meats, game, braised dishes, and aged cheeses.

CRITICAL RECOGNITION

- **International Wine Report (93 pts, 2024):** dark berry fruit, dried Mediterranean herbs, leather, violet, and subtle spice on the nose; rich yet well defined on the palate, with concentrated black and red fruit and firm, polished tannins. A generous mid-palate carries into a long, spiced finish — accessible now, with another year or two expected to add further complexity.
- **International Wine Report (92 pts, 2022):** expressive dark berries, dried herbs, leather, violet, and cocoa, with impressive balance and firm, integrated tannins — "promises even greater depth with another year or two in the cellar."
- **Jeb Dunnuck (93 pts, 2022):** black raspberry, dark cherry, flowers, and violet alongside classic Rasteau scorched-earth character, pure and medium-to-full-bodied with fine tannins.
- **James Suckling (90 pts, 2022):** full-bodied and creamy, dark berries and baked plums with sweet background spice, finishing plush.

WHY THIS WINE

A powerful yet refined Southern Rhône wine, shaped by four generations of one family and the old-vine Grenache that has become Domaine Fond Croze's signature — classic Rasteau character, verified at the source across two consecutive vintages.