



## DOMAINE HOUCHART SAINTE VICTOIRE ROSE 2021/\$21.99



### DESCRIPTION

At the heart of a region that is rich in ancient history, the estate was probably the site of a Gallo-roman "Villa", a stones throw from the "Via Aurelia". Several fragments have been found in the area and some tegulae (roman roof tiles) have been recovered from ruins on the estate. Also, the Trepanouille spring which serves the estate was probably used during this period.

Invasions in the 4th, 5th and 6th centuries ransacked these beautiful houses. In the 10th century, bloody invasions forced the inhabitants to find shelter in less accessible places. During this period the estate was probably returned to nature and covered with forest. Towards the 11th century, the monks of Saint Victor's Abbey in Marseille started to clear the area. It is during this period that the estate was developed into its current form.

On June 7th, 1890, Aurelien Houchart, a wine merchant, bought the estate. "This property is divided as workable land and plantations of vines and almonds. The present sale includes the barrels in the cellar..." He was an energetic proprietor and negociant in wine, and created one of the largest domaines in Provence.

Subsequently his domaine was divided between the five children, with Hilaire Houchart, Geneviève Quiot's grandfather inheriting 123 acres of vines , the cellars and other agricultural buildings. In 2002 Jérôme Quiot bought the Domaine de Verlaque. This 74 acres Domaine was owned by the Houchart family from 1898 till 1941.

In 1984 Genevieve Quiot, Aurelien's great granddaughter and the wife of Jérôme Quiot, ,started to work the vineyard and gave the estate her great grandfather's name. From then

on it was called "Domaine Houchart".

In 2002 The Verlaque estate was bought back and integrated into Domaine Quiot in Provence. This estate had been owned by the Houchart family from 1896 (bought by Aurelien May 29th) to 1941. In 2002 the wedding of JBQ and F Vigier took place. For this occasion the buildings were greatly restored. Today Florence and Jean-Baptiste are the fifth generation of the family to work on the estate.

### **DOMAINE HOUCART SAINTE VICTOIRE ROSE 2021**

The Sainte Victoire appellation is a terroir on the southern foothills of the Sainte-Victoire mountain (east from Aix-en-Provence) which extends to the ranges of the Olympus and Aurélien mountains. This Area has very specific geo-climatic characteristics (poor, well-drained soils formed of limestone and clayey sandstone). This terroir benefits from exceptional sunshine and a slightly continental nuances climate, protected in the south from maritime influences by the Aurélien mountains and the Sainte-Baume massif. The action of the mistral cleanses the vineyard. The grapes ripen later there than in the rest of the Côtes de Provence Appellation, which gives the wines a characteristic freshness.

### **Tasting Notes**

#### **Nose:**

Domaine Houchart is a light pink color with fruity, strawberry, white peach, red currant, and almond paste aromas and a certain mineral taste that comes from the terroir.

#### **Palate:**

An explosion of flowers, melon, peach, orange and even papaya on a very mineral background.

#### **Pairing:**

Aperitif, salads and savory pies. Perfect with slightly spicy dishes, oriental or Asian type (curry chicken, tandoori chicken, apricot and almond tagine...).

**Winery Website:** [Home - Quiot family \(famillequirot.com\)](http://famillequirot.com)

### **Fun Fact**

The wine to buy from Houchart is the 2021 Cotes de Provence Sainte-Victoire Rose, a pale flamingo-hued blend of 53% Grenache, 23% Syrah, 11% Cinsault, 9% Mourvèdre and 4% Carignan. Hints of crushed stone help to offset the slightly confected scents of cherries, peaches and lime on the nose, while the medium-bodied palate is juicy and mouthwatering, with just enough texture to give it staying power on the finish. **–Robert Parker Wine Advocate 90 Points**

# Sainte-Victoire, Cotes de Provence A.O.C., France

