

2012 Domaine Jones Fitou la Perle Rare

The most impressive in the lineup, the 2012 Fitou La Perle Rare is made from a single barrel of Syrah, from four-year-old vines no less. It offers knockout blackberry, black raspberry, licorice, smoke and assorted toasty nuances to go with a full-bodied, layered and simply perfectly balanced profile on the palate. Serious on all accounts, with notable richness and freshness, it should drink well on release, yet evolve gracefully for upwards of a decade.

These serious efforts are made by England-born Katie Jones, who moved to the Roussillon in 1993 and took a job working for the local coop. She now farms 7 hectares of vines located outside the village of Maury and the results speak for themselves. This is a producer who needs to be on everyone's short list. www.domainejones.com

No known American importer.

- Jeb Dunnuck (April, 2014)

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2013 Domaine Jones Fitou

The 2013 Fitou checks in as a blend of Carignan, Grenache and Syrah that had each variety vinified separately, with the Syrah and part of the Carignan raised in oak barrels, and the Grenache kept all in tank. It's another winner from this estate that offers a supple, sexy and medium to full-bodied personality to go with great aromas and flavors of blackberry and black cherry fruit, roasted herbs, leather and licorice. Sweetly fruit, beautifully textured and with terrific purity of fruit, drink it anytime over the coming 5-7 years.

Katie Jones continues to fashion brilliant wines from her tiny cellar in the village of Tuchan. The focus here is on low yields, hard work in the vineyards, and straightforward winemaking in the cellar. The results speak for themselves. Her wines emphasize fruit, yet have a purity and seamlessness that sets ...

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2013 Domaine Jones Cotes Catalanes Grenache Gris Barrique

Coming all from schist soils and harvest on August 29 (this was a warm vintage), there's a single barrel of the 2009 Cotes Catalanes Grenache Gris Barrique to go around. Where the other whites here are distinctly quaffable, this has additional depth and richness to go with notes of toasted almonds, dried stone, white flowers and white fruit. You can see the toastiness from the barrel aging, but the fruit continues to emerge with more time in the glass, and this stays fresh, clean and nicely focused through the finish. Enjoy this classy, food friendly white over the coming 3-4 years, and I suspect it will evolve for even longer.

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2013 Domaine Jones Cotes Catalanes Grenache

The 2013 Cotes Catalane Grenache is a beauty! Downright sexy, with a voluptuous, yet silky and pure texture, it gives up classic Grenache kirsch, black cherry, licorice and sweet spice-like aromas and flavors. Like all of Katie's wines, this doesn't skimp on fruit or texture, yet is always pure, clean and lively, and remains a joy to drink. My notes finished with "love it."

Katie Jones continues to fashion brilliant wines from her tiny cellar in the village of Tuchan. The focus here is on low yields, hard work in the vineyards, and straightforward winemaking in the cellar. The results speak for themselves. Her wines emphasize fruit, yet have a purity and seamlessness that sets them apart. I think in almost all cases, these represent superb values and readers need to latch onto a few of these.

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2013 Domaine Jones Jones Blanc

Starting out, and a superb effort, the 2013 Cotes Catalan Blanc (100% Grenache Gris) will spend 6 months in a combination of stainless steel and barrique (all neutral). It offers a thrilling bouquet of green fruits, citrus blossom and edgy minerality to go with a medium-bodied, fresh and gorgeously pure feel on the palate. Gaining richness in the glass, it's a knockout white to drink over the coming couple of years, possibly longer.

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