



Domaine Saint-Damien

Old-Vine-Traditionalist, Full-bodied, Organically-Certified Gigondas

“Soil is the only true master of a wine” - Joel Saurel.

After a lifetime of selling his family's fruit to negociants, Joël Saurel decided to produce wine under his own label in 1996. He chose to take the name of a small chapel in his home town of Le Baumette, and thus Saint-Damien Gigondas was born.

As a proprietor and winemaker, Joël Saurel is a staunch traditionalist, choosing to raise his wine in cement vats and large wood foudres, rather than following the international trend of employing excessive new oak. Or put another way, instead of a cooper, he would rather let his 80+ year old vines, planted on a wonderful south-facing slope, richly endowed in galet roulés do the talking. And speak they do, in the absolutely fantastic Gigondas Vieilles Vignes (80% Grenache and 20% Mourvèdre).

Domaine St. Damien's cuvées of Gigondas have become the reference for classic full-bodied yet fine Gigondas, with scores by all journalists being both consistent and high every vintage. Joel Saurel's goal is to produce wines that are expressive of terroir, tradition, length and balance—in short, the best of Gigondas.

