Winemaker: Jean-Michel Stéphan **Region:** Rhone Valley **Location:** Tupin-et-Semons

Côte-Rôtie Côteau de Bassenon

MAISON STEPHAN

Appellation: AOC Côte-Rôtie

Farming:
Viticulture following organic and biodynamic methods, mechanical weeding, ploughing, digging, no pesticides or synthetic fungicides

Varietals:
40% Syrah, 40% Syrah (Serine), 20% Viognier

Age of the vines: 35 to 125 years old

Vineyard/Terroir:
1.7 ha from the place called Coteau de Bassenon TUPIN on slopes of 40%. The nature of the soil is granitic dark migmatite with biotite

Vinification: Cold storage before partial or total destemming. Semi-carbonic cold maceration. Indigenous yeasts. Extraction of the matter by pumping over. Natural clarification (no filtration or fining). No input. Very reduced doses or absence of sulfur (depending on the vintage)

Elevage/Aging: Aged in barrels from the Tronçais forest for 24 months

About the winemaker: Having vinified over 30 vintages of Côte-Rôtie, Jean-Michel Stephan is one of the true masters of natural winemaking in the Northern Rhône. His wines have a vivacious purity that make them instantly identifiable, marked by a balance of energy and transcendence that comes from a lifetime pursuit of his vision to craft flawless wines with absolutely no additives. He produced his first wine in 1994 and began certified organic farming the following year, though his vineyards had always been farmed this way pre-certification. Additionally, Jean-Michel's wines have always been vinified with nothing added. At the time, both of these concepts were unheard of in the region. Today, the domaine farms five hectares of Côte-Rôtie spread between three different parcels: Côteaux de Bassenon, Côteaux de Tupin, and a tiny plot in Côte Brune. Each parcel is vinified separately without the addition of any yeast, enzymes, or SO2. In 2017, his son Romain joined the domaine, and together, they planted an additional five hectares outside the Côte-Rôtie appellation in the nearby towns of Roussillon, Véranne, Condrieu, Ampuis, and Chasse-sur-Rhône.