



Cuvée La Dérive







La Dérive

The Domaine de Cabrol estate

Lost in the wilderness, the vines of Domaine de Cabrol are grown on natural clay-limestone hillsides and terraces on the southern slopes of the Montagne Noire in the Languedoc region, at an altitude of 300 metres.

Domaine de Cabrol has been in the family for three generations. It covers 120 hectares of garrigue, holm oak, pine and olive trees, with just 21 hectares of vines scattered throughout. The vines are grown using sustainable methods, yields are low (20 to 30 hectolitres per hectare) and the grapes are harvested by hand, mainly whole bunches.

Based on simple, respectful gravity-fed methods, with long, controlled macerations and no wood ageing, the work in the cellar is at the service of the terroir. Through their aromas, structure, vigour and freshness, all the cuvées seek the clear expression of the estate's exceptional terroir, at altitude in the west of the Languedoc.

La Dérive

La Dérive is our "mixed-blood" wine, made by co-vinifying plot selections of Syrah and Cabernet-Sauvignon. This cuvée has a mouth-watering attack of candied red fruit, a full tannic structure, a delicate mouthfeel and a lovely, fresh, dynamic finish.

Vines

Syrah (50%), Cabernet Sauvignon (50%)

Vinification

De-stemmed Cabernet Sauvignon then Syrah in whole bunches, carbonic maceration for 15-20 days in a large concrete vat, storage in stainless steel vats.



La Dérive

The parcels

La Dérive comes from the Réquieu, Abricotiers and Capitelle parcels. "Réquieu" is a complex parcel located at the entrance to the estate. From a very chalky plateau with old Syrah vines to the north, it gradually transforms towards the south into a deeper, sandier hillside planted with young Cinsault, Grenache Noir and Syrah vines. Only the old Syrahs planted in the upper part are used in the Dérive. The best Cabernet Sauvignons from "Abricotiers" and "La Capitelle" are also used. At the end of a lost path winding along the edge of a gorge, the "Abricotiers" parcel is a clay-limestone terrace sometimes covered with black marl. This parcel is dedicated to Cabernet Sauvignon.

To the west of the estate, behind the pine forests, lies the very chalky parcel known as "La Capitelle". The soil here is sometimes completely covered in limestone, which protects the soil from evaporation during hot spells. Dreaded by grape-pickers because it puts a strain on the ankles, this plot produces Cabernet Sauvignon and Syrah wines.

Food and wine pairing

Full-bodied, juicy and delicious, La Dérive is the ideal accompaniment to a fine rib-eye steak.

First vintage

2001

Available vintages

2019

Volume per bottle

750ml or 1500ml

Aging

8-15 years.



LA DÉRIVE

La presse en parle (échantillon)

Guide de la Revue du Vin de France, 2025

La Dérive 2019 (93/100) The nature of the Cabardès can be tamed, and it's important to know how to play on the complementarity of oceanic and southern grapes. The domaine succeeds marvelously when parcels from both sides of the valley are vinified together. Such is the case with La Dérive, a combination of Cabernet Sauvignon and Syrah that strengthens with age, the fruit becomes slightly candied and the spices bring out the vibrancy of the whole, culminating in notes of parchment and ink on the finish.

Languedoc-Roussillon 2023 Special Report, Matthew Stubbs - Tim **Atkins**

La Dérive 2018 (94/100) Cabardès. Syrah 50%, Cabernet Sauvignon 50% (14%). This remote estate is at the highest point of the Cabardès at 300 metres. 150 hectares in total, only 21 hectares are planted with vines. The rest is pine forest, rock and garrigue. This 50/50 blend of Syrah and Cabernet Sauvignon is co-fermented and comes from the best parcels on the domaine. Intense and tannic with deep blueberry and blackberry on initial attack it finishes with a lovely blackcurrant and herbal note. Difficult to say which grape variety comes out on top in the end, let's call it an honourable draw. 2025-2038

Guide de la Revue du Vin de France, 2024

La Dérive 2018 (92/100) Covinification of Syrah and Cabernet, La Dérive expresses notes of pepper and rose with a silky mouthfeel. Guide's favourite!

Guide de la Revue du Vin de France, 2021

La Dérive 2016 (91/100) We end on a high note with La Dérive, which opens with finesse and a hint of mint, blackberry and blond tobacco, and which we like for its delicate mouthfeel and dynamic finish.



La Dérive

Guide de la Revue du Vin de France, 2020

La Dérive 2015 (14,5/20) The grand cuvée La Dérive is a blend of Cabernet Sauvignon and Syrah from the finest plots. The harmony of this wine has increased considerably since the two grape varieties were co-fermented. La Dérive reveals its finesse, the Syrah providing a velvety support on the palate to the clear expression of the Cabernet Sauvignon.

Guide de la Revue du Vin de France, 2019

La Dérive 2015 (14,5/20) La Dérive has an open nose of lemongrass and rose.

Guide Hachette des Vins, 2021

La Dérive 2013 (***) A perfect expression of the marriage between Syrah and Cabernet Sauvignon, this Dérive had tasters spellbound from start to finish. Intense, deep colour; complex nose of black fruit and garrigue with a hint of oriental spices; equally complex, dense palate, carried by melting tannins that are easy to forget. A caressing, perfectly balanced wine. 2017-2024 Roast shoulder of lamb.

Guide de la Revue du Vin de France, 2012

La Dérive 2008 (16,5/20) La Dérive stands out as the estate's great cuvée, with its depth, intensity and precision of flavour.

Guide de la Revue du Vin de France, 2011

La Dérive 2007 (17/20) Chocolaty and fleshy, La Dérive 2007 offers precision and voluptuous flesh: a great, well-balanced southern wine.

Guide Hachette des Vins, 2007

La Dérive 2003 (***) This wine combines power and finesse: its intense aromas are reminiscent of ripe fruit, with hints of undergrowth. The palate is full-bodied, harmonious and long-lasting.