



OUR WINES...

15 DIFFERENT VARIETALS BUT JUST ONE TERROIR : WHITE LIMESTONE GRAVEL UNDER BLUE MEDITERRANEAN SKIES. THE SUN FOR RIPENESS AND CHARACTER, THE SOIL FOR FRESH HEALTHY TASTE.

WE WORK THE SOIL WITH LIGHT TOOLS, HAVING LONG AGO ABANDONED HERBICIDES IN FAVOR OF MECHANICAL AND HAND WEEDING. ORGANIC CERTIFICATION WAS AN OBVIOUS STEP. VINEYARD WORK IS CONCEIVED TO BRING THE SOIL, VINES, AND ALL THAT LIVES IN THEM CLOSER HARMONY—LOW YIELDS AND LOTS OF HANDWORK IN THE SPRING AND SUMMER TO ALLOW US TO PICK THE GRAPES WHEN THEY ARE REALLY RIPE AND PRECISELY DELICIOUS.

ONCE YOU'VE GOT WONDERFUL GRAPES, YOU CONCENTRATE ON BRINGING OUT THEIR TRUE CHARACTER IN THE WINES – YOU FIND YOUR STYLE (OR IT FINDS YOU). OUR WINERY IS VERY SMALL, LOW TECH—OUR CRUSHER IS SEVERAL PAIRS OF RUBBER BOOTS. WE TRY TO KEEP IT SIMPLE.

AT CLOS DU GRAVILLAS, WE'RE AFTER A BALANCE BETWEEN RICH AND REFRESHING – A BIT OF CHALKINESS AND A DEEP PURE DARK FRUIT IN THE REDS, AND IN THE WHITES AN EXPRESSION MORE MINERAL AND FLORAL THAN FRUITY.

NICOLE AND JOHN WORK TOGETHER—VINES, WINES AND FAMILY

THEIR VINEYARDS, 8.5 HECTARES ON THE 270 METER ALTITUDE CAUSSES OF ST JEAN AND CAZELLES, BENEFIT FROM AMPLE SUMMER SUNNY DAYS AND A COOLING BREEZE BLOWING DOWN OFF OF THE MONTAGNE NOIRE AT NIGHT.

THE ROCKY LAND IMMEDIATELY BROUGHT TO MIND THOUGHTS OF MOONSCAPES. THE WINES MIGHT BE CONSIDERED LUNAR IN THEIR MINERALITY, SOME MIGHT EVEN SUGGEST LUNATIC...BUT ALWAYS DELICIOUS.

SAINT JEAN DE MINERVOIS IS A GATEWAY VILLAGE TO THE PARC NATUREL DU HAUT LANGUEDOC, THOUSANDS OF HECTARES OF PROTECTED MOUNTAIN, CANYON AND SCRUBLAND, A VAST MIGRATORY HAVEN FOR BIRDS OF PREY INCLUDING PAIRS OF THE RARE BONELLI'S EAGLE. WORKING ORGANICALLY WAS A NATURAL CHOICE.