

Sustainable Development Report of the UVCDR

(Union des Vignerons des Côtes du Rhône)



SUMMARY

| | |
|--|----|
| Sustainable Cooperation since 1965 | 3 |
| Governance | 4 |
| Our region and local activities | 6 |
| Our regional, national, and international history | 10 |
| Sustainable development as part of the Union's DNA - Our commitments | 12 |
| The conservation of resources as a core principle | 14 |
| The carbon audit as a tool to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions (and engage our stakeholders) | 18 |
| An efficient and constantly improving production site (waste management, energy consumption, social responsibility, ...) | 20 |
| Responsible economic and social development | 25 |
| Viticultural practices | 26 |
| Our estates: real life laboratories of best practice | 28 |

SUSTAINABLE COOPERATION SINCE 1965

The creation of the Union des Vignerons des Côtes du Rhône was the direct result of men and women who, each active within their respective wine cooperatives, decided to unite, to mutualise their resources relating to harvesting, blending, bottling, and marketing part of their production.

Cellier des Dauphins, the iconic Rhône Valley brand, sprang from this Union only two years later, in 1967, and proudly upholds the values of solidarity, innovation, development and exemplarity that have forged our identity.

Some 58 years later, our mission to reveal and promote the wines that come from the diversity of terroirs in the Southern Rhône is still intact. Our activity is based on respect for work in the vineyards, the application of quality selection criteria, expertise in blending and packaging, and intelligent commercial development.

Through our actions we wish to create and maintain sustainable economic balance for future generations of winegrowers. Our prime vocation is to ensure a fair source of revenue for them, whilst at the same time taking care to protect the environment, the landscapes, and the long-term existence of our region's vineyards.



Sylvie Darves
Chief Executive

GOVERNANCE

Our Union of wine cooperatives is a singular enterprise. It was created, and is governed, by its members, and they are intrinsically at the heart of our organisation due to their status as landowners but also suppliers of the wines that we blend and distribute with the greatest respect.

The members of our Management Board are democratically elected representatives of the different wineries, on the basis of “one member = one vote”. They decide upon and monitor the actions of the group’s management committee which has the responsibility for implementing the organisation’s agreed strategy.

Each of the member wineries that have chosen to pool the resources necessary to conquer new markets for part of their production remain totally independent, and fix their own strategic approaches.

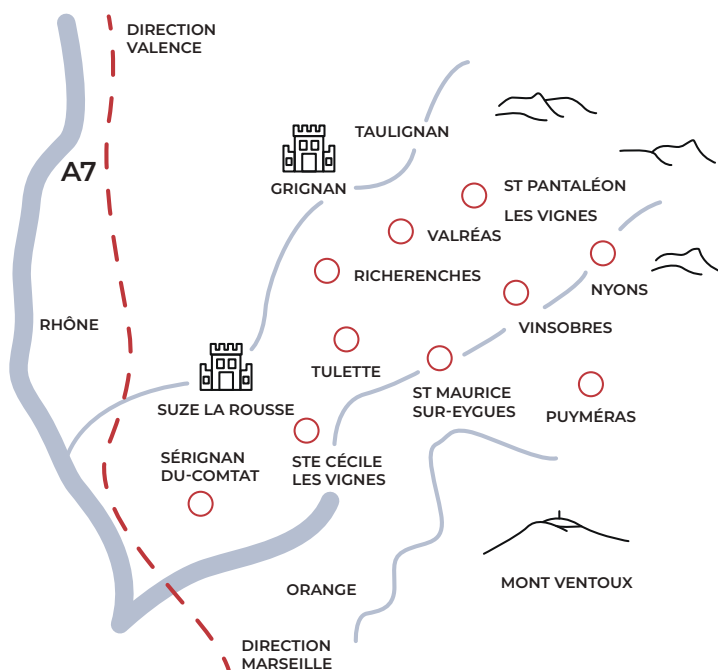
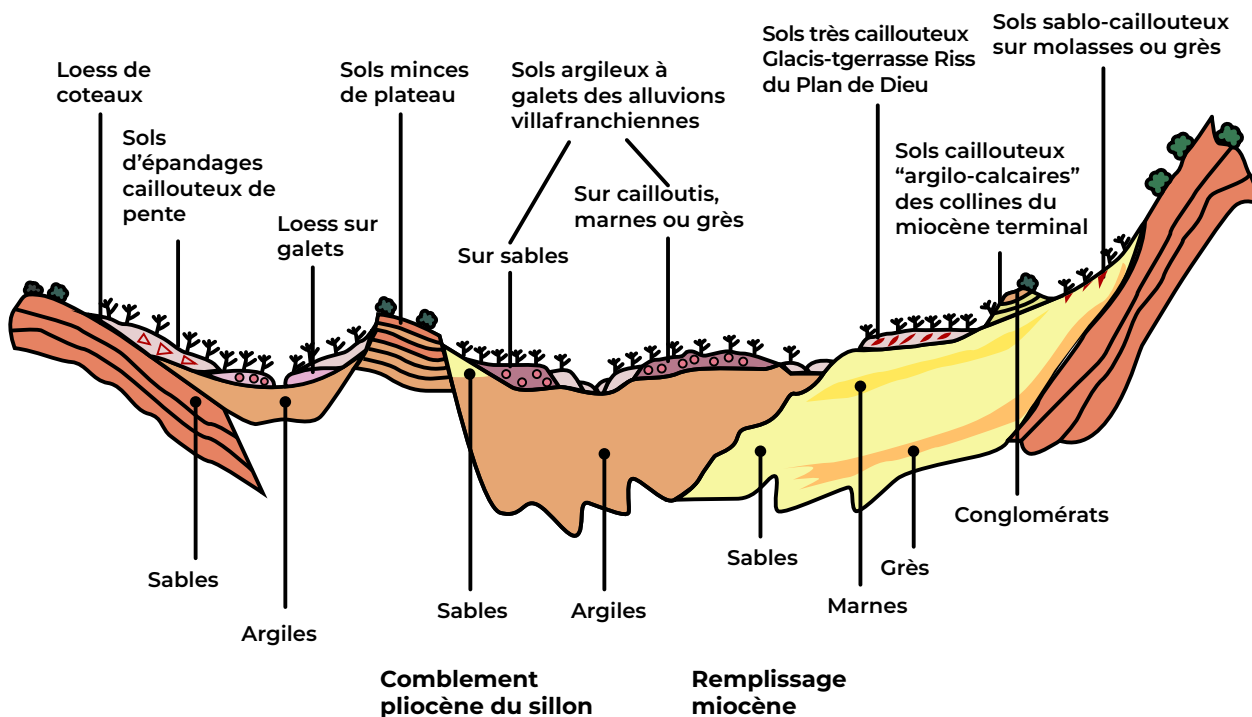
This cooperative model, although it was created more than 150 years ago, remains as pertinent today as ever, offering as it does an effective response to current economic, social, and environmental challenges :

- It reconciles economic solidarity, a strong regional identity, and entrepreneurial freedom.
- It places winegrowers at the heart of our company’s governance and development project.



Union des Vignerons des Côtes du Rhône possesses the widest range of terroirs and microclimates in the southern Rhône.

The rich diversity of soils bear witness to the region's history.



- Symbol of diversity
- 12000 hectares
- More than 10 villages
- Over 15 grape varieties

A MULTITUDE OF STYLES AND AROMAS





CÔTES DU RHÔNE CRUS

- Vinsobres/Vacqueyras/Châteauneuf-du-Pape/Cairanne/Rasteau
- Strict regulations pertaining to varieties, vineyard management techniques, harvesting, yields, and winemaking methods.

AOC CÔTES DU RHÔNE COMMUNAL VILLAGES

- Puyméras/Visan/Valréas/Saint-Pantaléon-les-Vignes/Plan de Dieu
- 18 villages in the Drôme and the Vaucluse

AOC CÔTES DU RHÔNE VILLAGES

- 90 villages across 4 departments
- 50% de Grenache Noir, Grenache-20% de Syrah et Mourvèdre


















AOC CÔTES DU RHÔNE

- Principal varieties for red/rosé wines: Grenache, Mourvèdre, Syrah
- Principal varieties for white wines 80% Bourboulenc, Clairette, White Grenache, Marsanne, Roussanne, Viognier

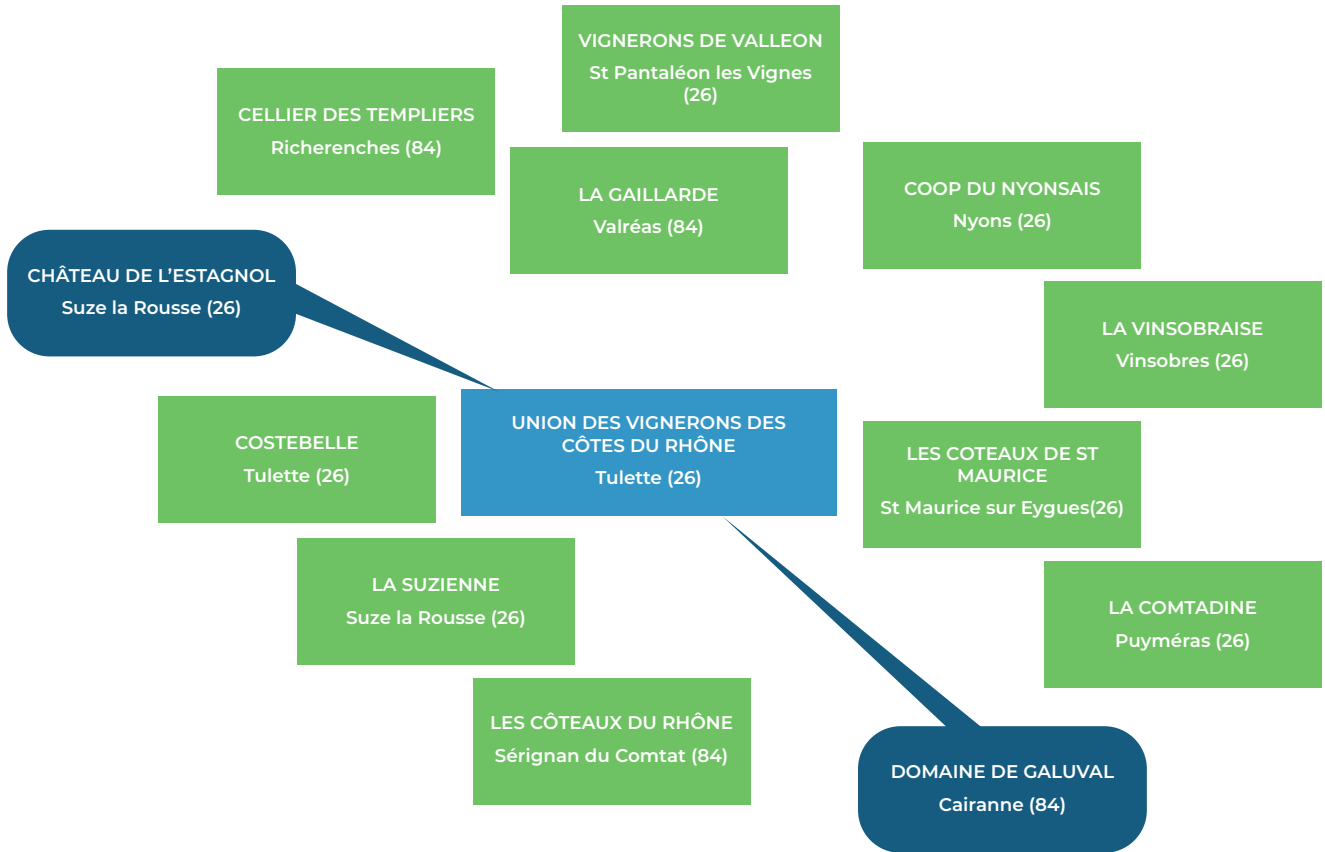
IGP

- Méditerranée
- Vaucluse
- Drôme
- Côteaux des Baronnies

OUR HISTORY

- 1965**  Creation of Union des Vignerons des Côtes du Rhône
- 15/11/1966**  Production of the first bottle of Cellier des Dauphins
- 16/04/1967**  Inauguration of Tulette
Launch of Cellier des Dauphins
- 1973**  First press review
- 1976**  Oscar for Export
- 1978**  Participation in the creation of the Université du Vin
- 1978**  USA subsidiary
- 1980**  Launch of 25cl bottle
- 1984**  Acquisition of Boissy-Delaygue
- 1996**  Acquisition of Louis Mousset
- 2004**  Creation of CJW
- 2008**  Fusion with the Vignerons de l'Enclave des Papes
- 2012**  Launch of Les Dauphins
- 2015**  First Les Dauphins container to China
- 2017**  Cellier des Dauphins celebrates its 50th anniversary
- 2018**  Plan Grand Cellier
- 2022**  Union des Vignerons des Côtes du Rhône - New Strategy & Harvest Plan

OUR GROUP





SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN OUR DNA

Our commitments

The pressure emanating from a context of new economic, societal, and environmental challenges becomes stronger every day.

Already actively engaged for many decades, we are beginning the transition from the instinctive intuition to act to the direct formulation, concretization and formal structurization of our commitments.

For us, this initiative must reflect our cooperative identity, our values, and respond to the social and environmental context in which we find ourselves.

That is why we are constructing it:

- Within the framework of the Union des Vignerons des Côtes du Rhône
- Taking our core values as its foundation
- Following the ISO 26000 standard on Corporate Social Responsibility
- By undertaking a carbon audit
- In coherence with our Sustainable Development Objectives

We have already identified 7 key areas to help us attain our sustainable development goals of exemplarity, ensuring the future of our region, winegrowers and teams, leading by example and communicating the sense of our actions to our clients and stakeholders.



THE ECONOMY OF RESOURCES AS A CORE PRINCIPLE

Eco-design: a natural and continuous initiative.

We are particularly attentive to the impact of each stage of our production, and strive to adopt a responsible approach, starting with product packaging. As champions of eco-design, we work in concertation with our suppliers on an ongoing basis to find lasting solutions to improve all elements of our packaging, from the bottles and cartons, to the pallets. The two prongs of this effort are the constant reduction in raw materials and the search for bio-sourced materials.

Amongst the most significant measures adopted for our products is the reduction in weight of our Prestige 75cl bottle (- 38%) since its creation in 1967.

Our rationale over the years:

- The quest to always do better with less,
- A pragmatic approach,
- The establishment of a team covering all aspects of product development (technical specifications of dry goods, price, logistics, machine maintenance, waste management, energy consumption ...),
- Stable, long-term supplier relationships,
- A touch of ingenuity,
- The desire to make sorting and recycling simpler for the end user.

In addition, given the volumes that we produce, we feel a responsibility towards the environment and justified in seeking an evolution in our products in line with the technical advances made by our partners. It is through discussion and exchange that we find new solutions.

In one of the most notable measures we have adopted for our products, the evolution of our Cellier des Dauphins Prestige bottle is a prime example of our natural and continuous commitment to eco-design.

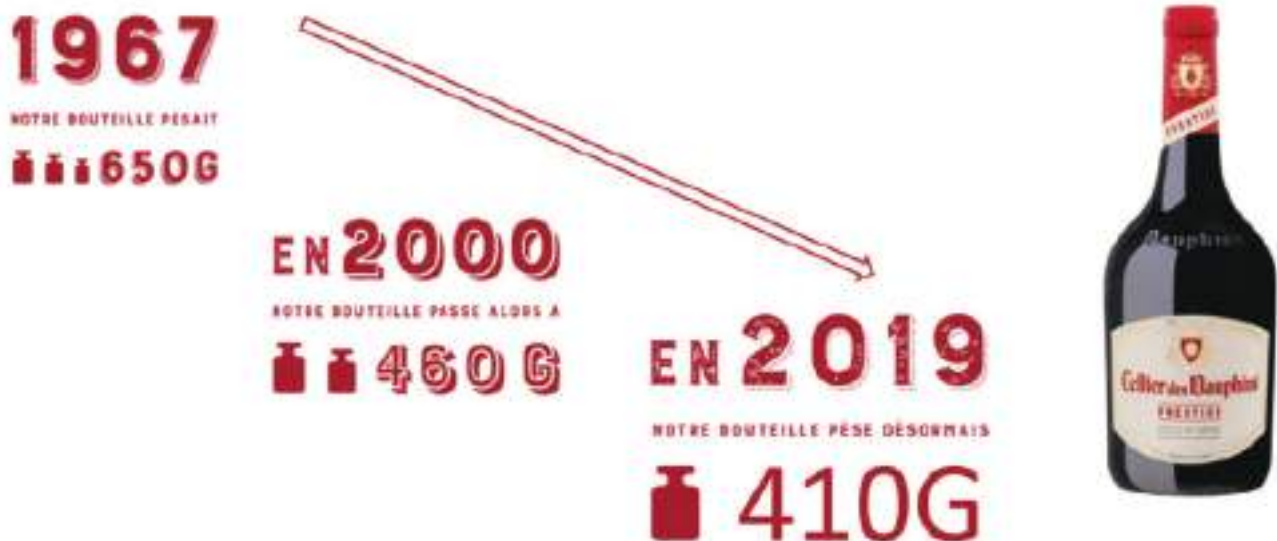


THE ECONOMY OF RESOURCES AS A CORE PRINCIPLE

At its creation it weighed 650 g.

57 years later, after several changes, considerable investment, and dozens of millions of bottles produced, in 2022 this 75cl bottle weighs only 410 g and is 85% made of recycled glass.

| Year | 1967 | 1980 | 1990 | 2000 | 2019 |
|----------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| CELLIER 75cl bottle weight | 650g | 500g | 490g | 460g | 410g |
| Evolution in weight | | -23% | -2% | -6% | -10% |

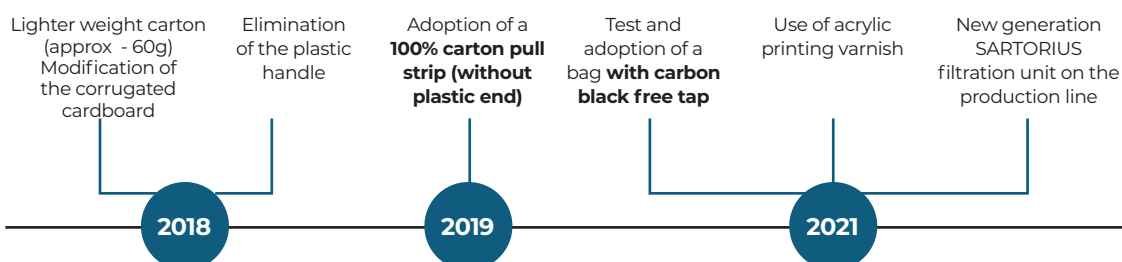


Thanks to stable and long-term relations with our suppliers, all of our dry goods are subject to constant evolution to permanently improve and have less impact on the environment.

- Corks
- Labels
- Cartons



Evolution of our BIB® since 2018



The work done on the Cellier des Dauphins 3 L BIB® is a testimony to our quest for continued improvement in eco-design.

Printing:

- Acrylic varnish
- Use of vegetable inks and glue with <1% MOSH & MOAH

Elimination of the plastic handle in favour of a carrying slot incorporated into the carton
=> **Reduction in plastic waste by 7 tons/year**

Film IEVOH E Compact 55µ :

- Reduction in the thickness of the film.
 - Reduction of 8% in the weight of the bag (or -2g vs 70µ bag)
- => Reduction of plastic waste by 4 tons/year**

Reduction/optimisation of the corrugated cardboard to reduce BIB® carton weight (env. 60g)

Installation of a new generation filtration unit (Sartorius) on the BIB® production line
=> Improved performances: Less water and less loss of heat resulting in reduced energy consumption



Tap:

- Suppression of carbon black
 - Lighter (-3.9g vs long tap)
- => Reduction of plastic waste by 7.8 tons/year**

2023 Project:

- Short version
- Seal incorporated in the tap



Text to encourage sorting and recycling on the small face of the BIB®

100% carton pull strip for easier sorting

Bundling cartons for transport:

- Reduced height (-25mm) and transversal in 5L and 3L formats
- Adoption of smaller corrugation

Reduction in the thickness of the EVOH film on the plastic bag - 70 à 55µ (Smurfit Kappa)

Reduction in the height of the bundling carton by 25mm

Change of corrugation in the bundling carton => Reduction in carton weight

New trial of bag with short tap with incorporated seal (Smurfit Kappa)

2022

2023

**50% recycled &
100% recyclable**

**Printed with 100%
vegetable inks**

**Suppression of bottle
dividers for Export**

System Wrap

**-> Optimisation of
waste certified FSC –
sustainable forests**

When our suppliers follow through on our new innovations, it also gives great results.

In order to dispense with the plastic pallet, we designed stackable cartons, on the principle of a Lego® brick.

Our innovative work was awarded the Packaging Oscar in 2019 and first prize at Millésime Adelphe (a competition that rewards good practices in eco-design and responsible communication in the wine and spirits industry) in both 2020 and 2023.



EVALUATION OF GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

To tackle the challenges of climate change we have chosen to undertake the Union's first Audit of Greenhouse Gas Emissions. It is currently underway and will cover 2022 which will serve as a reference year.

Our reasons for doing this are multiple:

- Sensitivity to customer demand, notably in the UK and Scandinavian countries where actions of this nature are already very advanced.
- The desire to establish an analytical tool which will assist us in the pursuit of our combat against climate change, but also in attaining our priority objectives.
- In anticipation of future regulatory requirements.

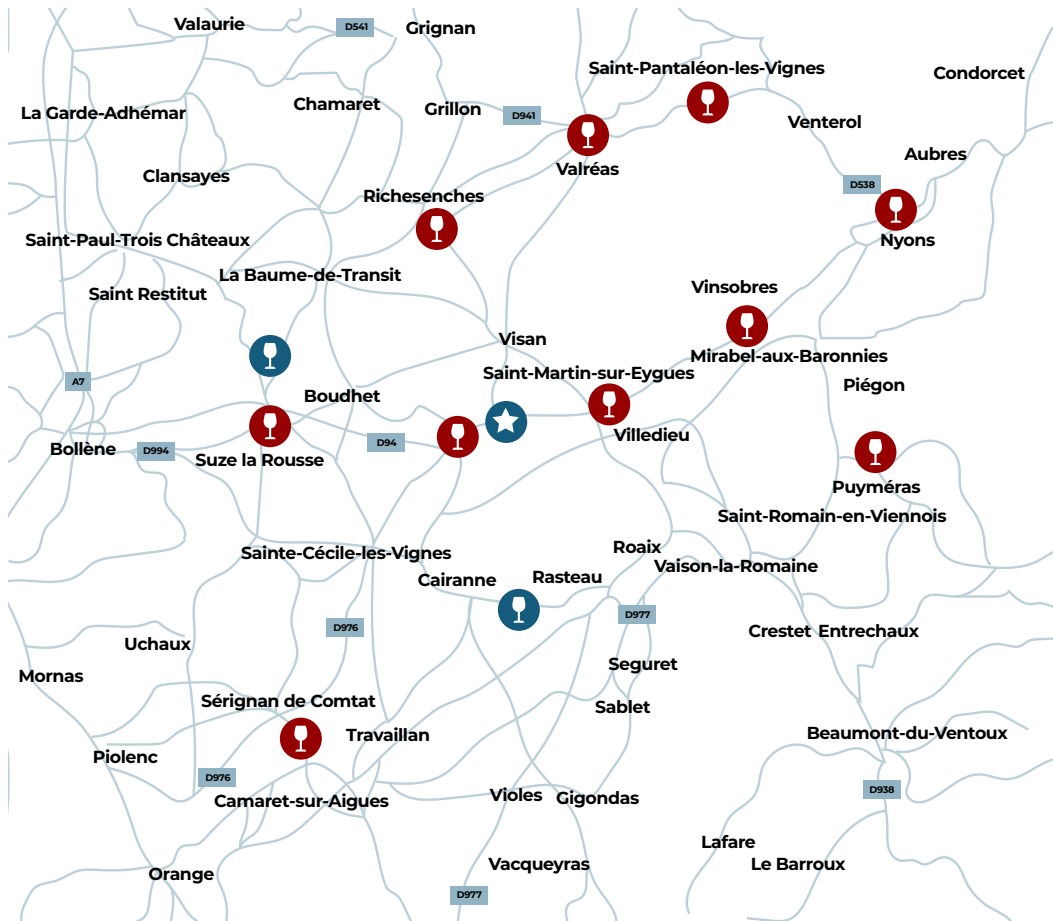


We have opted for autonomous implementation to enable us to learn and better understand our performance. The chosen solution will enable us to establish a base for our Letter of Commitment to the SBTi (Science-based Targets Initiative), and to identify the keys to rolling out a targeted plan of action to reduce and offset our greenhouse gas emissions.



AN EFFICIENT BOTTLING UNIT

The choice of site for our bottling unit was a natural one, in the heart of our region close to our ten member wineries, which are situated within a radius of 20km.



-  Cave Costebelle
-  Cave La Suzienne
-  Cave Les Coteaux du Rhône
-  Coopérative du Nyonsais
-  Cave La Comtandine
-  Cave coopérative-Vignerons
-  Cellier des Templiers
-  Cave coopérative La Vinsobres
-  Cave des Coteaux de Saint....
-  Union des Vignerons des Côtes du Rhône
-  Domaine de Galuval
-  Château de l'Estagnol

This proximity therefore enables us to guarantee the quality of our products by limiting transport time.

Technical details

Four bottling lines, including one specifically for BIBs.®

A cellar of a capacity of 115,000 hectolitres

Bottling capacity of 50 million bottles per year

Temperature controlled storage in a logistics warehouse with a capacity for 8 million bottles.



Quality

Certified IFS 96,4%

Ecocert

BRC under review

A policy of “Food Safety Culture”

Fully trained personnel

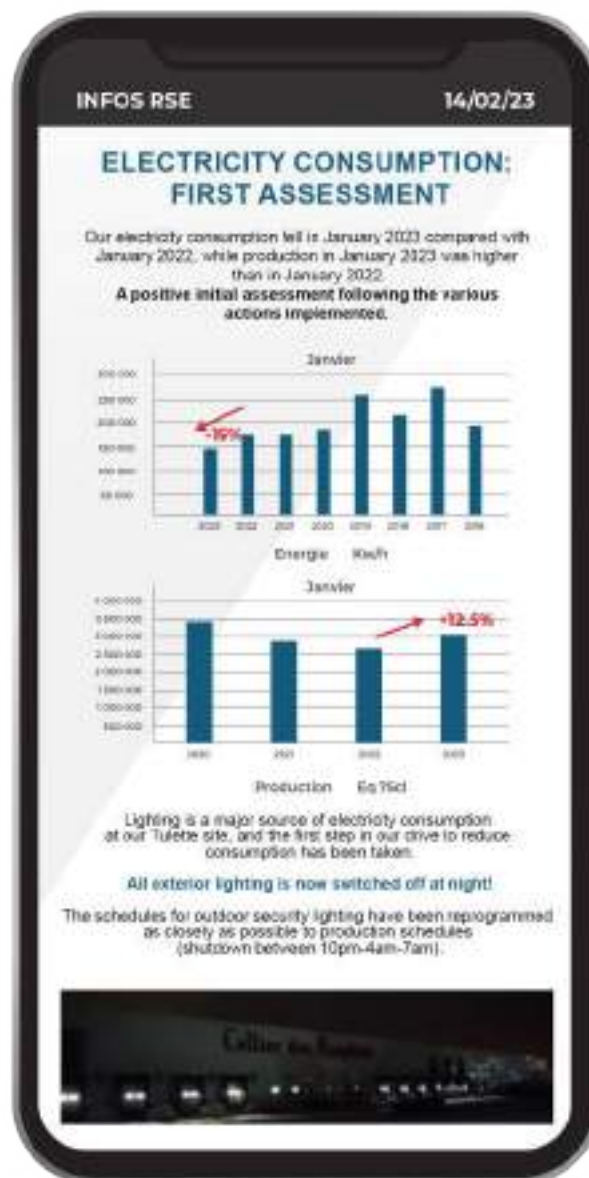
PROCESS ORIENTATED ORGANIZATION

PRACTICES IN FAVOUR OF THE ENVIRONMENT

Plan to reduce electricity consumption:

- 100% LED lighting at the production site and offices.
- Project for the equipment of the warehouse area in progress.

Energy saving plan end 2022/beginning of 2023 with the introduction of the 4-day week on the production site and teleworking on Fridays for administrative staff.



The first photovoltaic panels were installed on the roof of our logistics warehouse in 2014, and they now cover 700m². In 2023 we produced 121 126 Kwh.



Water treatment

We have our own water purification plant over 7,3 ha of fescue and alfalfa grown as feed for local animals. We practice reasoned mowing to protect the nests of protected species of birds that reproduce in our region.

The woodlark, an emblematic bird of our vineyards



PRACTICES IN FAVOUR OF THE ENVIRONMENT

Key figures concerning our environmental practices:

| | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 |
|------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Water consumption (m3) | 33 719 | 31 995 | 30 455 | 29 325 | 21 751 | 22 246 | 27 560 | 27 238 |
| Treated water (m3) | 44 749 | 28 364 | 27 691 | 37 538 | 38 538 | 17 235 | 29 467 | 26 848 |

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Electricity consumption (kWh) | 2 477 600 | 2 479 679 | 2 546 415 | 2 403 246 | 2 267 738 | 1 962 460 | 1 961 423 | 1 889 472 |
| Photovoltaic production in Kwh (rachat EDF) | 95 341 | 76 122 | 113 819 | 115 497 | 111 495 | 107 557 | 101 508 | 121 126 |
| % of electricity consumed | 3,8% | 3,1% | 4,5% | 4,8% | 4,9% | 5,5% | 5,2% | 6,4% |

| | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Gas consumption (T) | 75,6 | 74,9 | 73,0 | 73,5 | 65,6 | 49,4 | 55,5 | 55,3 |
|---------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|

| | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Solid industrial waste (T) | | | | | | | | |
| Carton | 250 | 197 | 203 | 211 | 232 | 161 | 151 | 159 |
| Glass | 67 | 97 | 51 | 146 | 187 | 157 | 107 | 42 |
| Plastic | 28 | 35 | 37 | 28 | 25 | 20 | 20 | 26 |
| DIB (Chubb 09-2022) | | | | | | | | -4 |
| DIB | 53 | 51 | 46 | 97 | 62 | 41 | 41 | 45 |
| Total | 398 | 379 | 337 | 483 | 505 | 378 | 318 | 268 |

| | | | | | | | | |
|------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| % Recycled waste | 86,7 | 86,6 | 86,5 | 79,9 | 87,8 | 89,3 | 87,2 | 83,2 |
|------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|

| | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|-------|
| Hazardous waste | | | | | | | | 0,477 |
|-----------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|-------|

| | | | | | | | | |
|----------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|-------|
| Glassine waste | | | | | | | | 7,005 |
|----------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|-------|

Source DDO - 24/01/2023

Source Direction des Opérations - 24/01/2023

SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

We work to ensure the economic development of our business whilst promoting decent working conditions, fair pay and equal opportunities for our teams and our cooperative members.



Total staff: 102 employees

Professional Gender Equality Index score 2023 : 82/100

Cooperative managed by a female Chief Executive (the only cooperative structure of this size in the French top 10 to be headed by a woman)



Through our activity in the region that we share with our stakeholders, we are proud to live alongside and offer a livelihood to more than 2,000 families in over 15 neighbouring villages, and to contribute to the local economy by the creation of employment and by supporting local producers via our cooperative economic model.

This model demonstrates its resilience and its relevance to today's world each day.

VITICULTURAL PRACTICES



Key figures concerning our environmental practices

1300 hectares organically farmed

HEV – certified High Environmental Value



Union des Vignerons des Côtes du Rhône activities

- Direct communication with our members through a Vineyard Bulletin (Bulletin vigne)
- Young Winegrowers Group



The Young Winegrowers Group was first created as a discussion group, but also:

- To encourage upcoming generations to participate in the functioning of the cooperative. To facilitate this, a post of trainee administrator was created on our Executive Board.
- To offer information and training in new sustainable vineyard management techniques.
- To announce marketing and commercial actions put in place to ensure our economic development.

THE MANAGEMENT OF OUR ESTATES

HEV (High Environmental Value)

Domaine de Galuval stretches over 49 ha with a potential for production of 41 ha in Cru Cairanne, Cru Rasteau and Côtes-du-Rhône Villages. It also has 6 ha of temporary grassland and 1.5 ha of olive trees.

Domaine du Château de l'Estagnol comprises 126 ha with a potential for production of 79 ha in Côtes-du-Rhône and Côtes-du-Rhône Villages. 43 ha of woodland completes and surrounds the vineyards.

Since 2019, both estates have been integrally certified HEV to validate their work towards sustainable viticulture.

Viticultural practices:

Domaine de Galuval:

- The use of nitrogen fertilizer is reasoned according to the parcel. 14 ha received no nitrogen in 2023. Compost and the sowing of green fertilizer are part of the new strategy of natural fertilization and the preservation of biological life in the soils.
- The use of chemical herbicides is also reasoned. 8 ha are entirely mechanically weeded. Each parcel has one row in four grassed over.

Château de l'Estagnol:

- The use of nitrogen fertilizer is reasoned according to the parcel, meaning 8 ha 50a were not treated with nitrogen in 2023. The application of compost forms part of the new strategy of natural fertilization and the preservation of biological life in the soils.
- The use of chemical herbicides is also reasoned. 10ha 50a are entirely mechanically weeded. Each parcel has one row in four grassed over. 5 ha are entirely grassed over to facilitate the runoff of rainwater during heavy storms.

Both estates use the same phytosanitary products, which are organic, bio-control, and non-classified.

Organic, bio-control, and non-classified products. The TFI ceiling (Treatment Frequency Index) has not been attained for 3 years. No glyphosate was used on between 8 and 10.5 ha in 2023 and these surfaces are constantly increasing through the use of mechanical tilling.

Biodiversity:

HEV certification requires the presence of a number of elements of biodiversity on the estate resulting in a diversity of flora and fauna that is necessary to maintain correct balance in the vineyard. There is no mention of biodiversity in organic certification.

Domaine de Galuval has recently installed additional elements of biodiversity: 23 single trees (Judas trees), 2 hedgerows (with a series of 12 different shrubs), 7.5 ha of cover crops for green fertilizer in one row in two, renovation of the pond, transplantation of 20 olive trees to create an agroforestry parcel.

A project is underway currently at Domaine du Château de l'Estagnol.

OUR BRANDS COMMITTED TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



VIGNERONS
de L'ENCLAVE

BOISSY & DELAYGUE

DEPUIS 1894



Cellier des Dauphins®



DOMAINE
galuval

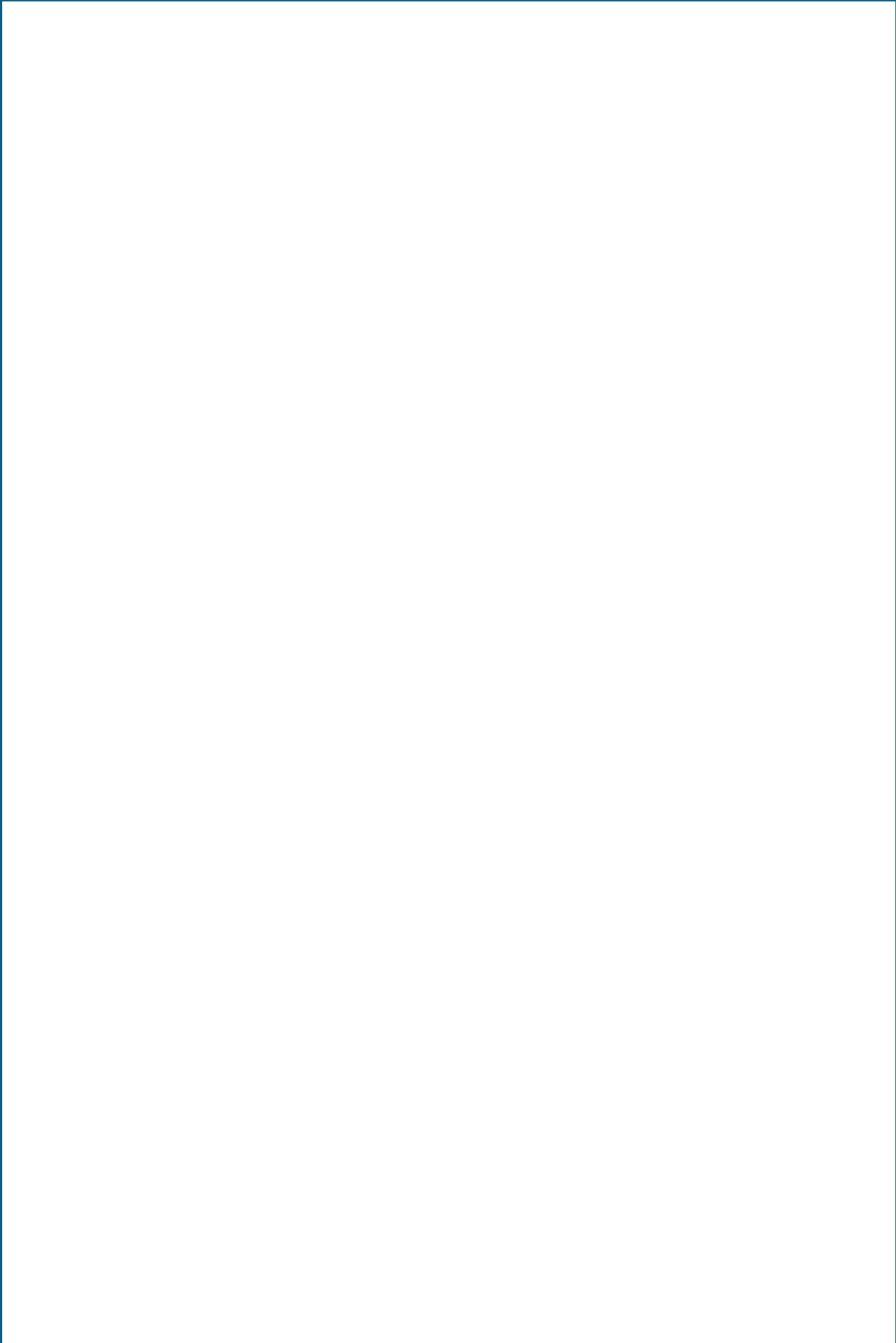
CHÂTEAU
de l'Estagnol



LA
RESIS
TANCE



NOTES



**A big thank you to all our partners,
growers, and the teams at UVCDR.**

Photos: Visuell ©



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