

FAMILLE PIERRE USSEGLIO

CHÂTEAUNEUF-DU-PAPE

JEB DUNNUCK 97-99

2017 Domaine Pierre Usseglio & Fils Châteauneuf-du-Pape Cuvee de Mon Aieul

While there won't be a Reserve des Deux Freres in 2017 due to the miserable yields, the 2017 Châteauneuf-du-Pape Cuvée de Mon Aïeul is a head-turner that's going to vie for one of the wines of the vintage. Coming from three parcels and 100% Grenache that was not destemmed and was brought up in used demi-muids, this killer wine boasts a deep purple color to go with a huge nose of black cherries, blackberries, crushed violets, licorice, and damp earth/forest floor notes. With a rare purity of fruit, full body, building structure, and a great, great finish, it's truly a gorgeous wine.

When you consider what this estate has accomplished over the past two decades, it's easy to include Domaine Pierre Usseglio as not only one of the top addresses in Châteauneuf-du-Pape but in all of France as well. They have been on a sensational roll since 1998 and have yet to put a foot wrong. And that's apparent with these latest 2016s, which I believe are the best wines ever produced here. In addition to the Châteauneuf-du-Pape releases, the estate makes a fabulous Côtes du Rhône and Lirac, both of which over-deliver.

- Jeb Dunnuck (8/28/2018)

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