

Tresmontaine "Tabacal" Rancio

Tresmontaine "Tabacal" Rancio is the last Rancio produced by legendary Roussillon winemaker Fernand Baixas at Arnaud de Villeneuve, prior to his "retirement." (He can now be found with other raconteurs at nearby Domaine de Rombeau.) The blend is 100% Grenache blanc from the 2002 and 2003 vintages, exposed to the elements in glass demijohns for 18 months, then returned to the cellars to rest in old foudres and barrique for an additional 10 years.




Côtes Catalanes IGP. Arnaud de Villeneuve is most celebrated for its oxidative wines, especially for the Rivesaltes ambré and Rancio secs made under the auspices of Roussillon legend Fernand Baixas (now in "retirement" at Domaine de Rombeau). Current winemakers Jean-Pierre Papy and Anne Tixier continue the distinctive regimen established under Baixas.

Bottled especially for Sotolon Selections by Arnaud de Villeneuve, the blend was dubbed "Tabacal" by Baixas, who declared it a perfect foil for a fine cigar. It can be enjoyed with cured meats and cheeses, as a contemplative post-prandial digestif, and yes, with a fine cigar. Shelf-stable, it should be served lightly chilled or at cellar temperature.



ABOUT CÔTES CATALANES IGP
 One of the most dynamic IGPs in the greater Languedoc-Roussillon wine region, the **Côtes Catalanes IGP** encompasses nearly all of the Pyrénées-Orientales administrative département and most of its appellations: Côtes du Roussillon and Côtes du Roussillon-Villages; Grand Roussillon; **Maury** and Maury sec; Rivesaltes and Muscat de Rivesaltes. (The diminutive **Banyuls** and Collioure AOPs are covered by **Côte Vermeille IGP**.) The climate is Mediterranean, but the terroir itself is quite varied: dark schist, granite, gneiss and clay-limestone soils along its northern slopes; dry, garrigue-scented clay, sand and gravel on the plains around Perpignan. Temperatures, some of France's most extreme, are moderated by maritime influence and the proximity of the snow-capped Pyrénées. The best hillside slopes cool considerably at night, retaining acidity and freshness in the grapes. Under the Côtes Catalanes IGP, independent vigneron and cooperatives produce mono-varietal expressions (e.g., **Domaine Jorel** Carignan 'Male Care') not currently endorsed under existing AOPs, as well as wines from international varieties (Chardonnay, Sauvignon blanc, Cabernet Sauvignon) that have increasingly found favor amongst some growers and cooperatives. Ironically, the region's most traditional wine, **Rancio Sec** - unfortified and fully-oxidized - is also its rarest and falls under the auspices of the Côtes Catalanes (and Côte Vermeille) IGP.

-  keeps indefinitely (50-65°F)
-  keeps indefinitely (55-64°F)
-  2-3 oz. pour (59-64°F)

ABOUT ARNAUD DE VILLENEUVE

Based in the town of Rivesaltes, the Arnaud de Villeneuve cooperative was established in 2007, when the Caves de Salses (est. 1909) and Cellars de Rivesaltes (1932) merged together. Its membership includes over 300 vigneron farming more than 2000 hectares, incorporating a diverse array of climates and soils in the



SKU	VINTAGE	REGION	ORIGIN	DESC	CEPAGE	% ALC	SIZE/PACK	FINISH	BTL BARCODE	CS BARCODE	CS WGT
HZ 6820	NV	Côtes Catalanes	FR	Oxidative/Oxidized Wine; Dry	Grenache blanc	17.0%	750/12	cork	3486640006805	3486640006812	17.24