Château de Saint Cosme lies in the heart of the Gigondas appellation, just 300 meters north of the village. It is the oldest estate in Gigondas dating back to the 15th century, and lies on the site of an ancient Gallo-Roman villa. The property has been in the hands of the Barruol family since 1570. Louis Barruol, heir to a 14-generation family tradition, took over from his father in 1992 and has transformed Saint Cosme into one of the best estates in the Southern Rhône.

Les Deux Albion Rouge comes from estate-owned vineyards in three communes: Plan de Dieu, Saint-Maurice, and Cairanne. Rich in ancient alluvial clay, limestone marl and pebbles, these vineyard plots speak to the classic attributes of what you find in the bottle—balance, complexity, and richness.

WINEMAKING & AGING

Les Deux Albion Rouge is made from Syrah, Grenache, Carignan, Mourvèdre, and Clairette. Hand-harvested whole bunches are co-fermented with indigenous yeasts followed by refinement in a combination of conical wooden vats and concrete tanks for 18 months. Les Deux Albion Rouge is bottled without fining or filtration.

WINE DESCRIPTION

Deep plum in color with ruby glints, the Château de Saint Cosme Côtes du Rhône “Les Deux Albion” is teeming with enticing aromas of blackberry, forest floor, licorice, and spice. The palate is medium-bodied, layered and textured with notes of black pepper, herbes de Provence, green olives, and black fruit.

KEY SELLING POINTS

• “Château de Saint Cosme” moniker is reserved for estate-grown fruit, versus the négociant “Saint Cosme” Côtes du Rhône
• Les Deux Albion Rouge is an accessible offering from the property, made with the same care and dedication to tradition as the highly allocated Gigondas
• Wine Advocate 90+ point scores since the 2005 vintage
• Competitively priced against its peers, this SKU has great potential:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wine</th>
<th>SRP</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Château de St. Cosme Les Deux Albion CDR (Craft + Estate)</td>
<td>$22.99</td>
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<tr>
<td>Le Clos du Caillou “Cuvée Unique” CDR (North Berkley)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coudoulet de Beaucastel CDR (Vineyard Brands)</td>
<td>$32.99</td>
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The vineyards for the Les Deux Albion Blanc are in Saint Martin (IGP Principauté d’Orange), a mere stone’s throw away from Gigondas. The site had been abandoned for 20 years before Louis Barruol identified the limestone-rich area as an ideal location for producing white grapes. In 2013, Barruol cleared the site and replanted it with massale selections of Viognier, Picpoul, Clairette, Bourboulenc, and a rare grape called Saint Cosme which Barruol claims to have the last existing parcel.

WINEMAKING & AGING

This inaugural vintage of Les Deux Albion Blanc is a 50/50 blend of Viognier and Picpoul. The grapes were hand-harvested, then co-fermented in a combination of 600 liter demi-muids and used 228 liter pièce before aging on the lees. The resulting wine is a compelling, terroir-driven white wine which displays elegant finesse.

WINE DESCRIPTION

Les Deux Albion Blanc is bright, lemon-gold in color with a balanced and sophisticated aroma. The palate is medium-bodied, with alluring flavors of flint, apricot, marshmallow and violets. It displays a real backbone and salinity, and will mature beautifully over time.

KEY SELLING POINTS

• Les Deux Albion Blanc is the first Saint Cosme estate project developed start to finish by 14th generation winemaker, Louis Barruol
• While Les Deux Albion Blanc is made from 100% estate fruit, it must be called “Domaine de Saint Cosme” because vin de pays wines are not allowed to use the “Château” moniker per IGP regulations
• Vineyard certified organic from ECOCERT starting with 2017 vintage
• A white counterpart to the highly rated Les Deux Albion Rouge, creating an opportunity to better market and co-promote the pair of wines
• High quality, well-priced at SRP $20.99
• Wine Spectator 90 point score for 2016 and 2017 vintages