



Les Clos Perdus “Project 108”

Winery: Les Clos Perdus

Category: Wine – Still – Red

Grape Variety: Mourvèdre, Carignan

Region: Corbières Maritime / Roussillon/ France

Vineyard: Domaine des Phénix

Winery established: 2003

Feature: Biodynamic, Demeter certification

Product Information

Soil: Maritime heavy clay soil

Vinification: Grapes are hand-harvested into small crates, with selection and sorting occurring in the vineyard. A new wine under the Umbrella of Les Clos Perdus, called Project 108. Nothing added and nothing taken away. Project 108 makes it way from the beautiful Domaine des Phénix, gravity fed and transported to Les Clos Perdus. JUST part of a name for working with old vine with well grown fruit in a very clean style and with completely no additions or extraction. Paul’s first true natural wine.

“108” is also an interesting mystical number often used to represent duration or end of a cycle. At one point it was thought that the distance of earth to the sun was 108 times the diameter of the sun. The same was thought for the diameter of the moon. Plus 9 times 12 =108 - 9 Liters in a case of 12 bottles.

Tasting Note: A clean, fresh and easy to drink vin naturel.

Producer Information

Les Clos Perdus started in 2003 with 1.5 hectares (3.7 acres) of vines in the Corbières Maritime. The Briton Hugo Stewart and the Australian Paul Old have rediscovered forgotten, almost lost vineyards in the Corbières area. This led to the naming "Les Clos Perdus". These are the smallest parcels in which old, gnarled vines grow, with very low yields.

They hoped that if we encouraged the roots of the vines to dig deep, and improved the diversity of life within the soil, they would begin to see in the wines an expression of terroir that would tell them how to proceed. In the following year they acquired more small parcels in the High Corbières hills and on the schistose slopes of the Agly Valley.

Gradually, the lunar like landscape where the vines had been growing slowly transformed into one of greater color and life. Each year has brought a return of more plants and insects while the structure of the soil has been greatly enriched, suggesting an increase in vitality is also happening below the soil. Over time the vines are starting to find a balance within the diversity of their new world.

Now in their 18th year they have 20 hectares (49.5 acres) of organic and bio-dynamic vines. They have established three unique terroirs, each represented by an individual wine: Mire La Mer from The Corbières Maritimes, Prioundo from the High Corbières and L’Extrême from the Agly Valley in the Roussillon.

Over time the wines have become better balanced and, although less fruit driven, seem to carry a greater complexity and a stronger expression of their terroir. Organically and biodynamically farmed since 2006, Ecocert certification since 2008. Demeter certification since 2014. Annual production: about 36,000-40,000 bottles.