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2015 Domaine Grand Nicolet Cotes du Rhone

The 2000-case 2015 Côtes du Rhône is a beauty. Made from 60% Grenache, 20% Syrah and the rest Carignan and Cinsault, it has lots of sweet cherry fruit, ground herbs and pepper in a fruit-forward, nicely textured style.

- Jeb Dunnuck (November, 2016)

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2015 Domaine Grand Nicolet Rasteau Terre des Bertrand

A new cuvee from a higher elevation, cooler terroir, the 2015 Rasteau Terre des Bertrand (70% Grenache and 15% each of Syrah and Carignan) has a perfumed, elegant style as well as lots of Provencal charm in its garrigue, black raspberry, licorice, saddle leather and sweet red fruits. It's more approachable than the richer Vieilles Vignes cuvee, and should drink nicely for a decade.

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2015 Domaine Grand Nicolet Rasteau les Esqueyrons

The flagship cuvee is the 2015 Rasteau les Esqueyrons, and it's made from equal parts Grenache and Syrah that had the Grenache aged in tank and the Syrah in once used barrels. Its inky color is followed by a killer bouquet of ripe black cherries, blueberries, licorice and peppery herbs. Deep, ripe, full-bodied and with fabulous purity, it has ripe tannin and a great finish. This is a serious wine that should be snatched up by Southern Rhône lovers.

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2015 Domaine Grand Nicolet Rasteau Vieilles Vignes

Another blockbuster is the 2015 Rasteau Vieilles Vignes, which is based on 60% Grenache, 30% Syrah and 10% Mourvèdre. It sees a long maceration followed by aging in concrete tanks (there's 10% of the Syrah aged in two-year-old barrels). Its deep purple color is followed by a full-bodied, mouth-filling, beautifully layered Rasteau that's loaded with notions of blackberry jam, blackcurrants, licorice and black cherries. There's some obvious minerality on the finish, and this beauty will benefit from short term cellaring and keep for a decade.

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