

France, Northern Rhône: Domaine de Remizières

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	/intage	Wines	This terrific estate in Crozes Hermitage, near the town of Mercurol, has been run by the
•	2011	Domaine de Remizieres (Desmeure) Hermitage Autrement (/wines/u6Cje6KttFD7EopAH)	97 Desmeure family since the 1970s. Alphonse Desmeure left the co-operative in 1973 and began estate bottling all of his grapes by the end of the decade. He was joined by his son, Philippe, in 1977. Philippe took over the estate in 1990. Today, the winemaking reins are firmly in the
2	2009	Domaine de Remizieres (Desmeure) Hermitage Cuvee Emilie (/wines/oD5cEztGHNhXqxydt)	hands of Philippe's daughter, Emilie Desmeure, who joined her father in 2002. Philippe's son, Christophe, joined the estate in 2009, with he and his father focusing primarily on the vineyards.
1		Domaine de Remizieres (Desmeure) Hermitage Cuvee Emilie (/wines/SLdqRtwLdfBdw9SEQ)	⁹⁶ I've always loved these wines in their youth, so this retrospective was a chance to look back at older vintages, and focused on two of their Crozes Hermitage, the Cuvee Christophe and tiny-production Cuvee Autrement, and their two Hermitage cuvees, the Cuvee Emilie and Cuvee
2		Domaine de Remizieres (Desmeure) Crozes Hermitage Autrement (/wines/Ptyuots5rLWWHMf3x)	Autrement. Looking at the Crozes Hermitage releases (the estate makes four Crozes Hermitage), the Cuvee Christophe is considered a top cuvée, and the Autrement is an even more limited, tiny-
20	,	Domaine de Remizieres (Desmeure) Hermitage Autrement (/wines/XKGxNkxdxLcYXZ5Bk)	production release. The Cuvee Christophe is always 100% Syrah from 65-year-old vines, mostly from the cooler, more northerly Larnage region and a smaller part from vines around Mercurol, close to the estate. As with all the wines of the estate, it's completely destarging the coolers of the estate.

Looking at the Crozes Hermitage releases (the estate makes four Crozes Hermitage), the Cuvee Christophe is considered a top cuvée, and the Autrement is an even more limited, tiny-production release. The **Cuvee Christophe** is always 100% Syrah from 65-year-old vines, mostly from the cooler, more northerly Larnage region and a smaller part from vines around Mercurol, close to the estate. As with all the wines of the estate, it's completely destemmed and aged 15 months in 70% new barrels and 30% in once-used barrels. The **Cuvee Autrement** comes from the oldest vines of the estate (85-year-old vines) and is a selection of hillside parcels and clay/silica soils. This cuvée is vinified and aged all in new barrels. Both of these wines show a polished, modern style with plenty of high-class oak showing in their youth. However, they both have beautiful purity of fruit and are always some of the most concentrated, rich and textured in just about every vintage. And as this retrospective shows, the wines age beautifully.

Looking at the two Hermitage cuvées, there are only two cuvées called the Cuvee Emilie and the Cuvee Autrement. The **Cuvee Emilie** comes from the estate's 1.5 hectares located on the higher elevation, granite soils of the Grandes Vignes lieu-dit, and a half hectare in the more limestone-based Les Rocoules lieu-dit. This cuvée is completely destemmed, sees a long 28-30-day maceration in tank, and is brought up 15-18 months in new barrels. The **Hermitage Cuvee Autrement**, like the Crozes Hermitage Cuvee Autrement, is a tiny production, cellar selection that's destemmed and vinified and aged in new 600-liter barrels. As with the Crozes Hermitage releases, these both show plenty of toasty oak in their youth, yet also possesses flat-out great purity of fruit and ample tannin. Given that the 1995 Cuvee Emilie (the first vintage) is still youthful, it's not a stretch to say great vintages will have 3-4 decades of longevity.

Et voici les notes:

Hermitage Autrement 2011: 97 pts Hermitage Cuvée Emilie rouge 2009: 96 pts Hermitage Cuvée Emilie rouge 1999: 96 pts Crozes Hermitage Autrement 2011 rouge: 95 pts Hermitage Autrement rouge 2006: 95 pts Hermitage Cuvée Emilie Rouge 2014: 94 pts Crozes Hermitage cuvée Christophe rouge 2011: 92 pts Hermitage Cuvée Emilie rouge 2011: 94 pts Crozes Hermitage Cuvée christophe rouge 2010: 92 pts + Crozes Hermitage Cuvée christophe rouge 2009: 94 pts + Crozes hermitage Cuvée Christophe rouge 2008: 88 pts Crozes hermitage Cuvée Christophe rouge 2007: 91 pts Crozes hermitage Autrement 2006: 94 pts Crozes Hermitage Cuvée Christophe rouge 2006: 90 pts Hermitage Cuvée Emilie rouge 2006: 92 pts Crozes hermitage Cuvée christophe 2003: 90 pts Hermitage cuvée Christophe rouge 2001: 91 pts Hermitage Cuvée Emilie rouge 2001: 91 pts Hermitage Cuvée Christophe rouge 1996: 90 pts Hermitage Cuvée Emilie rouge 1995: 91 pts Hermitage rouge 1994: 89 pts Crozes hermitage Cuvée Christophe rouge 2015 : 90-92 pts Crozes hermitage Cuvée christophe blanc 2015 : 92 pts Crozes hermitage Cuvée particulière rouge 2015 : 91 pts Crozes hermitage Cuvée Particulère blanc 2015 : 90 pts Hermitage cuvée Emilie rouge 2015: 93-95 pts Hermitage Cuvée Emilie blanc 2015: 93 pts + St Joseph 2015: 91-93 pts

Crozes hermitage cuvée Christophe rouge 2014: 90 pts