► (#) \(\hat{\cond} \) (https://twitter.com/sippitysup) \(\fracebook.com/pages/Los-Angeles-CA/Sippity-Sup/189355442145 \) \(\text{\cond} \) (#) \(\text{ABOUT (https://www.sippitysup.com/loo-things-about-greg-in-chronological-order/) \) BOOKS (\) HTTPS://www.sippitysup.com/books/) \(\text{PODCAST (https://www.sippitysup.com/podcast/) } \) CONTRIBUTORS (\) HTTPS://www.sippitysup.com/contact/) \(\text{Q SEARCH} \)

reg (https://www.saprtystc.cem/biog/) (roc. (hap //www.sippitysup.com/blog/food/) Drink (http://www.sippitysup.com/blog/travel/) Reviews (http://www.sippitysup.com/blog/travel/) Reviews (http://www.sippitysup.com/blog/video/) Recipes (/recipe)

PREVIOUS POST (

HTTPS://WWW.SIPPITYSUP.COM/A-NOT-SO-

BITTER-BITTER-COCKTAIL/)

NEXT POST (

HTTPS://WWW.SIPPITYSUP.COM/HELENS-ALWAYS-

ESSENTIAL-GUIDE-TO-ITALIAN-WHITE-WINE/)

DRINK (HTTPS://WWW.SIPPITYSUP.COM/BLOG/DRINK/)

Grenache Wine Region: Maury, France (https://www.sippitysup.com/granache-wine-region-maury-france/)

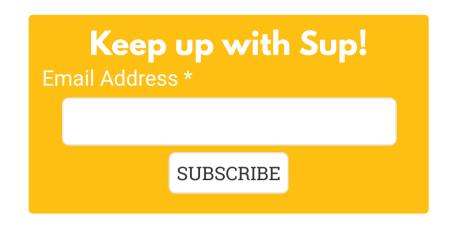
SEPTEMBER 21, 2018 (HTTPS://WWW.SIPPITYSUP.COM/GRANACHE-WINE-REGION-MAURY-FRANCE/) / BY KEN ESKENAZI (HTTPS://WWW.SIPPITYSUP.COM/AUTHOR/KEN-ESKENAZI/)

Happy International Grenache Day! Didn't realize that today's the day? Don't really know what Grenache is? It's the grape varietal represented by the "G" in GSM (Grenache Syrah Mourvèdre) a popular (and wonderfully balanced, delicious) Rhône blend. It is also a primary ingredient (out of a possible 13) in Châteauneuf du Pape. This warm weather grape produces a bright, red-fruity, easy drinking to elegantly complex wine. Grenache speaks with a different accent in different parts of the globe. You may love Garnacha from Spain for instance – same grape. I had a particularly striking Lomita, Pagano Garnacha in Baja, Mexico (

https://www.bajabound.com/destinations/bajawinecountry/haciendalalomita.php)
recently. Being a Californian I'm partial to expressions from our very own Rhône
Rangers (Tablas Creek (https://tablascreek.com/), Bonny Doon (
https://www.bonnydoonvineyard.com/), Dashe (https://www.dashecellars.com/),
Donkey & Goat (https://www.donkeyandgoat.com/)).

Maury, France

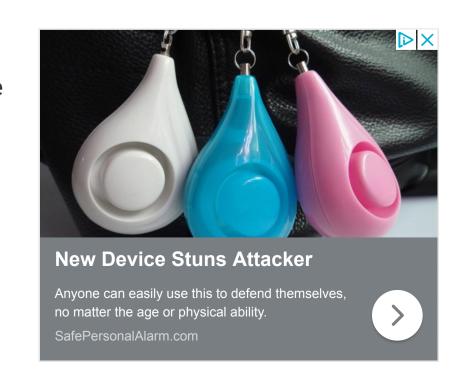
But I'm here to tell you about wine from a growing region that might not immediately jump to mind: the Côtes Catalanes, a sub-appellation of the Roussillon in France. We're talking Spain-adjacent, a bit west and south of the







(https://www.sippitysup.com/books/)



Rhône. Steep windy hillsides, black schist soils, plenty of sunshine and a cooling maritime influence allow the old vines planted there to offer up a ripe, savory bouquet to the nose and palate. Winemaker Dave Phinney, of The Prisoner and Locations (http://www.locationswine.com/) fame, fell in love with the area and set up shop in Maury, France some ten years ago. France has Departments, the way America has States – so Dave named his winery Department 66 (https://www.department66.com/) after Maury's location.



(https://www.sippitysup.com/granache-wine-region-maury-france/department66/)

Don't worry if you neglected to get me a gift for International Grenache Day. Dave's team generously sent me a trio of his Grenache based gems to try.

• Department 66 "Fragile" Rosé 2017 SRP \$18

Nose: floral, rhubarb

Palate: crisp white peach and nectarine, juicy (but not overly sweet) strawberry and perhaps a touch of kiwi flow over a stony river bed. Refreshing and invigorating, a lovely complement to cold poached salmon both aesthetically and culinarily.

Department 66 "Others" Red Wine 2015 SRP \$25

Nose: herbs! garrigue (typical for Southern France), earth, plum Palate: both savory and sweet, damson, cherry cola, raspberry mid-palate, mushroomy earthiness, somewhat rustic with a lingering mineral finish. Grenache gets the masculine treatment here, smooth yet firm tannins and good acidity that would pair nicely with a bacon cheeseburger.

Department 66 "D66" Grenache 2014 SRP \$38

Nose: savory, bright, red fruit, spicy

Palate: round, medium-plus body, pomegranate, currant, anise, lovely balance, powerful with a watermelon Jolly Rancher finish.

Serious punch from ample alcohol, feisty fruit expressive of warm climate. To sip and savor with or without food. Yum.

At the risk of sounding hackneyed, I submit that Grenache Is The New Pinot. If you love an elegant, balanced dare I say "feminine" wine (as opposed to a big brawny manly fruit bomb), give Grenache a try. As one of the world's most widely planted red wine grapes it's easy to find –you can even order Department 66 wines online. **KEN**

(https://www.sippitysup.com/granache-wine-region-maury-france/maury/)

(https://www.sippitysup.com/granache-wine-region-maury-france/mauryvineyard/)

8 Responses to Grenache Wine Region: Maury, France



Gerlinde (https://www.sunnycovechef.com) says:

September 27, 2018 at 10:01 pm (https://www.sippitysup.com/granache-wine-region-maury-france/#comment-39961)

I enjoy a nice ganache, thanks for the info.

REPLY (#COMMENT-39961)



September 26, 2018 at 6:50 am (https://www.sippitysup.com/granache-wine-region-maury-france/#comment-39953)

Grenache is so good — one of my favorite wine varieties. But I like simple and unassuming.

Really fun read — thanks.

REPLY (#COMMENT-39953)

Jean | DelightfulRepast.com (http://www.delightfulrepast.com) says:

September 25, 2018 at 5:43 am (https://www.sippitysup.com/granache-wine-region-maury-france/#comment-39948)

Ken, it so happens I had a Grenache on International Grenache Day, without knowing what day it was! I always enjoy your wine reviews, I can almost taste the wines you describe. The Department 66 "Fragile" Rosé 2017 is one I definitely want to audition for my next summer sipper.

REPLY (#COMMENT-39948)

Ken Eskenazi (http://www.sippitysup.com) says:

September 25, 2018 at 2:26 pm (https://www.sippitysup.com/granache-wine-region-maury-france/#comment-39950)

Awesome!

REPLY (#COMMENT-39950)

Abbe Odenwalder (https://thisishowicook.com) says:

September 23, 2018 at 8:35 pm (https://www.sippitysup.com/granache-wine-region-maury-france/#comment-39945)

I dare say this sounds delightful. I am a pinot lover but I am always open to change!

REPLY (#COMMENT-39945)



Jeff the Chef (http://MakeItLikeAMan.com) says:

September 23, 2018 at 7:49 am (https://www.sippitysup.com/granache-wine-region-maury-france/#comment-39943)

I've almost been there! I spend a week in Toulouse.

REPLY (#COMMENT-39943)



David (https://cocoaandlavender.blogspot.com) says:

September 22, 2018 at 4:23 pm (https://www.sippitysup.com/granache-wine-region-maury-france/#comment-39941)

Thanks, Ken – glad to know about their rosé.

REPLY (#COMMENT-39941)



chef mimi (http://chefmimiblog.wordpress.com) says:

 $September\ 21,\ 2018\ at\ 2:37\ pm\ (\ https://www.sippitysup.com/granache-wine-region-maury-france/\#comment-39938\)$

Thanks for this info! What a beautiful area. I wish I could have wine shipped to me but Oklahoma is still in the dark ages. However, on October 1st, we will be able to buy wine at grocery stores!!!

REPLY (#COMMENT-39938)

What's Sup!

This site uses Akismet to reduce spam. Learn how your comment data is processed (https://akismet.com/privacy/) .

NEXT POST () (
HTTPS://WWW.SIPPITYSUP.COM/HELENS-ALWAYSESSENTIAL-GUIDE-TO-ITALIAN-WHITE-WINE/)

SiPPiTY SUP

Blog (https://www.sippitysup.com/blog/)

Food (https://www.sippitysup.com/blog/food/)

Drink (https://www.sippitysup.com/blog/drink/)

Travel (https://www.sippitysup.com/blog/travel/)

Reviews (https://www.sippitysup.com/blog/reviews/)

Video (https://www.sippitysup.com/blog/video/)

Recipes (/recipe)

About (https://www.sippitysup.com/100-things-about-greg-in-

chronological-order/)

Books (https://www.sippitysup.com/books/)

Podcast (https://www.sippitysup.com/podcast/)

Contributors (https://www.sippitysup.com/contributors/)

Contact (https://www.sippitysup.com/contact/)

Q

Search

©SippitySup 2018 | Privacy (/privacy) | Site Design & Code by Danny Cohen (http://dannycohen.design)