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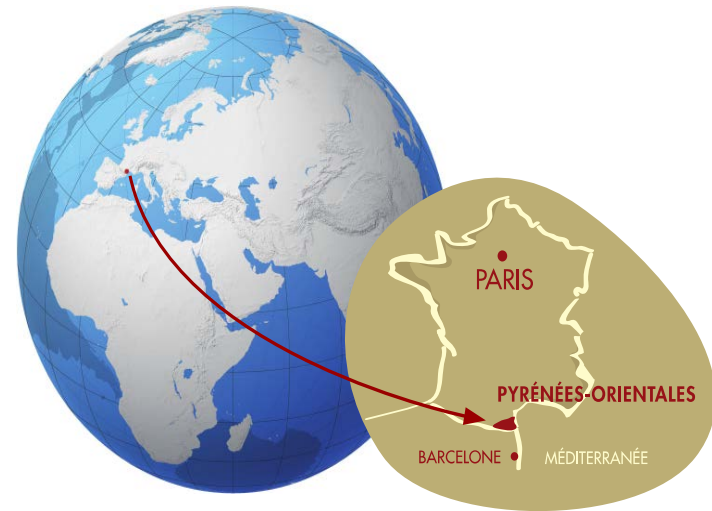
# ROUSSILLON: AN ANCIENT AND REEMERGING WINE REGION

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Former President of **Society of Wine Educators**

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# ROUSSILLON

- Roussillon part of Occitanie
- Culturally and geographically separate
- An amphitheatre situated in:
- **South of France**
- Occitanie (formerly Pyrénées-Orientales)
- Its main city : Perpignan

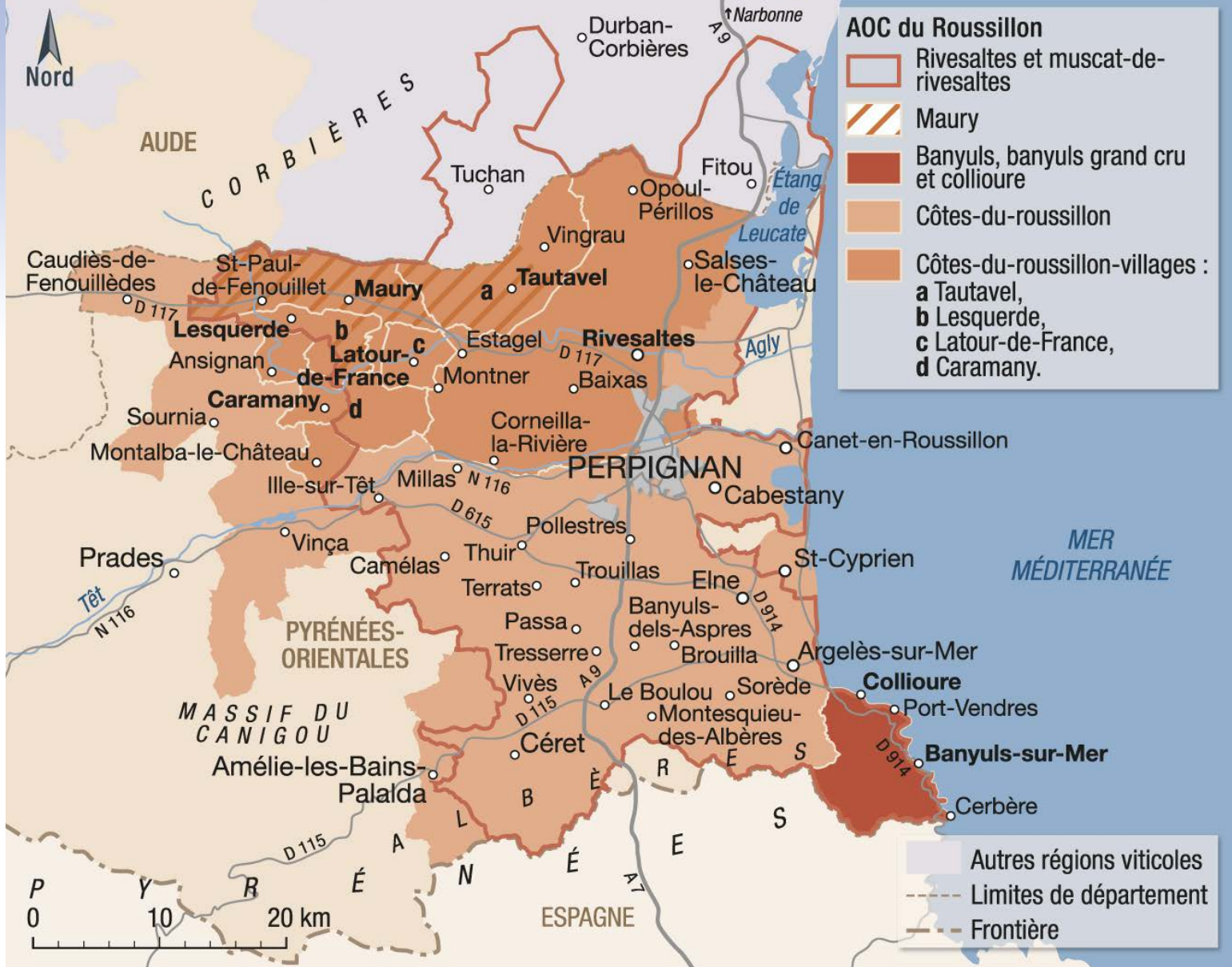


# ROUSSILLON

## The Pyrénées-Orientales/ Occitanie

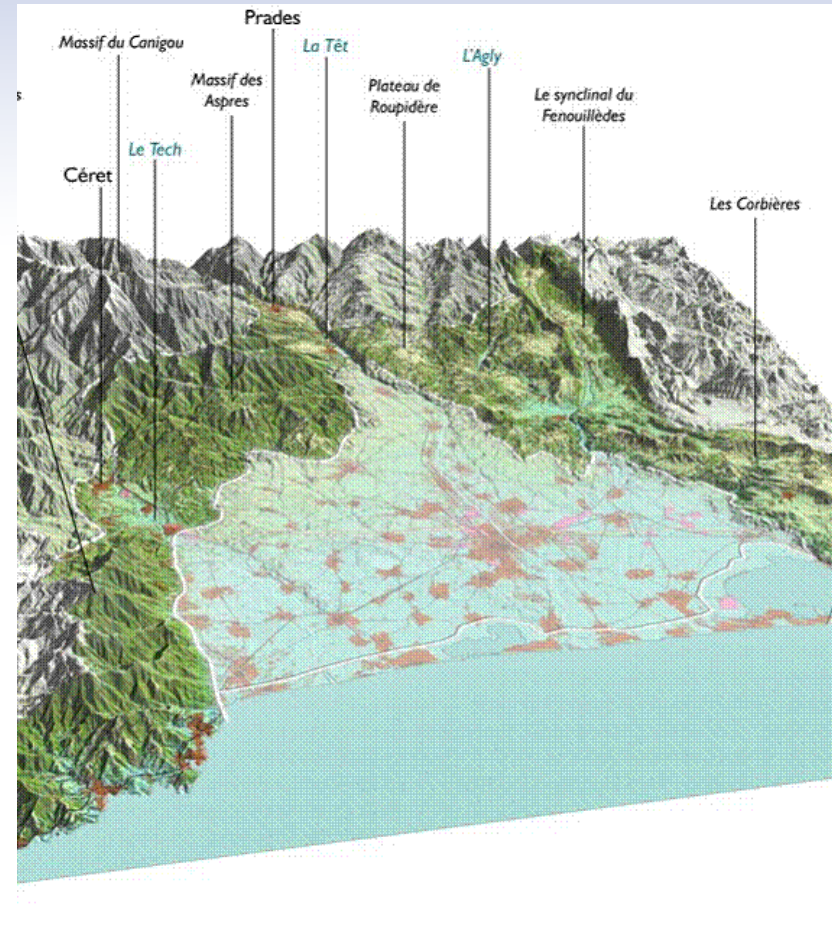
- 28 centuries of viticultural history
- Vineyards established by Ancient Greeks and developed by Romans
- Ruled by King of Majorca
- Spanish influence (13-17<sup>th</sup> C)
- Treaty of the Pyrenees 1659
- Midi Canal 17th C
- Railway's impact 19th C





# ROUSSILLON

- Mediterranean Sea to the East
- **Corbières mountains** to the North
- **Pyrénées** with Mont Canigou to the West
- the **Albères** to the South
- Crossed by 3 rivers: **the Agly, the Têt and the Tech**



# ROUSSILLON

- An **ideal Mediterranean climate**, with 316 days of sunshine
- Numerous Winds → #1 in Biodynamic/ Organic farming
- Influence of the Garrigue
- **24 varieties** of which **17** are dedicated for AOP wines
- **Varied terroirs**
- A **wide range** of dry and fortified sweet wines
- **18 AOPs/IGPs** with distinctive characteristics



## Good to know :

- Pyrénées-Orientales represent **2%** of France's wine production (by volume)
- **But 80 %** of France's production of VDN
- Planted vineyard area : **21 223 ha\***
  - > **80 %** on slopes, up to **650 m** altitude
  - > **61% = AOP**

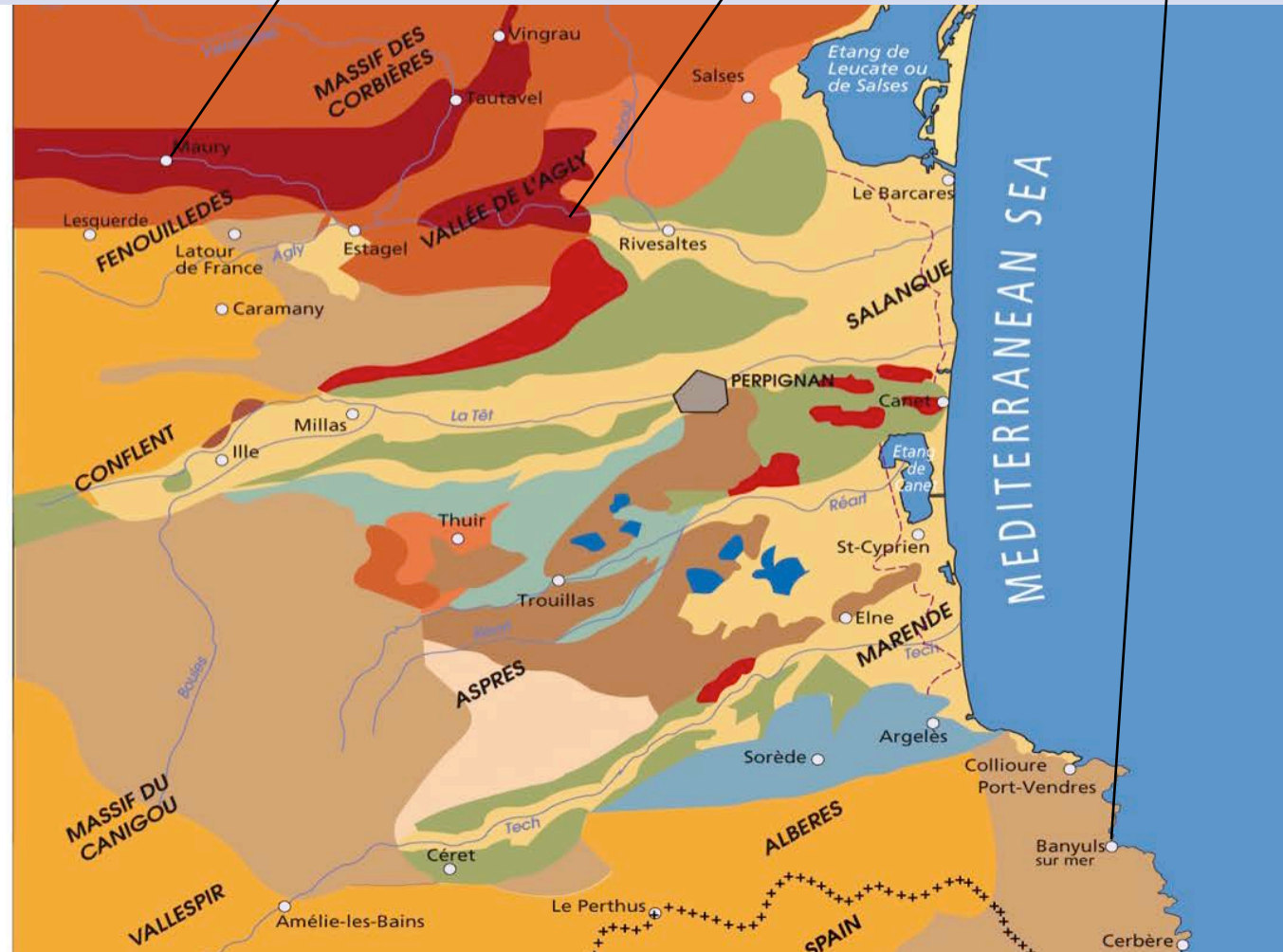
\* Data 2017

# ROUSSILLON

Maury

Rivesaltes

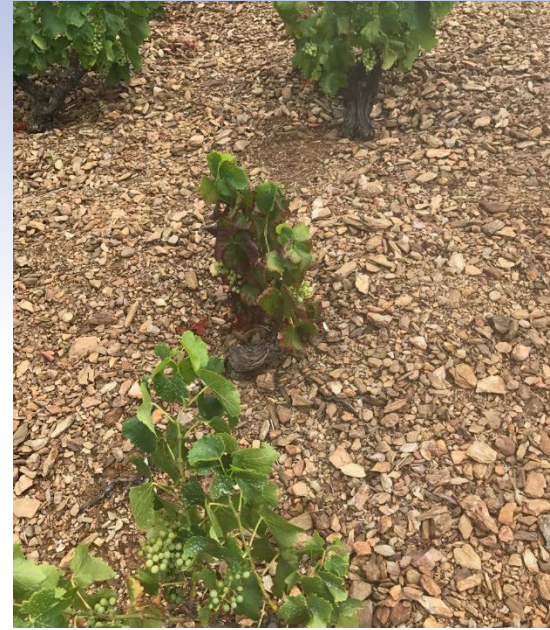
Banyuls



# ROUSSILLON

## VARIED SOILS

- granite
- limestone
- schist
- gneiss
- granitic sand
- pebbles
- Predominantly clay, limestone, schist, granite





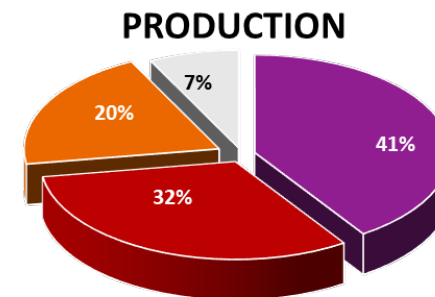
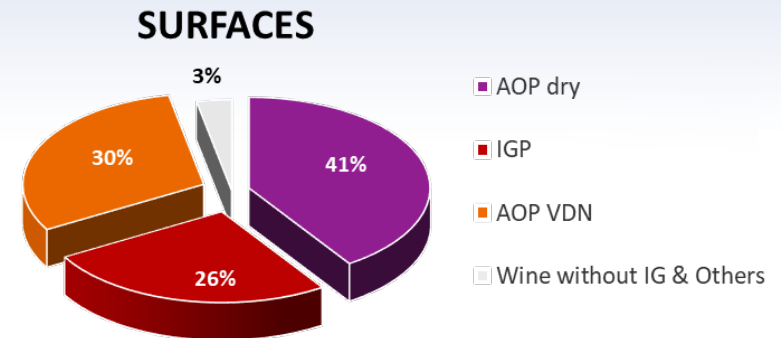
# ROUSSILLON

- 24 VARIETIES including:
  - **Carignan (R)**
  - Chardonnay
  - Chenanson (R)
  - Cinsault (R)
  - **Grenache blanc**
  - **Grenache gris**
  - **Grenache noir (R)**
  - **Lladoner Pelut (R)**
  - **Macabeu**
  - *Malvoisie du Roussillon*
  - *Marsanne*
  - *Marselan (R)*
  - **Mourvèdre (R)**
  - **Muscat d’Alexandrie**
  - **Muscat à petits grains**
  - *Roussanne*
  - **Syrah (R)**
  - **Vermentino**
  - *Viognier*
  - *+International varieties*



# ROUSSILLON

- 13 dry wines (AOP/IGP including Oc) and 5 VDN (AOP)
- Avg yield = **32,67 hl / ha** (in 2017)
- 2017 production = **604 457hl**
- → AOP VDN **137 031 hl (20%)**
- → AOP Dry **277 559 hl (41%)**
- → IGP **217 703 hl (32%)**
- *IGP Côtes Catalanes = 72%*
- *IGP Côte Vermeille = 0.08%*
- *(IGP Oc = 30%)*
- Wine without IG and others **50 807 hl (7%)**



# ROUSSILLON

- Small, family vineyards with avg size of **10 ha**
- 2 200 wine growers
- 350 private cellars (+25 in the Aude for VDN only)
- 75 % of wine production is driven by 25 caves co-operatives



**Roussillon has  
10 AOP and 3 IGP dry wines with  
distinctive characteristics**



# Roussillon Creation AOPs and IGPs

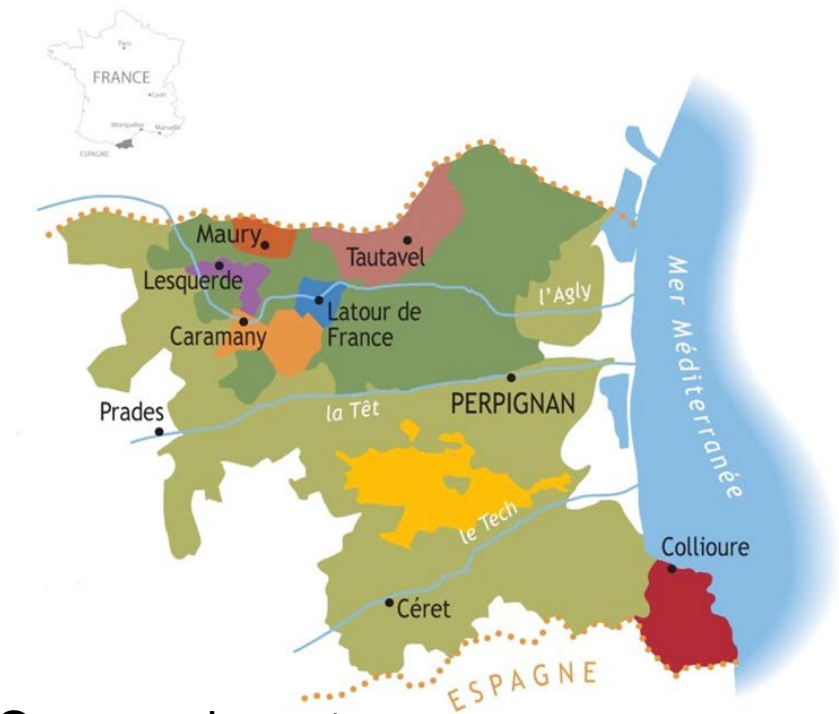
1971	AOC COLLIOURE ROUGE	3.8%
	AOC CÔTES DU ROUSSILLON VILLAGES	11%
1977	AOC CÔTES DU ROUSSILLON VILLAGES CARAMANY	1.5%
	AOC CÔTES DU ROUSSILLON VILLAGES LATOUR de France	1.9%
	AOC CÔTES DU ROUSSILLON	31.6%
1991	AOC COLLIOURE ROSE	
1996	AOC CÔTES DU ROUSSILLON VILLAGES LESQUERDE	.33%
1997	AOC CÔTES DU ROUSSILLON VILLAGES TAUTAVEL	2.4%
2002	AOC COLLIOURE BLANC	
2003	AOC CÔTES DU ROUSSILLON LES ASPRES	1.1%
2011	AOP MAURY SEC	.95%
	IGP CÔTES CATALANES ET CÔTE VERMEILLE	31.6%
2017	AOP CÔTES DU ROUSSILLON VILLAGES LES ASPRES	1.1%

# Roussillon's Dry Wine AOPs and IGP

- **Collioure & IGP Côte Vermeille** (white, rosé, red, rancio for IGP)
- **Côtes du Roussillon & IGP Côtes Catalanes** (white, rosé, red, rancio for IGP)
- **Côtes du Roussillon Villages** (CRV - red)
- **CRV Les Aspres** (red)
- **Maury sec** (red)

There are also 4 specific AOPs recognized by the name of the region :

- **CRV Caramany**
- **CRV Latour de France**
- **CRV Lesquerde**
- **CRV Tautavel**



\*AOP Languedoc & IGP Oc cover the entire area

# ROUSSILLON- VARIETIES FOR AOP DRY WINES



## RED WINES

- Grenache noir
- Grenache Gris
  - Carignan
  - Cinsault
- Lladoner Pelut
- Mourvèdre
- Syrah



## WHITE WINES

- Grenache blanc
  - Grenache gris
  - Macabeu
- Malvoisie du Roussillon
- Marsanne
- Roussanne
- Vermentino

# Roussillon Vintages

- 2010 -Outstanding rain in August but then dry
- 2011 -Very good –hot dry spring; huge yields
- 2012 -Very good- frost and rain in Spring- low yields
- 2013 - Excellent vintage –late bud break- sunny fall
- 2014 -Good year vs Languedoc – early maturing
- 2015 - Excellent - storms affecting Languedoc
- 2016 - Excellent- early budbreak but cool spring
- 2017 - Very Good to excellent- heavy rains in winter





# I. Roc des Anges, l'Effet Papillon Côtes du Roussillon, 2016

- Marjorie and Stéphane Gallet
- Latour de France in Agly Valley in the north
- Clay- limestone soils
- 43 separate north facing plots on the side of the Força Real Mountain
- 40% of the vines are 90+ old vines
- Organic and bio-dynamic practices



# I. Roc des Anges, l'Effet Papillon Côtes du Roussillon, 2016

- 90% Grenache Blanc
- 10% Macabeu
- Traditional vinification
- Direct press
- Temperature control in stainless steel tank
- 13% abv



# I. Roc des Anges, l'Effet Papillon Côtes du Roussillon, 2016



## 2. Domaine La Tour Vieille, Collioure Les Canadells, 2015

- Villages of Collioure, Banyuls, Port-Vendres and Cerbère
- 325 ha total
- Founded in 1982
- Vincent Cantié and Christine Campadiéu
- 13 ha
- Schistous soils
- Steep slopes
- Lutte raisonnée



Caroline Bonville - winemaker

## 2. Domaine La Tour Vieille, Collioure Les Canadells, 2015

- 20-60 year old vines
- Yield : 35 hl/ha
- 40% Grenache Gris
- 30% Grenache Blanc
- 10% Macabeu, 10% Roussane, 10% Vermentino
- 70% SS and 30% large oak
- Lees stirring
- 14% abv
- 8000 bottles



## 2. Domaine La Tour Vieille, Collioure Les Canadells, 2015



# 3. Le Cirque Syrouse, Côtes du Roussillon Villages Tautavel, 2012



- Cave 'La Caune de l'Arago'
- 560,000 year old hominid
- Red clay-limestone with schistous black clay
- Les Vignerons de Tautavel Vingrau Co-op
- 980 ha
- Wines must be produced from a blend of 2 of the following: Grenache Noir, Syrah, Mourvedre, Carignan Noir and Lladoner Pelut.



# 3. Le Cirque Syrouse, Côtes du Roussillon Villages Tautavel, 2012



- Syrah 60%, Grenache 30%, Mourvedre 10%
- Grapes destemmed and underwent a brief cold soak prior to fermentation.
- Fermentation took place in tank (around 74°F) and lasted about 2-3 weeks, with 1 or 2 pump-overs per day.
- Unoaked.
- 14.5% abv





# 3. Le Cirque Syrousse, Côtes du Roussillon Villages Tautavel, 2012



# 4. Domaine de Bila-Haut, Occultum Lapidem, Côtes du Roussillon Villages Latour de France 2014



- Michel Chapoutier 1999
- Bila-Haut- high villa
- Occultum Lapidem- 'Hidden stones'
- Knights Templar - Cathar
- Lesquerde village
- 75 ha biodynamic/ organic
- Black and brown schist
- Limestone clay and gneiss
- Syrah (40%), Grenache (40%) and Carignan (20%)



# 4. Domaine de Bila-Haut, Occultum Lapidem, Côtes du Roussillon Villages Latour de France 2014

- 40-70 year old vines
- Hand harvested 9/12-10/03
- Yield 28hl/ha (2 tons/acre)
- 100% destemmed
- 4 week long maceration
- Punch down
- Half aged in cement vats and half in demi-muids barrels



# 4. Domaine de Bila-Haut, Occultum Lapidem, Côtes du Roussillon Villages Latour de France 2014



# 5. Château Saint-Roch, Kerbuccio, Maury Sec 2015



- Maury Sec 185 ha
- Black schist soils with limestone base
- Jean-Marc Lafage
- Kerbuccio= Queribus- a citadelle du vertige
- 120 -480 meters
- Tramontane winds 170 days



# 5. Château Saint-Roch, Kerbuccio, Maury Sec 2015



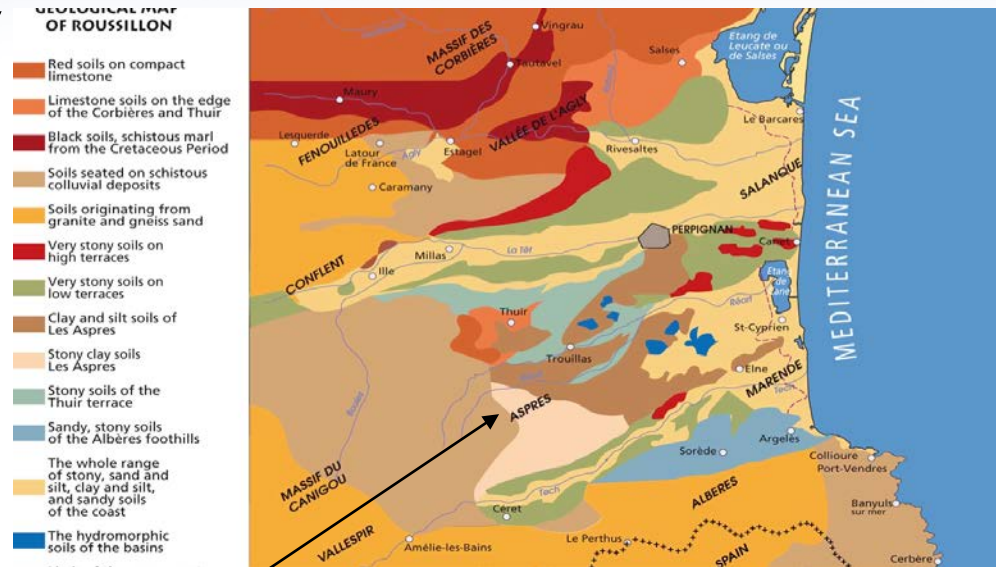
- 44 ha- organically farmed
- 60 to 100 year old
  - 80% Grenache
  - 20% Carignan
- Hand harvested
- Rigorous sorting
- 4-5 week maceration
- Aged 13 months in 500L French oak demi-muids (50% new)



# 6. Gérard Bertrand, CdR Villages Les Aspres Grand Terroir, 2013



- Gérard Bertrand
- Les Aspres- in the shadow of Mont Canigou
- Aspres= arid
- Garrigue and alzina (holm oak)
- Mercantile and pilgrimage pathways from the Mediterranean to Santiago de Compostela



Aspres

# 6. Gérard Bertrand, CdR Villages Les Aspres Grand Terroir, 2013



- Sun-drenched
- Soils of grey schist, marble and quartz
- 60% Grenache
- 20% Syrah
- 20% Mourvèdre
- Destemmed
- Maceration 3 to 4 weeks.
- 33% is aged 9 mos in barrel.





# Les Apres



**Roussillon has ...  
5 AOP Vins Doux Naturels  
with distinctive characteristics**



# ROUSSILLON

## MAIN CHARACTERISTICS OF VDN

- **1285 by Arnau de Vilanova**
- Minimum **14.5 % ABV**
- **Mutage** that is done either
  - On the must
  - Or**
  - on the cap of the marc
- During alcoholic fermentation
- **Neutral pure grape alcohol (96% Volume)**. 5-10% A part of grape's sugar stays non-fermented
- Lower ABV than Port





<b>Rivesaltes</b>	Grenat	Rosé		→	Non oxidized
	↓				
	Tuilé	Ambré	Hors d'Age	Rancio	→ Oxidized

<b>Maury</b>	Blanc	Grenat		→	Non oxidized
	↓	↓			
	Ambré	Tuilé	Hors d'Age	Rancio	→ Oxidized

<b>Banyuls</b>	Blanc	Rimage	Rosé		→	Non oxidized
	↓	↓				
	(ambré)	(tuilé)	Hors d'Age	Rancio	→ Oxidized	

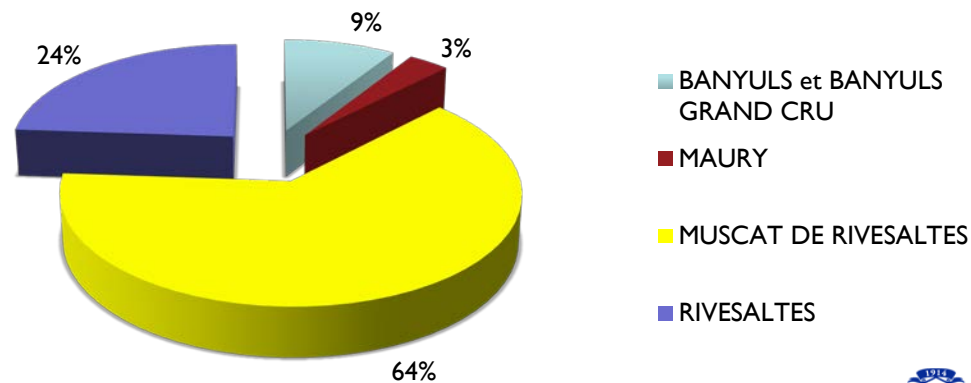
<b>Banyuls Grand Cru</b>	(tuilé)	→ Oxidized
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<b>Muscat de Rivesaltes</b>	(blanc)	→ Non oxidized
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# Establishment of AOP Vins Doux Naturels

- 1936** AOP RIVESALTES – BANYULS – MAURY
- 1956** AOP MUSCAT DE RIVESALTES
- 1962** AOP BANYULS GRAND CRU
- 1997** AOP RIVESALTES AMBRE ET TUILE
- 2002** AOP RIVESALTES GRENAT
- 2011** AOP RIVESALTES ROSE

## AOP VINS DOUX NATURELS



# ROUSSILLON

## For VDN Reds & Rosés

- Grenache noir
- Carignan noir



## For VDN Whites



- Grenache blanc
  - Grenache gris
  - Macabeu
- Malvoisie du Roussillon
  - Muscat d'Alexandrie
  - Muscat à petits grains

# While evolving, VDNs change in color, structure and flavor

**By reduction** (avoiding oxygen) in **full vats** or in **bottles**



**By oxidation:** maturation between 36 months and more than 20 years...

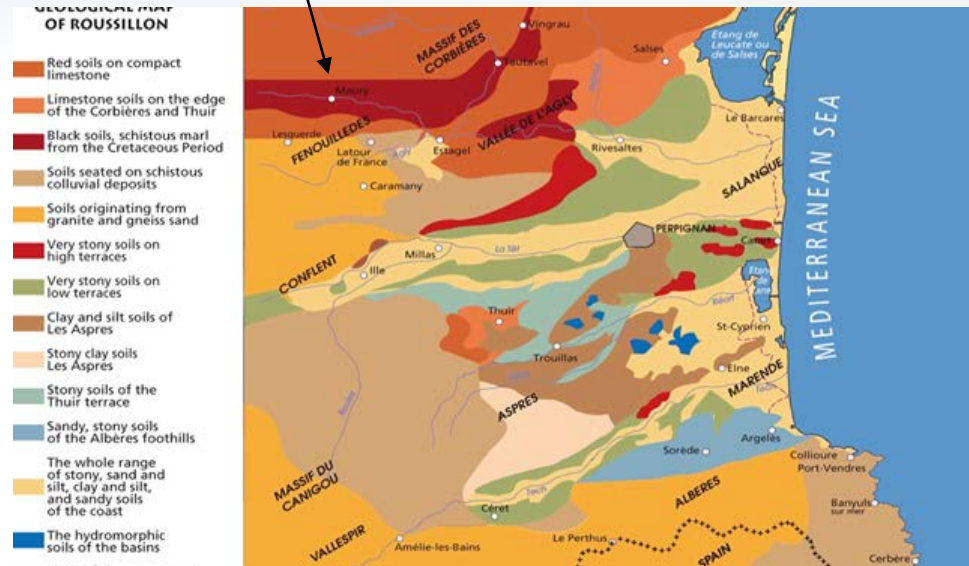
- inside or outside cellars
- in container *en vidange* (not filling up the containers completely)
- in different vats or aged in wood (foudres, demi-muids, barrels)
- or, sometimes, in glass *bonbonnes* or *demi-muids* outdoors for 9 to 12 months.

# 7. Domaine des Schistes, Maury, 2002



- Black Schist soils
- Tramontane winds (300days)
- Organic viticulture
- 55 hectares – 80 plots
- 40-70 year old + vines
- Jacques and Mickaël Sires
- 100% Grenache Noir

Maury





# 7. Domaine des Schistes, Maury, 2002

- Hand-harvested
- Yield a 25 hl/ha
- Mutage takes place during maceration
- Aged 5 months in barrel
- 80 grams RS per liter. 16% Alcohol.
- 583 cases made.



# 7. Domaine des Schistes, Maury, 2002



## 8. Château les Pins, Muscat de Rivesaltes, 2014

- Muscat de Rivesaltes
- Established 1956
- Must be min 15% and potential 21.5 . Minimum 100 g/l RS
- Dom Brial – Co-op in Baixas
- 247 winegrowers/ 2100ha
- Southern slopes of the Corbières Mts.
- Rocky clay- limestone soils



## 8. Château les Pins, Muscat de Rivesaltes, 2014

- 70% Muscat à Petits Grains
- 30% Muscat d'Alexandrie
- 12 hour maceration for Muscat à Petits Grains
- Direct Press for Muscat d'Alexandrie
- Bottled after 4-6 months in tanks



# 9. Arnaud de Villeneuve Rivesaltes Ambré, Roussillon 1985

- Co-op of 350 growers
- Patchwork of vineyards
- Very old vines
- Macabeu, White Grenache, Grey Grenache, Muscat of Alexandria
- Fortified and goes through oxidative aging
- Bottled in 2012
- 16% ABV
- 127g/l
- pH 3.48
- TA 3.17



# 10. L'Etoile Banyuls Grand Cru Cuvée Réservee 1991

- Banyuls AOP in 1936
- Oxidative style vs Rimage
- 4 villages:
  - Banyuls
  - Cerbère
  - Collioure
  - Porte-Vendres
  - Mediterranean climate
  - High coastal mountains



# 10. L'Etoile Banyuls Grand Cru Cuvée Réservee 1991



# 10. L'Etoile Banyuls Grand Cru Cuvée Réservee 1991



Bonbonne



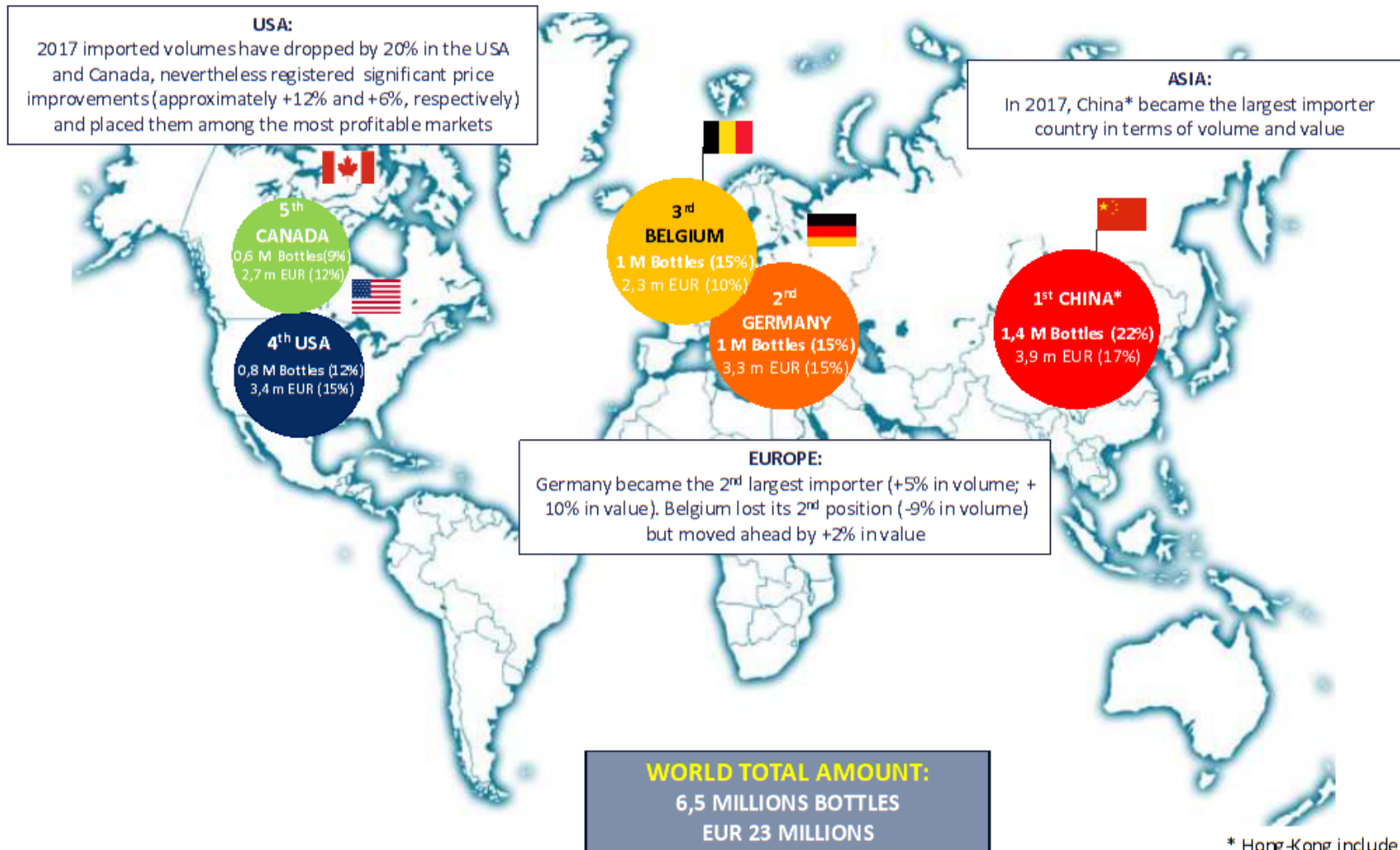
# 10. L'Etoile Banyuls Grand Cru Cuvée Réservee 1991

- 80% Grenache noir
- 15% Grenache gris
- 5% Carignan noir
- (Old vines >40 years)
- Crush –destemmed
- *Mutage sur marc* after fermentation-
- Maceration of 3 weeks
- 20 years aging in 'Demi-muids'



wine-searcher.com™

# 2017 Roussillon Dry wines : the top 5 markets



# 2017 Roussillon Fortified Sweet Wines: the top 5 markets



\* Hong-Kong included



**Thank You !**

**Roussillon Wines in France**

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