

**LANGUEDOC**  
**CÔTEAUX-DU-LANGUEDOC**
**MAS DES CHIMERES**  
**OCTON**


**OVERVIEW** | The literal translation of Mas des Chimères is “House of the Chimera,” which fittingly describes this inexpensive wine that tastes like it has been aged. The mythical Greek chimera had blended aspects of a lion, a dragon, and a goat – a fantastical animal which represented something quite improbable.

**VINEYARD AREA:** 14.67 hectares

**ANNUAL PRODUCTION:** 4200 cases

**SOIL TYPES:** clay, schist, granite

**GRAPE VARIETIES:** syrah, grenache, others

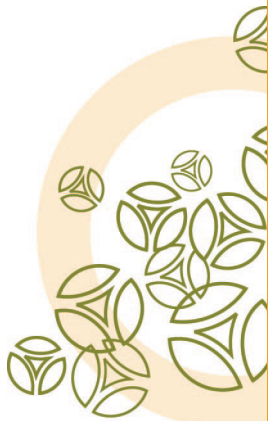
Imagination and fantasy were to be rooted in reality when winemaker Guilhem Dardé struck out on his own with Mas des Chimères. He had spent 20 years of perfecting his viticultural skills by growing and selling grapes to a local coop before he introduced the wine in 1993.

A self-described paysan-vigneron, Dardé approaches vinification with enthusiasm.

**VINEYARD/CELLAR PRACTICES** | Traditional methods are used in the vineyards: plowing, only copper and sulfur treatments, and manual harvesting. In this remote corner of the Coteaux-du-Languedoc appellation, vines grow on strips of clay/schist/granite soils forming terraces on the arid, strikingly red slopes (which is decomposed basaltic slate, colored by iron). Poor soil and dry harsh weather conditions ensure low yields and high concentration.

This wine is aged in barriques and bottled unfinned and unfiltered. The abundance of pigments and solid matter results in a noticeable sediment in the bottle.

**WINES** | Côteaux-du-Languedoc - Dardé’s Côteaux is a blend of about 70% Syrah, 20% Grenache and 5% each Cinsault and Mourvedre; the proportions vary according to the vintage. This wine is dark purple, with a ripe nose of cloves, cinnamon and coffee, is spicy and concentrated on the palate. The considerable amount of tannin is balanced by rich, soft matter and the finish is long, with notes of licorice, coffee and kirsch. Dardé makes a series of other wines, but small quantities and success mean that none reach America.


**trriage wines**

4755 Colorado Avenue South, Ste A  
 Seattle, WA 98134  
 206. 763. 5994  
 fax 206. 883. 0215

2210 North Lewis Street  
 Portland, OR 97227  
 503. 236. 6262  
 503. 236. 3660 fax