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## Château Saint Jean Plan de Dieu 2016

CSPC# 764828

750mlx12

14.5% alc./vol.

<b>Grape Variety</b>	80% Grenache, 15% Syrah, 5% Carignan
<b>Appellation</b>	Côtes du Rhône Villages AOC
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://www.chateauneuf.dk/gigondas/en/gigen9.htm">http://www.chateauneuf.dk/gigondas/en/gigen9.htm</a>
<b>General Info</b>	<p>Located in the Travaillan commune to the east of Orange, the vineyard of Chateau Saint Jean covers the vast plateau of the Plan de Dieu, reputed as a wine-growing area since Roman times. This estate belonged to the Sérignan lords until the revolution. Bought in 1946 by the Meffre family, the estate originally covered 60 hectares and was expanded to its current size by clearing and planting another 80 hectares. On this terraced, gravelly soil, the blend of Grenache, Carignan and Syrah produces generous red wines, suitable for ageing; the white wines from white Grenache, Clairette, Roussanne and Bourboulenc are lively and fruity.</p> <p>The Plan de Dieu appellation was awarded Côtes du Rhône Villages status in 2005. It produces only red wines, which tend to be full bodied, with intense red berry flavours and herbal aromas reminiscent of the surrounding 'garrigue'. Winemaking on the plain goes back to Medieval times though intensive bombing and mining of the area during WWII set production back considerably. Very much an appellation on the up.</p>
<b>Winemaker</b>	Christian Meffre
<b>Vintage</b>	France's Northern and Southern Rhône Valleys share a river but are very different otherwise. And 2016 delivered two different growing seasons for them. In the south, where this Chateau resides, conditions were ideal all year, with warm, dry days balanced by cool nights. Up north, a cloudy wet spring delayed the season's start, then excessive summer temperatures brought ripening in some spots to a halt. Thankfully, ideal weather in September and October gave grapes time to fully ripen.
<b>Vineyards</b>	Average age of vines: 35 years. The Old vines, over 50 years, constitute 15% of the vineyard 100% organic fertilisers and certified organic compost. 80% Grenache, 15% Syrah and 5% Carignan.
<b>Vinification/ Maturation</b>	Destemmed, 2-3-week vinification, pumping overs, steel & concrete vat raised 18 months, unfinned, filtered.
<b>Tasting Notes</b>	Château Saint-Jeans Villages wine from Plan de Dieu is made at 80% Grenache, 15% Syrah and 5% Carignan. A very good Cotes du Rhone. Intense red fruits. Full-bodied, ample, silky tannins. In the mouth, there is a very nice and tasty density. This wine is powerful with a spicy and very aromatic and spicy finish. It could be a Châteauneuf. Great drinking right now (2020) with a good 5 years ahead of it.
<b>Serve with</b>	The wine should be enjoyed in large glasses, preferably as an accompaniment to dishes throughout the autumn, Christmas and winter. Also excellent on a spicy tartare and on a chocolate dessert.
<b>Cellaring</b>	Drink now to 2025
<b>Scores/Awards</b>	<b>Gold Medal - Concours du Vin Orange 2017</b>

