## Cave Carod

## France - Rhone Valley

In 1973, Alain and Marcel Carod took over the winery that was founded by their grandfather in the early 20th century. Caves Carod is located in the heart of the Vercheny appellation. The Carod brothers have 50 hectares situated on both sides of Vallee de la Drome on a mountainous terroir. Caves Carod is the second largest of 20 producers of Clairette de Die in the region. The brothers make wine from their own vineyard and act also as wine merchants. Modern equipment, combined with traditional winemaking and extensive production control, enable them to create quality wines. They produce around 111,111 cases per year - 90% Clairette de Die and 10% Crémant de Die - with 30% of their production exported. The winery is certified organic.

The A.O.C. Clairette de Die spreads over 1,300 hectares (3,211 acres) and 32 villages, located on hillsides. The soils are clay and limestone based. These types of soils are difficult to work with but together with the climate, rigorous grape selection and careful cultivation of the vine (an ancestral tradition), can produce very fine wines with individual flavors. The vineyard's altitude (over 700 meters) makes it one of the highest in France.

