

2015 Eric Et Joel Durand Saint Joseph Lautaret

Seeing slightly more new oak than the Les Coteaux, the 2015 Saint Joseph Lautaret gives up lots of bay leaf, cassis, currants, and leafy herb aromas and flavors. With full-bodied richness, terrific purity of fruit, and fine, silky tannin, it's another terrific wine from the team that's well worth seeking out.

One of my favorite Cornas estate is that of brothers Eric and Joël Durand, who took over the running of this family estate in 1991. The winemaking is a mix of modern and traditional, with some destemming when needed, fermentations occurring in tank and concrete, and aging mostly in used barrels, with just a tiny amount being new. Their 2015s are certainly on par with what was produced in 2009 and 2010, and these are terrific, character filled wines I'd be happy to have in my cellar.

- Jeb Dunnuck (1/24/2018)

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