



## **Louis Julian et Fils**

**Vigneron: Louis Julian & Sons**

**Location: Rhône, France**

**Size of Domaine: 24 ha**

**Terroir: Calcareous Clay**

**Viticulture: Organic**

**Louis Julian believes that wine is part of a basic diet, and as such, it is his duty to make the healthiest wine possible at the lowest price. He has produced organic wines since 1979, ensuring they are healthy and affordable.**

**For many summers, we have made a pilgrimage to Louis Julian's farm shop. Each time, we are greeted by the man himself, now 72 years old, a living testament to the health benefits of his wine. Having drunk a litre a day for the past 45 years, he continues a tradition of cycling 125km up the nearby Mont Aigoual every Sunday while on a one-day fast. Often, we find him in his cellar, shirt open, peeling garlic or filling bibs directly from enamel tanks.**

**On each of our visits over the past five years, we have asked him about importing to the UK, something Louis has long been reluctant to do. Preferring to keep his carbon footprint low, he has always sold from his cellar door directly to local customers, with Japan being the only export market to convince him otherwise. It was last July that he finally agreed to send us some wines and almost one year later we have finally shipped a pallet of his 12% Rouge Vin de Table.**

**Louis Julian, though internationally unknown, is locally renowned—a pioneer of organic viticulture and no-sulphur winemaking. Grass has grown in his vineyards for over thirty years, creating rich humus and maintaining soil health with minimal intervention. An advocate of hybrid varieties, in his 9 ha of vines, he has 47 different grape varieties side by side, including the rare Villard Blanc. In 1987, he stopped using sulphur entirely, whilst ensuring consistent quality across vintages. Known for their distinctive labels and exceptional quality-to-price ratio, his wines reflect his gentle, inquisitive character and the humble, thoughtful nature of his winemaking philosophy.**