



Caves D'ESCLANS  
SACHA LICHINE

# ROCK *Angel*

CÔTES DE PROVENCE 2022

GRAPES GROWN FROM THE MOST CHOICE LAND IN THE SURROUNDING REGION OF LA MOTTE EN PROVENCE, CONSISTING PRIMARILY OF GRENACHE AND ROLLE (VERMENTINO). HARVESTING AT SUNRISE TO NOON. THE GRAPES WHICH ARE USED TO MAKE ROCK ANGEL ARE SORTED OPTICALLY. DESTEMMING AND SLIGHT CRUSHING AT 7-8°C TO AVOID OXIDATION. FREE RUN JUICE AND FIRST SLIGHT PRESSING. NO MACERATION. BOTH FREE RUN JUICE AND PRESSED JUICE PARTIALLY VINIFIED IN DEMI-MUIDS (600L BARRELS) AND STAINLESS STEEL, BOTH TEMPERATURE CONTROLLED.

**JAMES SUCKLING.COM**

**91PTS**

*White peaches, apricots, Mediterranean herbs and baking spices on the nose following through to a medium body with a succulent core of small berries and melon. Flavorful finish. Drink now.*



**91PTS**

*A rich, dense style of rosé, this has super-ripe fruits. Its combination of red fruits and rich citrus is full bodied. The wine has a tangy aftertaste, adding to the concentration of the wine. Drink now. - Roger Voss*

## Irish Independent

*A structured, fuller-bodied rosé with subtle ginger spice aromas, white peach, melon and basil notes, and brisk saline minerality balancing its textural qualities. Think plump white fish in rich sauces. - Aoife Carrigy*

**matthewjukes**

**50**  
matthewjukes  
THE FIFTY FINEST WINES

*The question I am most asked every year is, "Is Whispering Angel any good?". My answer has never changed. Yes, of course, this wine is a triumph. It is made to exacting standards, and while there is more competition these days than ever, Whispering Angel and its Esclans portfolio pals still sit atop the pile. And while some think that you can save a few quid elsewhere, and they might be right, nothing comes close to Rock Angel. Instead of defending Whispering Angel's honour, I prefer to advise curious rosé fiends to spend a fiver more and drink Rock. Rock is not a turbo-charged version of Whispering, although that is the line most people peddle. They say this because it sees some oak, making it seem like a Whispering+. But to me, Rock Angel is more clearly related to the Estate range of wines – those that come from the Château d'Esclans itself. All these wines (Château d'Esclans, Les Clans and Garrus) are made using oak, and their fruit is of the highest quality; hence, pricing ranges from £40-£140. Rock Angel swings in under £25 if you search hard enough, and I believe it is the finest value, 'grand-tasting' rosé around. It has a stunning volume of fruit, seamless, indulgent and impressively long. It just so happens that this wine's rosé partner in The Finest Fifty is every bit as enticing as 2022 Rock, but it is not adorned with oak, so it is a very different wine.*

