JEB DUNNUCK **93**

2024 Via Caritatis Ventoux Lux Excelsior

Rocking stuff, the 2024 Ventoux Lux Excelsior is 75% Syrah and 25% Grenache that was aged in 80% concrete and 20% French oak barrels. It has bright red and black fruits, spring flowers, pepper, and some gamey, meaty nuances on the nose. Medium-bodied and nicely concentrated on the palate, it has ripe tannins, ample mid-palate depth, outstanding length, and just fabulous balance. It's beautifully done and a smoking effort to drink over the coming decade. Drink 2026-2036.

Via Caritatis is the label for the wines of the monks of the Abbaye Sainte-Madeleine du Barroux, the nuns of the Abbaye Notre-Dame de l'Annonciation, and local growers in the Ventoux. Jean-Dominique Artaud, then vineyard manager at Domaine de la Janasse, began advising the monks in 2010. The Abbayes Grenache, the Abbayes Syrah, and the Abbayes Clairette come exclusively from the two abbeys' vineyards, cultivated by the monks and nuns. The lineup also includes the Lux Excelsior, the Lux In Altis Blanc, and the Lux de Cælo Rosé.

- Jeb Dunnuck (10/21/2026)

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