

# FÉLICETTE

## Boldly Going Where No Wine Has Gone Before

PAYS D'OC, FRANCE

A fun, true story: In 1963, Félicette became the first cat to travel into space. Fergal Tynan and Giles Cooke, Masters of Wine, discovered the enchanting story of Félicette and were inspired to immortalize her with a wine brand.

Tynan and Cooke have travelled the wine regions of the world on a quest for heritage old vines in order to create rich, exceptional wines. While driving through southern France, on one such quest, they were curious about the space rockets they saw along the country roads and learned a branch of the Centre National d'Études Spatiales (CNES), a NASA equivalent, was in the area.

Inquiring about the signs featuring a spacesuit-clad cat, they learned that on October 24th, 1963, Félicette jettied 130 miles above Earth on a French Véronique AG1 rocket, soaring high above the Sahara Desert. She returned just fifteen minutes later, already a decorated heroine for her nation.



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