

MAISON  
**TARDIEU - LAURENT**  
FAMILLE TARDIEU



## Maison Tardieu-Laurent Condrieu

AOC Condrieu, Vallée du Rhône, France

A lot of smoothness, creaminess. A Wine with generous curves, on notes of soft spices...

### THE VINTAGE

In the spring, contrasting, predominantly humid weather conditions, and ensuant cryptogamic pressures, rekindle still fresh memories, feeding the concerns of conscious Vignerons. The threatening shadow of 2018 hangs over the heads... A fear exacerbated by the prospect of a bountiful harvest, an aggravating factor in this circumstance... In hindsight, these rather substantial spring rains will prove to be beneficial, contributing to the replenishment of water reserves.

Indeed, a terribly dry summer period will follow this rather wet start of the year. Dry once again. Once more. Bitter observation : 2020 is the third year in a row to suffer so badly from harsh drought... Fortunately, the nights are cool. As a result, the few "mean" rains granted by Mother Nature become "life-saving" blessings. The vines survive, adapt... And this is relevant to epigenetics, according to the learned term used by one of our Confreres...

However, as the harvest approaches, while "technological maturity" soars, the actual phenolic maturity remains at a standstill... This phenomenon chiefly affects early sectors, young vines, and substantially loaded vines : at the dawn of the harvest, Vignerons are thus facing a "Cornelian dilemma"...

Uncommon occurrence, the wisest of the Vignerons, they who take the risk of awaiting the famous "equinoctial rains", will not necessarily benefit from their fortitude. One could therefore state that, in 2020, Virtue was not rewarded. One exception to confirm the Rule... Yet, hard, extremely hard finding for a year that proves to be exceptional in its own special way... Only the Very Old Vines, meticulously worked, meet the expectations of the most demanding Vignerons. At the cost of low to extremely low yields... Nevertheless, by the grace of their deep roots, once again, the Very Old Vines recall that they are the key to success, in an odd Vintage too !

### TERROIR

Paton, Lys de Volan, la Bonnette, Rochecourbe, Les Rivoires, Merlant

### AGEING

Ageing 10 months in new and one year old barrels. Allier, Tronçais and Jupille.

### VARIETALS

Viognier 100%

### TECHNICAL DATA

Age of vines: 45 years. years old

### SPECIFICATIONS

Alcohol content: 13,5% ABV

Mise en bouteille: Without fining and light filtration.

### SERVING

10°C

Decant just before tasting.



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### TASTING NOTES

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### REVIEWS AND AWARDS

#### **JEB DUNNUCK**

94/100

"I loved the 2020 Condrieu. This quintessential Condrieu offers loads of peach and apricot fruit as well as white flower, honeysuckle, and chalky minerality, and it's beautiful on the palate, with classic Viognier richness and depth, medium body, and an impressive sense of freshness and purity. Drink it over the coming 2-4 years."

Jeb Dunnuck, 11/08/2021

#### **Decanter**

94/100

"Open, exotic and immediately recognisable, this has gorgeous peach aromas and a touch of vanilla. Full-bodied, rounded, rich and totally classic. Acidity is bright and sharp, it's gently oily, coating the mouth. Unctuous but with that fresh peach and apricot. There's a long finish, which is just a touch on the dry side. Very classic, flamboyant and unabashedly Condrieu."

Decanter, 01/10/2021

