

MAISON  
**TARDIEU - LAURENT**  
FAMILLE TARDIEU



## Maison Tardieu Laurent - Côtes du Rhône - Cuvée Spéciale

AOC Côtes du Rhône, Vallée du Rhône, France

*A "handkerchief Wine" - Vin de mouchoir -, e.g. so delicate and scented that you feel like pouring drops on a - preferably lace - handkerchief, just to enjoy its fragrances during the day... What a Cuvée ! Old Grenache with touches of beautiful Pinot noir. Constructed more on the aromatic intensity than on the density. An actual delight !*

### THE VINTAGE

It took just a few days...few days to oscillate a vintage between a « Great Vintage » and a « Complex vintage ».

However, the winter, finally « classic », rocked by a fairly rigorous cold, pushed back any risk of spring frost.

The vegetative cycle was regularly watered by abundant rains. The diseases were putting pressure on the vinegrowers !

Nonetheless, the experience of the 2018, year with high mildew, still engraved in the vinegrowers' memory, made it possible for them to carefully control this pressure.

The vinegrowers serenely entered the summer season, with good water reserves and a beautiful harvest in perspective.

Moreover, rare fact, the summer granted us a few days of mild rain.

On August 15th, the rhodanien vineyards were healthy and green. The vinegrowers were rejoicing as everything was a hallmark to a "Great Vintage".

Unfortunately, as is often the case over the last few years, Mother Nature decided otherwise. For a couple of days, the French vineyards, and most particularly the Rhône's suffered a wave of extreme heat.

Leaving little chance to the grapes of the young vines and early ripening terroirs.

Only old vines, and not even all, of low yield, on protected terroirs and late ripening, found resilience in getting their berries to optimal ripeness.

The catastrophe was avoided. However, the qualities were very heterogeneous, even amongst the most experienced cellars....

Once again, our meticulous work of selection will have found all its meaning this year!

Paradoxally, the whites are very digest and balanced. On the palate, they are bright and harmonious.

The quality of the reds however, are more varied from one grape variety to the next. Against all expectations, the Syrah played its card right, with fruits without any excess. The wine issued from Old vines Grenache are racy and precise!

### TERROIR

On the Borders of the AOC Châteauneuf, side of Courthézon

### AGEING

8 months in 2 years and 3 years old barrels. Then ten months in foudres. Allier and Tronçais.

### WINEMAKING

100% non destemmed.



**VARIETALS**

Grenache 95%, Others 5%

**14,5% % VOL.**

Bottling: Without fining and filtration.

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**TECHNICAL DATA**

Age of vines: 70 years old. years old

**SERVING**

14°C

**TASTING**

Wonderful expression of old Grenache when gorgeously matured. On notes of grena-dine and sweet spices... I love it !

