

MAISON  
**TARDIEU - LAURENT**  
FAMILLE TARDIEU



## Maison Tardieu Laurent - Cornas - Vieilles Vignes

AOC Cornas, Vallée du Rhône, France

*Quintessential Cornas produced from extremely old vines planted on vertiginously steep slopes - the quantities, sadly, are very limited!*

### THE VINTAGE

The quality of the wines, once again, has lived up to our expectations – offering some compensation for the yields in 2010 being extremely low, even lower than those of 2009 – already classified as a capricious vintage.

Relatively challenging conditions prevailed until the beginning of September...

Frost and humidity in the spring resulted in coulure (?ower dropping). Grenache was particularly susceptible.

Cool weather during the summer and fairly strong rains at the beginning of September made for very slow and uneven maturation. Fortunately, remarkably good weather followed and the fruit took full advantage of the very favorable conditions - by mid-September, warm weather was certainly back. The vines, with a relatively small potential harvest, were ready to take full advantage of the optimal conditions. Those vigneronns that were attentive waited, patiently, until optimal maturity was reached...

As a result, the fruit that was picked was essentially perfect, with superb concentration and ideal acidity levels, making wines with exceptional balance, an exceptional achievement.

The 2010 vintage is already impressive and has so much promise and so much charm.

### TERROIR

Les Eygas and Patou.

### AGEING

New barrels. Tronçais and Allier.

### VARIETALS

Serine, Syrah

### TECHNICAL DATA

Age of vines: 80 years and more years old

### 13% % VOL.

Bottling: No fining. No filtration.

### REVIEWS AND AWARDS

#### Wine Spectator

94/100

"Densely packed, with fig paste, currant confiture and plum pate de fruit notes, all framed by dark roasted tobacco leaf, smoldering black tea notes and a bittersweet chocolate hint. The long finish cruises with authority."

James Molesworth, *Wine Spectator*, 31/10/2012

#### Decanter

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"Really tasty palate with an exuberant, rich core. Good balance, oak will integrate."

Decanter, 01/04/2012



91-93/100

"Bright purple. More intensely perfumed than the Coteaux bottling and showing its oak. The palate offers sexy dark fruit preserve and floral pastille qualities and a strong spicy character. Finishes ripe and expansive, with lingering notes of blueberry, violet and allspice."

**Josh Reynolds, Stephen Tanzers International Wine Cellar, 01/04/2012**



18/20

"Extremely dark crimson. Rather more high toned and aromatic than the Coteaux bottling. From vines that are 80 to 100 years old. Really wonderfully successful – so reverberant and ripe yet with massive tannins. Explosively mineral, this is a wine to convert the greatest Cornas doubter, hem hem. Fabulously silky texture wraps up those ripe tannins. Very dry finish for the moment but it should all come right eventually."

**Jancis Robinson, 22/12/2011**

