

MAISON
TARDIEU - LAURENT
FAMILLE TARDIEU



Maison Tardieu Laurent - Châteauneuf du Pape - Cuvée Spéciale

AOC Châteauneuf-du-Pape, Vallée du Rhône, France

Scented, fresh, delicate, with a restrained power...

This Cuvée in the traditional Style has, once more, produced a Wine apart from all the standards, apart from the most fashionable, the most modern, styles of the Appellation... Definitely, a Wine that stands apart... for the delight of the Wine Lovers !.

THE VINTAGE

Firstly, the vineyards had to stand a very hot month of July, as hot as July 2003...

Then, they had to put up with a month of August amongst the coldest in the last 50 years ! After a rather pleasant 2005 autumn, winter cold suddenly struck. Frosts were frequent, and the thermometer did not rise above 13° during the best periods in the day.

2005-2006 Winter was long and chilly. Unfortunately, and once again, feeble rains were not sufficient to bring back up the level of water tables. A violent Mistral in March and April, then sunshine stronger than the average, did not help fixing this problem. The growing of the vine was thus perturbed, first at the period of the floraison, then in the course of the véraison, causing, in the whole of the vineyards, a notable heterogeneity.

In return, the vineyards remained perfectly healthy. There were more grapes than last year, with volumes close to 2003, but the berries were small, with thick skins. After the heat wave in July, the rains in August supported maturity. Now, the rains of September made the harvest of Grenache delicate. As often - as always ! - you had to be patient and wait for the right moment... As regards the vinifications, you had to show the same persistence. The Wines revealed their nature very late, in the course of the post-fermentation phases. The juice you could then taste, at this moment, let you anticipate the best - most beautiful wonders...

TERROIR

La Crau.

AGEING

One and two Wines selection of Allier casks.

WINEMAKING

Non destemmed.

VARIETAL

Grenache 100%

14,5% VOL.

Bottling: Manually.

TECHNICAL DATA

Age of vines: 90 years and more. years old



TASTING

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REVIEWS AND AWARDS



92-94/100

"The 2006 Chateauneuf du Pape Cuvee Speciale, which includes 100% stems from a vineyard planted in pure sand in the Courthezon sector of Chateauneuf du Pape, has the classic kirsch liqueur notes with licorice, pine forest notes, and plenty of pepper. It is a noble, full-bodied style of Chateauneuf du Pape with superb purity and length."

Robert Parker, *Wine Advocate*, 01/10/2007

Wine Spectator

94/100

"Rich, with a sappy intensity to the cassis and red plum fruit that pumps through, pushed by red licorice, raspberry ganache and incense notes. The long, detailed finish lets additional mocha and roasted vanilla hints chime in. Grenache. Drink now through 2024."

James Molesworth, *Wine Spectator*, 30/04/2009

91/100

"Ruby-red. Seductive aromas of raspberry, Asian spices, smoky minerals and potpourri. Lively red fruit flavors show a silky texture and good mineral tang. A vivacious, seamless wine that's delicious right now."

Josh Reynolds, *Stephen Tanzers International Wine Cellar*, 01/02/2009

