

MAISON  
**TARDIEU - LAURENT**  
FAMILLE TARDIEU



## Maison Tardieu Laurent - Gigondas - Vieilles Vignes

AOC Gigondas, Vallée du Rhône, France

Wine built on a striking expression of fruit and Garrigue. The mouth is all softness, glittering with delicate shades and subtleties...

### THE VINTAGE

The rather warm conditions of the last few vintages could have led us to believe that the same conditions would repeat themselves with the 2008 vintage, but, that was not the case!

The 2008 vintage will have a style that one could call old fashion, the product of a vintage that was from cold to very cold with very slow maturing rates.

The spring rainfall did not make things easier, promoting mildew which was responsible for the loss of part of the harvest.

The rather cold summer, with no periods of excessive heat, did not promote fast maturation of the grapes as had been the case in previous years.

At the beginning of September, an unexpected rainfall came to add complexity to this vintage, with strong rains, mainly in the north and in the Rhône Valley. This wet period was fared perfectly in those areas where the sanitary state of the fruit was perfect. The grapes that were in perfect good health were found in those vineyards belonging to the best vignerons. It was these same vignerons that received the full benefit of a long favorable period with cool temperatures and plenty of sun beginning in mid-September.

The weather during harvest brought smiles to our faces, knowing that the quality potential was rather good.

### TERROIR

Dentelles, Garrigues, Village

### AGEING

New oak casks and one year casks - Allier and Tronçais.

### VARIETALS

Grenache 75%, Syrah 15%, Mourvèdre et Cinsault 10%

### TECHNICAL DATA

Age of vines: Grenache, 60 years, Syrah, Mourvèdre, et Cinsault, 35 years years old

14,5% % VOL.

Bottling: Without filtration.

### TASTING

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### REVIEWS AND AWARDS

90/100

"From grenache vines that are at least 60 years old, this includes 15 percent syrah in the blend. It charms with sweet, brambly raspberry fruit underlined by dark chocolate, pepper and tobacco leaf. Firm and warming, this is a bottle to open on a cool evening with lamb shanks."



Tara Q Thomas, Wine & Spirit, 01/02/2012



90/100

"Deep ruby. High-pitched red and dark berry aromas are complemented by blood orange and smoky minerals. Spicy, precise Gigondas with lively raspberry and cherry flavors and a seamless texture. At once open-knit and energetic, finishing with very good cut and spicy persistence. This drinks well now."  
Josh Reynolds, Stephen Tanzers International Wine Cellar, 01/01/2011

**Wine Spectator**

90/100

"Shows the firm edge of the vintage, with a solid core of sage, roasted plum, fig bread and mulled spice notes. A briary edge lingers on the finish, offering enough density to stretch out further with modest cellaring."

James Molesworth, Wine Spectator, 15/10/2010



88-90/100

"The 2008 Gigondas Vieilles Vignes shows more crushed rock and floral notes in its medium-bodied, Pinot Noir-styled personality. With good fruit and elegance as well as a feminine quality"

Robert Parker, Wine Advocate, 01/10/2009



17/20

"A little bluer than the Guy Louis Côtes du Rhône but no deeper. Meaty and sappy and appetising on the nose with full-blown fully ripe Grenache flavours and lots of herbs and spices. Very sweet and lush. Some of 2008's refreshing acidity and some pretty assertive fine tannins. Sweet and more polished than most Gigondas. For the medium term. Lighter than most Gigondas but not much the worse for it. Characteristically dry on the finish though."

Jancis Robinson

