

MAISON  
**TARDIEU - LAURENT**  
FAMILLE TARDIEU



## Maison Tardieu Laurent - Cornas - Coteaux

AOC Cornas, Vallée du Rhône, France

This Cuvée gives room to the fruit. You will enjoy it at an earlier stage, but the Wine lovers who will keep it for 8 to 10 years will be highly rewarded, especially if they drink it on a civet de sanglier !

### THE VINTAGE

Autumn 2003, very rainy, has allowed a good reinstatement of the water reserves in the soils. The Autumn rains have fallen softly and regularly, thus helping to restore the water tables steadily. Winter, cold and dry, has lasted longer, and the opening of the buds has taken place about one week later than for the three previous Vintages. The vegetative cycle has carried on gently in the course of Spring 2004, under a fairly mild climate, with rare rainfalls - even rarer after April the Mistral maintaining a quasi perfect healthy state till the crop. A hot and dry weather will prevail till August 15th, ideal for the growth of few bunches with small berries. The water reserves being close to shortage, many a Vigneron has feared that the crop would never reach its Phenolic ripeness. The storm at mid August has been the Saviour. It restored the Vignerons confidence : the water tables being back to correct levels, the ripening would be achieved in ideal conditions.

The huge differences between day and night temperatures have helped the synthesis of the anthocyanes responsible for the colour, and have been a factor of an equilibrium sugar/acidity that is obviously positive for the global balance of the Wines. The Vignerons have been able to wait till each of their Vines had reached an optimal ripeness an opportunity that is not so frequent : tasting the berries would then show expressive aromas and silky tannins, both revealing a Great Vintage... The harvest could begin ! The vinifications have developed nicely. Thanks to berries that were perfectly healthy, the colour and the substance have been obtained by gentle ways, with minimal interventions on the Wine. The alcoholic fermentations have ended without problem, apart from these few Cuvées that have lingered a little because they are so high in natural alcohol. For the most part, the malo-lactic fermentations have occurred in our own casks, which has helped the Wines retaining the deep colours they had from birth. Quite obviously, 2004 is an outstanding Vintage. It is bound to become a Classic, with Wines which will keep very long indeed, Wines which will also give an immense Pleasure from their young age... Wines ever produced by "Tardieu-Laurent".

### TERROIR

Les Chaillots.

### AGEING

Tronçais new barrels.

### VARIETALS

Petite syrah, Syrah

13,5% % VOL.

Bottling: Manually, without filtration.

### TECHNICAL DATA

Age of vines: 60 years and over. years old



## REVIEWS AND AWARDS



88-90/100

"The 2004 Cornas Coteaux has a deep ruby/purple color and a big, sweet nose of creamy oak and black fruits as well as a hint of flowers. In the mouth, the rustic tannins and sharp acids again recall a lighter weight 1996. This wine needs 2-3 years of cellaring and should drink gracefully for 10-12 years."

Robert Parker, Wine Advocate, 01/02/2016

