

MAISON  
**TARDIEU - LAURENT**  
FAMILLE TARDIEU



## Maison Tardieu Laurent - Châteauneuf du Pape - Vieilles Vignes

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

*Less powerful than in recent years, yet this wine displays ambition, proving to be one of the most successful wines in the appellation.*

### 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 vigneron. It was these same vigneron 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

La Crau, les Serres, le Belvédère.

### AGEING

Allier and Tronçais new oak and one Wine casks

### WINEMAKING

100% destemmed

### VARIETALS

Grenache blanc 50%, Roussanne 50%

### 14% % VOL.

Bottling: Light filtration.

### TECHNICAL DATA

Age of vines: Roussanne 20 years,  
Grenache 60 years years old



## REVIEWS AND AWARDS

93/100

"With a couple of important exceptions, my experience has been that Châteauneuf du Pape is just too hot to make aromatically interesting white wine, and that the category consists almost entirely of over-priced misadventures. This wine is one of those important exceptions, perhaps because one of the three vineyard sources for it is in the appellation's coolest sub-regions. The aromas are as striking as the flavors, with suggestions of flowers and white peach and poached pear, along with wood-based accents of spices and toast. The wine shows real weight and breadth on the palate, yet it is focused and lifted thanks to lots of energetic acidity. Bloody impressive wine."

Michael Franz, *Wine Review Online*, 31/05/2011

93/100

"A blend of 50 percent Grenache (Blanc) from 60-year-old vines and 50 percent roussanne from 20-year-old vines, this is quiet but powerful. Right now, the silky-smooth texture is the most immediately impressive element. Yet a stealthy current of acidity runs under it, gently pushing notes of peach, dried herbs and light caramel to the surface with air. Firm and reserved, this should last well over the next ten to 15 years."

Tara Q Thomas, *Wine & Spirit*, 01/02/2011

**Wine Spectator**

92/100

"Lovely butter and creamed peach notes lead the way, followed by a mix of green melon, yellow apple and heather. The long, floral and butter-tinged finish glides along. Shows impressive weight for the vintage."

James Molesworth, *Wine Spectator*, 01/02/2011

91/100

"Vivid gold. Highly perfumed scents of nectarine, melon, dried pear and honeysuckle, plus a subtle, deeper note of burnt sugar. Tangy mineral notes add lift to the powerful orchard and pit fruit flavors, which pick up exotic spice and candied floral qualities on the back end. Very suave wine with strong finishing thrust and lingering notes of honey and smoky minerals."

Josh Reynolds, *Stephen Tanzers International Wine Cellar*, 01/02/2010

