

MAISON  
**TARDIEU - LAURENT**  
FAMILLE TARDIEU



## Maison Tardieu Laurent - Côte Rôtie

AOC Côte Rôtie, Vallée du Rhône, France

*Hail cut down the crops... Yet, the intensity of the mineral and the depth of the tannins find to balance... A keeping Wine in deep harmony.*

### THE VINTAGE

In 2007, the challenging, pretty wet, conditions leading up to the end of Spring, resulted in disease pressure in the vineyards. Combined with the potentially higher yields of the year, this reminded the observant Vignerons of testing vintages of the past.

Providentially, Summer was remarkably dry. A formidable sunshine and a sustained wind - although less fierce than in the preceding years - thus cleansed the Vineyards of any disease.

Even better : in these ideal conditions, the harvest began 120 days after flowering. It is exceptional that there is so long a period of time between flowering and harvesting - normally 100 days.

The harvest was drawn out. The conscientious Vignerons harvested "à la carte", parcel by parcel, taking into account a complex heterogeneity, linked to the various maturing pace of each cépage, and to the greater or lesser precocity of each Terroir.

An impeccable sanitary state, and fresh nights, allowed the collection of perfect grapes, ideally healthy. And, cool temperatures made it possible to start slow vinifications under optimal conditions.

A subtle balance between fruit, crispness, and presence of the tannins. The extraction of colour in the cuves never was this easy. The aromatic profiles are complex, powerful, without a hint of over ripeness. The tannins appear to be fine, round, and mellow.

Less imposing than in 2005, but amply sufficient, these tannins let anticipate a keeping Vintage. Yet, the most striking feature of 2007 is the purity of perfect fruit - the volatile acidities are the lowest ever recorded - a promise of a radiant expression of the Vins Rouges, and even more so, of the Vins Blancs.

The involvement and the know-how of the real Vignerons. In 2007, a number of Vignerons of the Vallée du Rhône, the best ones, redoubled efforts, so that their grapes reached a Quality close to perfection. Indeed, the work of the man can be decisive... unless the Vintage is "obvious" from the start, a case which is not so frequent ! The battle of authenticity, and of excellence, is to be attained in the Vineyards. Starting with the soils.

More than ever, being a Vigneron, is being able to "listen to" Nature. This way only, the challenge of adapting the Vineyards to the climatic changes will be won...

### TERROIR

Landonne, Moulin, Vaillière, Chavaroche.

### AGEING

New barrel. Tronçais and Allier.



## VARIETAL

Serine

## TECHNICAL DATA

Age of vines: Over 50 years. years old

## 13% % VOL.

Bottling: Manually, without filtration.

## REVIEWS AND AWARDS



91/100

"This is a full-bodied, muscular example of Côte Rôtie, with pronounced savory, meaty character tinged with smoke and ash. Yet despite that, it manages to be approachable at the same time, finishing long and velvety."

Joe Czerwinsky, Wine Enthusiast, 01/10/2011



90/100

"Shows lots of leafy tobacco and olive aromas, along with supple black cherry, incense and humus notes. The slightly edgy finish has a roasted hint. Needs to settle in a bit."

James Molesworth, Wine Spectator, 28/02/2010

93/100

"Opaque ruby. Deep, smoky, mineral-driven aromas of black raspberry, kirsch, cured meat and violet, plus a hint of spicecake. Dark berry flavors are enlivened by tangy minerality and pick up an exotic floral pastille character with aeration. Impressively energetic for a rich wine, finishing with sexy notes of candied violet and smoky spices. This really hangs onto the palate."

Josh Reynolds, Stephen Tanzer's International Wine Cellar, 01/02/2010

