

MAISON  
**TARDIEU - LAURENT**  
FAMILLE TARDIEU



## Maison Tardieu Laurent - Hermitage

AOC Hermitage, Vallée du Rhône, France

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### THE VINTAGE

The quality of the wines, once again, has lived up to our expectations – offering some compensation for the yields in 2010 being extremely low, even lower than those of 2009 – already classified as a capricious vintage.

Relatively challenging conditions prevailed until the beginning of September...

Frost and humidity in the spring resulted in coulure (?ower dropping). Grenache was particularly susceptible.

Cool weather during the summer and fairly strong rains at the beginning of September made for very slow and uneven maturation. Fortunately, remarkably good weather followed and the fruit took full advantage of the very favorable conditions - by mid-September, warm weather was certainly back. The vines, with a relatively small potential harvest, were ready to take full advantage of the optimal conditions. Those vigneronns that were attentive waited, patiently, until optimal maturity was reached...

As a result, the fruit that was picked was essentially perfect, with superb concentration and ideal acidity levels, making wines with exceptional balance, an exceptional achievement.

The 2010 vintage is already impressive and has so much promise and so much charm.

### TERROIR

Rouméas, Murets, Beaume, Pierrelles.

### AGEING

New barrels. Tronçais and Allier.

### VARIETALS

Sérine, Syrah

### TECHNICAL DATA

Age of vines: 50 years and over. years old

### 13% % VOL.

Bottling: Without fining and filtration

### TASTING

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## REVIEWS AND AWARDS

### Wine Spectator

95/100

"Lush but nicely defined, with graphite and charcoal along the edges of the unctuous dark plum, blackberry and blueberry fruit core. Lovely, velvety tannins and a lingering alder note on the finish add length and cut."

**James Molesworth, Wine Spectator, 31/10/2012**

92-94/100

"Bright purple. Captivating bouquet combines blackberry and blueberry liqueur, mocha, bitter chocolate and pipe tobacco, plus an exotic suggestion of incense. Compellingly rich and expansive, with vibrant black and blue fruit flavors and a strong floral quality. The smoky, spicy, very long finish features suave tannins and lingering florality"

**Josh Reynolds, Stephen Tanzers International Wine Cellar, 01/04/2012**

*Jancis Robinson*  
JancisRobinson.com

18/20

"50-plus-year-old vines from a blend of sites. Mid to dark crimson. Very dark and dramatic. At the moment the oak seems a little obtrusive but the fruit is massively concentrated and classically Hermitage but with an unusual sweetness. Very dry finish. Very flamboyant. Far from the classical ideal but a pretty exciting wine. Very plush at first."

**Jancis Robinson, 28/11/2011**

