

MAISON  
**TARDIEU - LAURENT**  
FAMILLE TARDIEU



## Maison Tardieu Laurent - Saint Joseph - Vieilles Vignes

AOC Saint-Joseph, Vallée du Rhône, France

*Expressive, mineral, smooth. A Wine of great distinction, which enjoys a perfect balance, North-South balance... within the Appellation (which spreads on some 700 kilometers) !*

### THE VINTAGE

In the spring, contrasting, predominantly humid weather conditions, and ensuing cryptogamic pressures, rekindle still fresh memories, feeding the concerns of conscious Vignerons. The threatening shadow of 2018 hangs over the heads... A fear exacerbated by the prospect of a bountiful harvest, an aggravating factor in this circumstance... In hindsight, these rather substantial spring rains will prove to be beneficial, contributing to the replenishment of water reserves.

Indeed, a terribly dry summer period will follow this rather wet start of the year. Dry once again. Once more. Bitter observation : 2020 is the third year in a row to suffer so badly from harsh drought... Fortunately, the nights are cool. As a result, the few "mean" rains granted by Mother Nature become "life-saving" blessings. The vines survive, adapt... And this is relevant to epigenetics, according to the learned term used by one of our Confreres...

However, as the harvest approaches, while "technological maturity" soars, the actual phenolic maturity remains at a standstill... This phenomenon chiefly affects early sectors, young vines, and substantially loaded vines : at the dawn of the harvest, Vignerons are thus facing a "Cornelian dilemma"...

Uncommon occurrence, the wisest of the Vignerons, they who take the risk of awaiting the famous "equinoctial rains", will not necessarily benefit from their fortitude. One could therefore state that, in 2020, Virtue was not rewarded. One exception to confirm the Rule... Yet, hard, extremely hard finding for a year that proves to be exceptional in its own special way... Only the Very Old Vines, meticulously worked, meet the expectations of the most demanding Vignerons. At the cost of low to extremely low yields... Nevertheless, by the grace of their deep roots, once again, the Very Old Vines recall that they are the key to success, in an odd Vintage too !

### TERROIR

La Madonne sur Chavanay, Sainte-Epine sur St-Jean de Muzols, les Oliviers sur Mauves, Paradis sur Mauves, Chanson sur Chavannay, St-Joseph sur Mauves

### AGEING

12 months in new and one old barrels.

Then 8 months in foudre - Tronçais and Allier

### WINEMAKING

1/2 not destemmed

### VARIETAL

Syrah, Serine 100%

### 13,5 % VOL.

Bottling: No fining, no filtration

### TECHNICAL DATA

Age of vines: Serine : over 100 years, Syrah : 60 years years old



## TASTING

Expressive, mineral, smooth. A Wine of great distinction, which enjoys a perfect ba-lance, North-South balance... within the Appellation (which spreads on some 75 kilometers) !

## REVIEWS AND AWARDS



93/100

"Le saint-joseph Vieilles Vignes possède la race et le beau fumé-lardé de la syrah sur granite."

La Revue du Vin de France, 01/09/2022

**JEB DUNNUCK**

93/100

"The 2020 Saint Joseph Vieilles Vignes has a terrific, granite-like minerality as well as pure blue fruits, medium to full body, ripe tannins, and complex notes of violets, sappy green herbs, and cracked peppercorns. It shows the riper style of the vintage in its texture and density, yet it has an almost cool climate-like vibe in its aromatics. It's another beautiful wine from this terrific estate."

Jeb Dunnuck, 22/05/2023

