



CHÂTEAU LA NERTHE

CLOS DE BEAUVENIR 2013

CHÂTEAUNEUF-DU-PAPE

BACKGROUND

Archives affirm Château La Nerthe's existence as early as 1560, while suggesting an even more distant past dating to the dawn of the region's wine culture in the 12th century, making it one of Châteauneuf's oldest estates. Located in the heart of the Châteauneuf-du-Pape AOC region of southern France, the 225 acres of Château La Nerthe vineyards are located in a single block around the Château and have been certified organic since 1998. The terroir is typical for the region: vineyards runs along a slope, at the top of which the vines dig their roots into soils of sandy-clay. On the surface there is a layer of the famous galettes (large, round, well-worn stones that originated in the Alps) having been carried down to the Rhône by the glaciers of previous ice ages. The further down the slope of the vineyard you travel, the more these stones dominate. All 14 of the permitted primary varietals are planted. Grenache dominates 62% of vineyards and the vines average over 40 years old. The Clos de Beauvenir vineyard is a small vineyard enclosed by Provencal stone walls.

APELLATION

Châteauneuf-du-Pape (Rhône Valley), France

VARIETAL COMPOSITION

59% Roussanne, 33% Clairette, 6% Grenache blanc, 2% Bourboulenc

WINEMAKING & VINTAGE NOTES

Hand harvesting & sorting is done early in the morning to take advantage of the cooler temperatures. All the whole grapes except Roussane are slowly pressed for 3 hours to extract only premium juice. After 24 hours, the juice is racked and fermentation begins at low temperature to protect all flavors. The Roussanne fermentation of based juice takes place in 228 litre foudres (1/3 being new barrels), and then aged on the lees. Wine from the other grape varieties are made in temperature controlled stainless steel vats and then stored to age on the lees.

AGEING

Aged for 10 months, 88% in barrels and 12% in stainless steel tanks, with blending taking place shortly before bottling.

TASTING NOTES

Nice pale yellow, green tints with a lot of brilliance. The nose is intense and complex with white flowers, honeysuckle, citrus, brioche, nuts and pastry aromas. On the palate a perfect balance, between roundness and sweetness; wood is fine, elegant and very well integrated. The finish is long on vanilla and candied fruit with a mineral touch.

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POINTS

ROBERT PARKER'S
WINE ADVOCATE
October 2014

WINEMAKER

Christian Voeux

TECHNICAL DATA

Acidity
3.39 g/L
Alcohol
13.5%

SUGGESTED RETAIL PRICE:
\$179.99

