

CHÂTEAU LA NERTHE

CUVÉE DES CADETTES 2012

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. Cuvée des Cadettes is not a selection made in the cellar but from a unique 20 acre vineyard planted with 85 to 100 year old vines.

APPELLATION

Châteauneuf-du-Pape (Rhône Valley), France

VARIETAL COMPOSITION

39% Syrah, 37% Grenache, 22% Mourvèdre

WINEMAKING & VINTAGE NOTES

2011-2012 winter was very cold and dry. February started with two weeks of freezing temperatures and a strong mistral wind gusting up to 62mph. This weather negatively impacted the vineyard, with many buds being partially or totally destroyed and numerous old vine stocks freezing. Spring was cool and humid with rain that restored the groundwater levels. Summer was very dry in the region unlike the rest of France. The two very hot weeks during mid-August helped finish ripening the grapes and harvest began at the end of August. This was another early harvesting year and the volume harvest was small due to the winter frost, coulure in the Grenache and the dry summer. The winemaking process went smoothly, and the grapes had high concentration of delicate tannins.

AGEING

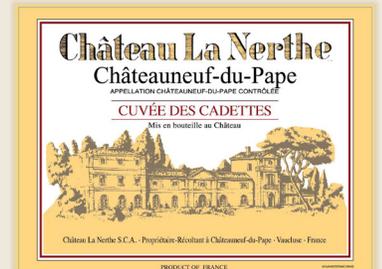
Aged 100% in oak barrels.

TASTING NOTES

Dark color, with intense purple reflections. The nose is youthful but already expressive with aromas of sweet spices and black cherry. On the palate, fresh with black fruits. A rich and complex wine, whose expression should only increase with time.

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93 WINE SPECTATOR
POINTS
September 2015

93 PTS VINOUS 4/16
92 PTS ROBERT PARKER'S WINE
ADVOCATE 10/14



WINEMAKER
Christian Voeux

TECHNICAL DATA
Alcohol
14%

SUGGESTED RETAIL PRICE:
\$179.99