



CHÂTEAU LA NERTHE

ROUGE 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.

APPELLATION

Châteauneuf-du-Pape (Rhône Valley), France

VARIETAL COMPOSITION

43% Grenache Noir, 30% Syrah, 22% Mourvèdre, 5% Cinsault

WINEMAKING & VINTAGE NOTES

Hand harvesting & sorting is done to keep the grapes balance and full aromatic expression. The cuvaison begins with cold prefermentation maceration lasting 12-24 hours. Alcoholic fermentation occurs directly after maceration with wild yeast native to the vineyard. The intensity of pumping over and punching down is defined by tasting the fermenting juice to ensure the best extraction of the berry compounds. Maceration lasts 18 to 20 days, and the wines are racked into the concrete tanks for malolactic fermentation.

AGEING

Aged for 12 months, 53% in oak barrels and 47% in casks & wooden vats, blending takes place shortly before bottling.

TASTING NOTES

A superb 2013 with deep garnet color and purple hints. On the nose, black cherry, strawberry, red and black fruits. Expression of cedar, sandalwood, complemented with a touch of balsamic. The palate is soft, smooth, and well balanced with freshness. The finish is elegant and round with delicate tannins. This vintage can be enjoyed on its youth for the red fruits, sweet spices and softness but you can also imagine to enjoy this wine in the coming 4-5 years for its depth and richness.

WINEMAKER

Christian Voeux

TECHNICAL DATA

Alcohol
14.5%

SUGGESTED RETAIL PRICE:
\$64.99

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POINTS

WINE & SPIRITS
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