



CHÂTEAU LA NERTHE CHÂTEAUNEUF-DU-PAPE ROUGE 2004

RHÔNE VALLEY, FRANCE

93

PTS

Wine & Spirits

Ralph Garcin joined Château La Nerthe as managing director earlier this year, after longtime manager Christian Voeux retired. One of Garcin's first moves was to release some of the wines the estate had been patiently cellaring. This 2004 hails from a vintage remembered for its drought-like conditions up until August; it's slow to emerge from the soft, caramel notes of age, but rewards patience as it takes on a kaleidoscopic array of flavors. The fruit comes up, gauzy but present, a delicate background for a hunger-inducing array of spices, herbs and umami flavors. It feels wonderfully organic, like forest floor and dried grasses, mushrooms and black cherries, ready now but also in no danger of fading over the next several years.

- T.T. June 2016

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