MAISON
TARDIEU - LAURENT
FAMILLE TARDIEU



Maison Tardieu-Laurent Côtes-du-Rhône Blanc Nobles Origines (ex Guy Louis)

AOC Côtes du Rhône, Vallée du Rhône, France

THE VINTAGE

In the spring, contrasting, predominantly humid weather conditions, and ensuant 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

Southern and northern terroirs blended.
1/3 North et 2/3 South

AGEING

Ageing 8 months in new barrels, barrels from one and two vintages. Allier and Tronçais.

VARIETALS

Grenache 35%, Clairette 20%, Marsanne 15%, Roussanne 15%, Viognier 15%

14% % VOL.
Bottling: Without fining and light filtration.

TECHNICAL DATA

Age of vines: Grenache : 70 years, Marsanne/Roussanne : 60 years, Clairette : 30 years, Viognier : 40 years years old

SERVING

12°C
Do not decant.

Maison Tardieu - Laurent
Route de Cucuron, 84160 LOURMARIN
Tel. 04 90 68 80 25 - info@tardieu-laurent.com
tardieu-laurent.fr

ABUSE OF ALCOHOL IS DANGEROUS FOR YOUR HEALTH. DRINK RESPONSIBLY.

REVIEWS AND AWARDS

JEB DUNNUCK

90/100

"Coming from older vines (the blend wasn't specified) the 2020 Côtes du Rhône Nobles Origines Blanc offers a vivid, lighter gold hue as well as a bright citrus, lemon, pear, and stony, mineral-laced bouquet. Medium-bodied on the palate, this fresh, focused, crisp white has beautiful depth of fruit, just a kiss of toast and nuttiness, wonderful balance, and a clean finish."

Jeb Dunnuck, 11/08/2021

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