



# DOMAINE DE BEAURENARD

## Domaine de Beurenard - Les Argiles Bleues 2023

AOC Rasteau, Vallée du Rhône, France



### PRESENTATION

Since 1980, Domaine de Beurenard, property of the Coulon family, has also been cultivating a vineyard on stepped hillsides in the Rasteau appellation. On these sharp terroirs surrounded by vast swathes of woodland and garrigue, biodynamic farming reveals its full expression.

### THE VINTAGE

A singular year in many respects, 2023 is already showing all the signs of being a great vintage. It perfectly incarnates the rebellious and inventive spirit to which the Coulon family is particularly attached. The winter was dry, and advanced to the sound of secateurs engaged in soft pruning. This method, introduced in 2019, allows each vine to be guided towards the optimal flow of energy contained in its sap, enabling each plant to develop in autonomy and its ability to face up to the violence of the elements.

Spring was also dry. Just a few sporadic showers. But judicious management of the cover crops and the organic matter, which through their cycles attract and conserve water resources, prevented the soils from becoming dehydrated. It was only on 29 May that a storm finally broke, bringing much needed water to each of the parcels, and in its wake the onset of delicate and fruitful flowering.

The remainder of the season passed under alternate clouds and sun. United by their common passion, the estate team combined all their numerous skills to bring the vines to peak form, and the ideal conditions for ripening the fruit.

Nothing if not remarkable, the harvest began at the break of dawn on 29 August, to conclude in glorious sunshine on 10 October.

Now resting quietly in our cellars, the wines are demonstrating profiles of great purity, perfect proportions, and the precision of their terroirs of origin, in the continuity of the infinite quest of the great wines of this noble site.

### TERROIR

Selection of the best plots, all on hillsides, benches and steep terraces, characterized by a marvelous terroir of "gray to gray-blue marl from the Tortonian (Middle Miocene)", blue clays, which are called locally this wine a lot of depth and minerality. Yields are low since they are 25hl/Ha. The grape varieties adapted to the terroir chosen to produce this Rasteau: 80% Grenache, 20% Syrah.

### IN THE VINEYARD

The grapes are hand-picked and sorted in the vineyard.

### WINEMAKING

Destemming and long vatting -25 to 28 days-, indigenous yeasts, in order to take advantage of the concentration obtained in the vineyard, of its minerality and always with a view to refining the extracted tannins as much as possible. The blue clays always giving denser tannins, the ripening continues during the aging in small oak casks for 15 months, which brings finesse and elegance. Bottling without filtration is carried out with care at the Domaine.

### AGEING

The blue clays always giving denser tannins, the ripening continues during the aging in small oak tuns for 15 months, which brings finesse and elegance. Bottling without filtration is carried out with care at the Domaine.



## VARIETALS

Grenache 80%, Syrah 20%

## TASTING

An inexhaustible reservoir of mineral elements, Argiles Bleues is a wine of great finesse. A superb marriage of plush, juicy fruit, fine, delicate tannins, and phenomenal minerality.

## REVIEWS AND AWARDS

### Decanter

93

"Smooth, silky, ripe and juicy berry fruits. Lovely sense of purity, with very fine tannins and well-balanced acidity. Long, tapered finish, with no excess alcohol. Very elegant style."

**Matt Walls, Decanter**

### Wine Spectator

91

"Leads with pretty aromatics of licorice, lavender and ripe plum that lead to a palate of depth and elegance. Creamy, with smooth tannins making for a supple profile that firms up nicely at the end. Offers a hint of bacon fat and a blast of menthol freshness, with graphite intensity that builds toward the long, textured finish. Solid. Grenache and Syrah. [...]"

**Kristen Bieler, Wine Spectator**



15.5

"Tasted blind. Bags of blue fruit on the nose, with plum and dark cherries. Soft and dense with firm powdery tannins and a sweet dark-fruit note. Quite light on its feet and a lovely sense of freshness beneath."

**Alistair Cooper, Jancis Robinson**

