

# LA PETITE FONTAINE

Rhône Valley, France



## Côtes du Rhône Rouge 2010

### THE VINEYARD

This wine is a Côtes du Rhône appellation made by Christian Voeux winemaker & manager of Château La Nerthe, from Châteauneuf-du-Pape, Domaine de La Renjarde from Côtes du Rhône Villages Massif D'uchaux and Prieuré de Montezargues from Tavel. All these properties are owned by the Richard Family. La Petite Fontaine is a blend of carefully selected terroirs dotted around the countryside of the Southern Côtes du Rhône region. The main soils are stony clay and limestone that provides the vine with just enough water and nutrients. The climate is intensely Mediterranean climate with the Mistral wind ensuring optimal ripeness and balance.

### HARVEST & AGEING

Although many describe 2010 as "cooler than usual" vintage, there was shatter on Grenache grapes during springtime and hydric deficiency in July and August, explaining the low yield. As in 2009, quality and characteristics of 2010 are due to the climatic conditions: a rainy springtime and a dry summer enabled the grapes to be healthy and have an interesting tannic structure. On the other hand, cool nights allowed the synthesis of anthocyanins and polyphenols but delayed the start of harvesting. During the harvest, sorting was minimal and everything proceeded smoothly, apart from a storm at the beginning of September. The ageing takes place in stainless steel tank on fine lees for 14 months.

### WINEMAKER'S NOTES

A wine with a dark red color, with purple notes. The nose is expressive with tones of black fruits and spices. On the palate, the wine is round and full-bodied, with attractive and soft tannins. The finish is long with hints of very ripe black fruits, spices and scents of laurel.

Grape Varieties: Grenache noir 60 %, Syrah 20 %, Cinsault 15 % and Carignan 5 %

Finished Alcohol: 14 %

Acidity/PH: 3.67

Residual Sugar: < 1.5 gr/l

