

CHÂTEAU LA NERTHE

RHÔNE VALLEY, FRANCE



CHÂTEAUNEUF-DU-PAPE ROUGE 2007

THE VINEYARD

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 not far from Avignon, the 90 hectares (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 very 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.

HARVEST & AGEING

In 2007 the harvest began on August 30th, due to a particularly warm and dry summer- no rain until well after September 13th when the harvest was complete. Malolactic fermentation ran without any problem. The racking in barrels and foudres for ageing started the second week of October. A longer than usual ageing in oak was necessary in order to refine tannins, particularly for the casks with a high proportion of Mourvedre.

WINEMAKER'S NOTES

Deep ruby color with a purple rim. A wonderful, expressive nose where ripe black and red fruits (cherry & black currant) combine with spices. Full-bodied with gorgeous, silky tannins, a balanced palate and a particularly long finished where notes of dates add an extra layer of complexity.

Grape Varieties: Grenache 48%, Syrah 28%, Mourvèdre 14%, Cinsault 5% & Divers 5%

Finished Alcohol: 14.5%

Acidity/pH: 3.63

Residual Sugar: 3.30



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