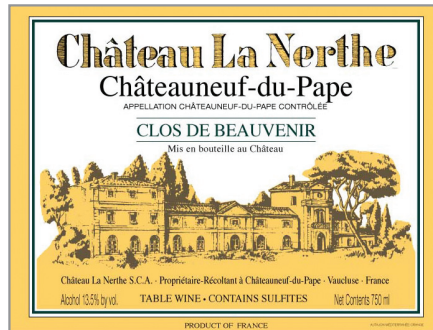


CHÂTEAU LA NERTHE

RHÔNE VALLEY, FRANCE



CLOS DE BEAUVENIR CHÂTEAUNEUF-DU-PAPE BLANC 2009

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 varieties are planted- Grenache dominates 62% of vineyards and the vines average over 40 years old. The Clos de Beauvenir vineyard is from a small vineyard enclosed by Provencal stone walls, and is called "Clos de Beauvenir".

HARVEST & AGEING

At La Nerthe the harvest started on August 20th, our earliest start date besides 2003. There was no rain during the entire harvest, allowing us to pick each single plot at its optimal maturity. We believe this was key in gaining aromatic expression and preserving freshness in the wines of this exceptionally warm vintage. Roussane and Clairette, both from very old vines, were fermented in oak barrels whereas Grenache Blanc and Bourboulenc fermented in stainless steel tanks.

WINEMAKER'S NOTES

The Roussane & Clairette for Beauvenir were both barrel fermented and wood aged. However, there is not a trace of wood in the aromatics or flavors. Orange marmalade, honeysuckle, Asian pears and spice aromas soar from the glass of this rich, full-bodied, superbly endowed white Chateauneuf du Pape. it also possesses zesty acidity as well as tremendous personality and length.

Grape Varieties: 60 % Roussane 40 % Clairette
Finished Alcohol: 13.5 %
Acidity/pH: 3.37
Residual Sugar: < 1.6

