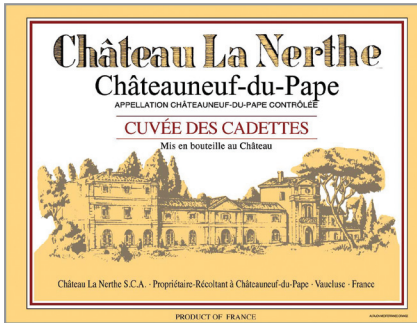


# CHÂTEAU LA NERTHE

## RHÔNE VALLEY, FRANCE



### CUVÉE DES CADETTES CHÂTEAUNEUF-DU-PAPE ROUGE 2005

#### 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 for the estate. Cuvée de Cadettes is not a selection made in the cellar but from a unique 20 acre vineyard planted with 85 to 100 year old vines.

#### HARVEST & AGEING

The summer was long, warm and dry. Fortunately, September began with a single day of rain which contributed to the good balance by adding much needed acidity and allowing a wonderful phenolic maturity. The hand harvesting started on September 12th and ended September 22nd, with clear skies throughout. Grenache was the star variety of this classic vintage. Malolactic fermentation occurred in October and the wines were racked in barrels and foudres for ageing in November.

#### WINEMAKER'S NOTES

A deep red with profound purple hints. Intense aromas with rich ripe fruits undertones, spices and various black colored berries soaked in alcohol. Well balanced on the palate with expressive hints of fig, cocoa and leather. The finish is long, complex and we note a great finesse of tannins.

Grape Varieties: Grenache 43 %, Syrah 36 %, Mourvèdre 21 %

Finished Alcohol: 14.5%

Acidity/pH: 3.65

Residual Sugar: 2



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