



# CUVEE DES CADETTES

Châteauneuf-du-Pape Rouge 2013

## HISTORY.

One of Châteauneuf-du-Pape oldest estates. Archives affirm Château La Nerthe exists 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.

## VINEYARD.

The 225 acres of La Nerthe vineyards are located in two single blocks around the castle. Our terroir is very typical : the vineyards run 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 'galets roulés': large, round, well-worn stones that originated in the Alps and were carried down to the Rhône by the ice age glaciers. These large pebbles store the heat during the day and release it at night.

## AVERAGE AGE OF THE VINES.

70 years

## VINIFICATION.

Our grapes are hand picked, fully ripe just to keep their balance and their full aromatic expression. They are sorted on a table and destemmed. The maceration begins with a phase of cold pre-fermentation of 12 to 24 hours. Then the alcoholic fermentation occurs. The yeasts who ensure the fermentation are wild yeasts coming from our vineyard. The temperature is controlled throughout the fermentation. Pumping overs and punching downs, which intensity is defined by tasting the must everyday are produced during fermentation to ensure the best extraction of the berries compounds. The maceration lasts 18 to 20 days. At the end, the wines are raked into concrete tanks for the malolactic fermentation. When this second fermentation is complete, our cuvée will be raked in barrels for 12 months of ageing before blending will be done.

## AGEING

100 % in oak barrels for 12 months

## GRAPES VARIETIES.

Grenache Noir 42%, Syrah 37%, Mourvèdre 21%

## TASTING NOTES.

When the terroir of La Nerthe meets the 3 strongest personalities of Châteauneuf du Pape (Grenache, Syrah, Mourvèdre), we obtain an exceptional wine ! The color is dark garnet with purple hints. The nose, still a little shy for now, shows black cherry liqueur aromas with toasted notes barely veiled by fruity scent of strawberries and balsamic. A complex nose then gives way in the mouth to richness, density and concentration: sandalwood, cedar, cherry blossom line up together, follow up by spices : aromatic complexity and elegance, both qualities that reveal richness and balance of La Nerthe.

