



DOMAINE DES SÉNÉCHAUX
Châteauneuf-du-Pape

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AOC CHATEAUNEUF-DU-PAPE RED 2013 - **PRIMEUR**



The ancient vineyard of Châteauneuf-du-Pape became world famous when the Popes settled in Avignon in 1350. It later became the first French *appellation d'origine contrôlée* in 1933 under the influence of Baron Le Roy.

Lying in the heart of this illustrious appellation, the 14th-century Domaine des Sénéchaux is among the region's oldest wineries. It gets its name from one of the estate's principal plots, located in the "Bois Sénéchaux" neighbourhood.

The terroir

The plots are composed of quartzite pebbles and have a south-westerly aspect. There are 3 types of sub-soil :

- 8 ha of slopes and half-slopes, stony limestone-clay,
- 11 ha of molasse and safre (sandy limestone),
- 3 ha of deep sandy soil.

The vintage

An unexceptional winter ended with a spell of cold, wet weather. Budburst was therefore slow but the excess water was absorbed by the surrounding vegetation, creating an ideal water reserve in the soil.

The somewhat difficult spring triggered coulure on the Grenache Noir and a delay in the vine cycle.

Early summer saw us in a healthy position, with no need for green harvesting. The technical teams carried out a double leaf thinning to enhance aeration of the trunk, thereby avoiding any risk of disease. The ripeness of the grapes proceeded according to the very changeable weather pattern.

Harvesting began on 26 September with the Syrah, moving on to the Grenache from 1 October and ending on 15 October with the Mourvèdre. Rigorous sorting in the harvest reception area enabled the best clusters to be selected.

Tasting note

The wine boasts a lovely garnet red colour with crimson glints. Flattering and powerful, the nose reveals aromas of nicely ripe black and red fruit blending with delicate spicy notes.

The powerful attack reveals a bouquet with raspberry and cherry flavours mingling with subtle vanilla and roasted notes. The wine has an elegant and delightfully long finish.

Grape varieties

61% Grenache Noir
20% Syrah
18% Mourvèdre
1% Vaccarèse-Cinsault

Vinification

Intense vats work to help release the tannins and promote roundness. Length of fermentation: 28 to 32 days.

Ageing

25% in barrels of 1 wine; 60% in casks and 15% in vats. Ageing time 12 months.

Culture

Short/spur pruning, ploughing, organic fertilisers, leaf-thinning, limited yields.

Analysis

Alcohol : 15% vol.



FINE WINE AMBASSADOR
J.M. CAZES SÉLECTION