

BOSQUET DES PAPES

Chateauneuf-du-Pape

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France

RHÔNE VALLEY
Châteauneuf-du-Pape

OVERVIEW

Since 1860, five generations of the Boiron family have made wine from their own property. Second generation Joseph-Victor Boiron (1875-1949) took over in 1890, and when the Châteauneuf-du-Pape appellation was created in 1936, he called his domain "Clos Chantemerle". In 1966, Joseph-Victor's grandson Maurice changed the name to "Bosquet des Papes"—the "Bosquet" refers to the vineyard section of the Châteauneuf-du-Pape AOC where the most of the Boirons vines are located. Nowadays, Maurice's son and daughter-in-law, Nicolas and Jeanne-Claire, carry on the family traditions. This domaine produces traditionally-styled wines—using some relatively modern techniques—in order to fully respects the legacy of the village.

Varieties: Grenache, Syrah, Mourvedre, Grenache Blanc, Clairette, Bourboulenc, Cinsault

Total Acreage: about 67 acres

Average Production: up to 4,200 cases

VINEYARD/CELLAR PRACTICES

- Most of the wooden vessels in the cellar are foudres but they are using more and more demi-muids.
- The estate owns about 40 different parcels in the appellation, and the average age of the vines is about 50 years.
- Produces a magical, rarely-seen wine, *Cuvée Chantemerle*, from a 3.5 hectare plot of 100-year-old vines.

WINES

Bosquet des Papes Châteauneuf-du-Pape Tradition

Normally a blend of 75% Grenache, 10% Syrah, 10% Mourvèdre and 5% Cinsault. A traditionally-styled wine with a velvety kaleidoscope of flavors that result from the amalgamation of fruit grown in many different sections of the appellation and the combination of maturation methods (large oak casks known as foudres, half-sized casks called demi-muids, and glass-lined concrete vats).

MORE ABOUT CHÂTEAUNEUF-DU-PAPE

The characteristic terroir of Châteauneuf-du-Pape comes from a layer of stones called galets ("pebbles"). The rocks are typically quartzite and remnants of Alpine glaciers that have been smoothed over millennia by the Rhône River. The stone retains heat during the day and releases it at night which can have an effect of hastening the ripening of grapes. The stones can also serve as a protective layer to help retain moisture in the soil during the dry summer months. Some of the most prestigious vineyards in the area, like Château Rayas, have more traditional looking vineyards without the galets. These are most often vineyards located on south-facing slopes where the night-time radiated heat from the stones would be detrimental to the vines and cause over-ripening of the grapes.

ACCOLADES

2009 Les Bosquet des Papes Chateauneuf du Pape "The dark ruby/plum-hued 2009 Chateauneuf du Pape (75% Grenache, 12% Mourvedre, 10% Syrah, and the rest Cinsault, Counoise, and Vaccaresecarese) was aged in foudre (60%), demi-muids (20%), and concrete (20%). Abundant aromas of roasted herbs, sweet kirsch liqueur, and dark raspberry fruit are followed by attractive, medium to full-bodied flavors, and soft, silky tannins. It is already delicious. Enjoy it over the next 6-8 years. Bosquet des Papes has been one of my favorite estates for over three decades. Run by the charming Boiron family (the bigger than life Nicolas Boiron could be on an NFL team), they own beautiful vineyards throughout Chateauneuf du Pape." **(88-90 pts)**
Robert Parker, The Wine Advocate, # 191 Oct 2010