

DOMAINE DE NIZAS



2011 DOMAINE DE NIZAS AOC LANGUEDOC ROUGE

WINEMAKER :	Nathalie Arnaud-Bernard
REGION :	Languedoc, France
VARIETALS :	Syrah (60%), Mourvèdre (35%), Grenache (5%)
MATURATION :	12 - 18 months in 100% French oak barriques (25% new)
ANALYSIS :	14.0% % alc/vol TA: 4.80 g/L pH: 3.69

VINEYARD :

The vineyard of Domaine de Nizas lies in a triangle between the towns of Pézenas, Caux and Nizas and also between two lava spurs that form a natural amphitheater which protects against extreme weather. Surrounded by Garrigue (the local countryside's abundant wild herbs) the vineyard is a unique mosaic of three deep, well-draining soil types. River pebbles (Villafranchian) impart freshness and fine tannins. Limestone creates powerful wines with red fruit aromas. Basalt soils result in wines with complex aromas and elegant structure. Ever mindful of the importance of having a long-term view, Domaine de Nizas' vineyard has been certified sustainable since 2007.

WINEMAKING :

The grapes were picked and immediately transported to the winery and gently de-stemmed. Fermentation took place in open top stainless steel tanks. Total maceration was over three weeks. The must was pressed and the wine was transferred to new and seasoned French oak for 12 to 18 months of maturation before being bottled.

TASTING NOTES :

Fragrant aromas of blackberries, European blueberries and spices. The distinctive herbal notes commonly found in wines around the Mediterranean - lavender, sage, rosemary and wild thyme - speak to the wine's regionality and terroir. The palate is well-balanced and clean, becoming round and full-bodied with soft, ripe tannins and a long finish.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM :

90 pts Wine Spectator

ABOUT DOMAINE DE NIZAS :

Located near the medieval village of Pézenas in the heart of the Languedoc region, Domaine de Nizas was created in 1998, by John Goelet, an American descendant of a family of Bordeaux wine merchants. He then gave Bernard Portet, of Clos du Val fame, the mission of selecting the most promising terroirs around Pézenas (and the world) to establish the Estate. Portet acquired individual plots that represented three different soil types ultimately creating a rich and diverse source of grapes for crafting artisanal wines of extraordinary quality and depth.



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