

2018 DOMAINE DE NIZAS

LE CLOS ROUGE



WINEMAKER: François Lurton
REGION: Languedoc, France
VARIETALS: Syrah (60%), Grenache (20%), Mourvèdre (15%), Carignan (5%)
MATURATION: 50% in three year old French oak barrels
ANALYSIS: 14.1% alc/vol | pH: 3.72

VINEYARD: The terroir of Pézenas is one of the most complex in France. 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 while limestone creates powerful wines with red fruit aromas. Basalt soils are also present and result in wines with complex aromas and an elegant structure. Ever mindful of the importance of having a long-term view, Domaine de Nizas' vineyard has been certified sustainable since 2007 and is in conversion to be organic in 2023.

WINEMAKING: The grapes were picked and immediately transported to the winery where they were gently de-stemmed. Fermentation took place in open top stainless steel tanks. Total maceration lasted over three weeks. The must was pressed and 50% of the wine was transferred to seasoned French oak for 5-6 months of lees stirring and further maturation before being bottled.

TASTING NOTES: Smooth and sensual, this red blend reveals intense notes of red fruits. The plush fruit and spice flavors of Syrah are deliciously balanced by the sweetness of old vine Grenache and the vivacity of Mourvèdre. The addition of Carignan brings everything together to create this generous and structured wine.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM: 92 pts/Best Buy Wine & Spirits, 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.

