

Ch. de Fontarèche 2017 Corbières Rosé Tradition

WineWise Code	FCF-CRS17
Region	Languedoc-Roussillon
Subregion	Aude
Color	Rosé
Alcohol by Volume	13.5
Acidity	3.35
Residual Sugar	0
Closure	Screw-top
Annual cases produced	7466 cases
Varieties	60% Picpoul Noir, 20% Grenache, 20% Syrah
Maceration Notes	The grapes are picked before daybreak so as to destem, crush and then vat the grapes at below 15°C. Maceration, which lasts around two hours, is not only aimed at
Destemming	Complete
Fermentation vessel	Stainless Steel
Fermentation duration	20 days
Aging method	Stainless Steel 100%
Aging duration (months)	2 months
Filtered?	Yes
Fining agents	Isinglass
Yeast	Cultured
Lees Contact or Stirring	No
Malolactic	No
Added Sulfur	Yes, 30mg/L
Soil Type(s)	Gravel
Elevation (meters)	20
Vineyard Aspect	South
Vine age (years)	30
Vine Yields hl/ha	45
Farming practices	Sustainable
Vine Training Notes	Cordon double 4 years training
Grape Picking	Machine

Notes from the producer:

Grape variety (Picpoul Noir) from middle age and unique in the world.

The first mention of Fontarèche can be found in a deed dated 984, in which Sieur ERMENGAUD, the Archbishop of Narbonne, granted someone named Sifrede 'the smallholding known as Fontareche with the tower that is there, except for the church and ecclesiastical elements' as an honorary fiefdom.

He would feed sixteen knights every year.

In 1201, the Archbishop of Narbonne commissioned a moated fortress in Fontarèche. Towards the late 17th century, Fontarèche acquired the status of a 'specific seigneurie' and became the property of nobles.



WineWise Notes:

When was the last time you had a wine based on 50% of Picpoul Noir? This rarity lends a mysteriously exotic aromatic tone to the more familiar fruity qualities of Syrah and Grenache, which make up the wines balance. The 2016 vintage sold out in a flash last year. We bought more of the amazingly tasty 2017. Snap it up!

We have had our eyes on this ancient estate for several years now, and could resist its allure no longer after tasting this impressive collection of wines from 2016. With a history dating back to the tenth century, the current domaine consists of 200 hectares that encircle a fortress constructed in the 12th century. It has been in the ownership of the Comte de Lamy's family for nine generations, but there is nothing remotely antique about the methods they now employ. The 145 hectares planted to vine lie equally in Corbière's appellation and the surrounding IGP's. The multiplicity of terroirs in this expansive terrain enables them to grow no fewer than 17 different varieties, including some interlopers.