

## Ch. de Fontarèche 2016 Grenache Noir (Pays d'Oc)

WineWise Code	FCF-GRE16
Country	France
Region	Languedoc-Roussillon
Subregion	Aude
Color	Red
Alcohol by Volume	14.5
Acidity	3.05
Residual Sugar	0
Closure	Synthetic Cork
Annual cases produced	500 cases
Varieties	100% Grenache Noir
Maceration Notes	15 days skin contact
Pumpover or Punchdown?	Pumpover
Destemming	Complete
Fermentation vessel	Concrete
Fermentation duration	12 days
Aging method	Concrete 100%
Aging duration (months)	6 months
Filtered?	Yes
Fining agents	Gelatine
Yeast	Cultured
Lees Contact or Stirring	No
Malolactic	Yes
Added Sulfur	Yes, 80mg/L
Soil Type(s)	Calcareous, Gravel
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:

The first mention of Fontarèche can be found in a deed dated 984, in which Sieur ERMENGAUD, the Archbishop of Narbonne, granted someone named Sifrède '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:

This kind of straightforward but shapely wine gives the vogueish Garnachas from over the border in Spain a serious run for their money. 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 Corbiere'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. We, of course, have chosen to select an introductory range derived exclusively from autochthonous varieties. You will be impressed.

