

CHÂTEAU DE NALYS

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Châteauneuf-du-Pape Grand Vin 2017

Châteauneuf-du-Pape, France

ESTATE

Since their very first vintage bottled under the Guigal name, in 1946, the Guigal family has produced a Châteauneuf-du-Pape. The terroirs of Nalys realize a dream spanning three generations to join this leading prestigious and historic appellation. A property of 125 contiguous acres, Nalys is comprised of three spectacular plots within three of the best vineyards in the appellation: the famous "La Crau", Le Grand Pierre, and "Bois Sénéchal". Already listed in regional land registers at the end of the 16th century, Château de Nalys is one of the oldest properties in the appellation, and begins a new chapter in the hands of Guigal.

WINE

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VINEYARD

Produced from three exceptional terroirs: 27% Nalys, with fine, red sandstone and sandy clay, with some limestone and soft sandstone; 50% La Crau, featuring the famous galets, large round pebbles derived from the Rhone river; 23% Bois Senechal, with slightly smaller galets and sandier, less structured soils than La Crau.

WINEMAKING

Variety: 59% Grenache, 32% Syrah, 5% Mourvedre, 3% Cunoise, and 1% Vacarese

Fermentation: Manual harvest and sorting followed by vinification in conical wooden vats, fermentation lasting around 4 weeks

Aging: 18 months, of which 30% in wood (barrels and foudres) and 70% concrete

Alcohol: 15.5%

VINTAGE

2017 is the first Nalys vintage vinified by Guigal from start to finish. Unfortunately, the crop was very small as Spring in the South was very wet, interrupting the flowering and causing the significant crop loss overall (40-50%). However, Summer was stable and dry, leading into a perfect autumn which allowed even ripening and excellent phenolic development. Harvest took place in late September under clear skies. The Nalys reds are classic Châteauneuf du Pape— with ripe tannins, adequate but fresh acidities, and exceptional concentration. Production was about 50% of normal for the estate.

WINEENTHUSIAST

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Cellar Selection

"Piquant hits of shaved peppercorn and clove lend warmth to rich, glossy black plum and mulberry in this penetrating red. A blend of Grenache and Syrah accented by smaller proportions of three other regional red grapes, it's full in body but thrilling and fresh, lifted by a crush of minerality and lingering traces of leather, earth and sage." - ANNA LEE IJIMA, 3/2021

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Wine Advocate

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Jeb Dunnuck