

Château de Vaudieu,
Châteauneuf-du-Pape Blanc 2023
Châteauneuf-du-Pape, Southern Rhône, France



PRODUCER

The 18th century Château de Vaudieu has been in the Bréchet family for over 50 years. Today it is run by Laurent Bréchet, the grandson of the original owner, alongside his daughter Elise. The name 'Vaudieu' originates from 'Vallée de Dieu', or 'Valley of God', a reference to the beauty of the area around Châteauneuf-du-Pape. Vaudieu has 70 hectares of vineyards in total, of which 60 hectares are planted with red varieties on prized sites that are located just east of Châteauneuf-du-Pape, neighbouring the vineyards of the famed Château Rayas.

VINEYARDS

Situated northeast of the town, the vineyards are spread over 70 hectares and the soils vary greatly, from sand to quartz (galets) and clay/limestone outcrops. This diversity of soil and exposure adds complexity to the blend, with the fruit from the sandier soil lending aromatic elegance and that from the galets giving power and intensity. Vines are approximately 40 years old. The fruit for this wine is sourced from some of the estate's prized parcels of Grenache Blanc and Roussanne. The vines are planted on galets roulés and limestone flint.

VINTAGE

2023 proved exceptional for white wine production in Châteauneuf-du-Pape. Despite hot temperatures throughout the summer, water stress was not critical and there was no disease in the vineyards. The harvest began at the end of August after a final strong heatwave and ended at the beginning of October, with white grapes picked early in the morning to preserve freshness. The white grapes produced balanced wines with excellent concentration while maintaining the vibrant acidity essential to quality.

VINIFICATION

The Grenache Blanc and Roussanne grapes were harvested and sorted by hand and packed into small crates in the cool early morning to retain optimum quality and freshness. The bunches were gently pressed in a pneumatic press and the must was left to settle in stainless steel tanks. Fermentation took place in 500L French oak barriques, and the wine was then aged for nine months in oak.

TASTING NOTES

Pale gold with silver reflections. The nose has aromas of honeysuckle, sweet spices and toasted brioche. On the palate, the attack is lively with bright acidity and fresh stone fruit, tempered by rich mouthfeel.

Grape Varieties **52% Roussanne**
 40% Grenache Blanc
 8% Clairette

Winemaker	Laurent Brechet
Closure	Natural Cork
ABV	14%
Residual Sugar	1.16g/L
Acidity	3.34g/L
Wine pH	3.5
Notes	Vegetarian, Vegan