



## Côtes du Rhône Villages Plan de Dieu

2012

"Dark purple hue. A powerful nose of black cherries and earth. The mouth is bright and firm with dark fruit flavours and ripe tannins typical of this AOP. A well-balanced and successful vintage."



### Vintage

A dry and cold Winter preceded a wet Spring that saw considerable swings in temperature. June and July were relatively mild and were followed by a hot and sunny August. Harvest began on the 17th of September on what turned out to be a small (average of 25hl/ha) but intense and well-balanced vintage.

### Grape varieties

60% Grenache, 40% Syrah

### Terroir

Caught between the Aygue River to the North and the Ouvèze River to the South, the soil has a deep alluvial and silty structure, while the surface is covered with large, round stones formed by glacial melt. This terroir produces generous & powerful wines.

### Winemaking

Delicate pumping-over during brief pre-fermentation soak. 4 "délestages" (rack-and-return) during the active fermentation period, followed by a single racking each day. 24-day post-fermentation soak. Separation of the free-run and pressed wine, malolactic fermentation followed by partial blending back of the press wine. The Syrah spent 6 months in barrel (mix 2 and 3-year barrels) and then blended with the vat-aged Grenache. Bottled on the 11 July 2013. 6500 bottles produced. Bottled at the Domaine on July 11th 2013. Production: 6.500 bottles.

### Agreements & Services

Daube provençale (beef stew with herbs)  
Roasted lamb with rosemary  
Roasted woodcock with Porcini  
Serve at 14 to 16°C  
Optimum maturity: 2016 - 2018

### AWARDS

88 pts Wine Spectator