



2020 HÉLOÏSE

WINERY

Chêne Bleu's property is nestled in a UNESCO heritage-listed reserve among the diverse flora and fauna at one of the highest elevations in all of Southern Rhone, 2,000 feet above sea level. The remarkable 340-acre estate has functioned as a working vineyard since the Middle Ages. The high-altitude vineyards benefit from warm daytime sun and cool nights allowing a longer, gradual ripening season. The resulting wines embody the aromas and flavor of southern Rhône, together with the finesse and elegance of northern Rhône and the aging potential of the region's finest AOPs.

WINE

The flagship Syrah blend named after the famed philosopher Héloïse d'Argenteuil, brilliant disciple-turned-lover of Pierre Abélard, fearless and forward-thinking. Showcasing the elegance and restraint of cooler-climate Syrah, with some fleshy Grenache and a touch of Roussanne to add floral aromatics.

VINEYARDS

Grenache vines are 40 years old, facing north-west at 530m. Syrah vines are 25 years old, facing south-west at 540m. Pruning method: Single and double cordon de Royat with 5-6 shoots per cordon. The soil consists of clay, limestone, and many stones.

VINTAGE NOTES

An exceptionally dry season kept disease pressure low and organic/biodynamic treatments minimal. An early June storm damaged some high-elevation Rolle and Syrah, reducing yields, but overall quality was outstanding. Harvest was short and intense, beginning September 17, with a timely pre-harvest rain refreshing the vines. The 2020 reds show impressive concentration, depth, and structure.

WINEMAKING

The grapes were fully destemmed. Syrah and Grenache underwent a 30-day maceration period in wooden tanks. Malolactic fermentation occurred in barrels. The wine was aged for 18 months in barrels that were either new or one to two years old, with capacities ranging from 228 to 320 liters.

TASTING NOTES

A deep brilliant garnet color. Rich, intense, and focused with plenty of ripe fruit, toasty aromas and liquorice. A powerful wine, yet well-balanced, complex and ample, with black fruit and fine, present tannins. Rich and lengthy on the finish.

VINEYARD

Region:	Rhône Valley
Appellation:	Vaucluse IGP
Soil:	Clay and limestone
Age/Exposure:	Syrah, 25 years old, South-West facing at 540m; Grenache Noir, 40 years old, North-West facing at 530m
Eco-Practices:	Bee-friendly
Certifications:	Organic - Ecocert

WINEMAKING

Varietals:	85% Syrah, 13% Grenache, 2% Roussanne
Aging:	18 months in new or 1-2 years old, 228L-320L French oak barrels

TECHNICAL DETAILS

Yeast:	Native
Alcohol:	14.5%
Total Acidity:	3.16 g/L
pH:	3.72