

MAS BELLES EAUX | LANGUEDOC

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After searching for years in the south of France, the owners of Quinta do Noval and Chateau Pichon-Baron finally came upon what they were looking for: tucked in the heart of the hillsides overlooking the valley of the Peyne river, a site with the terroir to produce outstanding wines. Since 2002, the historic vineyards and cellars at Mas Belles Eaux have been slowly rehabilitated, and the winery is producing wines with tremendously pure fruit, great complexity, and beautiful balance.

An historic estate in the South of France

- ▶ The winery dates to the 17th century, and the barrel cellar was originally built at the end of the 16th century.
- ▶ The Chateau itself was built in 1868.
- ▶ The estate owes its name to the numerous freshwater springs on the property, which play an important effect on the climate and environment of Mas Belles Eaux.

Mas Belles Eaux Vineyards

- ▶ The Mas Belles Eaux wines come from two vineyards:
 - ▶ Mas Belles Eaux Vineyard: Syrah, Grenache, Mourvedre and old Carignan on mid-slope alluvial terraces made of gritty clay
 - ▶ Sainte-Hélène Vineyard: Syrah, Grenache, Mourvedre and old Carignan on argilo-calcerous terraces with villafranchien gravel
- ▶ These two vineyards stretch over 200 acres of sun-blessed hillsides that are bathe in light and benefit from variations in topsoils and subsoils
- ▶ Fantastic natural drainage and winds that come down the hills, drying and cooling grapes, also play a part in this great terroir.



SAINTE-HELENE 2005, LANGUEDOC

Sainte-Hélène is an 80% Syrah, 10% Grenache, and 10% Carignan blend, from vines that average 30 years of age. The carefully sorted and selected grapes come from plots situated up on the plateau, at the highest point of the estate. Fermentation is in concrete vats and stainless steel, and there is a long maceration, of around 35-40 days. Aging is for 15 months in 1 and 2 year old French Oak barrels.

The wine displays a deep, purple color. It is rich, powerful and full-bodied, with a harmonious balance of the aromas of ripe fruit, spices and well integrated oak. It has outstanding cellaring potential.

"Rich, ripe aromas and flavors of kirsch, dark plum, chocolate and spice are backed up by a chiseled structure and firm tannins. The lush finish echoes the spice, with touches of pepper and beef." **92 Wine Spectator, February 2008**