

# Château de Montfaucon

## COMTESSE MADELEINE

### LIRAC - 2023



#### VINTAGE REPORT

2023 was a year of extremes.

Last winter was record dry with only 25mm rainfall in five months which is just 10% of normal winter rainfall! The rains only arrived in mid-May lasting for a month with several good showers per week. There were some storms but our vineyards were spared from hail. It was a pleasure to see nature becoming green again! The summer was warm and dry with an extreme heat wave at the end of August, right before the harvest.

Despite these challenging conditions, and thanks to not suffering any major climate problems (frost, hail), the 2023 vintage shows great quality and quantity. This is a relief after five small harvests.

#### INSPIRATION

An elegant Rhone white wine combining complexity, depth and freshness. The blend of four varietals (Marsanne, Grenache blanc, Clairette and Picpoul) and aging in oak barrels give this wine its amplitude, balance and elegance - a true gastronomic wine.

The wine is named after the grand-mother of Rodolphe de Pins who managed the estate for over 70 years. She often wore white and was hence called 'The Lady in white'.

#### SOIL

Limestone scree on sandy loam soil.

#### GRAPE VARIETIES

40% Marsanne, 35% Clairette, 20% Grenache blanc, 5% Picpoul

Yield max 35hl/ha.

#### WINEMAKING AND AGING

The grapes are hand-picked and pressed directly followed by natural cold settling for 12 to 18 hours. Fermentation and aging in (one to six wine) French oak barrels for nine months before bottling. Aging in bottles for six months before releasing.

#### TASTING NOTES

*Decanter - Matt Walls* (Oct 2024): « Relatively dark in the glass, with copper-gold hues. Lovely expression of fresh fruit, with melon, pear and yellow plum alongside honeysuckle florals. Very fresh but also rounded, and good length on the dry finish. »

#### FOOD AND WINE PAIRING SUGGESTIONS

Salmon mi-cuit with creamy lemon sauce

Lobster

Pasta with creamy Roquefort (blue cheese) sauce

Goats cheese

#### PRESSE

2023 : Decanter 2023 Primeur 92 pts

2022 : Decanter WWA 2023 90 pts - Silver

2021 : Decanter WWA 2023 92 pts - Silver, Guide Hachette 2024 \*

2020 : Decanter WWA 2022 90 pts - Silver

2019 : Wine Spectator 90 pts, Gold - Concours de magazine Terre de Vins,  
Decanter WWA 2021 91 pts - Silver

