

# VAL DE L'OURS

## VAL DE L'OURS WINEMAKER GRANDE RESERVE 2022

There's a place on the hills bordering the Mediterranean shores where nature has always been so abundant that brown bears had chosen it to settle down, knowing that the rocky hillsides and forest would provide them a safe habitat, and the thick vegetation ample supplies of food and water. Today human activity has reclaimed this fertile valley, pushing the bears further up towards the Pyrenean mountains and allowing us to produce a range of generous wines.

### ■ VINEYARD ATTRIBUTES

**Appellation** : AOC Corbières, Languedoc-Roussillon, France

The property is nestled in steep hills, slightly inland from the Mediterranean coast near Narbonne in the south of France.

**Terroir** : The grapes are selected from the plots at the base of the slopes that separate the property from the Mediterranean, thus benefiting from the breeze that brings freshness and humidity and tempers the sometimes dry, arid climate. These conditions allow the berries to maintain a good balance and to keep relatively fine skins.

### ■ VINTAGE SUMMARY

After a winter corresponding to what is becoming normal, some nights below zero with rather mild days. An episode of frost after budburst caused some damage. The months of March and April brought sufficient rain which allowed a good start of the vegetation. The rain left us alone until the end of June leaving us confident on the sanitary level. A nice thunderstorm at the end of June enabled the vines to withstand the hot weather of July and August without any particular stress. In summary, even if the total rainfall was not important, its timing was perfect. During the harvest, the weather conditions were globally favorable: little humidity, seasonal temperatures and a good sunshine which allowed a good maturation of the grapes.

### ■ WINE MAKING SCHEME

Both the vinification and ageing processes have been designed to bring out the best in each grape variety. 50% of the grapes were vinified using carbonic maceration to express the distinctive aromatic markers of Carignan. The rest of the grapes are vinified using traditional methods in stainless steel and cement vats. In order to preserve the pure expression of the terroirs obtained during vinification, ageing is carried out without barrels to avoid any additional external aromatic influences. It takes place for 12 months in vats, then 6 months in the bottle.

### ■ TASTING NOTES

A lovely garnet colour.

The nose recalls the sunny conditions of the harvest, with notes of ripe fruit and leather.

On the palate, the wine shows good density and an appealing structure.



#### TECHNICAL INFORMATION

**Varietals** : Grenache noir 39%, Carignan 31%, Syrah 22%, Mourvèdre 8%

**Alcohol content** : 15 % vol.

**pH** : 3,54

**Total acidity** : 3,38 g/l