



CHÊNE BLEU

# 2012 ABÉLARD AOC VENTOUX



## STORY OF ABÉLARD

Abélard, one of the most distinguished philosophers of medieval times, is most remembered for his tragic romance with the gifted young Héloïse. One of history's most celebrated couples, Héloïse and Abélard are known for their intellectual brilliance, passionate love affair, eloquent letters and the tragedy that cruelly separated them. Sometimes referred to as "the Romeo and Juliet of France," they were actually far more complex and accomplished individuals, and their love spanned many decades until the end of their lives, making it a symbol of enduring romantic love. This complex, brooding Grenache blend from older vines seems worthy of Abélard, who combined erudition with deep thinking and a near-fatal attraction.

## VINEYARD NOTES

<b>Varietals:</b>	85% Grenache Noir, 15% Syrah
<b>Age of Vines:</b>	Grenache - over 40 years old; Syrah - 30 years old
<b>Exposure &amp; Elevation:</b>	Syrah: Southwest facing; 540 meters (1,771 feet) Grenache: Northwest facing; 530meters (1,739 feet)
<b>Soil:</b>	Clay and limestone, very stony
<b>Pruning Method:</b>	Double cordon de Royat, 6 shoots per cordon
<b>Viticulture:</b>	Organic and biodynamic practices

## WINE NOTES

<b>Fermentation:</b>	In wooden tanks, with skin maceration for 5 weeks; 100% malolactic
<b>Barrel-Aged:</b>	18 months in mix of old and new French oak from various coopers, primarily 228-liter (60-gallon) barrels with medium and medium-plus toast; plus 12 months in concrete tanks
<b>Fining &amp; Filtration:</b>	Unfined, unfiltered
<b>Bottle-Aged:</b>	2 years
<b>Aging Potential:</b>	15-20 years
<b>Alcohol:</b>	14%

## TASTING NOTES

<b>Appearance:</b>	Deep, brilliant garnet
<b>Nose:</b>	Rich with notes of cloves, liquorice and pepper, mixed with plum and cherry aromas.
<b>Palate:</b>	Full-bodied and smooth, fresh with velvety tannins and notes of ripe red fruits.
<b>Finish:</b>	Long aromatic finish, with hints of spices and plums.

## SERVING SUGGESTIONS

Enjoy with roast beef, venison, duck and roasted vegetables.  
Decant for 2-3 hours and serve at room temperature.



Certified Organic Vegan

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