

# DOMAINE CLAVEL « COPA SANTA » 2011

## Languedoc



### ORIGIN

Languedoc, France

### APPELLATION

Languedoc

### VINEYARD

Galet roulé stones  
over clay subsoils.  
Vines 30+ years old  
depending upon  
varietal

### BLEND

83% Syrah  
17% Grenache Noir &  
Mourvèdre

### FARMING

100% Organic by  
European standards  
Hand-harvested  
grapes are separated  
by plots

### WINEMAKING

Aged 18 months in  
barrique and foudre

This is a big strong wine, exuding authority. The nose opens up quickly when decanted, redolent of black and red fruits, along with hints of spice, and the mouth is ample and smooth, with remarkable density. Ripe fruit and soft spice aromas. Its luscious tannins are firm but never dry. Wonderfully long finish.

The Copa Santa vines are planted in “Les Gres” soils, 16 to 20 feet of galets roulés rounded stones (which provide excellent drainage) over a deep red clay bed. These stones conserve the cool morning air so that the vines don’t lose too much water in summer, as well as storing the sun’s heat and releasing it at night. The climate is Mediterranean, with the strong Mistral wind blowing from the North, lots of sunshine, and little rain. This hot dry climate helps vines recover from injury faster, limits diseases, and concentrates the grapes. The vigneron helps the vine through its stages following certified organic standards.

Towards the end of the 1980’s, Pierre Clavel sought out ways to open up his Syrah and lighten their austere nature. He acquired some barrels from Chateau Angludét and breathed new life into the Syrah, opening them up and transforming them, with tender yet firm tannins, and without leaving any apparent wood in the wine...the Copa Santa was born!

He quickly singled out the better vines, reserving these for the Copa, his new flagship wine. These ancient Syrah vines were planted in 1982 and are located on the La Méjanelle terroir. They are complemented by younger 1987 Syrah vines of incredible quality, 1964 Grenache, and in some vintages a splash of wine from 1988 Mourvèdre vines.

### ACCOLADES

**2011 This vintage has not yet been rated.**

