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## Abbaye Sylva Plana

Les Novices



VINTAGE 2011

REGION Languedoc

APPELLATION Faugères

VARIETAL 55% Cinsault 30% Grenache

10% Syrah 5% Mourvèdre

**TERROIR** Schists, clayey-limestone, marble

INFO 54Ha (133.43 Acres) total vineyard

Hand harvested

Vinification on tanks with carbonic maceration for Carignan & Cinsault grapes

grupes

Fined/Filtered

**Certified ORGANIC** 

## About the Estate:

The ABBAYE SYLVA PLANA is located around the monastic barn of Sauvanes in Laurens, which forms part of SYLVANES ABBEY (Aveyron), founded in 1139! Until the 12th Century, the monks continued to use the winegrowing methods used by the Romans settlers, which had been used for the first five centuries AD. In 1998, Nicolas & Henry Ferdinand BOUCHARD from Domaine DESHENRYS, decided to create a partnership and long term investment with the GUY family, whose ancestors had settled in Laurens generations ago.

The vines are beautifully located to face directly south in contoured lines, and are planted on clay-chalky, clayey -limestone, grey marble but mainly on the local chisteous soils, making the typicity of the Faugères wines. Schist is a silicate rock rich in aluminum and iron, excellent at retaining water (up to 40% up to its volume) and storing heat (almost twice as well as chalk), which then radiates slowly throughout the night after the extremely hot days, creating a perfect climate for optimum maturity!

Abbaye Sylva Plana is Certified ORGANIC since the 2011 Vintage, and the vines are rigorously cultivated: Ploughing and ancestral culture, (oldest vines, up to 60 years old, farmed biodynimically, plow by horse), use of natural treatments and organic compost. Of course, natural low yields coming from the poor soils and short pruning. Hand harvesting for all the Cuvees' grapes, followed by an additional hand selective picking of the grapes and berries once at the cellar!

## **Tasting Notes:**

Immediately opened to juicy ripe red fruits, dry raisins, and garrigues notes. Smooth, clean and fleshy palate with spicy and peppery length. Tapenade scents, the aeration then brings back red and black fruits notes! Areal symphony of southern accents, always remaining fresh and yummy.

## **Press Review:**

Soon to come.