

**TYPE**

Armagnac

ABV

48.2%

OWNER

Yves and Maïté Artaud

Chateau du Tariquet

12 Yr. 100% Folle Blanche Bas Armagnac

FRANCE

DESCRIPTION

Produced in France from the Folle Blanche grape. Golden-Yellow with a clean, intense nose expressing softness with vanilla and a pleasant note of cocoa. The esters are subdued, and reveal exotic fragrances when the brandy is exposed to the air. This unusual Bas Armagnac brandies offer a comprehensive and surprising aromatic palette combined with distinctive strength and complexity. In the mouth it is magnificent: round, rich, smooth and fine. Although full, it remains fresh and expressive. An Armagnac that lingers without end and expresses a perfect marriage between fruit and wood. bottled at cask strength to preserve its flavors and aromas.

PRODUCER OVERVIEW

The story of Tariquet involves two world wars, two continents and two bears. During the late 19th century, many French country folk experienced financial hardship and were forced to emigrate. Among their number was a young man, named Artaud. Artaud lived in Ercé in Ariège. The little village is at the foot of the Pyrenees, and there were many mountain bears. Artaud learned bear taming, at which he was particularly adept. With his two bears in tow he left for America. In 1912, Artaud returned to France and happened upon the Tariquet wine estate in Éauze. His meagre savings were not enough to purchase the estate and so he invited his son, Jean-Pierre Artaud who lived in New York, to buy the property with him. As most of the vines had been destroyed by phylloxera, all that was left were seven hectares of vineyards in a sorry state.

With the onset of the First World War, Jean-Pierre returned to France to fight, leaving his wife, Pauline, in New York. After the war, the couple travelled back to France. Upon their return they bore a child, Hélène. Meanwhile, on the other side of the Pyrenees, a Frenchman of Spanish-descent, Pierre Grassa, worked as a laborer. He enrolled with the Joinville battalion and during the Second World, Pierre's unit was taken captive. Eventually, he escaped and fought with the French Resistance in Éauze. It was here that he met the lovely Hélène. They fell madly in love and painstakingly restored Tariquet. The estate began producing Bas-Armagnac once more. In 1972, with the help of two of his children, Yves and Maïté, Pierre established a company to sell their Armagnacs. The company had received much acclaim and produces a wide range of Bas-Armagnacs.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**Country and Region:** France, Bas- Armgnac**Produced from** (raw base product): Folle Blanche Grapes**Production Method:** Grapes are fermented, then distilled, and aged in toasted oak barrels**Distillation Method:** Single distillation**Type of Still:** Wood Fired Armagnac Alambic Continuous**Aged:** 12 years French Barrique from Allier and Nièvre Oak**Tasting Notes:** *Fresh nose of orange, lemon, honey crisp apple and wild flowers.**A silky texture gently intensifying the freshness of candied pineapple, nutmeg, white pepper and zest towards a long mouth evoking roasted almonds and light toffee.*