

**TYPE**

Armagnac

ABV

47.2%

AVAILABLE SIZES (L)

0.750

OWNER

Yves and Maïté Artaud

Chateau du Tariquet

15 Yr. 100% Folle Blanche Bas Armagnac

FRANCE

DESCRIPTION

Produced in France from the Folle Blanche grape. Very attractive, rich fruity nose with chestnut, ripe fruit and dried apricot and raisin. Equally attractive floral backing with lavender and hint of violet. All repeats in deep rich well-rounded mouth. Good oak contribution with sweet vanilla and hints of cinnamon and ginger. Silky smooth flow and fine texture. Continually evolving flavors lead into big, full fruited finish. 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:** 15 years French Barrique from Allier and Nièvre Oak

Tasting Notes *An intense and complex nose of candied orange, Manuka honey, and Madagascar pepper. The intense rise of spices, dried pineapple, apple, grape first hit the palate with a toasted macadamia nut, caramel and orange zest finish that is long and luscious.*

