

Toad Hollow Vineyards

2000 Le Faux Frog, France

When you search for diamonds, you don't find them easily, or under every rock. The same is true of fine wines. In our search for fine wines at reasonable cost, we traveled the south of France from Toulouse to Carcasanne, from Montpellier to Narbonne, and ultimately to the little village of Limoux. Limoux is set in rolling hills with much of the grapes grown on hillsides. It enjoys the cool maritime intrusion of the Atlantic air. This is ideal for the growing of Chardonnay and the early ripening Merlot. It was there we found wines that were truly exemplary in quality and stood well above the many wines we tasted across the broad band of vineyards of the Midi and in southern France.

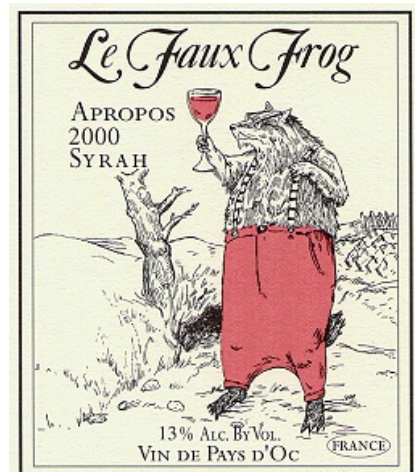
This is the third vintage offering of these wines by Toad Hollow. These wines were produced in a state-of-the-art facility. The Chardonnay is not mauled by a crusher but only whole-bunch pressed (as in champagne). All movement of grapes, must, and juice is done by gravity feed without damage from the pump's impellers. The low fermentation temperatures are carefully controlled by refrigeration to maintain the fruit values of the carefully tended, low yielding, hillside grapes. The result of all this is superior wines far above the average quality of Languedoc wines in general.

Here go the Toad Hollow Vineyards/Faux Frog folks again! We thought that we would take the Faux Frog wines to another level by adding the most noble of the black grape varieties, Syrah. Syrah plantings in France have increased ten fold over the last twenty years and the most spectacular of the new plantings have been in Languedoc. Our friends at Seur d'Arques have outdone themselves once again. This is a rich, dark, and dense wine that offers incredible quality for a reasonable price.

In a world that knows no boundaries, Toad Hollow is pleased to present these three unusual wines to our public. They represent the same care and high standards that we have always insisted go into all our wines.

We are proud of the Faux Frog wines, of their quality, their reasonability, and their availability.

The superior taste of Le Faux Frog wines is quite enough to distinguish them from others, but we thought you deserved to know why. Now, we believe you do!



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