



2009 Vignobles Jean Royer Chateauneuf du Pape Cuvee Prestige

A Proprietary Blend Dry Red Table wine from Chateauneuf du Pape, Southern Rhone, Rhone, France

Review by Robert Parker
Wine Advocate # 197 (Oct 2011)
Rating: 91
Drink 2011 - 2019
Cost: \$56

The 2009 Chateauneuf du Pape Prestige, which comes from 80- to 100-year-old vines (in contrast to the 45-year-old vines of the Tradition), is essentially an identical blend, and again aged primarily in tank. This is a slightly darker color, with massive amounts of black cherry and strawberry jam notes, and hints of Provencal herbs as well as loamy, sandy soil. A savory, broad, full-bodied wine without a hard edge to be found, it should drink well for 7-8 years and is already irresistible. Vignobles Jean-Marie Royer is a very small estate of just over 12 acres, located in the southwestern sector of the appellation, not far from St.-Prefert, with their holdings in the two best known sectors of that area, Bois de la Ville and Les Grandes Serres. Importers: Paul M. Young Fine Wines, Los Angeles, CA; tel. (323) 222-2003; Free Run LLC, Seattle, WA; no telephone available; Bertin Henri Selections, Doral, FL; tel. (305) 392-6995, and Fine Vines LLC, Melrose Park, IL; tel. (708) 343-6702

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A potentially outstanding effort, the rich, dense, medium to full-bodied 2009 Chateauneuf du Pape Cuvee Prestige (92% Grenache and 8% Mourvedre, aged in foudre, barrique and cement tank), possesses a healthy dark ruby color, an enticing texture and a flattering, up-front appeal. It is best consumed over the next 7-8 years. (Not yet released) Jean-Marie Royer is an under-the-radar producer who consistently fashions beautiful wines dominated by Grenache and largely aged in cement tanks with about 20% aged in barriques and foudres. The traditional cuvee is typically a blend of 73% Grenache and 27% Syrah. Importers: Paul M. Young Fine Wines, Los Angeles, CA; tel. (323) 222-2003; Free Run LLC, Seattle, WA; no telephone available; Bertin Henri Selections, Doral, FL; tel. (305) 392-6995, and Fine Vines LLC, Melrose Park, IL; tel. (708) 343-6702

