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94_{pts}**Domaine Jean Royer 2013 Châteauneuf-du-Pape Cuvée Prestige****Châteauneuf Du Pape, Rhône****Red wine from France****Drinking window: 2020 - 2027**

Vivid ruby. Fresh red and dark fruit and floral scents are complemented by suggestions of Asian spices, incense and smoky minerals. Stains the palate with intense black raspberry, cherry liqueur and lavender pastille flavors that deepen slowly and spread out on the back half. Deeply concentrated in flavor yet distinctly lithe and focused, offering superb closing power and smooth, harmonious tannins that frame the persistent, alluringly sweet fruit.

Josh Reynolds. Tasting date: February 2016

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From Châteauneuf-du-Pape Reds: The Flamboyant 2014s and the Structured 2013s (Apr 2016)

Domaine Jean Royer

The Châteauneufs of Isabel and Jean-Marie Royer have consistently been among the appellation's most graceful and Burgundy-like bottlings for the better part of the last two decades. Made with a healthy amount of whole clusters (sometimes as much as 100%) and minimal new oak (in most cases, none at all), this domain's wines showcase aromatic complexity and floral character, displaying no excess weight or artifice. Wine lovers whose image of Châteauneuf-du-Pape has been colored by wines of high alcohol, high oak and flamboyant fruit really need to take one of these wines for a spin. With some 12 hectares of vines spread around Châteauneuf and a non-designated (so, Vin de France) area between Châteauneuf and the city of Orange, the Royers are no small player in the appellation. Still, their wines enjoy a strong local following and a growing list of private customers from across Europe, and finding the wines outside the Continent is no easy task.

Grape/Blend

95% Grenache, 5% Syrah

Release price

\$45.00