

£3.70

May 2008

THE WORLD'S BEST WINE MAGAZINE

Decanter

www.decanter.com



BURGUNDY: THE NEW SUPERSTARS

Why quality has never been higher

WHY DON'T
WOMEN
COLLECT
WINE?
p76

PLUS: over 200 stunning buys

➤ Nuits-St-Georges 2005

➤ Châteauneuf-du-Pape 2005

AND
Is Champagne
turning its back
on terroir?

➤ Château Palmer ➤ Muslim winemakers ➤ Spain's wine royalty

Decanter PANEL TASTING

Châteauneuf-du-Pape 2005

High temperatures and very little rain meant vineyard site was key in 2005, says **JOHN LIVINGSTONE-LEARMONTH**. That and the approach to 'prestige' cuvées...

Soil drainage: two unglamorous words, but words that nowadays often hold the key to whether a grower in Châteauneuf-du-Pape can make good wine. The drought in this area of south-east France has been sustained for several years now. Water table levels are low, so growers depend on well-timed rainfall around August and September to free up the vines and allow for balanced ripening, as occurred in 2004, and, to a lesser extent, in 2005.

Growers with plots in free-draining, sandy soils are therefore under pressure. Parts of this sprawling 3,200ha (hectare) appellation produce grapes with thick skins and concentrated sugar levels. That means high alcohol, and rasp in the wine. Growers with moisture-retaining clay are luckier, their vines better able to yield grapes which ripen in a consistent way.

Consequently, vigneron in Châteauneuf often have to grapple with wines that are often intrinsically alcoholic – 16% vats of Grenache are commonplace. The need to cut the Grenache with more moderate varieties such as Syrah or Cunoise has

become more intense, and this also carries implication for vinification and cellar work. Extreme extraction is a risky business if red Châteauneuf is to be a balanced table wine.

Grenache remains the staple variety here, with plenty of opportunity for domaines which cultivate 70- to 100-plus-year-old vines. The mark of a pure or mostly Grenache wine is the delicacy of the red in the robe; any black-toned colour indicates blending with Syrah or Mourvèdre. Grenache also offers red fruits on the nose and palate; the other varieties introduce notes of black fruits, liquorice and tar, especially if aged in new oak.

At its heart, Châteauneuf is a sweet, fleshy wine, its smooth texture on the palate a delight to savour. Neighbours such as Gigondas and Vacqueyras are much more punchy and direct. It is also easy to underestimate the longevity of traditional Châteauneuf: that red-ruby robe prompts drinkers to think that the game will be up inside 10 years. Wrong: the wine proceeds at only a gradual rhythm of evolution, the best vintages able to live for 20-plus years.

2005's ripening was helped by early September rain, the first since April, followed by a cleansing Mistral wind. It is a good vintage, but just where the growers place it in the recent pantheon is open to much debate. This beefy vintage with big tannins and a lot of depth and power has closed down since autumn 2007, later than expected. Now the wines are entering their shell, with tannins more evident, as well as a grainy, sinewed texture. It is a year for the patient buyer, and for those who like their wines mature and thoughtfully matched to robust dishes.

In recent years, many producers have moved to produce two distinct wines: a *Tradition* or classic wine at the grass-



roots end of the market, and the growing number of special or *Prestige* wines, usually from old vines, and issued in lots of 3,000–8,000 bottles at a time. My early impression of 2005 was of a clearer-than-usual distinction between the two. Some suggest the *Prestige* wines, in a bid to appeal to fans of big, full-bodied wines, are robbing the *Tradition* wines of body, which is a mixed blessing. **D**

'Châteauneuf should be lush, plush and voluptuous – there were too many monsters'

David Wainwright

Turn the page to see the results



CHATEAUNEUF-DU-PAPE: KNOW YOUR VINTAGES

- 2006** Open, accessible, well-fruited wines with sound body
- 2005** Big, tight wines, plenty of sometimes brooding tannins
- 2004** Good, clear fruit with acidity
- 2003** Jam flavours, sweet, dense appeal
- 2002** Mostly washed out by torrential rain. A few light wines to drink by 2012
- 2001** Wines of serious poise and depth with all-important freshness
- 2000** Not very racy wines. In transition between youth and middle age
- 1999** Clearly fruited wines, still appeal
- 1998** Big, profound wines. Gamey now
- 1997** Lighter wines. Drink by 2014

THE FACTS:

Surface area: 3,200ha.
Vines in production: 3,100ha
Main grape varieties: Grenache 72%, Syrah 11%, Mourvèdre 6%, Cinsault 3%, Clairette Blanc 3%, Grenache Blanc 2%

THE TASTERS

Clive Barlow MW *Press Wine Services*; Beverley Blanning MW *wine writer*; Simon Field MW *buyer*, *Berry Bros & Rudd*; Ben Henshaw *Indigo Wines*; Justin Howard-Sneyd MW *buying manager*, *Waitrose*; Andrew Jefford *Decanter columnist*; Jonathan Kinns *Winegrowers Direct*; John Livingstone-Learmonth *wine writer*; Anthony Rose *wine journalist*, *The Independent*; Terry Threlfall *sommelier*, *Chez Bruce*; David Wainwright *fine wine consultant*

Châteauneuf 2005: the results

After a record haul of awards for the 2005 Northern Rhône a few months ago, hopes for the south were high. **GUY WOODWARD** finds out why they weren't quite met

Four awards, 27 four-star wines... sounds like this was a pretty good tasting?

Yes and no. There were, as David Wainwright said, 'some real stunners'. But those numbers aren't so impressive when you consider the reputation of the vintage and the fact that there were almost 200 wines here. After all, one in four wines were rated two stars or worse. 'I only gave around a third of the wines 16/20 or more,' said Anthony Rose. 'I'd say that was disappointing when you consider the considerable reputation of 2005 throughout France.'

Trust you lot to put a damper on things. Why can't you concentrate on the positive?

OK. Take just the first three pages of wines here, and you'll be charmed by 'a host of nice, elegant wines that will age well,' said Jonathan Kinns. Clive Barlow MW enjoyed the 'freshness' of the best wines, praising the 'balance, harmony and ripe tannins'. Beverley Blanning MW found 'plenty of wines I would love to drink – really nice-tasting, balanced, interesting and not blockbusting.'

So, what's the problem?

'They could' – and perhaps should – 'have been even better,' said Wainwright, who described the tasting as 'a rollercoaster ride' from a 'large AC that obviously provides that big up-and-down in quality'. In particular, he criticised the 'bigger-is-better' approach. 'There was more use of wood, especially new wood, than I remember in the past, and a lot of tannin – big, dry tannin. It's not needed. Châteauneuf should be this sort of lush, plush, voluptuous wine, with lots of fruit vibrancy, without being a harsh, tannic monster. There were too many monsters.'

Andrew Jefford 'never realised it was such an inconsistent appellation', and was critical of the 'tough, unsexy, hard, almost brutal wines, which were so alien to the fundamental appeal of the AC'.

Was this a character of the vintage?

Jefford thought so, and John Livingstone-Learmonth reminded us all that 'the year was dry between April and September', but as he also pointed out, 'then you have

THE SCORES:

197 WINES TASTED	
★★★★★ Decanter Award	4
Outstanding (18.5–20pts)	
★★★★★ Highly recommended	27
Very good to excellent (16.5–18.49pts)	
★★★★ Recommended	112
Good (14.5–16.49pts)	
★★	52
Fair (12.5–14.49pts)	
★	1
Poor (10.5–12.49pts)	
Faulty	1

the fashion of the *Prestige* cuvées coming along'. Most other tasters thought the latter more significant than the former.

'One wonders whether the *Prestige* [category] has got into a "points situation",' said Wainwright. 'There's clearly a bunch of producers who are after the American palate,' agreed Justin Howard-Sneyd MW. 'The highly restructured wines, the oaky wines...while it might impress US judges, they don't represent [typical] Châteauneuf-du-Pape. I'd like to see more lightness of touch of oak, elegance and perfume.'

Howard-Sneyd wasn't alone. Jefford felt 'a lot of the *Prestige* cuvées completely lost the plot – they're like bad Amarone, with all sorts of concentration that reduce this wonderful, supple fruit to a Provençal character'. Livingstone-Learmonth bemoaned the lack of what he felt was a 2005 attribute – 'a refreshing character, a

dancing finish'. 'Too many wines didn't end with that lift,' he said.

Was this style limited to *Prestige* wines?

Yes, though it was by no means totally dominant. Barlow found 'a number of *Prestige* wines with elegance and power harnessed by very fine tannins.' The worry was that, by using all their ripest fruit in the *Prestige* cuvées, producers were left with *Tradition* wines that Barlow described as 'shoddy, lacking in intensity'. Jefford felt it was 'the wrong way of thinking. It's not "this is our best wine, and this is our second wine". Instead, the *Tradition* wines are dumbed down to a lower level than they would normally be.'

So, were the *Prestige* wines superior?

Not uniformly. Wainwright said, 'while many were qualitatively very good, they often lacked the complexity to develop over time, which is ultimately what one looks for.' Other tasters were also troubled by the wines' likely longevity. Howard-Sneyd found 'very few wines you couldn't touch for five years. Most of them are ready to drink over the next 2–3 years. Fifteen years ago, Châteauneuf was a very different wine. Consumers must be pretty confused what this stuff is meant to be.'

It's beginning to sound like a minefield...

Such was the inconsistency, said Barlow, that 'for the consumer, this tasting will be immensely beneficial.' Livingstone-Learmonth wasn't surprised at the ups and downs, saying that we had 'cast our net very wide, and some aren't worthy of the appellation'. Equally, though, he recognised that 'they're going to end up on the supermarket shelf' so they needed to be judged. From that perspective, Blanning was less concerned. 'There were vast differences stylistically, which from a consumer's perspective is a bit of a disadvantage. Obviously it's frustrating if you have no prior knowledge and are just buying off the shelf. But this is quite an expensive wine, so you could argue that those buying it will want more interesting wines than the next person. If you want wine that all tastes the same, there are plenty of other places to go.'

BEST VALUE

LOUIS MOUSSET, LA
ROCHE DU PAPE,
TRADITION (16.75/20)

★★★★★

£12.99

Lifted sweet, ripe fruit character with an exotic fragrance. Supple and charming palate. Fresh despite its power, velvet tannins. From 2010. **Msn**



5 STAR WINES

DECANTER AWARD WINNERS ★★★★★



**CHATEAU DE LA FONT DU LOUP,
LE CHATEAU, TRADITION**
£15.99

'Lovely depth of pure fruit, ripe, rich and deep. Blackberry and olive, powerful yet elegant. Rich, sweet, concentrated fruit. Ripe, succulent, lovely style, lashings of fruit purity. Long life ahead. From 2010.' (JK) **Stockist: Lai**



CLOS DU CAILLOU, RESERVE
£47.04–49.06

'Deep, pure and very ripe red plum nose. Lovely wine. Bold and lively, long. Spice, dark yet ripe roasted plum flavours. What a fabulous effort. From 2015.' (DW) **Stockists: Gns, HBa**



CUVEE DU VATICAN, RESERVE SIXTINE
£21.99

'Lovely expressive nose. This is a fabulously nice glass of wine. Has all the elegance, balance, openness, softness and length that you could want. Fantastic. From 2008.' (JHS) **Stockist: Lai**



DOMAINE DE LA VIEILLE JULIENNE
£39

'Firm, serious nose of blackberries, blueberries and a touch of earth. Dark fruits, minerals and bags of tannin. Impressive stuff but needs time. From 2010.' (BH) **Stockists: Bri, DBY, Grr, P&S, Quf**

4 STAR WINES

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED ★★★



DOMAINE PIERRE USSEGLIO ET FILS, CUVEE DE MON AIEUL
(18pts/20)
Sold out

'Red cherry flavour. Crisp notes, peppery red fruits, plum fruit. Ripe fruit renders a rounded texture with a nice undercurrent of tannin. From 2009.' (JLL) **Stockist: Gau**



**DOMAINE DE LA SOLITUDE,
RESERVE SECRETE (17.6/20)**
£90

'Modern ripe fruit and oak nose. Open, lush and chewy red fruits with lashings of creamy vanilla oak. Hard to fault. From 2010.' (JHS) **Stockist: Hal**



**DOMAINE LA BARROCHE,
FIANCEE (17.5/20)**
£21–24.40

'Bright pepper and spice in the nose. Richly brambly/red fruit quality with spice, pepper and a finely integrated balance which makes this elegant. Lovely seamless fruit. From 2012.' (AR) **Stockists: CdP, Gau**



**DOMAINE PIERRE ANDRE,
TRADITION (17.5/20)**
£18

'Youthful, herbs, black tea. A serious mouthful. Black fruit with a backdrop of tapenade and beefsteak. A big wine with a future. From 2015.' (SF) **Stockists: MMs, Vis, VRo**



**DOMAINE DE LA JANASSE,
VIEILLES VIGNES (17.25/20)**
£50–73.49

'Warm with sweet hay and ripe, rich fruits. Gutsy, deep, pushy. Generously textured with lashings of spice and earth. From 2010.' (AJ) **Stockists: Maj, N&P, VVI**



**CLOS SAINT JEAN, LA COMBE
DES FOUS (17.2/20)**
Sold out

'A ripe expression of dense fruit, a touch of cedar spice – shows great promise. An array of prune, berry, thyme and bay with cedar edges. Great power and warmth. Modern, racy. From 2011.' (CB) **Stockist: ABY**

4 STAR
WINES

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED (cont...) ★★★★★



**DOMAINE DE MARCOUX,
VIEILLES VIGNES, PRESTIGE**
(17.2pts/20)

£27.19–27.77

'Evolving, appealing, meaty and herbal. Lots of richness and spice. Very interesting wine, has a sense of place and vintage. From 2009.' (BB) **Stockist: Aly, Gns**



**CLOS DU MONT-OLIVET, LA
CUVÉE DU PAPET, PRESTIGE** (17/20)

£34.50–45

'Good purity of fruit, blackberry, clean, well balanced. Rich black fruit. Well made, dark flavours. From 2010.' (JK)

Stockists: Gau, Hal



**DOMAINE DE BEAURENARD,
BOISRENARD, PRESTIGE** (17/20)

£34.99

'A heady, opulent nose with refined blackberry and mulberry fruits. A touch of freshness. Lush attack of dense fruit with fine-textured tannins. Full-on wine, well crafted. From 2012.' (CB) **Stockists: BWC, Hai**



**DOMAINE DE SAINT SIFFREIN,
TERRE D'ABEL, PRESTIGE** (17/20)

Sold out

'Lovely, lifted, rich Grenache. Savoury garrigue in the nose. Depth of blackberry fruit and hint of olive. Rich, concentrated. A brooding Byronic wine with big structure. From 2011.' (JK) **Stockist: CTW**



**DOMAINE DU VIEUX
TELEGRAPHE, VIEUX
TELEGRAPHE, TRADITION** (17/20)

£27–32

'Classic meat, earth, spice, musk and red plum aroma. Lots of flavour. Long. A showstopper. From 2012.' (DW) **Stockists: Adn, HoT, HvN, J&B, L&W, Sel, Tan, ThH**



**DOMAINE SAINT PREFERT,
TRADITION** (17/20)

£24

'Lovely, serious nose of animals, leather and earth, with fruit lurking too. Nice sweet red and black fruits, plenty of truffley new oak. Great acidity and balance. From 2010.' (BH) **RdW**



**CHATEAU DES FINES ROCHES,
CUVÉE FINES ROCHES** (16.8/20)

N/A UK

'Oak, cherry aromas. Juicy, buoyant fruit with appealing savoury richness of flavour. Good balance and weight. Lovely sweet fruit on the finish. Well judged, lovely stuff. From 2008.' (BB) **+33 4 90 83 51 73**



**DOMAINE DE LA CHARBONNIERE,
MOURRE DES PERDRIX,
PRESTIGE** (16.8/20)

£20.40–22

'Smoky, leafy fruits, meaty but has good density. A well-structured palate with fine tannins and dark berry fruits. Persistent. From 2011.' (CB) **Stockists: GWW, HvN**



**DOMAINE GRAND VENEUR,
TRADITION** (16.8/20)

Sold out

'Sweet, fresh, warm and savoury with some clove spice. Deep, lush, earthy, solid and full. Good, spicy and four-square. Knife and fork finish. From 2009.' (AJ) **Stockist: Gau**



**MAISON BOUACHON,
DEDICATION, PRESTIGE** (16.8/20)

£24–30

'Red cherry fruit aroma. Balanced, sound, measured nose with charm to come. Edges forward cautiously. Gradual build-up of ripe tannins works well. From 2009.' (JLL) **Stockist: For**



**CHATEAU LA NERTHE,
TRADITION** (16.75/20)

£27.61–31.25

'Very attractive, gently lifted aromas, laurel and wild fruit, savoury too. Perfumed and pleasingly concentrated. Dense fruit and firm acidity. Understated but has potential. From 2015.' (SF) **Stockists: BBR, C&C, Lai**



**DOMAINE GRAND VENEUR, LES
ORIGINES, PRESTIGE** (16.75/20)

£28

'Lushly warm, mindful of sweet bramble and thyme and orange zest. Deep, full, earthy, gutsy. Spicy complexity on finish. From 2012.' (AJ) **Stockists: F&R, VVI**

4 STAR WINES

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED (cont...) ★★★★★



LOUIS MOUSSET, LA ROCHE DU PAPE, TRADITION (16.75/20)

£12.99 £

'Lifted, sweet, ripe fruit character with an exotic fragrance. Supple, charming palate with a layered fruit profile. Fresh despite its power, velvet tannins give a gentle embrace. From 2010.' (CB) **Stockist: Msn**



CHATEAU JAS DE BRESSY, PRESTIGE (16.6/20)

£21.50

'Oak, marzipan, cherry aromas. Savoury and tannic with excellent mastery of fruit. Has purity and complexity. Still young, has a long life ahead. Delicious. From 2010.' (BB) **Stockist: FIL**



DOMAINE BERNARD, SOUCO PAPALE, TRADITION (16.6/20)

£14-15 £

'Red stone fruit, with a reserved air and sweet temptation. Subdued now, Grenache core gives baked and jam fruits, ending on a clear note. Good. From 2009.' (JLL) **Stockists: Pge, TaS**



DOMAINE DE LA SOLITUDE, TRADITION (16.6/20)

£23

'Quite complex notes of grilled meat and herbs, enticing black fruits and minerals. Full bodied, delicious spicy black and red fruit. Impeccable balance. From 2010.' (TT) **Stockist: Hal**



DOMAINE DES PERES DE L'EGLISE, LE CALICE DE SAINT PIERRE, HERITAGE (16.6/20)

£17.74 (2004) £

'Ripe red plum, hints of earth and red meat. Rich, sweet, ripe red plum fruit. Leathery tannins. Chewy, long, fine balance. Just be patient. From 2016.' (DW) **Stockist: Lam**



DOMAINE LA BARROCHE, RESERVE, TRADITION (16.75/20)

£18.85-21.25

'Sealed red fruits, bouquet ticks along quite quietly. Well-structured wine, poise and future ahead. Good length. From 2009.' (JLL) **Stockists: CdP, Gau**



CHATEAU DE LA FONT DU LOUP, TRADITION (16.66/20)

£14.99 £

'Lurking aroma, bright top note. Has the makings of a nice bottle. A solid heart. Some tannic tang, red fruits peek out at the end. From 2009.' (JLL) **Stockist: Lai**



DOMAINE DE LA COTE L'ANGE, VIEILLES VIGNES, PRESTIGE (16.5/20)

£28

'Like a Provençal marketplace – herbs, fennel, tapenade and cured meat. Lovely balanced wine – savoury and sweet. From 2015.' (SF) **Stockist: VII, WGR**



DOMAINE DE SAINT-PAUL, TRADITION (16.5/20)

£15.95 (2004) £

'Teasing, powerful nose, modern fundamentally, traditional at heart. Rich, concentrated. Weight of cassis/damson fruit with savoury backdrop. From 2015.' (SF) **Stockist: Eil**

RECOMMENDED ★★★

Wine name	Price	Tasting note	Drinkability	Stockist	Mean score
Clos du Caillou, Les Safres, Tradition	£23.60	'Powerfully aromatic. Rich plum and blackberry fruit, tinged with spice and fruit richness. Quintessentially hedonistic. From 2010.' (AR)		Gns, HBa	16.4/20
Domaine Serguier, Revelation, Prestige	N/A UK	'Smoky, wild berry red fruits. Some Grenache style, a little brooding. Red fruit start. Tannins live to end. Pretty fruit at heart. From 2009.' (JLL)		+34 5 90 83 73 42	16.4
Mas de Boislaizon, Cuvée du Quet, Prestige	£31.95-35	'Fresh, ripe nose, ripe bramble and liquorice. Fine tannins. Pepper and black fruits. Harmonious and powerful. Sustained finish. From 2010.' (CB)		BFV, Cmb, Ten, Ths, Wpr, You	16.4
Domaine des Pères de l'Eglise, Tradition	£10.61 (2003) £	'Ripe, sweet aromas of strawberries and redcurrants. Sweet Grenache fruit with spices and herbs. Good structure, quite long. From 2009.' (BH)		Lam	16.33
La Bastide Saint Dominique, Tradition	£18.99 (2004) £	'Prune hints, some dark roast plum. Very tasty. Mouthcoating, yet smooth, ripe, spicy fruit. Dry and earthy texture, long. From 2012.' (DW)		Odd, TnA	16.33

RECOMMENDED (cont...) ★★★




















Wine name	Price	Tasting note	Drinkability	Stockist	Mean score
Clos Saint Jean, Deus Ex Machina, Prestige	Sold out	'Fresh, sweet and savoury, warm, earthy and open smell. Rich, vivid, savoury, classic. Soft and open. A really enjoyable wine. From 2010.' (AJ)		ABY	16.25/20
Domaine de Nalys, Tradition	£16.99	'Compact, pretty red fruit aroma. Well-sealed fruit with a tasty tang. Develops gradually. Good typicity, balance and acidity. From 2009.' (JLL)		Lai	16.25
Domaine de la Mordorée, La Reine des Bois, Prestige	£42.46–45.39	'Pure fruits, young nose. Deep black cherry fruits. Sweet, round, fresh fruit with new oak. Balanced, well made. Very long. From 2010.' (JK)		Aly, Far, WWI	16.2
Domaine la Barroche, Pure, Prestige	£27.75–28.50	'Dark musk and spice nose. Superb, ripe, succulent raspberry/chocolate and cherry fruits. Lovely balance, long, endless flavour. From 2014.' (DW)		CdP, Gau	16.2
Domaine la Mereuille, Cuvée Foudre, Prestige	N/A UK	'Big cherry and damson nose. Lots of big, sweet fruit but also well-balanced tannins. Perfumed complexity. From 2010.' (JHS)		+33 4 90 34 10 68	16.2
Clos du Duc, Tradition	£19.99 	'Spicy roast plum and cherry aromas. Fine effort. Warm, spicy plum fruit. Dryish, slightly earthy. Focused, with fine length. From 2012.' (DW)		Lai	16
Clos Saint Jean, Tradition	£18–22	'Expressive grilled meats and Provençal herbs. Full bodied with spicy black fruit and bitter chocolate cloaked in ripe tannins. From 2011.' (TT)		ABY, Bdl, N&P	16
Cuvée du Vatican, Tradition	£15.99 	'Baked nose, hints of prune and raisin. Ripe palate on generous entry, then very traditional chunky structure. Meaty finish. From 2011.' (CB)		Lai	16
Domaine de la Janasse, Tradition	£19.99 	'Dark spice and plum, chocolate hints. Rich and full of life. Spicy, stewed meaty plum fruit. Excellent weight, balance and length. From 2012.' (DW)		ABY, Maj	16
Domaine de la Janasse, Chaupin, Prestige	£29.10	'Vibrant, red berry fruit nose. Open, soft palate. Charming strawberry and vanilla fruits. From 2009.' (JHS)		EnW, WSo	16
Domaine du Galet des Papes, Vieilles Vignes, Prestige	Not yet avail	'Cool red fruit nose. Slight herbal nature, baked fruit tart, kicks off with purpose. Good oak expression, a glimmer of sweetness. From 2009.' (JLL)		For, HvM	16
Domaine Saint Benoît, Laureline, Prestige	£29.50	'Muted nose. Lots of oak but some good fresh fruit underneath. Pretty stylish, easy. From 2008.' (BB)		BIB	16
Mas de Boislaizon, Tradition	£16.95–18.99 	'Ripe fruit tones, black cherry, prune, good intensity. Lush, ripe fruit and spice with a good density. Very attractive, very now. From 2008.' (CB)		BFV, Ten, Ths, WPs, You	16
Tour de l'Isle, Tradition	N/A UK	'Raspberry jam and musk aromas. Lovely fruit. Dry, earthy tannins. Nicely integrated and long. Will need time to reach its zenith. From 2012.' (DW)		+33 4 90 21 59 55	16
Domaine de la Mordorée, La Plume du Peintre, Prestige	£283.33	'Dense, ripe, warm. Black fruit, meaty edge. A big wine, still in youth. Masses of ripe fruits, spice. Great length and warmth. From 2014.' (CB)		Aly	15.8
Domaine de Villeneuve, Les Vieilles Vignes, Tradition	£19.95–22.95	'Bright, fresh, spicy, aromatic quality. Nice pepper and raspberry. Modern style. Intense with firm backbone and vibrant fruit. From 2010.' (AR)		Ame, Dmy, Ths, VII, You	15.8
Domaine Jean Royer, Cuvée Prestige, Prestige	N/A UK	'Gentle, suffused with spice and exotic aromas. Charming, seductive attack of ripe cherry and savoury tones. Mouthfilling. From 2009.' (CB)		+33 6 11 96 62 96	15.8
Domaine Paul Autard, Cuvée la Côte Ronde, Prestige	£25.95 (2003)	'Rich oak and minerals, slightly Italianate. Delicious, almost yoghurt acidity held in check by ripe tannins and sweet fruit. From 2009.' (JHS)		Bib	15.8
Domaine Raymond Usseglio, Cuvée Impériale, Prestige	£25–29	'Baked fruits reflect ripeness. Peppered raisin air. Conceals its intrinsic power pretty well. Good length, nice end tannic kick. From 2009.' (JLL)		BRW, Evy	15.8
Château Maucoil, Privilège, Prestige	N/A UK	'Ripe, savoury nose, good depth of black fruit and olive. Sweet, rich, silky fruit, strong impact of tannin. Powerful wine, excellent. From 2010.' (JK)		+33 4 90 34 14 86	15.75
Clos des Brusquières, Tradition	N/A UK	'Whiff of pot pourri, cherry fruit, clean, darker notes beyond. Tannins ripe and correct, pleasing grip and texture. From 2011.' (SF)		+33 4 90 83 74 47	15.75
Domaine Giraud, Les Gallimardes, Prestige	£23	'Bright, fresh nose. Juicy, intense sweet plums and prune fruit quality. Bright fruit with a firm backbone and fresh acidity. From 2010.' (AR)		Gau, GWW	15.75
Domaine Lafond Roc-Epine, Tradition	£21.95	'Lovely round, plummy fruit nose. Super flavour. Ripe, lots of backbone. An abundance of complexity. Long – a classic. From 2012.' (DW)		DBY, EdP	15.75
Domaine Patrice Magni, Tradition	£14.99 	'Sweet, ripe fruit, a little closed. Quite silky palate, sweet fruit, then structure comes through. Good acidity and ripe tannins. From 2009.' (JK)		Hmk	15.75
Domaine Roger Sabon, Prestige	£25–27.50	'Expressive beef-steak, olives and black fruit. Rich and complete. Fine weave of tannin and acidity. Alcoholic but long. From 2015.' (SF)		Gau, HvN, ThH	15.75
Domaine Versino, Tradition	£19.50 	'Nice soft nose, herbs, good depth, real CdP style. Sweet and supple, ripe black fruit. Very rich, purity, good length. From 2010.' (JK)		J&B, Jer, Lay, Mil	15.75
Gabriel Liogier, Montjoie, Tradition	£20	'Black fruit, tar and garrigue, very persuasive. Weighty. Beyond that sweet fruit and polished, ripe tannins. From 2012.' (SF)		Amp, Cty, EnV, MHI, RBa, RtB	15.75
Château Beauchene, Grand Réserve, Tradition	£16.95 	'Attractive aromas of spicy red fruits and meat. Huge concentration. Sweet, ripe tannins. Complex, long and refreshing. From 2012.' (TT)		C&B	15.6
Château Gigognan, Clos du Roi, Tradition	N/A UK	'Cooked fruits, some coffee, toast and a hint of beer. The red fruits have a tannic coating that combines well. Good length. From 2009.' (JLL)		+33 4 90 39 57 46	15.6

RECOMMENDED (cont...) ★★★

Wine name	Price	Tasting note	Drinkability	Stockist	Mean score
Domaine Bosquet des Papes, Tradition	£21	'Attractive aromas of spicy, grilled meat, white pepper and wild herbs. Full bodied. Very compact and enveloped in ripe tannins. From 2012.' (TT)		CTW, Loe, WnA, WSo	15.6/20
Domaine Bouvachon Nominé, Tradition	N/A UK	'Nutty, oaked, crunchy aroma. Attack is hidden and the texture quite rich so this needs time. Persists with some finesse. From 2009.' (JLL)		+33 4 90 51 05 59	15.6
Domaine de l'Harmas, Tradition	N/A UK	'Spicy, aromatic nose, violets, cinnamon and allspice. Fine, rich red fruits. Lovely youthful, vigorous red fruit. Classic CdP. From 2012.' (AR)		+33 4 90 61 02 71	15.6
Domaine de Nalys, Les Dix Salmées	£15.99 	'Aromatic spice, cinnamon, nutmeg. Good, rich intense fruit quality. Firm tannins, and fresh acidity. Youthful, modern style. From 2011.' (AR)		Lai	15.6
Domaine de Panisse, Confidence, Prestige	N/A UK	'Exotic, perfumed nose. Delicious Pinot-style fruit expression and softness. Palate is lovely and long. Very drinkable. From 2008.' (JHS)		+33 4 90 70 78 93	15.6
Domaine des Chanssaud, Chanssaud d'Anatan, Prestige	Not yet avail	'Ripe, earthy and vibrant nose. Very dry, leathery tannins. Lovely flavour, decent length. Just young. From 2014.' (DW)		PWW	15.6
Louis Geoffrey, Cuvée Rabelais, Prestige	N/A UK	'Unexpressive nose. Soft, elegant, quite light but lively moments and nice grippy tannins build on palate. From 2009.' (JHS)		+33 4 90 83 48 08	15.6
Brotte-Domaine Barville, Tradition	£15.50 (2003) 	'Very tasty, spicy red plum fruit. Hint of musk. Top effort and will improve. Firm and long finish. From 2012.' (DW)		LBB	15.5
Domaine André Brunel, Les Cailloux, Tradition	£24.99	'Herbal/spice aromas, warm, ripe fruit. Fresh, succulent palate, and a well-defined structure. Good fruit intensity. Delicious. From 2009.' (CB)		Arm	15.5
Domaine Bosquet des Papes, Chante le Merle, Prestige	£30-36	'Classic aromas of herbs, fennel and red fruit. Firm tannins, plenty of black fruit. Excellent length. From 2016.' (SF)		CTW, Loe, WnA, WSo	15.5
Domaine du Père Pape, Tradition	£13.95 	'A little lifted, dense black fruit. Palate is attractive, hinting at sweetness, power and fine winemaking. From 2016.' (SF)		WSo	15.5
Domaine Font de Michelle, Cuvée Etienne Gonnet	£28-34	'Attractive savouriness on the start, forest fruits. Sweet, rich youthful fruit, good ageing potential. Integrated tannins. From 2009.' (JK)		Arm, Cio, Evy, Gdh, L&W, Mer, Tan, Wai	15.5
Domaine Monpertuis, Cuvée Tradition	N/A UK	'Quite serious nose, perfumed, liquorice and violets. Lots of soft, lush fruits. Tannins a little dry but may come together. From 2009.' (BH)		+33 4 90 83 73 87	15.5
Château la Nerthe, Cuvée des Cadettes	£64.88	'Super yoghurt and farmyard nose. Highly characterful. I love the acidity, extraction and character, but quite atypical. From 2009.' (JHS)		C&C	15.4
Château Mont-Thabor, Tradition	N/A UK	'Sweet, fresh, herbal, touch of mint and vanilla. Very Provence. Dense, concentrated. From 2010.' (AJ)		+33 4 90 33 16 21	15.4
Domaine de Beurenard, Tradition	£21.99	'An honest wine, with liquoricey black fruits. Nice palate with lively fruit. A bit closed but will open to show layers of complexity. From 2009.' (JK)		BWC, CeO, Hai, VGW	15.4
Domaine Giraud, Les Grenaches de Pierre	Sold out	'Bright blackcurrant fruit, sweet and ripe. A little one-dimensional but very appealing. From 2008.' (BB)		Gau	15.4
Domaine la Millièrre, Tradition	£20.99-21.99	'A supple note to the bouquet. Cherry fruit here with a little earthiness. Restrained start – a lissom feel through the palate. From 2008.' (JLL)		Ave, BnC, Cmb, Far, SWC, Unc	15.4
Domaine la Roquette, l'Accent de la Roquette	£35	'Lovely balance, drinkable wine with an appealing mixture of elegant fruit, power and minerality. A charming wine. From 2009.' (JHS)		L&W	15.4
Perrin & Fils, Les Sinauds, Tradition	£19.99 	'Even fruit aroma, pretty pure, a little smoke and potential. Mild, red fruit. Traditional wine. From 2009.' (JLL)		Lai	15.4
Domaine Jean Deydier & Fils, Les Clefs d'Or, Tradition	£16 	'Warm, sweaty plum nuances. A fine mouthful. Lots of ripe musk and plum flavours. Well balanced and long, it's all here. From 2010.' (DW)		Jas	15.33
Alain Jaume, Vieux Terron, Tradition	N/A UK	'Succulent, ripe berry nose. Deeply fruited with spice. Firm tannic core but the finish promises a flavoursome future. From 2010.' (CB)		+33 4 90 34 68 70	15.25
Château Simian, Tradition	£18 	'Warm, plummy nose. Very fine flavour. Lots of fruit, long, fine chewy tannins. Balanced and simply delicious. From 2012.' (DW)		Wtk	15.25
Clos du Caillou, Les Quartz	£31.45-35.35	'Powerful, masculine nose, black fruits, olive and nice perfume. Pure fruit palate. Integrated firm tannins, a little closed on finish. From 2010.' (JK)		HBa, You	15.25
Domaine de Fontavin	£16.99	'Nose somewhat unformed – cloves, eucalyptus and black fruit. Weighty, pleasing palate. At the same time attractive and rich. From 2012.' (SF)		Lai	15.25
Domaine de la Solitude, Cuvée Barberini	£46.99	'Cream, herbal, blackcurrant, spice. Fairly straightforward with bags of red and black fruit personality. Grip and good length. From 2013.' (SF)		Hal	15.25
Domaine des Sénéchaux, Tradition	£19 	'Ripe pepper and raspberry nose. Supple, rich palate, plenty of length with dense fruit. Verging on unctuous but held in check. From 2010.' (CB)		BBR, HoC, NGW	15.25
Domaine du Vieux Lazaret, Cuvée Exceptionnelle	£19.99	'Good herby nose with concentrated black fruits and liquorice. Sweet, fresh, good purity of concentrated fruit. Long evolution. From 2009.' (JK)		Oxf, Whb	15.25
Domaine Roger Perrin, Tradition	£14.74 	'Earthy nose with some red berry fruits coming through. Lots of cool red fruits. Ripe and well made. From 2009.' (BH)		F&R	15.25

RECOMMENDED (cont...) ★★★

Wine name	Price	Tasting note	Drinkability	Stockist	Mean score
Domaine Roger Perrin, Réserve des Vieilles Vignes	£32.27–35	'Deep, rich fruit with envelope of oak. Good, rich, deep forest fruit, quite closed. Sweet, succulent, good structure and length. From 2009.' (JK)		F&R, Spi	15.25/20
Domaine Roger Sabon, Les Olivets, Tradition	£17.50 	'Herbs, chocolate and nutmeg. Young but full of promise. Delightful gazelle-like tannins, fruit as a layer of pleasing repose. From 2014.' (SF)		HvN, ThH	15.25
Domaine Saint Benoît, Tradition	N/A UK	'Lifted and perfumed. Nice, elegant style. Sweet truffles and ripe red fruits. From 2008.' (BH)		+33 4 90 83 51 36	15.25
Domaine Saint Benoît, Elise	£18.49 	'Nice spicy cinnamon and nutmeg aromas. Good, rich, spicy, sweet plum and dark cherry fruit. Bodes well for long haul. From 2012.' (AR)		BIB	15.25
M Chapoutier, Organic – Les Incontournables	£21.49	'Complete and complex. Creamy oak, mixed spice character, strawberry fruit, liquorice. Quite heady black fruit and meaty spine. From 2015.' (SF)		Men, WFM	15.25
Ogier, Clos de l'Oratoire, Tradition	£14.99–17.99 	'Dark, meaty nose. A big, yet very flavoursome wine. Oceans of fruit, nicely integrated tannin. Super balance and length. From 2012.' (DW)		Sai	15.25
Domaine Bosquet des Papes, A la Gloire de mon Grand-Père	£25–27	'Warm plum and ripe redcurrant. Super balance. Layers of ripe, complex berry, plum and spice. Firm, long and very fine. From 2014.' (DW)		CTW, Loe, WnA, WSo	15.2
Domaine de Cristia, Vieilles Vignes	£35	'Amazingly ripe and lush, and hugely atypical. Highly impressive and lovely tannin handling, but not really Châteauneuf. From 2010.' (JHS)		F&R	15.2
Domaine de la Présidente, Grands Classiques	£19.99 	'Berry fruit, slightly low key. A little red fruit liqueur. Another wine in its shell. Tannins well judged. Ripeness and a wee kick. 2009–23.' (JLL)		ARE, TDS	15.2
Domaine de la Solitude, Cuvée Cornelia Constanza	Not yet avail	'Fairly clean and modern nose. Strong, lovely full-flavoured palate. Lovely ripe tannins. From 2009.' (JHS)		Hal	15.2
Domaine de l'Harmas, Réserve de Felicien	N/A UK	'Fresh nose, dusty prune and red berry fruit – quite traditional but rich. Elegant and supple. A fresh, clean finish. From 2009.' (CB)		+33 4 90 61 02 71	15.2
Domaine des Chanssaud, Tradition	Not yet avail	'Good, rich nose with good depth of fruit. Round sweetness and nicely integrated tannins. Enjoyable drinking in a year or two. From 2009.' (JK)		PWW	15.2
Domaine Isabel Ferrando, Colombis, Tradition	£24.34	'Woody, spicy, cloves. Fresh red fruits and quite a lot of vanilla oak. Sweetly fruity and quite warm. Attractive. From 2008.' (BB)		ABt	15.2
Domaine les Giraud Boulou, Tradition	N/A UK	'Strongly perfumed with herbs and flowers. Unusual, attractive, very Provençal. Typical of vintage. I like its perfumed quality. From 2009.' (AJ)		+33 6 12 24 42 01	15.2
Domaine Raymond Usseglio, Tradition	£19.70–20 	'Soft, red fruits. Promising nose. Good, ripe fruit start with an appealing sweet tickle. Well balanced. Has the depth to evolve. From 2009.' (JLL)		Alb, BBR, C&H	15.2
La Ferme du Mont, Côtes Capelan, Tradition	£16.99 	'Some of the vintage ripeness in this. Muted fruits, good potential. Core matter is ripe and gutsy. Ends on a touch potent air. From 2009.' (JLL)		Nak, Twv	15.2
Chastan Pierry, La Fagotière, Tradition	N/A UK	'Attractive peppery nose with ripe fruit and a touch of game. Ripe tannins give structure. Retains freshness along with warmth. From 2009.' (CB)		+33 4 90 34 51 81	15
Château de Beaucastel	£55–60	'Sleek, shapely black fruit that promises to open more. Streamlined juicy black fruit. Finishes roundly. Late dash of liquorice. 2009–24.' (JLL)		BBR, Lai, Sel, Tan, WSo	15
Château des Fines Roches, Tradition	N/A UK	'Spicy, almost smoky nose. Ripe, juicy fruit. Stewed plum, meat and cherry tomato. Earthy layer of tannin. Nice length. From 2012.' (DW)		+33 4 90 83 51 73	15
Château Gigognan, Cardinalice	N/A UK	'Spice, new oak, graphite and roast plum. Stuffed with tannin. Layers of earthy, ripe flavours. Long, will be very good. From 2016.' (DW)		+33 4 90 39 57 46	15
Domaine Chante Cigale, Tradition	£15.99	'Herby, perfumed nose. Quite attractive with good black fruits and liquorice. Ripe, round, sweet palate. Deep, ripe tannins. From 2010.' (JK)		BCe, DBY, Rhy, Vyd, WtB, You	15
Domaine de Marcoux, Tradition	£27.19–27.77	'Lovely rich nose, elegant, herby, deep complexity. Elegant and rich, ripe fruit, sweetish. Subtle, beautiful wine for pleasure. From 2009.' (JK)		Aly, Gns	15
Domaine de Panisse, Noble Révélation	N/A UK	'Smoky cherry aromas. Cherry, oak fruit with excellent openness of flavour. Young with lovely freshness. Good length. From 2009.' (BB)		+33 4 90 70 78 93	15
Domaine Font de Michelle, Tradition	£15–17.99 	'Shy garrigue and a hint of menthol. Honest, traditional Grenache-dominated. Balanced, tannins subtle yet present. From 2012.' (SF)		Arm, Cio, Gdh, L&W, Tan, Wai, WSo	15
Domaine la Mereuille, Tradition	N/A UK	'Oak, chocolate, violets and meat. Palate is broad, densely textured. A horizon of potential with plenty of acidity and tannin. From 2015.' (SF)		+33 4 90 34 10 68	15
Domaine la Roquette, Tradition	£19 	'A well put-together set of aromatics and fruits, spice and herbs. Shows depth and integration. A sustained, structured finish. From 2009.' (CB)		L&W	15
Domaine Lucien Barrot et Fils, Tradition	£14.99 	'Intense, spicy, aromatic fruit. Promising aromas. Bright, dark cherry fruit with firm backbone. Good Châteauneuf vein. From 2010.' (AR)		Maj	15
Domaine Pontifical, Tradition	Not yet avail	'Red fruits with a nice wild, brambly air. Herbs and good typicity. Well-assured fruit. Good length and ends nice and clear. From 2009.' (JLL)		HoP	15
Clos du Mont-Olivet, Tradition	£16.50–22 	'Lively nose, elegant, soft, subtle herbs, red and blackberry fruits and liquorice. Sweet, silky palate. Good length. From 2008.' (JK)		Gau, Hal	14.8
Domaine de Cristia, Renaissance	£39.71–41.67	'Very sweet, big black fruits and lush, ripe tannins. Extremely modern and not at all typical. From 2009.' (JHS)		F&R, HBa	14.8

RECOMMENDED (cont...) ★★★					
Wine name	Price	Tasting note	Drinkability	Stockist	Mean score
Domaine de Ferrand, Tradition	£18.95 (2004) £	'Quite dense fruit quality, bright, dark cherry. Modern. From 2009.' (AR)		VTr	14.8/20
Domaine de la Charbonnière, Cuvée Domaine, Tradition	£17.95 £	'Youthful, spicy, aromatic character. Rich, modern dark fruits. Sweetness and spice, good balance. Modern style. From 2010.' (AR)		GWW	14.8
Domaine de la Roncière, Tradition	N/A UK	'Aromas of smoky fruit and earth. Good sweet, ripe, red fruit with refreshing acidity. Creamy, red fruits. From 2010.' (TT)		+33 4 90 83 48 08	14.8
Domaine Moulin-Tacussel, Cuvée Unique, Tradition	£16 £	'Red berry with potential for more nuance. A wine of measured red fruits. Runs true to the finish. A little late herbal/garrigue. From 2009.' (JLL)		Gen	14.8
Château de la Gardine, Cuvée des Générations Gaston Philippe, Prestige	£51.50 (03)	'Fresh raspberry. Bright, youthful, cherryish, modern style. Well crafted with a veneer of vanilla oak. A bright, vigorous style. From 2010.' (AR)		18c	14.75
Château Maucoil, Tradition	N/A UK	'Lovely purity of blackberries and other forest fruits. Acidity gives freshness. Should develop very well. From 2009.' (BH)		+33 4 90 34 14 86	14.75
Domaine Chante Cigale, Vieilles Vignes, Prestige	£23	'Herbs, lavender, woodsmoke and violets. Classic, subtle, elegant. Tannic now but the ripe black fruit backdrop is impressive. From 2016.' (SF)		BoW, Sel	14.75
Domaine de la Présidente, Nonciature, Prestige	Not yet avail	'Lashings of new oak on the attack, then black fruit comes through. Sweet coconutty oak dominates at present. Plenty there. From 2010.' (JK)		StG	14.75
Domaine la Boutinière, Tradition	Not yet avail	'Subdued cough medicine and cherry nose. Plenty of tannin. Plenty of fruit flavour. Should be very tasty. From 2012.' (DW)		The	14.75
Domaine Roger Sabon, Réserve, Tradition	Not yet avail	'Herbs, tea, wads of Grenache charm. An unequivocal statement of dark intent. Savoury, herbal. From 2013.' (SF)		ThH	14.75
Château Beauchêne, Vignobles de la Serrière, Tradition	£15.99 £	'Warm nose showing herbiness already. A hint of black cherry. Silky fruit with nice elegant minerality. Black fruits. Nice style. From 2008.' (JK)		PrC	14.6
Château Mont-Redon, Tradition	£20-25	'Expressive and open-knit, a toasty and ripe black fruit nose. Full bodied, suave, creamy and toasty. Modern style, silky tannin. From 2010.' (TT)		FMV	14.6
Christophe Mestre, Cuvée des Sommeliers, Tradition	N/A UK	'Rich and spicy, pure black fruit nose. A good amount of spicy black fruit. Spice and Provençal herbs, fresh acidity and ripe tannins. From 2010.' (TT)		+33 4 90 83 56 67	14.6
Domaine de Saint Siffrein, Tradition	Not yet avail	'Some baked fruits, red cherry. Quietly persistent. A few late herbs, respectable. Tannins need a year. From 2009.' (JLL)		CTW	14.6
Domaine Mathieu, Gaussin d'Armandy, Tradition	N/A UK	'Deep, rich nose, nicely complete. Sweet, silky, fairly forward, attractive. Enjoyable, drinkable, good acidity and complexity. From 2009.' (JK)		+33 4 90 83 72 09	14.6
Domaine Mathieu, Tradition	£16.99 £	'Starting to evolve, fresh, spicy, aromatic. Attractively juicy berry fruit. Supple, soft, approachable tannins and good balance. From 2010.' (AR)		BoC, ChM	14.6
Domaine de la Pierre, Tradition	N/A UK	'Strawberry and camomile. Energetic promise is nicely balanced by firm, grippy tannins. Generous alcohol and good length. From 2012.' (SF)			14.5
Domaine le Pointu, Tradition	N/A UK	'Smooth red fruits and spice with some development already. Cherry, liquorice, good freshness and fair finish. From 2008.' (BH)		+33 4 90 51 03 62	14.5
Domaine Porte Rouge, Tradition	N/A UK	'Plummy, generous, <i>comme il faut</i> . Ripe fruit, black cherry and fruits of the forest. Mineral on finish, fine tannins. From 2012.' (SF)		+33 6 80 67 85 02	14.5

FAIR ★★

■ Château de la Gardine, Tradition (14.4);
 ■ Domaine de Reveirolles, Tradition (14.4);
 ■ Domaine du Vieux Lazaret, Tradition (14.4); ■ Château de Vaudieu, Tradition (14.4);
 ■ Domaine Comte de Lauze, Tradition (14.33);
 ■ Waitrose, Perrin et Fils, Chemin des Mulets, Tradition (14.33); ■ Clos Saint Michel, Tradition (14.25); ■ Maison Bouschon, La Tiare du Pape, Tradition (14.25); ■ Domaine Juliette Avril, Tradition (14.25); ■ Les Deux Rhônes, Tradition (14.25); ■ Brotte-Domaine Barville, Optimum, Prestige (14.25); ■ Domaine de la Charbonnière, Hautes Brusquières, Prestige (14.25); ■ Domaine la Boutinière, Grande Réserve Vieilles Vignes, Prestige (14.25);
 ■ Domaine de la Charbonnière, Vieilles Vignes, Prestige (14.25); ■ Domaine Giraud, Tradition (14.2); ■ Domaine de Cristia, Tradition (14.2); ■ Domaine du Grand Tinel, Cuvée Alexis Establet, Prestige (14.25);
 ■ Domaine Mathieu, Marquis Anselme Mathieu, Prestige (14.2); ■ M Chapoutier, La Bernardine, Prestige (14.2); ■ Château

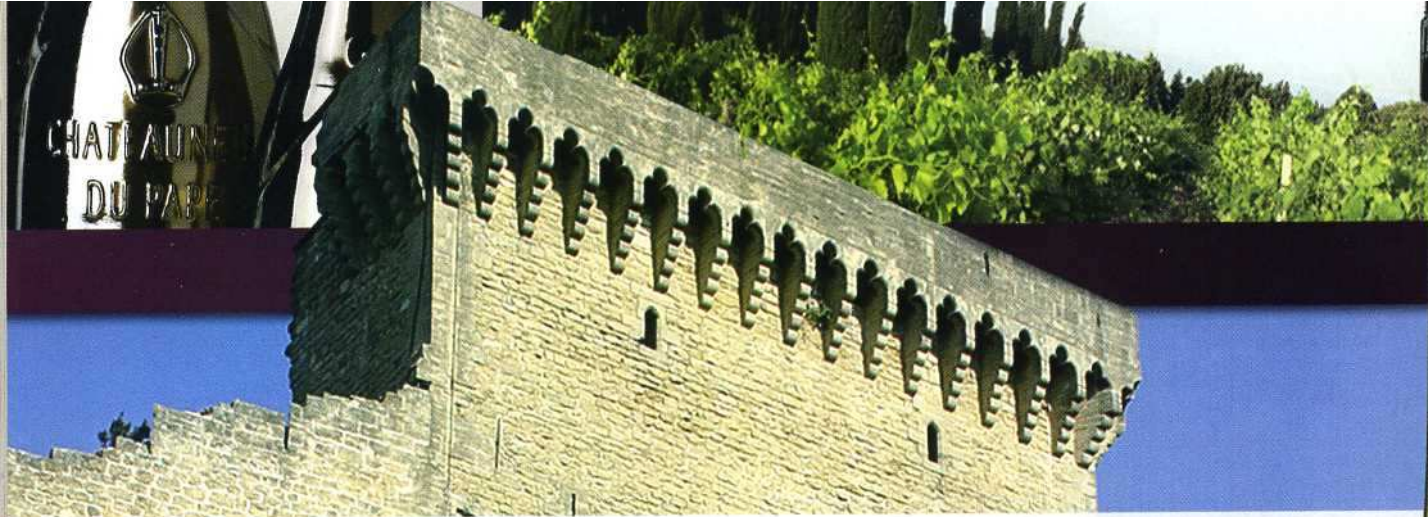
Cabrières, Tradition (14); ■ Domaine de l'Arnesque, Cuvée Capelane, Tradition (14);
 ■ Domaine de Pignan, Tradition (14);
 ■ Domaine du Grand Tinel, Tradition (14);
 ■ Domaine du Banneret, Tradition (14);
 ■ Domaine Serguier, Tradition (14);
 ■ Domaine Galévan, Tradition (14);
 ■ Domaine Berthet-Rayne, Prestige (14);
 ■ Domaine Mathieu, Vin di Felibre, Prestige (14);
 ■ Château Fortia, Cuvée du Baron, Prestige (14); ■ Domaine Saint Préfert, Réserve Auguste Favier, Prestige (14);
 ■ Château Fortia, Tradition (13.75); ■ Domaine des Saumades, Tradition (13.6); ■ Domaine du Galet des Papes, Tradition (13.5); ■ Château de la Font du Loup, Les Fondateurs, Prestige (13.4); ■ Brotte-Domaine Barville, Vieilles Vignes, Prestige (13.5); ■ Domaine les Giraud Boulou, Lou Patcaiaiu, Prestige (13.5);
 ■ Château de Vaudieu, Val de Dieu, Prestige (13.5); ■ Domaine du Vieux Télégraphe, Télégramme, Tradition (13.4);
 ■ Domaine Jérôme Gradassi, Tradition

(13.4); ■ Domaine de la Côte l'Ange, Tradition (13.25); ■ Domaine de Fontavin, Cuvée David & Goliath, Prestige (13.25);
 ■ Domaine de la Roncière, Flor de Ronce, Prestige (13.25); ■ Clos Saint Michel, Cuvée Réserve, Prestige (13.25); ■ La Bastide Saint Dominique, Secrets de Pignan, Prestige (13.25); ■ Domaine Charvin, Tradition (13.2);
 ■ Domaine de la Sainte Vierge, Tradition (13.2); ■ Domaine Pierre Usseglio et Fils, Tradition (13.2); ■ Vignobles Maynard, Clos du Calvaire, Tradition (13); ■ Domaine Tour Saint Michel, La Tour du Lion, Prestige (12.75);
 ■ Domaine Cros de la Mûre, Tradition (12.66); ■ Château Gigognan, Vigne du Régent, Tradition (12.66); ■ Vignobles Maynard, la Crau de ma Mère, Prestige (12.5)

POOR ★

■ Domaine Duclaux, Tradition (12)

For full UK stockist details, see page 116.



A Winegrower's Commitment to Quality Stands behind Every Mitrail

THE GRACEFUL FORM AND UNIQUE CHARACTER OF THE MITRALE BOTTLE REFLECT BOTH THE SPIRIT OF CHÂTEAUNEUF-DU-PAPE AS WELL AS THE WINEGROWERS' NEVER-ENDING COMMITMENT TO QUALITY AND PERFECTION.

UNITED UNDER A METICULOUS QUALITY CHARTER,* WHICH REGULATES THE USE OF THE MITRALE, THE WINEGROWERS OF CHÂTEAUNEUF-DU-PAPE PLEDGE TO ENSURE FLAWLESS QUALITY IN ORDER TO OFFER YOU THE VERY BEST WINES POSSIBLE IN THESE EXCEPTIONAL BOTTLES. THESE BOTTLES ARE SIGNS OF UNVARYING, UNQUESTIONABLE QUALITY...



Domaine Paul AUTARD • Vignobles Jean AVRIL • Mas de BOISLAUZON • Les Vins BOUACHON • Domaine BOUVACHON NOMINE • Château CABRIERES • Le Cellier des PRINCES • Domaine de CHANABAS • Domaine des CHANSSAUD • Domaine CHANTE CIGALE • Domaine CHARVIN • Domaine de CHATEAUMAR • La Compagnie RHODANIENNE • Vignobles la COTERIE • Domaine de FERRAND • Domaine GALEVAN • Domaine GIULIANI • Domaine GRAND VENEUR • Vignobles Alain JAUME & FILS • Domaine de la GRAVEIRETTE • Domaine de l'HARMAS • Domaine du HAUT DES TERRES BLANCHES • Château de HUSSON • Domaine de la JAUFRETTE • Patrick LESEC SELECTIONS • Domaine LOU DEVET • Domaine LOU FREJAU • Château MAUCOIL • Vignobles MAYARD • Domaine la MILLIERE • Château MONT REDON • Domaine MOULIN TACUSSEL • Domaine de PALESTOR • Domaine de PANISSE • Domaine Roger PERRIN • Domaine de la PRESIDENTE • TERROIRS DU SOLEIL • Les Propriétaires RECOLTANTS REUNIS • Vignobles Jérôme QUIOT • Jérôme QUIOT SELECTION • R & D VINS • Gabriel REY • Domaine RICHE • Domaine Roger SABON • Clos SAINT JEAN • Domaine SAINT LAURENT • Clos SAINT MICHEL • Domaine de SAINT SIFFREIN • Château SIMIAN • La Ferme du MONT • Domaine des BARULETTES • COMBE et Filles LA FOURMONE

* THE QUALITY CHARTER AND CONTACT DETAILS ARE AVAILABLE ONLINE AT
WWW.LAMITRALE.COM

SAINT-GOBAIN
EMBALLAGE



CHÂTEAUNEUF-DU-PAPE



Quality beyond comparison

THE MITRALE, A GRACEFUL, MITRE-SHAPED BOTTLE EMBLAZONED WITH THE CEREMONIAL CAP OF THE POPE, ENCASES OUR WINES IN ELEGANCE. ITS GRACEFUL CURVES AND ITS SOFT, SHAPELY FORM INVITE YOU TO TAKE IT IN YOUR HANDS AS IF IT WERE A PRECIOUS JEWEL. IT IS TRULY A NOBLE SYMBOL OF AN AGE-OLD TRADITION.

THE MITRALE ATTESTS TO THE GLORY OF THE PAST WHILE PLAYING AN INTEGRAL ROLE IN THE INNOVATIVE TRADITION OF CHÂTEAUNEUF-DU-PAPE WINES.

THE MITRALE .375 L IS THE NEWCOMER TO A GROUP OF THREE CLASSIC BOTTLES – THE .75 L, THE MAGNUM (1.5 L) AND THE JEROBOAM (3 L). THE WINEGROWERS OF CHÂTEAUNEUF-DU-PAPE OFFER A UNIQUE LINE OF BOTTLES THAT MEET EVER-CHANGING MARKET DEMANDS AND THE UNCOMPROMISING STANDARDS OF CONSUMERS.

