



2009 Châteauneuf du Pape

Tuesday, November 21, 2017

Reception Wine: 6:00 PM, Formal Tasting: 6:20 PM

Faculty Club, Univ. of Toronto, 41 Willcocks Street, Toronto

Members' Fee: \$79; Guests'/Non-Members' Fee: \$99

To visit the village of Châteauneuf du Pape (CdP) one would travel France's A7 highway that parallels the path of the Rhone River. CdP is a small and ancient village that really was once the new castle of the Pope. Châteauneuf du Pape literally translates to the "Pope's new castle" from the time when the Pope moved to Avignon in 1309. The first Pope in Avignon was an avid wine lover and most of the wine made at that time was produced by the Church, for the Church, and for its religious activities. By 1344, 45% of CdP was devoted to producing grapes for wine.

That was long ago and today the village continues to lend its name to an important southern Rhone wine appellation or, in French, an "appellation d'origine contrôlée" or AOC. Defined by the A7 on the eastern boundary and the Rhone River to the west, the CdP AOC covers over 100,000 hectares and boasts almost 200 producers of fine wine.

Presently, counting both red and white varieties, the AOC allows up to 18 different grape varieties in CdP wine. In red wine typically one encounters blends dominated by Grenache Noir, Syrah, and Mourvèdre. While the red wines of Châteauneuf du Pape are produced in a wide and diverse array of styles, they share the common characteristics of fresh red and black cherries, strawberry, kirsch, black pepper, black raspberry, spice, earth, and "garrigue", which is the fresh herbs - juniper, thyme, rosemary and lavender - typical of the region. The textures can be lush, lusty and luscious when young, and take on silky characteristics with age. They can be drunk young but can also age for decades, although that's generally not the norm. The 'sweet spot' for most CdP wines is between 8 and 12 years. Read more about CdP AOC at: <https://www.thewinecellarinsider.com/rhone-wines-cote-rotie-hermitage-chateauneuf-du-pape/chateauneuf-du-pape-wine-producer-profiles/>

In this tasting, we will be pouring eight wines from the 2009 vintage. You can judge whether the famous wine critic Robert Parker is right. He rates 2009 as an outstanding, early maturing, and accessible vintage. Seven of the wines that we will be tasting are from the CdP AOC and one is from the less-famous Vinsobres appellation that lies to the North East of CdP. The Vinsobres appellation wine is made from Grenache and Syrah grapes, from which other CdP wines are made. Does this appellation offer similar quality and better value than CdP wines? Join us for this tasting and judge for yourself.

The event price includes a reception wine, bread, appetizers and of course, our main wines! Please refrain from wearing scented products. Dress is business casual.

REGISTER/BUY TICKETS. You must register [online](#) and pay by credit card or cheque. **NOTE: ALL ticket sales/reservations are final.** Cheques must be received by Nov. 17. The cheque-payment option will be disabled 6 days prior to the event after which only PayPal (bank withdrawals & credit card payments) will be accepted. You will receive an email confirmation after completing your registration. If you tried to register but did not receive your confirmation, please contact winetastings@torontovintners.org before trying to register again.

Tasting Notes and Information

*Note: The prices shown for each wine are what TVC paid for the wines.
They do not reflect current market value.*

2009 Cuvee Anonyme CDP \$57

"A gorgeous and robust blend of 25% Grenache, 25% Mourvèdre, 25% Syrah grapes with the balance being 25% Counoise, Vaccarese and other grapes. Seductive nose of black cherry and blackberry liqueur, anise underbrush, cedar. Aromatic, complex, layered and deep with a very long finish. Worth every penny." Natalie Maclean, reviewed July 6, 2013. 97/100

2009 Chatueau Capucine (Christophe Coste) CDP \$44

"A new entry in my Châteauneuf du Pape tastings, this impressive 2009 Chateauneuf du Pape is a sleeper of the vintage that is loaded with potential. Its deep ruby/purple color is followed by a layered, full-bodied wine displaying abundant kirsch, licorice, garrigue and spice box characteristics and beautiful density, purity and overall equilibrium. This big, rich Châteauneuf was made from 100% Grenache aged in 100% small oak barrels. It comes from the sector of Châteauneuf du Pape known as Gallimardes and should drink well for a decade or more." Robert Parker, 191, *The Wine Advocate*, Oct 30th, 2010. 90-93/100

2009 Domaine De La Janasse CDP \$59

"The 2009 Châteauneuf du Pape is probably one of the strongest "regular" efforts I have ever tasted from Sabon. This dense purple blend of 75 to 80% Grenache and the rest Mourvedre and Syrah, aged in truncated wood cuves and foudres, has a beautiful, sweet nose of black cherry jam intermixed with roasted herbs, black currants, forest floor and a hint of charcoal. The wine has great intensity, full-bodied opulence, and a striking seductiveness that is already irresistible. It should continue to drink well for 12-15 years." Robert Parker, 197, *The Wine Advocate*, Oct. 30th, 2011. 94/100

2009 Domaine De Vieux Lazaret, CDP Cuvée Exceptionnelle \$61

« The deep purple-hued, savory Vieux Lazaret 2009 Châteauneuf du Pape Cuvée Exceptionnelle (a blend of 90% concrete-aged Grenache and 10% small barrel-aged Syrah from 40- to 85-year-old vines) is a richer, fuller, more intense and compelling example of the traditional cuvee. Given the voluptuous nature and opulence of the 2009 vintage, this wine can be drunk now or cellared for 15 years. It is expansive and full-bodied with copious

black cherry and black raspberry fruit notes intertwined with hints of licorice and incense. This seductive effort is irresistible." Robert Parker, 197, *The Wine Advocate*, Oct. 30th, 2011. 93/100

2009 Domaine De La Charbonnière, CDP Cuvée Mourre des Perdix \$55

"Sexy, full-bodied, sweetly fruited southern Rhone that offers textbook notes of kirsch, black cherries, incense and dried flowers. It shows the upfront, perfumed style of the vintage, yet has a beautiful elegance, as well as impressive length. Drink it through 2029." Jeb Dunnuck, 227, *The Wine Advocate*, Oct. 28th 2016. 94/100

2009 La Célestière, La Croze CDP \$59

"A single vineyard, 100% Grenache cuvee aged in concrete, the 2009 Châteauneuf du Pape La Croze displays classic strawberry, black cherry, composty notes intermixed with pepper and roasted herbs. The lightest of the three 2009s, it possesses a medium ruby color, sweet fruit and an upfront lushness that is slightly less intense from bottle than it was last year from barrel." Robert Parker, 197, *The Wine Advocate*, Oct. 30th, 2011. 88/100

2009 Chateau Simian, CDP les Grandes Grenachières d'Hippolyte \$66

"The 2009 Châteauneuf du Pape Les Grandes Grenachieres d'Hippolyte (95% Grenache and 5% miscellaneous grapes, all aged one year in tank) is a brilliant expression of Grenache. Aromas of licorice, raspberries and black cherries are followed by a full-bodied, opulently textured, complex, generous wine that satisfies both the hedonistic and intellectual senses. It should drink well for at least a decade." Robert Parker, 197, *The Wine Advocate*, Oct. 30th, 2011. 93/100

2009 Perrin & Fils, Vinsobres Les Hauts De Julien \$45

". . . Made from equal parts Grenache and Syrah, the 2009 hits all the palate's sweet spots offering up notes of graphite, truffles, blueberries, blackberries, licorice and camphor. Full-bodied with crisp acidity, wonderful purity and vivid freshness and delineation, it should drink well for 10-15+ years." Robert Parker, 191, *The Wine Advocate*, Oct. 30th, 2010. 92-94/100