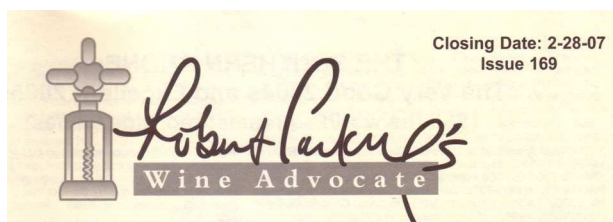


Robert Parker lauds Paul Autard's 2004 and 2005s, praising the Chateauneuf du Pape Cuvee La Cote Ronde as a "...stylish, elegant, progressive Chateauneuf du Pape to drink over the next decade."

The Wine Enthusiast, issue 169 2-28-07



| | | | | | |
|-------------|------|---|-----------------|-------|---------|
| PAUL AUTARD | 2005 | CHATEAUNEUF DU PAPE | (\$40.00-45.00) | RED | (87-89) |
| PAUL AUTARD | 2004 | CHATEAUNEUF DU PAPE | (\$38.00) | RED | 88 |
| PAUL AUTARD | 2005 | CHATEAUNEUF DU PAPE BLANC | (\$45.00) | WHITE | 86 |
| PAUL AUTARD | 2005 | CHATEAUNEUF DU PAPE CUVÉE LA COTE RONDE | (\$50.00-55.00) | RED | (91-94) |
| PAUL AUTARD | 2004 | CHATEAUNEUF DU PAPE CUVÉE LA COTE RONDE | (\$50.00) | RED | 90 |
| PAUL AUTARD | 2005 | COTES DU RHONE | (\$16.00) | RED | 85 |

This is a relatively modern style of Châteauneuf du Pape, especially the top cuvée called La Côte Ronde, which always seems to reveal evidence of some of the wine being aged in barriques. The 2004s show well, in a very forward style, with the **2004 Châteauneuf du Pape** revealing plenty of resinous pine forest notes intermixed with some sweet black cherry fruit, caramel, and spicy, peppery earthiness. It is soft, medium-bodied, and ideal for drinking over the next 5-6 years. The denser **2004 Châteauneuf du Pape Cuvée La Côte Ronde** has a deeper ruby/plum color and expansive mouthfeel with good freshness, plenty of spice box, cedar, pepper, and kirsch liqueur notes. The oak seems well-integrated and only a minor influence in the overall style of the wine. This is a stylish, elegant, progressive Châteauneuf du Pape to drink over the next decade.

The **2005 Côtes du Rhône** offers plenty of peppery garrigue notes in a medium-bodied, easygoing style to be consumed over its first 2-3 years of life. The **2005 Châteauneuf du Pape** shows a denser ruby/purple-

tinged color than its 2004 sibling and more primary fruit without the spices and resinous notes. The wine is rich, with lovely fruit, medium body, good acidity, and a slightly more narrow finish, largely because of tannin and acids. It should drink well for up to a decade or more. Probably the best cuvée Autard has made since 1998 is his **2005 Châteauneuf du Pape Cuvée La Côte Ronde**. Opaque bluish purple-colored with the wood toned down, even in its exuberant youthfulness this full-bodied wine is nicely layered and shows plenty of black raspberry, kirsch, melted licorice, and black cherry notes, depth, richness, and an expansive layered texture. This is a beauty and one of the real stars of the vintage. It should be at its best between 2009 and 2017. The **2005 Châteauneuf du Pape Blanc** is a nicely textured, dry white showing notes of flowers, pear, and a hint of tropical fruit in a crisp, refreshing style meant for drinking over the next 1-2 years.