

# Wine Advocate Praises Paul Autard's 2009 and 2010 Chateauneuf du Papes

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PAUL AUTARD	2010	CHATEAUNEUF DU PAPE	(not yet released)	RED	(90-92)
PAUL AUTARD	2009	CHATEAUNEUF DU PAPE	(\$45.00)	RED	89
PAUL AUTARD	2010	CHATEAUNEUF DU PAPE CUVÉE LA CÔTE RONDE	(not yet released)	RED	(92-94)
PAUL AUTARD	2009	CHATEAUNEUF DU PAPE CUVÉE LA CÔTE RONDE	(\$65.00)	RED	93
PAUL AUTARD	2010	CHATEAUNEUF DU PAPE CUVÉE JULINE	(not yet released)	RED	(90-92)
PAUL AUTARD	2009	CHATEAUNEUF DU PAPE CUVÉE JULINE	(\$65.00)	RED	91+?

The **2009 Châteauneuf du Pape** (70% Grenache and the rest Syrah and Counoise aged in old small barrels) exhibits delicious notes of sweet cherries, mulberries, tobacco leaf, licorice and spice box. Lush, round and medium to full-bodied, it is ideal for drinking over the next 7-8 years. Autard's quasi-modern-styled offering is the dense plum/purple-colored **2009 Châteauneuf du Pape Cuvée La Côte Ronde**, a blend of equal parts Grenache and Syrah from relatively old vines (60 plus years) that sees some new oak barrels. However, the 2009 shows only subtle evidence of vanillin and toast. It is a seductive, full-bodied, opulent effort displaying notes of caramelized red and black fruits, herbs, licorice and a hint of ink. This full-bodied, rich 2009 is ideal for drinking over the next 12+ years. The most controversial wine in this portfolio is the **2009 Châteauneuf du Pape Cuvée Juline** (named after Autard's children, Jules and Pauline). Made from the same blend as La Côte Ronde, fermented in new oak and aged in the upright truncated new oak foudres, it is an internationally-styled, "love it or leave it" Châteauneuf du Pape. It possesses an inky purple color as well as copious graphite,

will last for 10-15 years, but if you are looking for an unoaked, naked Châteauneuf du Pape, this may not be to your liking.

The 2010s all reveal deeper colors, higher acids, and more focus and precision. The **2010 Châteauneuf du Pape** possesses abundant black cherry and black currant fruit intermixed with notions of *garrigue*, licorice, incense and smoked meats. This fresh, medium to full-bodied, impressive effort should drink nicely for 10-15 years. The inky/purple-hued, primary **2010 Châteauneuf du Pape Cuvée La Côte Ronde** tastes more like a 3-4 month old wine than one that is a year old. A full-bodied, massive, concentrated, backward yet fresh wine, it offers up notes of cassis, blackberries, licorice, camphor and forest floor. Forget it for 4-5 years and drink it over the following two decades. Opaque black/purple-hued, highly extracted, big, beefy, international and revealing a lot of oak, the **2010 Châteauneuf du Pape Cuvée Juline** is another controversial, "love it or leave it" wine. While impressively endowed and rich, it is a completely different animal than its two siblings.