

## Robert Parker's Wine Advocate praises Domaine Le Couroulu's wines:

“This is one of my favorite estates in Vacqueyras”



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<b>DOMAINE LE COUROULU</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>VACQUEYRAS</b>	<b>(\$28.00-32.00)</b>	<b>RED</b>	<b>(86-88)</b>
<b>DOMAINE LE COUROULU</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>VACQUEYRAS</b>	<b>(\$28.00-32.00)</b>	<b>RED</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>DOMAINE LE COUROULU</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>VACQUEYRAS VIEILLES VIGNES</b>	<b>(\$30.00-35.00)</b>	<b>RED</b>	<b>(88-90)</b>
<b>DOMAINE LE COUROULU</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>VACQUEYRAS VIEILLES VIGNES</b>	<b>(\$30.00-35.00)</b>	<b>RED</b>	<b>92</b>

This is one of my favorite estates in Vacqueyras, one which boasts a substantial 40 acres in total within the Vacqueyras appellation. The wines are traditionally made, with about 25% of the wine kept in old wood foudres and the balance in cement tanks. Not an ounce of new oak has touched these wines. The blend for the traditional cuvée tends to be about 65% Grenache, 20% Syrah, and the balance Mourvèdre, and for the Vieilles Vignes, 60% Grenache and 40% Syrah. The 2006s are wonderfully rich, fruit-forward wines, with the **2006 Vacqueyras** long and fruity, with plenty of roasted herbs, black cherry and berry fruit, and some earthiness in the background. It is soft, silky, and ideal for drinking over the next 5-6 years. The **2006 Vacqueyras Vieilles Vignes** ratchets up the level of concentration, displays even more fruit, a deeper plum/ruby color, sweet tannins, beautiful purity, and a long, heady finish. The 2005s are brilliant wines, among the very best of the appellation. The **2005**

**Vacqueyras** has good acidity buttressing full-bodied, powerful, dense black cherry and cassis notes intermixed with some pepper, garrigue, and spice. The wine is very Provençal, mouthfilling, and totally delicious. Drink it over the next 7-8 years. The sumptuous **2005 Vacqueyras Vieilles Vignes** is certainly one of the wines of the vintage for this appellation. A gorgeous deep ruby/purple color that is almost black as well as a fabulous nose of cassis, charcoal, garrigue, licorice, and pepper are followed by an intense, multi-layered wine oozing with fruit, extract, and wonderfully sweet, velvety tannins. This is a superb Vacqueyras that should drink well for 10-12 years. Don't miss it!