



*The Independent Consumer's Guide to Fine Wines*

## 1990 Cabrieres Chateauneuf du Pape Cuvee Prestige

Rating: 90

Drink: 1994-2009

One would have to go back to their exquisite 1961 to find a Chateauneuf du Pape from Cabrieres as superb as their 1990 Cuvee Prestige. This selection from their oldest vines is superb. But I wonder if the bottling that arrives in America will be as profound as what I tasted in France? What I tasted was exquisite. It had obviously seen some new oak given the subtle vanillin, smoky character in the fabulously dramatic, earthy, black-fruit-scented, sweet nose. In the mouth the wine displays full body, exquisite depth and richness, as well as fine grip and focus. This flashy, immensely impressive, velvety-textured wine can be drunk young, but it should easily last for 15 or more years. Last tasted 6/94. ...



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## 1998 Cabrieres Chateauneuf du Pape Cuvee Prestige (Unfiltered)

Rating: (90-93)

Drink: -2019

This cuvee was selected by French wine broker, Alain Corcia. It is not subjected to any fining or filtration either after fermentation or prior to bottling. The 1998 Chateauneuf du Pape Cuvee Prestige\* should turn out to be sensational. A dark ruby/purple color is followed by scents of smoked herbs, grilled meats, spice box, licorice, and abundant red and black fruits. It is full-bodied, moderately tannic, with a chewy texture, and an impressive finish. It should drink well for two decades.



*Robert Parker*  
eRobertParker.com

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## 1999 Cabrieres Chateauneuf du Pape Cuvee Prestige Tete de Cru

Rating: 90

Drink: 2001-2011

The expansively flavored 1999 Chateauneuf du Pape Cuvee Prestige Tete de Cru reveals a big nose of cinnamon and smoky black cherries, an opulent, voluptuous style, full body, sweet glycerin, outstanding purity, and a seamless mouthfeel. It is a gorgeous wine to drink over the next 7-10 years.



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## 2000 Cabrieres Chateauneuf du Pape Cuvee Prestige Tete de Cru

Rating: 91

Drink: 2003-2018

The superb 2000 Chateauneuf du Pape Cuvee Prestige Tete de Cru boasts a deep ruby/purple color in addition to a sumptuous perfume of figs, plums, prunes, and jammy black cherry fruit. It offers a large, voluminous mouthfeel, an unctuous texture, full body, and a heady, concentrated, blockbuster finish. A beautiful wine with low acidity, sweet tannin, and gobs of glycerin as well as fruit, it should drink well for 10-15 years.



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## 2000 Cabrieres Chateauneuf du Pape la Lettre A Louis Arnaud

Rating: 93

Drink: 2005-2020

Totally closed and in need of considerable aeration to reveal itself, the 2000 Chateauneuf du Pape La Lettre a Louis Arnaud should be forgotten for 3-4 years. Its deep ruby color includes purple nuances. Closed aromatically, revealing hints of creme de cassis and black cherries, this deep, full-bodied 2000 cuts a broad swath across the palate with considerable depth and concentration. While tannic as well as broodingly backward, it is potentially the finest wine made at Cabrieres since their legendary 1961. Anticipated maturity: 2005-2020.



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## 2001 Cabrieres Chateauneuf du Pape la Lettre A Louis Arnaud

Rating: (92-94)

Drink: 2006-2020

The micro-cuvee of 2001 Chateauneuf du Pape La Lettre a Louis Arnaud comes from extremely old vines. Tightly-knit as well as dense, it is chewy, with loads of glycerin, a deep plum/ruby color, and sweet aromas of black cherry liqueur, chocolate, and flowers. Unctuous, thick, juicy, and moderately tannic, it will drink well between 2006-2020.



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## 2006 Cabrieres Chateauneuf du Pape

Rating: (87-89)

Drink: 2007-2017

The basic cuvee of 2006 Chateauneuf du Pape reveals jammy black cherry notes intermixed with some smoke, herbs, loamy soil, tar, and pepper. It has a sort of gamey black fruit character in the mouth, medium body, soft tannins, and adequate acidity. Drink it over the next decade.



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## 2006 Cabrieres Chateauneuf du Pape Cuvee Prestige

Rating: (90-92)

Drink: 2007-2022

The much more beefed up, more saturated ruby, and fuller-bodied, more complete 2006 Chateauneuf du Pape Cuvee Prestige is richer and fuller than the regular bottling, with similar aromatic and flavor components to the basic cuvee, but more density and richness. It should age nicely for 15+ years.





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## 2007 Cabrieres Chateauneuf du Pape Cuvee Prestige

Rating: (90-92+)

Drink: 2008-2023

The 2007 Chateauneuf du Pape Cuvee Prestige reveals the same aromatic and flavor profiles, but the tannins give the wine a more structured feel, and it feels even more powerful and muscular than La Centenaire. It should drink nicely for 10-15 years.

These are both outstanding wines, so let's hope what I tasted gets into the bottle without too much filtration, always a concern at this estate. Chateau Cabrieres owns superb vineyard sites on the high plateau (next to the famous underachiever, Mont Redon), and they have been making noise over the last decade about becoming more serious about their winemaking.

Importer: Margate Wine & Spirit Co., Atlantic City, NJ; tel. (609) 348-1100...



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## 2007 Cabrieres Chateauneuf du Pape le Centenaire

Rating: (90-92)

Drink: 2008-2023

The full-bodied 2007 Chateauneuf du Pape La Centenaire displays serious concentration as well as notes of root vegetables intermixed with licorice, pepper, spice box, and abundant black currants and black raspberries. With a palate dominated by fruit, and a long, impressive finish, this 2007 should drink well for 10-15 years.

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