

Châteauneuf-du-pape 2010

Wine advocate

94 points A brilliant wine in a superb vintage, the 2010 Chateaneuf du Pape checks in as a blend of 50% Grenache, 30% Mourvedre, 10% Syrah and 10% Cinsault that comes mostly from the famed La Crau lieu dit (small part from Valori). Seeing 24 months in barrel, it's a deep, concentrated and meaty effort that oozes notions of black fruits, licorice, lavender and mulled spices on both the nose and palate. Dense, chewy and full-bodied, it is still backwards and tight, with some upside. Give it another year or two and enjoy over the following decade. Drink 2015-2025.

Wine spectator

96 points Highly recommended St-Cosme Châteauneuf du Pape 2010 59\$ Densely packed, with a core of baker's chocolate, espresso, bay leaf, licorice root, black currant preserves and steeped fig. A strong, almost rigid charcoal spine carries the finish, surrounded by ample flesh, lingering minerality and a smoldering feel. A blackward, old school version built for long cellaring. Best from 2017 through 2030. 1,300 cases made. JM -

Stephen Tanzer

(\$55) Deep ruby. Ripe cherry, spicecake, garrigue and an exotic hint of flowers on the intensely perfumed nose. Sappy and fresh as well as dense, offering intense raspberry and cherry flavors and a touch of candied licorice. Finishes with fine-grained tannins, building sweetness and excellent spicy persistence.
92