

HAND PICKED SELECTIONS

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Character Counts!

Featured HPS Wines
Jan/Feb 2012

Stephen Tanzer's INTERNATIONAL WINE CELLAR

Laurence Feraud told me that, for her, 2010 is about dark fruit but with vivacity and spiciness. At the moment, she considers her young 2010s to be “a bit of a hybrid of 2008 for its spice, and 2009 and a bit of 2007 for their power.” Conditions were so ideal in 2010 that the Ferauds were able to spread the picking out across an entire month, winding up with a wide range of lots with different personalities. “This made making a Cuvee da Capo a no-brainer,” said Laurence, “as it will take nothing away from the quality and personality of the Reservee.” Feraud added that the 2010 Capo clocks in at under two grams per liter of residual sugar, by the way.

2010 CHATEAUNEUF DU PAPE BLANC

90 pts

Green-tinged gold. High-pitched aromas of pear, lemon and white flowers. Tightly wound, spicy citrus and orchard fruit flavors pick up notes of white flowers with air. Closes nervy and taut, with lingering spiciness and strong cut.

2010 CHATEAUNEUF DU PAPE CUVÉE RESERVEE

92-94 pts

Bright ruby. Powerful cherry and dark berry aromas are complicated by lavender, smoke and spicecake nuances. Deeply pitched blackberry and bitter cherry flavors are lifted by slow-building mineral and cracked pepper qualities and given grip by a late kick of tannins. The cherry and pepper notes repeat on the broad, clinging finish.

2010 CHATEAUNEUF DU PAPE CUVÉE DA CAPO

94-96 pts

Glass-staining purple. Exotically perfumed, expansive bouquet evokes candied red and dark berries, Indian spices, potpourri and woodsmoke. Deep, broad and intense, offering sappy raspberry and boysenberry flavors given spine by juicy acidity. Clings with outstanding tenacity, finishing with smoky spice and floral notes.

2009 CHATEAUNEUF DU PAPE CUVÉE RESERVEE

93 pts

Dark ruby. Wild, highly aromatic bouquet of dark berry liqueur, cherry pit, smoked meat and garrigue. Deeply pitched black raspberry and bitter cherry flavors are broad and sappy, with a smoky floral quality appearing on the back. The long finish features gentle tannic grip and lingering smokiness. Fans of old-school Chateauf are going to love this wine.



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