90

1999 Cuvee du Vatican Chateauneuf du Pape

The 1999 Chateauneuf du Pape, a strong, powerful offering, requires 1-2 years of cellaring, unusual for this vintage. A blend of 70% Grenache and equal proportions of Syrah, Cinsault, and Mourvedre, it exhibits a healthy ruby/plum/purple color as well as a big, sweet nose of black fruits intertwined with resin, seaweed, and earth. There is marvelous concentration, a firm, tannic underpinning, a seriously extracted style, and a tight but long, powerful finish. Anticipated maturity: 2003-2015. Importers: Mervyn Hecht Wines, Santa Monica, CA; tel. (408) 685-1148 and Alain Junguenet, Wines of France, Mountainside, NJ; tel. (908) 654-6173

- Robert M. Parker, Jr. (December, 2001)

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87-89 pts

Cuvée du Vatican 1999 Chateauneuf-du-Pape

Rhone, Rhone Red wine from France

Drinking window:

Full deep red. Roasted red fruits and a musky note of coffee on the nose. Fat, lush and sweet, but ultimately shows more breadth than depth of flavor. Substantial tannins coat the front teeth.

Stephen Tanzer, January 2001

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