

A FIRST LOOK AT OUR EDITORS' MOST EXCITING NEW WINES

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CHÂTEAUNEUF AND NAPA continue to offer a wealth of some of the world's most exciting wines, and the latest releases of their signature reds (mostly 2010 for the former and 2009 for the latter) do not disappoint in this week's Wine Spectator Insider. Wines of power and grace score up to 98 points here; a full 13 attain classic status at 95 points or higher.

On the French side, you'll find laudable efforts from quality mainstays like Clos des Papes, Pierre Usseglio & Fils, Tardieu-Laurent, Le Vieux Donjon, Domaine de Cristia, Château La Nerthe and Domaine Vacheron-Pouizin's Clos du Calliou.

Representing Napa are deft hands with Cabernet, Merlot and more, including Carter, Moon-Tsai, Shibumi Knoll and Derenoncourt; two famous bottles to look for are the latest Araujo Eisele Vineyard Cabernet and Beaulieu Georges De Latour Private Reserve. Find six classic Hot Wines on page 4.

DOMAINE DE LA CÔTE DE L'ANGE

Châteauneuf-du-Pape 2010

93 points | \$39 | 6,000 cases made | Red

A muscular, dark style, with a baker's chocolate note up front that slowly gives way to thickly layered plum sauce, blackberry paste and dark currant fruit flavors. Ganache, espresso and roasted alder fill in the finish, which will need some cellaring to stretch out fully. Best from 2015 through 2025.—J.M.



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DOMAINE DE LA CÔTE DE L'ANGE

Châteauneuf-du-Pape Vieilles Vignes 2010

This is gorgeous, with a stunning, velvety mouthfeel that lets layer upon layer of braised fig, melted licorice, boysenberry preserves and cherry confiture glide along, while extra pastis, ganache and Turkish coffee notes fill in the background. Features a long, dense, but polished and poised finish. Best from 2015 through 2030. 400 cases made. (Oct 15, 2012)

WineSpectator.com

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