



2009 Domaine du Grand Tinel Chateauneuf du Pape Cuvee Alexis Establet

A Proprietary Blend Dry Red Table wine from Chateauneuf du Pape, Southern Rhone, Rhone, France

Review by Robert Parker
Wine Advocate # 197 (Oct 2011)
Rating: 88
Drink 2011 - 2019
Cost: \$39

Grand Tinel's top cuvee, the 2009 Chateauneuf du Pape Cuvee Alexis Establet, comes from 100+ year old Grenache vines planted in the sector known as La Gardiole. Aged in both cement tanks and wood foudres, it is a medium ruby-hued, soft effort with lots of strawberry and cherry fruit as well as Provencal herbs. The wine is medium-bodied, but not as rich as I expected given the vintage, the age of the vines and the terroir. Drink it over the next 7-8 years. Neither vintage of Grand Tinel performed as well as I would have expected given the track record of this excellent, traditional estate over the last two decades. Importers: various American importers including: J & R Selections, Lansing, MI; tel. (517) 393-4441 and Alain Junguenet, Wines of France, Mountainside, NJ; tel. (908) 654-6173

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Made from 100% Grenache (100-year-old vines from La Gardiole), the 2009 Chateauneuf du Pape Cuvee Alexis Establet is aged in foudre (60%) and cement (40%). Revealing abundant aromas of kirsch liqueur, plum and roasted Provencal herbs, it is about the same weight as the regular bottling, possesses sweet tannins, and is undeniably seductive and silky. I am not certain the slight difference in quality and intensity is worth declaring a special cuvee in this vintage. The Alexis Establet should drink nicely for a decade. (Not yet released) Importers: various American importers including: J & R Selections, Lansing, MI; tel. (517) 393-4441 and Alain Junguenet, Wines of France, Mountainside, NJ; tel. (908) 654-6173
