

**Vignobles Jean Royer 2012 Châteauneuf-du-Pape
Cuvée Tradition****Châteauneuf Du Pape, Rhône****Red wine from France****Drinking window: 2016 - 2025**

Deep red. Vibrant mineral- and spice-tinged red fruits and fresh flowers on the seductively perfumed nose. Sweet, seamless and focused on the palate, offering intense raspberry and lavender pastille flavors that deepen with air. Shows excellent clarity and cut on the long, fruit-driven finish, which features smooth tannins and lingering floral character.

Josh Reynolds. Tasting date: February 2015

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From Châteauneuf du Pape: The Lively 2013s and Lush 2012s (Apr 2015)

Vignobles Jean Royer

While this estate has long been among the most consistent producers of elegant--dare I say Burgundian--wines in the appellation, recent vintages have provided somewhat richer, fleshier renditions of Châteauneuf than I found here through the 2000s. Winemaking here couldn't be more traditional: the estate does not seek to harvest superripe fruit, they practice a gentle extraction, and there's virtually new new oak in Royer's rudimentary cellar. Wine lovers who decry what they perceive to be a movement toward "modern" rich and weighty wines in the region are enthusiastically advised to check out these wines, which also offer superb bang for the buck.

Grape Variety

85% Grenache, 5% Syrah, 5% Mourvèdre, 5% Cinsault

Release price

\$39.00