

This Week in Reviews



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PER103	Perrin Réserve Côtes du Rhône Blanc 2008	New York Times	
PRN177	Perrin & Fils Vinsobres les Hauts de Julien 2007	Wine Spectator	92 points
MAT057	Thierry & Pascale Matrot Bourgogne Chardonnay 2007	Wine Spectator	
GIR245	Vincent Girardin Bourgogne Cuvée Saint-Vincent 2007	Wine Spectator	87 points
WNB160	Domaine Weinbach Gewurztraminer Cuvée Théo 2007	Gourmet	
CAC357	Marqués de Cáceres White 2008	WineReviewOnline	88 points
CAC358	Marqués de Cáceres MC 2006	Wine Enthusiast	87 points
WAR159	Warre's OTIMA 10 Year Tawny Port	Decanter Gold Medal	
CON257	Cono Sur Ocio Pinot Noir 2007	Decanter Regional Medal	
CON258	Cono Sur Viognier 2009 Tech Sheet		
GDR190	Goats do Roam Goat Door Chardonnay 2008	Wine Enthusiast Best Buy	89 points
FVW231	Fairview Cyril Back 2006	Decanter Gold Medal	
FVW232	Fairview Viognier 2008 Tech Sheet		
BEAU119	Beaucastel/Perrin & Fils/La Vieille Ferme Various 07 & 08	Wine Advocate	
CAC359	Marques de Caceres Antea 2008	Wine Spectator	
CAC360	Marques de Caceres Rioja Crianza 2005	Santé	
CAP106	Caparzo Rosso di Montalcino 2007	International Wine Cellar	87 points
WAR161	Warre's OTIMA 10 Year Tawny Port Santé		
CON259	Cono Sur Riesling 2008	The Boston Globe	

November 15, 2009

Wine Spectator

PERRIN & FILS
VINSOBRES 2007
Les Hauts de Julien

92
points

"Smoky up front, but with a pure beam of fig and raspberry ganache that drives the tar and melted licorice finish. Shows violet and graphite notes as well, with a hint of lavender. There's some grip still to shed. Best from 2010 through 2012."

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Château de Beaucastel
 Condoulet de Beaucastel
 PERRIN & FILS
 La Vieille Ferme

Château de Beaucastel	2008	Châteauneuf du Pape	Red	(92-94)
Château de Beaucastel	2007	Châteauneuf du Pape	Red	96
Château de Beaucastel	2008	Châteauneuf du Pape Blanc	White	93
Château de Beaucastel	2007	Châteauneuf du Pape Blanc	White	95
Château de Beaucastel	2008	Châteauneuf du Pape Blanc Vieilles Vignes	White	95
Château de Beaucastel	2007	Châteauneuf du Pape Blanc Vieilles Vignes	White	97
Château de Beaucastel	2007	Châteauneuf du Pape Hommage à Jacques Perrin	Red	100
Château de Beaucastel	2008	Côtes du Rhône Condoulet	Red	(88-91)
Château de Beaucastel	2007	Côtes du Rhône Condoulet	Red	92
Château de Beaucastel	2008	Côtes du Rhône Condoulet Blanc	White	89
Perrin et Fils	2007	Châteauneuf du Pape Les Sinards	Red	92
Perrin et Fils	2008	Côtes du Rhône Réserve	Red	88
Perrin et Fils	2008	Côtes du Rhône Réserve Blanc	White	87
Perrin et Fils	2007	Côtes du Rhône-Villages Cairanne Pierres Blanches	Red	89
Perrin et Fils	2007	Côtes du Rhône-Villages	Red	89
Perrin et Fils	2007	Côtes du Rhône-Villages Rasteau L'Andeol	Red	90
Perrin et Fils	2008	Vinsobres Les Cornuds	Red	(87-89)
Perrin et Fils	2007	Vinsobres Les Cornuds	Red	90
Perrin et Fils	2007	Vinsobres V.V. Les Hauts de Julien	Red	95
Perrin et Fils	2008	Gigondas	Red	(89-91)
Perrin et Fils	2007	Gigondas la Gille	Red	92
Perrin et Fils	2007	Gigondas Vieilles Vignes	Red	94+
Perrin et Fils	2007	Vaqueyras Christins	Red	89
La Vieille Ferme	2008	Côtes du Luberon	White	85
La Vieille Ferme	2008	Côtes du Ventoux	Red	87
La Vieille Ferme	2008	Côtes du Ventoux	Rosé	87

*One of the great estates of the Rhône Valley, Château de Beaucastel has been run by several generations of the Perrin family, beginning with the late Jacques Perrin (who died in 1978), then the brothers Jean-Pierre and François, and now their sons Thomas, Marc, Pierre, and Mathieu. Beaucastel has nearly 200 acres in vine in Châteauneuf du Pape, and they have branched out with an impressive operation under the Perrin et Fils label, purchasing grapes and acquiring land (in Vinsobres and Gigondas, for example). Their goal is to become the most recognized name for high quality wines in the southern Rhône.

As shrewd consumers know, one of the best values in under \$10 a bottle wine is La Vieille Ferme. In a challenging vintage, the 2008 La Vieille Ferme Côtes du Luberon blanc, a blend of Roussanne, Bourboulenc, and Grenache Blanc, is a crisp, citrus-filled, pure, light-bodied, refreshing white that is meant to be consumed during its first year of life. The 2008 La Vieille Ferme Côtes du Ventoux rosé is surprisingly good. I realize the country's rosé sales are declining off at this time of year, but if you live in a warmer climate, this is a serious rosé offering plenty of fruit and framboise characteristics in an elegant, light to medium-bodied style. It can be enjoyed over the next 6-9 months. A strong effort, the 2008 La Vieille Ferme Côtes du Ventoux red exhibits excellent ripeness as well as plenty of cherry fruit intermixed with hints of dusty, earthy, peppery notes. Round and delicious, it, too, should be drunk during its first year of life. All three of these offerings are screw cap-finished. The Perrin et Fils cuvées include wines made from purchased grapes as well as their new acquisitions in Vinsobres, Gigondas (25 acres), and the Côtes du Rhône village of Cairanne (35 acres).

The 2008 Côtes du Rhône Réserve blanc (25% Viognier, 25% Roussanne, and 50% Grenache Blanc) reveals crisp, subtle orange, pear, and white currant fruit, excellent acidity, and a medium-bodied, refreshing style. Composed of two-thirds Grenache and the rest equal parts Syrah and Mourvèdre, the 2008 Côtes du Rhône Réserve red is a surprisingly strong effort for the vintage, easily competing with some of the better Châteauneuf du Pape. Ripe berry fruit, licorice, herb, pepper, and garrigue notes are present in this medium-bodied, richly fruity red. A noteworthy aspect of the vintage is should drink well for 2-4 years. The 2008 Vinsobres Les Cornuds comes from high-elevation vineyards planted in one of the southern Rhône's coolest micro-climates. This fresh wine displays a cool, leafy, minty element to its red currant and red cherry fruit. Crisp acidity along with a Burgundian style suggest it will drink well for 4-5 years. The fruit vintage from its 25-acre estate they purchased in Gigondas is the 2008 Gigondas (80% Grenache and 20% Syrah). One of the finest wines I tasted from what is a disappointing vintage for that appellation, the wine exhibits some tannin, but plenty of sweet blueberry and black currant fruit interwoven with hints of crushed rocks and acacia flowers. It is an impeccably well-made offering from a tough year that should drink well for 6-8 years.

The 2007 Côtes du Rhône-Villages may be the finest wine yet made under this moniker. This sells for a whopping \$12 a bottle. A blend of essentially equal parts Syrah and Grenache, it offers a deep ruby/purple hue along with sweet blackberry, black currant, char, licorice, and smoky herb notes. Drink this dense, Provencal-styled, seductive, lush 2007 over the next 3-4 years. Another

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