



2010 Domaine les Girard du Boucou Chateauneuf du Pape

The 2010 is a serious wine with a deep ruby/purple color and rich, concentrated, black currant and kirsch liqueur notes intermixed with sandalwood, lavender and roasted Provencal herbs. Quite impressive, with loads of fruit and again juicy and up-front, this is reminiscent of some of the top cuvees made by Jacques' father and uncle in the early 1980s, given its precociousness and relatively evolved, delicious, complex style. Drink it over the next 10-12 years.

I haven't seen wines from this estate in a number of years, as Jacques Girard took over the estate, which was once known as Cuvee de Belvedere (reviewed in The Wine Advocate in the early 1980s and then owned by his father and uncle Robert, who was essentially the spokesperson for Belvedere). This is a tiny estate of just 12 acres, and the wine is a rather unusual blend for Chateauneuf du Pape of 57% Grenache, 20% Mourvedre, 20% Counoise and the rest Syran, Cinsault, Muscardin, Terret and Vaccarese, which basically covers just about every authorized varietal in Chateauneuf du Pape. Their vineyard is in a lieu-dit called Boucou, not far from La Nerthe and Fortia. No known American importer.

- Robert Parker (October, 2012)