

2005 Domaine Roger Sabon Chateauneuf du Pape Cuvee Prestige

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

Review by [Robert Parker](#)

WA # , #173 (Oct 2007)

Rating: 93

Drink 2012 - 2025

Cost: \$36-\$75

The 2005 Chateauneuf du Pape Cuvee Prestige is a classic. Full-bodied, powerful, dense, with a complete personality, it exhibits terrific peppery, licorice-infused, black currant and kirsch-like fruit, a broad, savory, expansive mouthfeel, and a powerful, long finish with sweet but not very noticeable tannins. Anticipated maturity: 2012-2025. One might think that four separate cuvees of Chateauneuf du Pape is a bit much, but Jean-Jacques Sabon and his family continue to provide reference point wines at all different levels, as this is one of the top estates in Chateauneuf du Pape. Both 2006 and 2005 have turned out very well at this estate, with the 2006s softer and more fruit-forward than the 2005s, which are massive, bigger wines, especially at the top end for the Prestige and Le Secret. Importer: Eric Solomon, European Cellars, Charlotte, NC; tel. (704) 358-1565

2006 Domaine Roger Sabon Chateauneuf du Pape Cuvee Prestige

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

Review by [Robert Parker](#)

WA # , #173 (Oct 2007)

Rating: (91-94)

Drink 2007 - 2022

Cost:

The 2006 Chateauneuf du Pape Cuvee Prestige has a saturated dark ruby/purple-tinged color, beautiful texture, oodles of pure cassis and black cherry fruit, with a hint of licorice, smoke, and new saddle leather. It is a dense, chewy, full-bodied wine that has supple tannins and low acidity. It should drink beautifully for 15 or more years. One might think that four separate cuvees of Chateauneuf du Pape is a bit much, but Jean-Jacques Sabon and his family continue to provide reference point wines at all different levels, as this is one of the top estates in Chateauneuf du Pape. Both 2006 and 2005 have turned out very well at this estate, with the 2006s softer and more fruit-forward than the 2005s, which are massive, bigger wines, especially at the top end for the Prestige and Le Secret. Importer: Eric Solomon, European Cellars, Charlotte, NC; tel. (704) 358-1565

2005 Domaine Roger Sabon Chateauneuf du Pape Cuvee Reservee

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

Review by [Robert Parker](#)

WA # , #173 (Oct 2007)

Rating: 90

Drink 2009 - 2024

Cost: \$23-\$49

The 2005 Chateauneuf du Pape Cuvee Reserve is an even bigger wine than the 2006, more tannic, with greater density but again the classic fig, garrigue, tobacco leaf, kirsch, and meaty notes. In the finish, the tannins kick in. This wine definitely needs 2-3 years of cellaring, but is outstanding in richness and depth and should age nicely for 15 or more years. In most years there are between 1,000 and 1,500 cases of the Reserve. One might think that four separate cuvees of Chateauneuf du Pape is a bit much, but Jean-Jacques Sabon and his family continue to provide reference point wines at all different levels, as this is one of the top estates in Chateauneuf du Pape. Both 2006 and 2005 have turned out very well at this estate, with the 2006s softer and more fruit-forward than the 2005s, which are massive, bigger wines, especially at the top end for the Prestige and Le Secret.

Importer: Eric Solomon, European Cellars, Charlotte, NC; tel. (704) 358-1565

2006 Domaine Roger Sabon Chateauneuf du Pape Cuvee Reservee

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

Review by [Robert Parker](#)

WA # , #173 (Oct 2007)

Rating: (89-91)

Drink 2010 - 2025

Cost:

The 2006 Chateauneuf du Pape Cuvee Reserve shows a broad, deep, concentrated style, with dense, sweet black currant and cherry fruit, some hints of balsam wood and resinous pine forest, as well as seaweed and spice. It is a big, deep, rich wine that has surprising structure and depth for a 2006. It should be given several years of bottle age and drunk over the following 15 or so years. One might think that four separate cuvees of Chateauneuf du Pape is a bit much, but Jean-Jacques Sabon and his family continue to provide reference point wines at all different levels, as this is one of the top estates in Chateauneuf du Pape. Both 2006 and 2005 have turned out very well at this estate, with the 2006s softer and more fruit-forward than the 2005s, which are massive, bigger wines, especially at the top end for the Prestige and Le Secret. Importer: Eric Solomon, European Cellars, Charlotte, NC; tel. (704) 358-1565

2005 Domaine Roger Sabon Chateauneuf du Pape Le Secret de Sabon

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

Review by [Robert Parker](#)

WA # , #173 (Oct 2007)

Rating: 96

Drink 2012 - 2037

Cost: \$245

An extremely limited cuvee of around 2,000 bottles, the Chateauneuf du Pape Le Secret du Sabon is, year in and year out, one of the top ten Chateauneuf du Papes produced. From vines well over 100 years old, mostly from the sector of Chateauneuf du Pape known as La Crau, Jean-Jacques Sabon is not sure what the actual blend is, although it is mostly Grenache, because at the time of the original planting it was common practice to mix in many different varietals. The 2005 Chateauneuf du Pape Le Secret du Sabon has turned out to be a sublime wine. With the essence of beef blood intermixed with Provencal herbs, creme de cassis, blackberry and raspberry, the wine is dense, full-bodied, elegant, but at the same time very powerful, masculine, and rich. It is certainly one of the vintage's most compelling wines, and needs a good 5-7 years of bottle age. It should last for 30 or more years. Sadly, these wines are very limited, but should you latch onto a bottle, these are great classics of France and of the Rhone Valley. One might think that four separate cuvees of Chateauneuf du Pape is a bit much, but Jean-Jacques Sabon and his family continue to provide reference point wines at all different levels, as this is one of the top estates in Chateauneuf du Pape. Both 2006 and 2005 have turned out very well at this estate, with the 2006s softer and more fruit-forward than the 2005s, which are massive, bigger wines, especially at the top end for the Prestige and Le Secret. Importer: Eric Solomon, European Cellars, Charlotte, NC; tel. (704) 358-1565

2006 Domaine Roger Sabon Chateauneuf du Pape Le Secret de Sabon

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

Review by [Robert Parker](#)

WA # , #173 (Oct 2007)

Rating: (94-96)

Drink 2011 - 2032

Cost:

An extremely limited cuvee of around 2,000 bottles, the Chateauneuf du Pape Le Secret du Sabon is, year in and year out, one of the top ten Chateauneuf du Papes produced. From vines well over 100 years old, mostly from the sector of Chateauneuf du Pape known as La Crau, Jean-Jacques Sabon is not sure what the actual blend is, although it is mostly Grenache, because at the time of the original planting it was common practice to mix in many different varietals. The 2006 Chateauneuf du Pape Le Secret du Sabon, which was aged in a combination of new and older oak casks, has an inky bluish/purple color and a gorgeous nose of burning embers, blackberry, roasted meat juices, Provencal herbs, licorice, camphor, and graphite. The wine is dense and remarkably concentrated for a 2006, as well as quite opulent, fleshy and long. It will need 4-5 years of cellaring as it has copious tannins, which is almost atypical for a 2006. This wine has at least 25 years of aging potential. One might think that four separate cuvees of Chateauneuf du Pape is a bit much, but Jean-Jacques Sabon and his family continue to provide reference point wines at all different levels, as this is one of the top estates in Chateauneuf du Pape. Both 2006 and 2005 have turned out very well at this estate, with the 2006s softer and more fruit-forward than the 2005s, which are massive, bigger wines, especially at the top end for the Prestige and Le Secret. Importer: Eric Solomon, European Cellars, Charlotte, NC; tel. (704) 358-1565

2005 Domaine Roger Sabon Chateauneuf du Pape les Olivets

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

Review by [Robert Parker](#)

WA # , #173 (Oct 2007)

Rating: 89

Drink 2007 - 2019

Cost: \$20-\$40

The 2005 Chateauneuf du Pape Les Olivets boasts more tapenade notes and again the classic pepper, licorice, herb scents intermixed with black currant and sweet cherry. The wine is surprisingly forward for the vintage but I actually liked the charm and purity of the 2006 slightly more. In any event, they are both excellent, possibly outstanding wines meant to be drunk in their first 10-12 years of life. Normally this cuvee produces around 30,000 bottles of wine. One might think that four separate cuvees of Chateauneuf du Pape is a bit much, but Jean-Jacques Sabon and his family continue to provide reference point wines at all different levels, as this is one of the top estates in Chateauneuf du Pape. Both 2006 and 2005 have turned out very well at this estate, with the 2006s softer and more fruit-forward than the 2005s, which are massive, bigger wines, especially at the top end for the Prestige and Le Secret. Importer: Eric Solomon, European Cellars, Charlotte, NC; tel. (704) 358-1565

2006 Domaine Roger Sabon Chateauneuf du Pape les Olivets

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

Review by [Robert Parker](#)

WA # , #173 (Oct 2007)

Rating: (88-91)

Drink 2007 - 2017

Cost:

The 2006 Chateauneuf du Pape Les Olivets reveals impressive ripeness, with classic Provencal notes of roasted herbs, licorice, pepper, and kirsch liqueur. It is medium-bodied, soft, spicy, and ideal for drinking over the next 6-10 years. One might think that four separate cuvees of Chateauneuf du Pape is a bit much, but Jean-Jacques Sabon and his family continue to provide reference point wines at all different levels, as this is one of the top estates in Chateauneuf du Pape. Both 2006 and 2005 have turned out very well at this estate, with the 2006s softer and more fruit-forward than the 2005s, which are massive, bigger wines, especially at the top end for the Prestige and Le Secret. Importer: Eric Solomon, European Cellars, Charlotte, NC; tel. (704) 358-1565

2006 Domaine Roger Sabon Cotes du Rhone

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

Review by [Robert Parker](#)

WA # , #173 (Oct 2007)

Rating: 87

Drink 2007 - 2010

Cost: \$15

Sabon's inexpensive 2006 Cotes du Rhone is a sleeper selection for shrewd bargain-hunting consumers. Kirsch notes intermixed with some underbrush, licorice, and garrigue are followed by a lush, richly fruity, endearing style of wine that is ideal for bistros and brasseries. Drink it over the next 2-3 years. One might think that four separate cuvees of Chateauneuf du Pape is a bit much, but Jean-Jacques Sabon and his family continue to provide reference point wines at all different levels, as this is one of the top estates in Chateauneuf du Pape. Both 2006 and 2005 have turned out very well at this estate, with the 2006s softer and more fruit-forward than the 2005s, which are massive, bigger wines, especially at the top end for the Prestige and Le Secret. Importer: Eric Solomon, European Cellars, Charlotte, NC; tel. (704) 358-1565
