

FLINT WINES

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Château Beaucastel

2004 Coudoulet de Beaucastel, Côtes-du-Rhône

"An outstanding effort (30% Mourvèdre, 30% Grenache, 20% Syrah, and 20% Counoise). 2004 is a terrific vintage for the estate wines of the Perrin family, and this is a beauty with a gorgeous nose of raspberries, dried herbs, pepper, black cherry, other sweet fruits, and even a hint of truffle. The wine has moderately intense tannins, will probably be better with another 1-2 years of bottle age, and should keep for an uncommonly long time for a Côtes-du-Rhône, 15 or more years. 90 pts." Parker

2005 Coudoulet de Beaucastel, Côtes-du-Rhône

"This is another outstanding example of this Côtes-du-Rhône, made essentially across the border from Châteauneuf-du-Pape. Notes of tapenade, licorice, smoked herbs, and meat juices interwoven with black cherry and darker fruits are followed by an expansive, broadly flavored, full-bodied wine with no hard edges, gorgeous fruit purity, and a long, spicy, heady finish. This is almost the bottled essence of Provence. Drink it over the next decade or more. 91 pts." Parker

2006 Coudoulet de Beaucastel, Côtes-du-Rhône

"This has a beautiful, delicious, 12,500-case cuvée offering notes of root vegetables interwoven with notions of black cherry jam, licorice, pepper, and Provencal herbs. Deep and medium-bodied, it is ideal for drinking over the next 5-6 years. 90.pts." Parker

2004 Châteauneuf-du-Pape

"One of the great successes of the vintage. Deep ruby/purple in color with loads of licorice, smoked game, black cherry and blackberry fruit, along with incense and truffle, the wine has fabulous richness, high tannin, medium to full body, and beautiful length, richness, and purity. This is a beauty and one of the vintage's finest wines. Give it 4-6 years of bottle age and drink it over the next 25+ years. It has the potential to be one of the longest-lived Châteauneuf-du-Papes of the vintage. 93+ pts." Parker