



Your Source of Wine for Every Occasion

Notes From The Cellar "NFTC" Newsletter November 18, 2009

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Rhone lover's rejoice: a 92-94 point wine from the fabulous 2007

What a nice surprise -this past Monday Wine Spectator Magazine released a sneak preview to it's online subscribers of it's top 100 wines of 2009. These will be featured in the upcoming December issue. **The wine of the year was Columbia Crest Reserve Cabernet 2005 -a wine we featured here in NFTC in our last issue of last year.** I was glad to see this as this, as at the time we sold this wine under \$30 and many of you took advantage of another great deal. We always try and stay ahead of the curve and today's featured wine is another one that's generating a lot of excitement -in a vintage and region that seems to be on everyone's list these days.

"This estate's wines continue to rise in quality. Their 2007s are superb." "Proprietor Jean-Marc Brun made the finest wines of his career in 2007" -Robert Parker -The Wine Advocate

\$\$\$ Today's Wine Deal \$\$\$



Domaine BEAU MISTRAL Cuvee Florianaele

2007 Reasteau (92-94 points RP)

\$39.50/bottle, or \$37-/bottle- with our cash discount (checks are ok)

Last week I promised to focus on some red wine, and today I am featuring a wine that I personally was very excited about. Let me preface by saying that I love the wines from the Rasteau area of the Southern Rhone. The wines are dark, powerful, complex and have that scorched earth dark chocolate character that is pretty unique to the vineyards around this village. They also age very well -all this has brought a lot of demand to this tiny area. (the actual village pictures above has a registered population of less than 700). While the more famous and established area of Chateauneuf du Pape and now Gigondas are getting the lion share of attention, knowledgeable wine collectors have been clamoring for the wines made in Rasteau by some of the better producers - The reason is simple: quality, as well as their relative modest price. Alas, prices are starting to creep, as the wines are getting discovered. We feature Rasteau wines when ever I can find them. Indeed over the last few years we have developed a loyal following for this region amongst our clients. If you haven't tried a wine from here yet especially if you are a CNDP fan -this may be your chance at a real gem.

It's only in the last 4-5 years that Domaine Beau Mistral has been brought to the US by a handful of small importers. **The Cuvee Florianelle is their top wine in every vintage** and is very limited it is almost never available. The quality of all this house's wines has taken big steps up in the past few vintages, and the 2006 was excellent. Knowing that the 2007 was going to be a truly exceptional vintage, I set out early last winter to search for it -the hard work paid off, and I managed to locate a small allocation from the importer In the east coast. The little I managed to scrape is finally in. You can easily pay twice the price for a wine of this quality. Parker gave glowing reviews to the entire line up of this winery in 2007, so the word is now out, and I expect that in the future this fame will unfortunately, result in higher prices. **Today you get a chance at their best wine to date. Enjoy.**

Robert Parker Feb 2009: **92-94 points** Drink: 2009 - 2024

"The prodigious 2007 Cotes du Rhone-Villages Rasteau Cuvee Florianelle is one of the finest wines from this village that I have ever tasted..... This brawny, big-boned, densely concentrated, inky/purple-colored 2007 offers up aromas of black cherry liqueur, licorice, truffles, graphite, and incense. Hugely fruity and exceptionally full-bodied with a boatload of velvety, well-integrated tannins, this stunning Rasteau should drink well for 12-15+ years.

Events :

Beaujolais & Beyond Festival: on Thursday, November 19,2009 The Rocky Mountain Chapter of the **French American Chamber of Commerce** features one of their best parties of the year

-this annual event open to the public is always a lot of fun details:[Beaujolais & Beyond](#)

Thanks for all your support and referrals.
Tell your friends, share the wine, & spread the good vibe. Cheers!

Paul David, Chief Fermented Grape Taster.

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