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DOMAINE LA
BARROCHE
CHÂTEAUNEUF-DU-PAPE

REVUE DE PRESSE

June 2014 - World of Fine Wine

Andrew Jefford—Jonathan Livinstone-Learmonth—Simon Larkin

2010 CHÂTEAUNEUF-DU-PAPE
GRAND, SPECTACULAR,
RUNNING WILD

Average and range of scores

	Average	Range
Andrew Jefford	17	15-19.5
Simon Larkin MW	14	9-18.5
John Livingstone-Learmonth	16.5	14-19.5
All wines	16	9-19.5



Domaine de la Barroche Châteauneuf-du-Pape (15% ABV) - 17

AJ: Dense, saturated black-red. And the grandeur just keeps coming. Another wine of effortless aromatic complexity: roast beef, thyme, rosemary, lavender, pollen. I could sniff this all afternoon. Another noseful of van Gogh.

Massive wealth and depth of flavor: a huge presence in the mouth. Yet it's so fresh, and so exquisitely defined: vivacious, dancing, singing, and the songs all in Occitan. Amply tannic, yet sveltely tannic; a long aftertaste in which the wild, tough plants have their way. One of those wines you just have to take your hat off to. Awesome composition: Whoever made this has done everything impeccably—from the harvesting decision, through to the last details of *élevage*. Great vineyards, evidently. Grand wine. If you have the money, buy it. Phew! Châteauneuf defined. 19.5

SL: Slightly high-toned aromatics, not revealing much in the way of fruit character. The palate is, however, expressive, with a generous, flowing fruit, baked berry/cherry, red and dark fruits with a hint of *garrigue*. The acidity underscores the generous fruit, adding to a sense of elegance. A fairly classic tradition style: well made and constructed, with a dusky element to the fruit. This is a warming but appealing style. 14.5

JL-L: Dark robe; smoky, stewed-fruits air—plums, for instance; not really firing openly today. A small note of licorice and *garrigue* features in the second or third rank. There is a pleasing little knot of concentration on its unshowy palate, with a drift of 2010 acidity rendering it live on the finish. Interesting wine that will appeal to the keen drinkers to get head and palate both engaged. Its Grenache heart is solid and more traditional than cleaned-up modern. Completely authentic. From 2015 to 2027/29.17



Domaine de la Barroche Pure (15% ABV) - 16.5

AJ: Deep black-red in color, and just off-opaque. This is very coffeeish to smell at first; give it plenty of air, though, and beneath the roasted beans you'll find earth, black olives, and roasted meat. Intense, deep, and wonderfully ample and complex on the palate: a masterful wine of intricately contoured tannins and dense black fruits, which subside into a warehouse of root spices and dried citrus peels. Super-low acidity, with ripeness pushed to the very cusp, but the extractive matter more than compensates. I feel that I'll prefer the aromatic profile in a year or two, provided the coffee subsides, but the density and complexity of the palate suggest that this will be a resonant and commanding wine. 17.5
SL: The nose offers dusky, brooding dark fruit. Powerful, mouth-coating fruits with *garrigue* and spice in a wine that is more gamey, savory in its way. I find the finish overtly alcoholic, a turbocharged Châteauneuf—a monument to Grenache? No shrinking violet here, this powers/muscles its way through. While I find the finish quite hot and overt, I would be intrigued to see how this fares with age—will it be tamed? I would guess it will move toward the Party end of the spectrum. I can't help thinking more balance would be achieved if this were part of a broader blend, but I daresay this attracts a following and points. I am personally undecided but intrigued. Hard to score, 16.5

JL-L: Matt tones in its dark plum red robe; grilled air with *herbes de Provence*, thyme present, a sweet undertone here. Breathes a little warm-soils note. Palate gives a brewed, red-berry fruit flavor, with some strength in its tannins. Grenache-centric wine with a somewhat doughy nature—not a smiler, more a stern looker. Grippy, knuckle finish here: it is still en route along its country lane. More upright and angular than spherical. From 2016 to 2027/30. 15.5