

## 2001 Cuvee du Vatican Chateauneuf du Pape Reserve Sixtine

The special cuvee, the stunning 2001 Chateauneuf du Pape Reserve Sixtine, is a blend of 50% Grenache, 30% Syrah, and 20% Mourvedre aged in equal parts small barrels and neutral wood foudres. An elegant effort with freshness yet tremendous power and flavor intensity, it is a full-bodied, layered, provocative 2001 with exceptional depth as well as richness. While the tannin levels are high, there are even higher levels of concentration and fruit. Give it 2-3 years of cellaring, and drink it over the following 15-20. This brilliant wine should ultimately be even better than my lofty score suggests. Anticipated maturity: 2008-2020+. One of the appellation's young, dynamic revolutionaries, Jean-Marc Diffonty, has produced his finest Chateauneuf du Papes to date.

Additionally, prices remain modest for what's in the bottle.

Importers: Alain Junguenet, Wines of France, Mountainside, NJ...

- Robert M. Parker, Jr. (February, 2004)

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91 pts

## Cuvée du Vatican 2001 Chateauneuf-du-Pape Reserve Sixtine

Rhone, Rhone

Red wine from France

### Drinking window:

(a blend of 40% grenache, 30% syrah and 30% mourvedre) Bright ruby-red. Blackberry, bitter chocolate, violet, mint and spicy oak on the nose; intriguing suggestions of mourvedre. At once dense and penetrating, with rather oaky flavors of blackberry, violet and eucalyptus. Finishes with a hint of leather, but also a slight dryness from the wood element.

Stephen Tanzer, January 2004

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# Wine Spectator

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## CUVÉE DU VATICAN Châteauneuf-du-Pape Sixtine Réserve 2001

Elegant and refined, balancing some spicy oak, tar, toasted bread and grilled meat with some ripe and sweet fruit.

Full-bodied, it coats the palate, delivering lots of firm but opulent tannins. Best from 2006 through 2015. 1,885 cases made. (Sep 15, 2003)

WineSpectator.com



The International Wine and Spirit Competition  
**BRONZE AWARD 2003**

Product *Cuvee du Vatican Reserve Sixtine 2001*

Category 1 A *Chateauneuf du Pape - Rhone*

Producer *SCEA Diffonty Felicien et Fils*

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that the above award was made after blind tasting and analysis in accordance with the 2003 International Wine and Spirit Competition

*David Wrigley*  
David Wrigley BA MW  
Chairman, Technical and Judging Committee