

**CHÂTEAU LA NERTHE**  
**CHÂTEAUNEUF-DU-PAPE**  
**CLOS DE BEAUVENIR 2012**

RHÔNE VALLEY, FRANCE

**95** PTS

  
 eRobertParker.com

The top white of the estate, and coming from the Clos de Beauvenir lieu-dit, which lies just to the south of the estate, the 2012 Châteauneuf du Pape Blanc Clos de Beauvenir is the best vintage of this cuvee I've tasted. Comprised of 58% Roussanne, 32% Clairette, 8% Grenache Blanc and a splash of Bourboulenc, fermented and aged almost all in barrel (one-third new), it sports drop-dead gorgeous aromas of melon, buttered citrus, white flowers, almond paste and hints of honey to go with a full-bodied, incredibly fresh and focused profile on the palate. While this cuvee always delivers uncommon richness, it's the purity and focus here that sets it above other vintages. Again, it will age (although typically, I think of the traditional cuvee as being more age-worthy), yet I'd still pair it up with a classy meal over the coming 3-4 years. Drink now-2018.

- J.D. October 2013

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