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L'ABUS D'ALCOOL EST DANGEREUX POUR LA SANTÉ, À CONSOMMER AVEC MODÉRATION.

I'm very pleased to present you the new issue of VERTDEVIN Magazine, the 21st edition, 2022-23 Winter issue.

This new issue of the magazine introduces an eclectic selection of wines from several countries. I am enthusiastic about this new magazine !

To start we chose with my team, Joanie, Erika, Chloé, Yukiko, Valéria, Matthias and Valentina to tell you about different winemakers and wines from France, Italy, Spain, Germany, Austria, California, Hungary... and Canada. This magazine is the result of exhilarating trips, amazing tastings, great discoveries and fabulous meetings!



©Marco Cellai

So in the first part of the magazine, the interview session you will meet great winemakers from Jura, Italy, Canada... and Rhône. Also, a special focus on the Nizza DOCG appellation will allow you to discover all the potential and the beauty of the wines of this region.

Afterwards, in the second part find interviews of 5 restaurants chosen from our selection of more than 400 restaurants offering great wine lists. Go on pages 20 to 23 to know more about it ! Followed by our special Christmas wine buying guide. It's also a pleasure to introduce to you a really professional article about Saké & Food pairing. As for wines and Champagne it's totally possible to pair a full dinner with different Sakés (different style, provenance, serving temperature....etc)

In a third part you will have your taste buds tickled while finding more than 1.500 wine reviews about Jura, Bourgogne, Rhône, Bordeaux, Languedoc, Loire, California, Okanagan Valley, Hungary, Austria, Germany and Italy.

Find in this session a special part about Médoc wines in 2012 and 2019 vintages. Bordeaux is one of the largest and one of the most renowned wine regions in the world. We believe its reputation not only runs through the names of some very famous châteaux and exceptional winemakers but its wealth is also more complex, more diverse. In this magazine you will find some wines from all the Médoc région (Margaux, Pauillac, Saint-Julien, Haut-Médoc...), Bordeaux Supérieur and Sauternes.

One of the other « big presence » in this part is Chianti Classico wines. Tuscany is one of the largest and best Italian wine regions that offers tremendous diversity of property and terroirs. Not only that, this Italian region offers a rather exceptional epicurean quality of lifestyle with which I'm in love. We have chosen to present you more than 40 Chianti Classico Riserva and Gran Selezione wines...

Enjoy the reading, savour the tastings and read with delicacy our new Restaurants part!

Jonathan Choukroun Chicheportiche



INVITATION
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We are pleased to invite you to the "Selection by Vertdevin" tasting that will take place in PARIS, during VINEXPO Paris and WINEParis. During this event you will have the opportunity to discover and to taste great selected winemakers from France, Italy and Portugal... and to taste their wines !

SAVE THE DATE DURING VINEXPO-WINE PARIS 2023:
Tuesday, February 14th 2023 (7pm to 9pm)
at Hôtel Mercure Paris Vaugirard (Porte de Versailles)

More informations & Registration





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DOMAINE DE Lahaye

heritage and traditions of several generations

Situated in the Jura, Domaine de Lahaye is a family estate, attached to the local traditions. Several generations of winemakers are still producing wines with a defined style and identity on the precious terroir of Château-Chalon. Guillaume Tissot is the 8th generation of Domaine de Lahaye, who honors its terroir and traditions of the Jura and produces wines, reflecting the uniqueness of soils and traditional techniques of winemaking. He aims to transmit this heritage to future generations, working in the vineyard with attention and respect for the environment.

VertdeVin: Could you introduce yourself?

Guillaume Tissot: I am a winemaker in the Jura, settled in 2003 with my father, with about 7 ha of vines, which my father planted in the 1970s. We are a family vineyard for several generations, producing wines of Côtes du Jura and Château-Chalon as well as Macvin, Marc, and Crémant du Jura.

Did you always want to become a winemaker?

G.T.: At some time I thought to do something different, but the attachment to the land and the heritage, finally, was stronger.

Was there something in particular that made you come back?

G.T.: No, I did a general course in college, then I continued on BAC in agronomy and the environment in the Lycée viticole of Beaune, and then – on BTS. I also worked in commerce and vineyards. Since 2001 I stay in the Jura, I worked with Philippe Butin and with my father. Since then I am still a winemaker.

How many hectares does your estate have today? How many cuvées do you make? Do you vinify 100% of your harvest? Do you buy grapes or do you sell them?

G.T.: The surface of the estate is almost the same nowadays because some plots were uprooted and replanted. We started with about 6 ha and now we have about 7 ha. We produce 11 cuvées: a floral white Côtes du Jura, two or three reds, depending on the harvest, a pure Savagnin in Côtes du Jura, vin jaune du Jura, Château Chalon, vin de paille, Crémant du Jura, Macvin and Marc du Jura.

You have a few red wines. Is it intentional?

G.T.: Indeed, I don't make a lot of red wines. I still have a plot of Pinot Noir, which I had in the beginning, I also replanted Poulsard, but I don't have terroir for the Trousseau variety. So we make a pure Pinot, a pure Poulsard, and a Pinot-Poulsard blend.

What is the common signature of your wines, which helps to recognise them in blind tastings?

G.T.: Without pretension, our clients and wine pro-



©Domaine de Lahaye

Where does the name of the estate come from?

G.T.: It comes from the surname of my maternal grandmother. There are a lot of Tissots in the Jura, so I would like to be different. Choosing this name for the estate, we wished to pay homage to my mother who has always worked in the vineyards.

Could you speak about the Château Chalon terroir?

G.T.: It is a unique terroir that gives minerality to our wines. We have blue marl and clay-limestone soils. This soil is not easy to work with, because when it is soaked with water, it becomes very clayey and sticks a lot. But it becomes very friable when it is dry, and it does not retain water. The roots are forced to go deep to feed the vine, and this is what gives our wines the profile that we can find in Château Chalon – this minerality, this salinity, and the aromas of leather. Our customers are very surprised when they taste our vin jaune from Savagnin, grown on gravels in Côtes du Jura and Château Chalon. They were amazed to think that it was the same vintage, the same winemaker, the same harvest period, the same aging cellar, and similar barrels, but the wines are different because the terroir is here.

Do you have any specific plans for the estate?

G.T.: We have a quite demanding project of conversion to organic farming. The first certified organic vintage will be in 2024. We have also planted vines this spring because we are looking for expanding the production of Savagnin wines.

Why do you have a question mark on the etiquette of your wines? Is there an anecdote about your logo?

G.T.: In the beginning, we didn't have all installations necessary to work in the vineyard close enough to the plots. And if we went to the vineyards, it was for the whole day. So, everyone had their own little house near the vines, which allowed them to have shelter in case of a storm, some shade in case of heat, and a stock of water for the day. And everyone tried to find a name for his house. The anecdote is linked with the name of such a small house, that my great-grandfather had also built for him in the vineyards. At that time there were two aviators Costes and Bellonte, who crossed the Atlantic with their plane called "the question mark". My great-grandfather was very interested in aeronautics and he had found that it would be great to refer to this event, so he called his small house a "question mark".

Thanks to Guillaume Tissot for sharing his time and passion.
Valentina Guerin de Tourville



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DOMAINE Claude & Cédric Joly

more than 60 years of history – from sparkling wine to vin jaune du Jura

The history of this family estate begins after the Second World War, with a small plot of vines. By 1997 it grows from a few ares to 6 hectares and nowadays produces a wide range of wines. The philosophy of the estate is attention to its vines, responsible viticulture, and respecting the traditions of Jura. Work in the vineyard is adapted to each plot, in order to preserve its ecosystem. In the cellar, traditions are also important: **Domaine Claude et Cédric Joly produce wines from local varieties Poulsard and Trousseau and specialties of the region - unique vin jaune du Jura, local Crémant du Jura, and Macvin du Jura. With the knowledge and experience of Cédric Joly in oenology and viticulture, the estate can manage all the work on its own and continue to develop.**



© Domaine Joly

VertdeVin: Could you introduce yourself?

Cédric Joly: I am a winegrower in Rotalier, a village in the south of the Jura department. I come from a BTS Viticulture-Oenology from the Lycée Viticole in Beaune.

Did you take over the family business or did you create the estate?

C.J.: I returned to the estate in 1997. My father joined me in 2004 and we created a company in form of EARL, which I have been managing since then.

Did you always want to be a winemaker?

C.J.: Yes, all my education took place in the vineyard. I started my studies in a traditional college and continued my specialization on BTSA, with the option Viticulture-Oenology at the Lycée Viticole in Beaune.

What type of terroir do you have in your vineyards?

C.J.: We have different terroirs. All the soils have a high clay-limestone content. On the Côtes du Jura appellation, you can find pure clay-limestone soils, as well as loamy soils and gravels with a bit of sand. And in the L'Étoile appellation, there are deep grey and blue marls.

Which is the common signature of your wines, which helps to recognize them in a blind tasting?

C.J.: Our wines are tense and very straight. I don't especially focus on sugar content and on the potential level of alcohol in my wines. I pay particular attention to their acidity levels. I think that a correct natural acidity is more important in wine than high sugar content. The alcoholic degree can be adjusted by chaptalisation. But adding tartaric or citric acid to adjust the acidity of a wine, can make it seem "dissociated" and unbalanced on the tasting. Anyway, it is not my philosophy.

What is the surface of your estate? How many bottles do you produce per year?

C.J.: The estate has almost 7 hectares of vines and



© Domaine Joly

produces around 47,000 bottles.

What does the wine represent for you?

C.J.: Above all, wine is my passion. You can't make wine without this passion. And in everyday life, wine represents for me festivity and joy.

Do you have any projects for the property?

C.J.: A medium-term project is to restructure the commercial part. I would like to focus more on wine merchants and export, rather than on wholesalers.

Do you have a little anecdote about your estate?

C.J.: In 2017 I replanted my first plot myself. But the days of planting coincided with the extreme frosts in the Jura this year. Since then this plot is the most impacted by climatic hazards. In 2020 it was hit by drought, in 2021 – by a severe frost, and this year once again it suffered from the drought. Curiously, other vines, that we replanted, were much less impacted, but my first vines, unfortunately, suffer from all the climatic hazards.

Did you try other types of grape varieties, other rootstocks, or other clones to lessen the impact of these climatic hazards?

C.J.: No, I did not try to modify the vines themselves. But for two years I have been adapting the pruning in order to limit the impact of the frost. Instead of pruning my vines in their definitive configuration, I cut the spurs in a way that they are longer, with more buds, and I keep the cane of the vine whole. Nowadays, with more and more precocious spring, the bud break can start early. If we have long canes on the vines, vegetation will appear on their extremities. In case of frost, the end of the cane will freeze, but it can then be cut and the vine will start again, albeit a little later. However, we could still have better yields, compared to a final pruning.

Thanks to Cédric Joly for sharing his time and passion.
Valentina Guerin de Tourville

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www.domainejoly.fr



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CHÂTEAU Lascombes

a new era starts for Margaux Second Growth

Visit Château Lascombes on October 20th, 2022, a week before the breaking news that perturbs the world of fine wine arrives: one of the largest Grand Cru Classé is purchased by a US investor. On that day I am warmly welcomed at the estate by Karine Barbier, the Public Relations Manager, and Delphine Barbox, the Technical Director. With the two ladies, we are tasting the samples of the 2022 vintage Merlot and Cabernet Sauvignon. The Merlot has already seen a barrel and has a "prise de bois" stage at the moment, while Cabernet is fresh from the tank and is vibrant, juicy, and aromatic, promising a bright future. Dominique Befve, the General Manager, calls by to greet me. He seems overwhelmed and quickly retreats, saying he is expecting an important call. Now, knowing the news, I am speculating if it was THAT call...

A long and tumultuous history

The property dates back to the 17th century when this land belonged to the Lascombes family. After the French Revolution, it changed hands several times and at the moment of 1855 Classification was run by a noble lady, Mademoiselle Hue. In 1867, new owners, the Chaix d'Est-Ange family constructed an elegant "bâtisse", that we are lucky to admire today. In the first half of the 20th century, the property undergoes through the dark years – the vineyard area shrinks and the quality degrades due to the two world wars, economic crises, and negligent management.

Things start changing when in 1952 Alexis Lichine, a visionary and an American businessman of Russian origin, acquires the estate. He modernises the premises and expands the vineyard area, also with his constant travel and restless enthusiasm, boosting the reputation of Château Lascombes, especially in the United States. In 1971 the property is sold again, this time to the British brewery group Bass Charrington which continues with further expansion and investments but finally in 2001 sells the estate to the US real estate group Colony Capital. The new owners appoint Dominique Befve, the former technical director of the Lafite properties, to steer the Château into the new millennium. Befve stays at the wheel when the medical insurance company MACSF acquires the estate in 2011. He contributes to the further expansion and restructuration of the vineyards, modernisation of the vat room and cellar, and improvement of the wine quality, working with Michel Rolland as a consultant. During the



20 years of service, Dominique Befve managed to boost the image of the property that before was widely considered underperforming for its grade and build a strong reputation in the American and Asian markets.

In October 2022, the Bordeaux status quo is shaken again. It always happens when a property of this size and importance changes hands. The US farming magnate Gaylon Lawrence acquired Château Lascombes for an undisclosed sum. MACSF will stay as a minority partner. From now on, the estate will be run by Lawrence Family Wine Estates which includes Heitz Cellar, Burgess Cellars, Ink Grade, and Stony Hill Vineyard in California and is managed by the prominent Master Sommelier Carlton McCoy.

Lascombes today

Château Lascombes today is the biggest classified property in Margaux, spreading over 120ha, stunning 12% of the appellation. The vineyard of Lascombes is extremely parcellated, with plots scattered all over the appellation, in the communes of Margaux, Cantenac, and Soussans. The diverse terroir adds to the richness and complexity but complicates the vineyard work and requires a meticulous study of the land quality potential. Château Lascombes is one of the few Margaux estates where Merlot sets the tone with 50% of the plantings. It is complemented by 45% Cabernet Sauvignon and 5% Petit Verdot. The average age of vines is 35 years.

The quick vineyard expansion, including the incorporation of the neighbouring Château Martines, a former Cru Bourgeois, with its 28 ha, required a significant reconstruction of the cellar. In 2021, the new cellar, designed by Arnaud Boulain (BPM architects), was inaugurated. The spacious, aerial, gravity-flow "cuvier" is built with ergonomics in mind. Forty new, tailor-made tanks were added to the previous 32 to expand the plot-based approach to vinification. The impressive elevator in the centre of the building connects the floors and facilitates the movement of wine. Other innovative features are the cooling of the grapes in a special "tunnel" before the cold-soaking stage and an experimental mini-cellar for the winemaking trials.



Château Lascombes is appreciated for its opulent and voluptuous style. The dominance of Merlot contributes much to it, as well as the abundance of new quality oak. The Grand Vin is already approachable after a few years of ageing that appeals to many modern consumers, though it ages beautifully as well.

The new era

"Château Lascombes is a special place and we will spare no expense to ensure that we bring it to its full potential," announced Carlton McCoy, Master Sommelier and managing partner of Lawrence Family Wine Estates. He added that the new owners will invest intensively in improving farming practices. The new strategy will focus on a more meticulous selection of the plot for the first wine that might result in a reduction of volumes of the Grand Vin. Delphine Barbox, the Technical Director, and her winemaking team will remain in place, supported by an expert appointed by Lawrence Family Wine Estates.

As Gaylon Lawrence announced in a press release after the acquisition, "We are honoured to become the new stewards of such a historical estate. This Château has some of the greatest vineyards in Margaux and our family looks forward to caring for Château Lascombes for many generations to come". The critics look positively at the new page in the estate history and expect a further boost in quality thanks to the extensive investments and cutting-edge expertise.

Valéria Tenison

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DOMAINE DE L'Amauve

A small property with a great passion



Domaine de l'Amauve, located in the southern Rhône Valley, appeared from the union of two Provençal families and has belonged to them for several generations. Its vineyard is certified Organic and HVE3 and is worked with respect for its soil and biodiversity. The Domaine produces wines in AOP Côtes du Rhône Villages Séguret in three colors, but its particularity is to be the largest producer of white wine in this appellation. Thanks to its aspiration for sustainable agriculture and a perfect mastery of winemaking methods, the Domaine de l'Amauve offers rich red wines, with great aging potential, and white wines from a warm terroir, surprisingly lively and fresh.

VertdeVin: *What is the signature of your wines, which helps to recognise them in a blind tasting?*

Domaine de l'Amauve: Freshness is certainly the key element of my wines for two reasons. The first reason is the western exposition of our terroir, its position at an altitude of 150 meters, and its soil which contains a lot of clay. The clay provides sufficient humidity in the vineyard, even during very dry summers. The second reason is my intention to capture the natural acidity of the grapes and express it in my wines.

Do you have any specific plans for the property?

We always have projects. But we are a small estate, and what is very important for me is to

have it recognised. This is my most important project.

If you present the domain, the wines, and the atmosphere on site in 4-5 words, what would you say?

Freshness, precision in the expression of fruits, work in friendly conditions for the personnes who come to help me. And also – respect for the vine, the soil, and the terroir.

Valentina Guerin de Tourville

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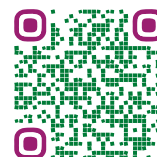
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OKANAGAN VALLEY Severine Pinte

Winemaker at Le Vieux Pin & La Stella estate

Interview with Severine Pinte, Winemaker at Le Vieux Pin & La Stella estate in Okanagan Valley, B.C.

VertdeVin : What are the wine signatures for both estates, Le Vieux Pin & La Stella?

S.P.: At Le vieux Pin, we work a lot with the Syrah grape varietal for the reds and for the whites we work a lot with three Rhône white varietals Roussanne, Viognier and Marsanne. We do 3 different cuvées of Syrah. The cuvée Violette is one of the most popular and represents the feminine, silky side of the Syrah. The cuvée Classique is more robust, tannins are a bit stronger and aromas are leaning more towards the meaty, gamy side. Finally, the Equinoxe Syrah is our high-end cuvée where we try to bring together all these different personalities of the Syrah.

The main white wine is called Ava and is a blend of the three Rhône varietals. It is usually showing some delicate aromas of white flowers and a rich creaminess on the mouth. It is named after my daughter.

At La Stella, we work a lot with Merlot, Cabernet Franc, Cabernet Sauvignon and Sangiovese. So we make different styles of super Tuscan wines. There are only 8 acres of Sangiovese planted in the south Okanagan and we own 3 acres of it.

What makes them recognisable and unique?

S.P.: I believe that everything starts in the vineyard, and we work really hard to produce balanced, high quality grapes. I pick when I have the perfect balance between ripe tannins, intense flavours and a good natural acidity. So all our wines have this distinct characteristic of a nice spinal cord of natural acidity. The mostly sandy loam terroirs with different variations of pebbles, rocks and clay are giving us delicate and elegant flavours.



Why did you choose to become a winemaker?

S.P.: I fell in love with the fact that I could create something right from the start. Being able to nurture the vines, watch them grow, study the soils; and from that knowledge, manage the growth, the canopy and then see how each block has its own personality. Each year, I get to create another unique cuvée.

What are the plans for the future of the wineries?

S.P.: We obtained our certification with the Sustainable Winegrowing BC program of which I am the chairwoman. As it is an outcome-based program, the certification process is a continuous one, we are using more precision viticulture tools

to know our vineyards in even more detail. We also planted another 10 acres last year, and as the vines mature, we will need to get more tanks to accommodate the increased volume. I'm looking forward to playing with different textures (concrete, oak fermenters) and shapes again.

What makes your terroir specific?

S.P.: The south Okanagan is the northern tip of the Sonoma desert, and the unique hot days, cool nights, and GDD similar to some of the southern France regions allows us to grow perfectly ripened *Vinifera* grapes with natural acidity remaining in the wines.

In your opinion, what are the main winemaking challenges for the region?

S.P.: The main challenge is the shorter growing season in the vineyard. We have to ripen *Vitis Vinifera* in 6 months versus 8 to 9 months for some similar GDD regions in the world. Vineyard management with a fine-tuned irrigation system, increased knowledge of the soils is the key to success in the Okanagan.

Thanks to Severine Pinte for the interview
Joanie Metivier

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AZIENDA AGRICOLA

La Colombera

The queen of Timorasso

Elisa Semino is the owner and winemaker at La Colombera, a family estate as her father and her brother are also part of the adventure. The winery is located in Vho, a village in the Colli Tortonesi area and is producing several wines even if the most famous is made with Timorasso. This white type of grape is the symbol of the region : robust and pleasant during youth, it is also possible to age Timorasso to appreciate its minerality, balance and intensity. In the 90s, Elisa Semino was part of a small team of winemakers to believe in this varietal : it shows her amazing dedication and personality as today Timorasso is a must taste !

VertdeVin: Could you introduce yourself and explain why you have decided to become a winemaker?

Elisa Semino: I am Elisa from La Colombera. Wine is my passion. But it is also a family tradition. My grandfather arrived to the region in 1937, he was a peasant, so making wine is a tradition of our family. We are in the Colli Tortonesi area, in La Colombera. My grandfather planted the vineyards here and my father started making wine. 30 years ago we switched to bottling our wine, instead of selling it in bulk.

What are distinctive characteristics of your wines? How do you recognize them in a blind tasting?

E.S.: Our style is about elegance and purity. They reflect the terroir and the vintage. Our winemaking is very simple, for our white wines we do not

use oak not to mask the variety.

What are your future projects for the winery?

E.S.: In 2017 we bought a new vineyard, 15 ha in Sarezzano, we have already started planting there and continue planting it this year with Timorasso. We have a big project in Cascina Marchetta where we have bought 1 ha of Timorasso and some incredible vineyards of Monleale Barbera. It is a unique terroir and there is a water reserve. We also have a new project for a tasting room as we would like to be able to welcome more people here and speak about our wines directly to consumers.

Could you tell us more about Timorasso?

E.S.: Timorasso is very important for us, though we also grow other grapes. Colli Tortonesi is a border region, we are close to Gavi, Oltrepò Pavese and Liguria. But Timorasso is unique for the area and our region is associated with this grape, that is very important. Our Derthona Timorasso is elegant, clean, fine and with ageing arrives the minerality. Timorasso needs time in a bottle.



Could you talk about your terroir?

E.S.: We have clay soil here but there are different types of clay. In some parts we have calcareous, white clay, in others – there is red clay which contains iron. Marl, the limestone clay, is the best for Timorasso.

Thanks to Elisa Semino for sharing her passion.
Valeria Tenison

La Colombera
Strada Comunale Vho, 7
Tortona (Alessandria) - Italy
lacolomberavini.it





AZIENDA AGRICOLA

Coppacchioli Ginevra

Love for the family and the passion of place

This small family estate is born from an ambition to value an exceptional terroir of a tiny village of 10 permanent habitants – Cupi di Visso. This land, where once animal farming had priority over viticulture, nowadays produces rare wines with an identity and character. Thanks to the determination of the family, this vineyard, characterised by extreme viticulture, but valuable terroir, gives still white and red wines in IGT Marche, as well as sparkling wines from Pinot Nero and local grape varieties of Central Italy. In each wine we can find a harmony of mountain influence, marine soils, and various herbs, covering the vineyard.

VertdeVin: Why did you make the choice to produce wine?

Ginevra Coppacchioli: The real meaning of my job is a deep love for my family, the treasure of memory, and the essential importance of family bonds. My father, Angelo, wanted to honor my brother, Lucio, his passion for wines, his brilliant intuition, his ambition, and his dream to become an entrepreneur planting a vineyard near the small village of Cupi di Visso, which we are bound to. When my brother passed away, I embraced his project, it became my passion. At the age of eighteen years old I strove to manage it – I was studying and learning from my mistakes, and I was fighting to be heard. I desired to value and enhance the particular terroir of the Marche Region, influenced by Sibillini Mountains.

What is the signature of your wines, which helps to recognise them in blind tastings?

G.C.: Our wines are characterised by a peculiar minerality and acidity, as well as by a large variety of herbal aromas. We practice mountain, heroic, viticulture at the altitude of 1000 m above sea level. Our vineyard is among the highest in the country and the highest in Central and Southern Italy. The microclimate is specific here, which makes our wines distinguishable and unique. We have lots of herbs growing in our vineyard, because Sibillini Mountains are Europe's herbarium for their biodiversity.



Do you have any specific projects for the estate?

G.C.: Our intent is to encourage the rebirth of the peasant culture in areas now abandoned, cultivating the mountain land in an environmentally sustainable way with respect to its natural heritage. We work according to the rules of organic farming preserving the treasure that surrounds us. Our project is to be renowned as excellence in our country and to start organizing 360° experiences – with a possibility for our clients to accommodate in Cupi, or directly in the vineyard, to fully enjoy a natural experience in our mountains. Our goal is to value the bond with the tradition of the territory, combining innovative projects aimed at the growth of the local economy.

Could you speak about your terroir?

G.C.: Mount Tranquilla protects our vineyard from cold winds, creating a perfect microclimate for winemaking. The terroir of our 3ha vineyard is a small paradise among the mountains, surrounded by broom, thistles, fennel, wild mint, dog roses, and other scents whose influence can be seen in a glass of our wines. The soil is clay-loamy, but we often discover marine fossils, because the Sibillini Mountains were submerged by the sea in the past. This characteristic gives salinity to our wines, which sometimes have a marine touch, despite being 100% mountain products. The area has important temperature ranges, good southwest sun exposure, and no pollution, being totally isolated from any other human activity. Our wines are all organic and pure, ranging from Metodo Classico "Millesimato" sparkling wines to still wines. Our signature wine - Primoducipi - is a varietal of Vis-

sanello, an ancient native vine of Cupi, obtained from an archaic variant of Pecorino. Pinot Noir is a young red wine with a ruby color, which perfectly expresses our terroir. Chardonnay Pas Dosè and Rosè Extra Brut sparkling wines, aged on lees of almost 60 months, have a fine and persistent bubble. There is also a limited edition of 100 bottles of Vissanello sparkling wine: the Pecora Fuorigregge. Our territory has always been suited to produce "shepherd's" wine, dictated by the times of transhumance and, therefore, harvested at the beginning of August. But this place had an enolic tradition – in the old land register found by the family, appear, at the end of the eighteenth century, lands called "the vineyards".

Where does the name of the winery come from?

G.C.: It is our family name. Coppacchioli is my father's surname and mine, Tattini is my mother's surname. The symbol chosen for the logo is taken from the base of the portal of the famous Sanctuary of Macereto, a few kilometers from Cupi, erected in the 16th century, and shows our names: Gaia, Lucio, Ginevra. The Coppacchioli family, coming from Abeto (Norcia), moved to Cupi at the end of the 1700's following the transfer of a prelate relative to this place.

Thanks to Ginevra for sharing her time and passion.
Valentina Guerin de Tourville

**Azienda Agricola
Coppacchioli Ginevra**
Via piana 16 62039, Cupi MC - Italy
coppacchiolittattini.com



AZIENDA AGRICOLA **Bera**

Tradition, respect and passion from Piedmont

Bera Azienda Agricola is located between Alba and Asti in the marvelous Piedmont region of Italy. This area is well-known by food lovers thanks to the Alba truffle, chocolate but also its beautiful wines. The family Bera has been growing vines for centuries here and they are producing their own wines for more than 50 years now. Their love for Moscato is really strong and if today many wineries are following their footsteps, they remain the place of birth of high quality Moscato. Valter Bera, the winemaker, and his wife are committed to tradition, respect and passion which they transmitted successfully to their two sons.



©Azienda Agricola Bera

VertdeVin: Why have you decided to make wine?

Valter Bera: I was born in the middle of the viticultural area where there was a strong tradition of producing wine. At school originally I wanted to study English but in 1968 it was difficult, not available, so I changed the school and went to the college where 90% of my classmates were from the Enological School of Alba. At that time my family already possessed around 10 hectares of vineyards, so seeing my classmates producing wine, I decided to follow in their footsteps. Thus, in 1971 I bottled my first Moscato. At that time most of the Moscatos were of very poor quality, so a good Moscato was a novelty. We quickly acquired a good reputation for our Moscato among the critics and restaurateurs and even today when people hear "Bera" they think of Moscato.

What differentiates your wine from the others?

V.B.: It is a difficult question. Before our Moscato stood out because of its quality while today there are many producers who make a very high quality Moscato. To keep an excellent quality is complicated, everything starts from the vineyard and then continues in the winery. Even a small mistake like missing the day of a treatment or a bad racking might spoil the quality. Today we have to hire foreign vineyard workers who come for a season. Of course, we explain them the techniques and give general guidelines but at the end every vine is different and needs an individual approach. A worker with 20 years of experience can see it while a temporary one can probably not. So, after the initial pruning, we need to go to the vineyards and double-check. Sometimes we can correct the mistakes, sometimes it is already too late to fix.

How many hectares do you have? How many different labels do you produce? What is the total annual production?

V.B.: We have 30 hectares, out of which 50% is Moscato and other 50% are planted with different grapes, such as Barbera and Nebbiolo. The total production is around 240.000 bottles per year.

Thanks to Valter Bera for sharing his time -Valeria Tenison

Azienda Agricola Bera
Via Castellero Cascina Palazzo, 12 - 12050 Neviglie (Cn) Italy
www.bera.it

CANTINA **Ettore Germano**

It's a story about family and land...

Serralunga d'Alba is the historical heart of Barolo: it's where the Cantina Ettore Germano is located. 4 generations of men are working to give you the best of their land. The vineyard is the starting point of everything: their identity as their predecessors worked here and their successors will also. Today, Sergio Germano is managing the estate where the team, even if not sharing the same blood, is also part of the family. In the beautiful landscapes of Langhe, classified as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, they are producing wine with passion.

VertdeVin: Why have you decided to become a winemaker?

Sergio Germano: I always loved working in the vineyards. I graduated from the Enological School in 1985. During my studies I had a chance to work with good winemakers who were looking for quality in their wines, working responsibly both in the vineyards and in the winery, with little intervention to express better the grapes and the terroir. I always loved the region and its traditions. I was lucky to live and work at the time when Nebbiolo and Piemonte started to gain attention and popularity.

What are the distinctive characteristics of your wines?

S.G.: My sparkling wines are always high in acidity, mineral, saline and vibrant, very gastronomic. I think that it is very important for white and sparkling wines to be fresh and make you want to drink another glass. For the reds it is elegance and finesse. We already have a terroir that is powerful, that's why in our approach to winemaking we are looking for freshness and subtlety. When I sometimes taste wines from other producers, they seem a bit too bold, too much.

What are your future projects?

S.G.: I have already done a lot! I am at the end of my project, but I will continue to follow my philosophy – never to be fully satisfied and look for improvements. Also the climate is changing as well as the taste of consumer. I will continue to make artisan wine, without a strict protocol, implementing better, more sustainable techniques in my work.

Thanks to Ettore Germano for sharing his time - Valeria Tenison



©Ettore Germano

Ettore Germano
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www.ettoregermano.com



CANTINA

Vinchio Vaglio

The artisans of Barbera



© Vinchio Vaglio

The story of Vinchio Vaglio is a love story where the inhabitants of two villages (Vinchio and Vaglio) transformed a difficult and poor, inarable land with steep slopes into a picturesque wine region. This area with its rolling hills and overhanging vineyards at the edge of the woods has been tended with a dramatic effort, where every single drop of the local Barbera wine equates to thousands of drops of farmers' sweat. Vinchio Vaglio is a cooperative that unites 197 growers. Each associate has at least one avgnot (small vineyard) of their own, which, is their passion. The rules of the cooperative stipulate that the President and the Vice-President must come from Vinchio and Vaglio Serra, respectively. This is because of an old rivalry between the two villages, which only ended thanks to the hard work of the cooperative and the willingness to promote the local area. Today the old rivalries are forgotten and all the farmers work together to produce the world-famous Barbera. They make whites and sparkling wines plus dessert wines like Moscato and Brachetto

VertdeVin: Why have you decided to make wine?

Vinchio Vaglio has always produced wine only and has never been involved in other agricultural or industrial activities. The two communes (Vinchio and Vaglio) are exclusively dedicated to wine. 98% of the vineyards belong to the Vinchio Vaglio cooperative members.

What wine means to you in 4-5 words?

Even in fewer words - passion and emotion!

What are the signature features of your wines that allow you to recognize them in a blind tasting?

Barbera of Vinchio Vaglio always shows its unique personality as it is a blend of grapes coming from sandy soils which transmit elegance and finesse

to our wines, from white soils that give longevity and structure and also red calcareous soils that contribute to the colour. This mix gives wines with great structure and longevity which are accessible almost right away after the release but age beautifully as well. It is like cement that only becomes strong when it is mixed with water. So, the signature of our wines is elegance but also accessibility when they are young.

What are your expectations from the new appellation of Nizza?

First of all, for Nizza now we have 18 communes and around 80 producers which produce 100% Barbera on the terroir which gives the variety the possibility to express itself to the maximum and which is then transmitted to the quality of the wine. The idea is of course to give importance to our land.

What are your future projects?

We would like to continue with quality wine production and maintain our landscape, paying our mem-

bers well as it is the main goal of the cooperative, so the growers can continue their work. The challenge is to keep this beautiful landscape and to incent consumers not only to drink our wines at their place but to come and see the terroir and understand what is behind the wines – the men, the effort that it takes to cultivate these hilly vineyards, almost exclusively by hand. The details make the difference. Our philosophy is the tradition in the vineyards and innovation in the winery – temperature control, stabilization, and protective winemaking.

Do you have an anecdote about the property?

When I was a kid, my father was making wines at home, we own a winery founded in 1959. People were often coming to buy wines from us. Once a group arrived. They left their van behind the turn, so my father did not see it, and they came by foot to the winery. They wanted to buy our wines immediately but they pretended to come for negotiations. My father told me that if he knew that they came with a truck, the talk would have been completely different. But they were smart and cunning! And this story happened in January and they were willing to buy the wines of the current vintage. So, this proves again that our wines are ready to drink very early. According to Barbera d'Asti legislation, the wines cannot be released before March 1st following the harvest but our wines are already good to drink in January-February because they are so balanced that the malolactic conversion arrives spontaneously. I think this is due to the altitude of the vineyards.

Valeria Tenison



**Cantina Sociale
di Vinchio – Vaglio Serra
Regione San Pancrazio, 1
14040 Vinchio (AT) - Piedmont, Italy
www.vinchio.com**

NIZZA DOCG

Barbera grape marks its return





“ Nizza wines are only made with grappes come from the best exposures and territories of 18 municipalities around Nizza Monferrato. ”

Barbera, despite being the most widespread grape of Piemonte, always stays in the shadow of its more famous neighbour, the mighty Nebbiolo. Until recently, Barbera was considered an everyday drinking wine and did not receive much attention from international critics and wine connoisseurs. Though today the situation is changing, and we see more and more great Barberas on the market.

One of the best terroirs for Barbera lies just south of the town of Asti. Until 2014, the wines from this area were released under the denomination of Barbera d'Asti Superiore Nizza. The separate DOCG was created in 2014 and since then Nizza DOCG can be found on the labels. At the moment the Association of Nizza producers unites 81 wineries and this number is steadily growing. The 18 communes (Aglia Terme, Belveglio, Bruno, Calamandran, Castel Boglione, Castel-

nuovo Belbo, Castelnuovo Calcea, Castel Rocchero, Cortiglione, Incisa Scapaccino, Moasca, Mombaruzzo, Mombercelli, Nizza Monferrato, Rocchetta Palafea, San Marzano Oliveto, Vaglio Serra and Vinchio) eligible for the newly born DOCG are located on hills ranging between 150 and 350 meters. In 2020 there were around 244 hectares of vineyards classified. This area is famous not only for its wine and food heritage, but also for its cultural offerings and numerous excursions to immerse oneself in nature. Nizza Monferrato is a small, picturesque town, stretching between the Belbo stream and the Rio Nizza in the heart of Monferrato. The town is characterised by a typical hilly landscape, in an area with a mild climate that is particularly favourable to vine cultivation. In the historic centre there are some historical buildings of particular interest. The town is topped by the ancient bell tower of the Town Hall, known by the locals as 'el Campanòn'. Since 2004, the tower can be vi-

sited all the way to the top, from where opens a unique panorama of the surrounding area. The rules of the Nizza appellation are stricter than those of Barbera d'Asti Superiore, the maximum yields are lower, and the ageing times are longer. The wines should be 100% Barbera and must be aged in barrel for 6 months, and 18 months in total before release. For Riservas the periods are 12 months and 30 months, respectively.

The classic Nizza DOCG wines show a dark fruit profile on the nose with notes of black cherries, blackcurrants, plums, and mulberries, as well as characteristic nuances of oak ageing – cinnamon, cloves, and a hint of nutmeg. They reveal high density, fullness, and roundness on the palate, refreshing acidity, and juicy liveliness of Barbera. These are multi-layered, complex wines that mature beautifully but are already accessible after a few years of ageing.

Valéria Tenison



See Nizza DOCG tasting on page 146

CHARITY AUCTION BAROLO EN PRIMEUR

Great success for the second edition : 769,800 euros raised !



© Bruno Miraldo

The second edition of the charity auction organised by the **Fondazione Cassa di Risparmio di Cuneo and Fondazione CRC Donare ETS, with the Consorzio di Tutela Barolo Barbaresco Alba Langhe e Dogliani, raises 769,800 euros in favor of charitable projects. Raised 170,000 euros, more than the first edition.**

Staged last October the 28th at Grinzane Cavour Castle, the auction featured 24 lots, out of five gained by the participants attending live from New York and Hong Kong. The latest lot has been hammered at the **World White Truffle of Alba Auction**, as the results, this venture achieved more than 800,000 euros. Philanthropists awarded 14 barrels containing the Barolo 2021, produced in the Gustava Vineyard around the Grinzane castle, belonged to a great protagonist of Italy: Camillo Count Benso di Cavour. After the indispensable 4-years of ageing, the Barolo bottles will be numbered and labelled by the dawn-opera of **Michelangelo Pistoletto** artist. All the wines have been vinified by **ENOSIS Meraviglia** owned by **Donato Lanati** (one of the top international oenologists and experts in the wine sector); **Antonio Galloni** (the famous CEO of Vinous) has scored these wines with a range from 92 to 94 points. Among the distinctive elements of the project is also **the presence of the NFT (Non-Fungible Token)**, a certificate of digital authenticity guaranteed via blockchain, which will be attached to each bottle. In addition, 10 other subscribers were awarded more than 1,200 fine bottles of Barolo and Barbaresco-divided into 10 lots based on the production commune-that 70 producers of the Consortium made available free of charge for the auction, to help raise funds for the Alba School of Enology. An extremely important place of study and training for the Langhe. The auction, curated by **Christie's**, was hammered again this year by Italy Director **Cristiano De Lorenzo**, who deals exclusively with charitable ones. Price records for lot number 23, which was beaten for 45,000 euros, and for the special 500-litre lot (equal to about 660 bottles of wine) added at the end of the Auction by CRC Foundation President **Ezio Raviola**, which raised 175,000 euros. Doubling the

auction base for the communal lots with bottles from producers with prestigious names from **Brezza, Cavallotto, Conterno, Ettore Germano, Marchesi di Barolo, Mascarello, Oddero, Pio Cesare, Rinaldi, and Rizzi**.

Seven of the 14 barrels hammered out during the auction are already associated with as many charities, while the remaining will be destined independently by the philanthropists who won them. Barolo en primeur has chosen to support a project to promote and recover the knowledge and landscape of the **Alta Langa, the so-called "Banca del Fare"**, promoted by **Fondazione Matrice ETS**; the "Nega-so" project, with which the objective of reflecting on migration flows and encouraging integration is pursued, promoted by **Cooperativa sociale Liberitutti**; the project to restore and enhance the historic cellar of **Villa Arconati**, promoted by **Fondazione Augusto Rancilio**; the project "The energy of art, between nature, science and technology", a pathway to contemporary art and sustainability, promoted by **Castello di Rivoli - Museum of Contemporary Art**; the "CivicAttiva" Project, through which active citizenship paths are proposed to schools to stimulate young people to change and sustainability, promoted by the **Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights Foundation**; the "New Forms of Life" project to educate children between the ages of 5 and 12 about cultural heritage, promoted by the **Sandretto Re Rebaudengo Foundation**; and finally the "**Neighborhood Schools - RELOADED**" project, which supports pupils in social and behavioral difficulties with innovative pedagogical methodologies, promoted by the **LUNETICA Social Cooperative**.

The success of the second edition of Barolo en Primeur confirms the great attention paid to *fine wines* and how the Langhe appellations represent an opportunity to involve even the producers. Last but not the least, the *en primeur* sales model increases the value of Barolo and Barbaresco and incentivizes a type of market that is just being introduced in Italy.

Erika Montovan

CHIANTI CLASSICO GRAN SELEZIONE

A ban on Merlot and Cabernet Sauvignon

Winemakers and officials have long discussed the classification of Chianti Classico Gran Selezione. Now the matter seems to be moving. The new rules will give the wines more profile and a better expression of terroir. However, they are not likely to please everyone.



Chianti Classico wants to exclude international grape varieties from the Gran Selezione category from the 2023 harvest. The minimum content of Sangiovese is to be raised from 80 to 90 percent. International grapes, such as Syrah, Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon or Cabernet Franc may no longer be used.

Instead, only Tuscan grape varieties, such as Colorino, Ciliegiolo or Prugnolo, will be allowed as part of the blend. Also, the grapes must come from estate-owned vineyards which the wineries can name (e.g. Castellina or Gaiole) on the label.

What seems like, at first glance, a bit of red tape will mean that big producers can't mix their wines from different, sometimes distant, estates to easily meet the demand for Gran Selezione. Nor can they blend international varieties. Up to one fifth of a variety like a chubby Merlot or a jammy Syrah can shift the flavour profile far away from an original Chianti.

The producers strive for more terroir identity, the

lately rediscovered local varieties adding even more individuality. "In every village there are different characteristics in the wines produced", cheers Giovanni Manetti, president of Consorzio del Chianti Classico, "this will reinforce the relationship between a wine and a specific place". This might be yet another nail in the coffin for the international style wines which, driven by the 'Parkerisation' of taste, became so popular in the eighties.

The plans for the requirements date back to 2014 and have been much discussed. So far, Gran Selezione is very much like a Riserva with a little more ageing -- 30 months instead of 24 -- and a named site referred to on the label. Some stakeholders felt that this was not enough and criticised the lack of subzones such as single vineyards that made some wines from regions like Barolo or Burgundy so prestigious.

However, according to Giovanni Manetti, president of Consorzio del Chianti Classico, this is just a beginning. He plans to "expand the place names on the label to the other categories little by little."

Others pointed a finger at big wineries owning or leasing vineyards all over the denomination. They can still sport the Gran Selezione on the front label, just not the classification Unità Geografiche Aggiuntive (UGA). Eleven of these "additional geographical units" have been defined, mostly along existing boundaries of well-established



communes: San Casciano, Greve, Castellina, Radda and Gaiole.

San Donato in Poggio combines Tavarnelle in Val di Pesa, Barberino Val d'Elsa and Poggibonsi. Greve will be divided into the Panzano, Lamole and Montefioralle frazioni. Also, about half of the southernmost commune Castelnuovo Berardenga will be separated as Vagliagli.

The vintage 2019 is scheduled to be the first release of Gran Selezione under the new rules, making the top tier stand out from the vast crowd of Chianti wines and win their share of the premium market. "It is a way to raise the bar for quality", explained Marco Alessandro Bani, director of the Consorzio Vino Chianti, "and clear any grey areas", which translates into the markets of China and the USA.

Officially, the final approval of the Ministry of Agriculture is still outstanding. But things seem to be moving. Wineries can apply the new regulations retroactively from 2019. An estimated six percent of the entire production will meet the requirements.

Looking at the market this might be just the right move. In the current Global Fine Wine Report 2022, 26% of almost 1000 business insiders recommend focusing on Tuscany and Piedmont producers.

Matthias Stelzig



© Bruno Bruchi

ABOUT MATTHIAS STELZIG :

Matthias Stelzig is journalist and wine writer, based for 20 years in London, specialized in wine "economics", marketing and wine markets. Instagram @matthiasstelzig Tweeter @Matthiassssss



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EN PRIMEUR MONFERACE 2018

The Benchmark vintage

Due to the shutdown imposed by the pandemic, producers in the Casale Monferrato region skipped the year of previews but returned in style organizing the "Monferace en Primeur" event at Ponzano Castle, home of the Monferace Association since 2015. The purpose was to present the latest vintage of Monferace wine, also known as Grignolino (a native Piedmont red grape) aged in wood.

The independent **Monferace Association** has several production rules wineries must follow: Monferace must be produced only in the best vintages from Grignolino grapes and can only be marketed after a minimum aging period of 40 months, calculated from November 1 of the year of harvest, including at least 24 months in wooden barrels. Registered vineyards must be planted on calcareous-silt-clay soils, in various combinations, including those with natural presence of sandy sediments. Vineyard areas are developed in 24 municipalities of **Monferrato Aleramico** and must be exclusively hilly, with suitable exposures to ensure the best ripening of the grapes. In addition, the number of vines per hectare cannot be less than 4,000; the maximum grape yield must not exceed 7 tons per hectare.

"Aspects that are not secondary, indeed fundamental, Monferace is the most authentic expression of our terroir, which we hope is expressed today with the wines born in 2018; we hope they will continue to do well in the future. 2018 looks like a very confident vintage with the history of Monferace, the wines

show great elegance and long aging potential"- commented **Guido Carlo Alleva**, President of the Monferace Association and owner of Tenuta Santa Caterina. Monferace is the aleramic name of Monferrato, it represents the revival of an ancient tradition, the production of a wood-aged grignolino, which is seeing a rising number of producers: **Accornero, Aلمات, Angelini Paolo, Cinque Quinti, Fratelli Natta, Hic et Nunc, Liedholm, Sulin, Tenuta la Fiammenga, Tenuta la Tenaglia, Tenuta Santa Caterina, and Vicara.**

An important milestone for the producers was reached with the request, and obtaining, the inclusion of the Riserva type in the Grignolino Monferrato Casalese production regulations, but the Monferace Association, in addition to relying on ancient winemaking protocols, observes the roots and began an in-depth study of its vineyard park by engaging in a mapping of the vineyards dedicated to the production of Monferace observing that among them are Grignolino clones from 1936 (Cascina Faletta) and 1961 (Accornero); more recently, in 2020, the Saulin winery planted 45 clones derived from a selection of clones from the 1990s. A protection activity that allows the study of a territory aimed at understanding the soils and which clones perform best in them.

Dealing with the production choices the period of maceration between short and long, affects the fruity presence and structure, which we are going to describe in the following lines.

Erika Montovan

Bricco del Bosco Vigne vecchie 2018 Accornero Grignolino del Monferrato Casalese DOC

Over three months of maceration, the winery grows old vines; it is the best complete sip, a benchmark for elegance, breadth and definition of the fruit integrated magnificently in the wood, adhering to the palate for tannic grip and density.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)



Uccelletta 2018 Vicara Grignolino del Monferrato Casalese DOC

Three months of maceration, elegant, silky flesh, very young sip with a chalky filigree and more fibrous matter; a bit woody ended.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)



Tenuta Santa Caterina Grignolino del Monferrato Casalese DOC

Over three months of maceration, there is great concentration, deepness and a terrific tannic grip among red fruit aromas, balsamic and iodine touches.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)



Golden Arbian 2018 Angelini Paolo Grignolino del Monferrato Casalese DOC

Twenty-eight days on the skins, the wine shows a right compromise between power, fruit and tension; harmonious and full sip.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)



Liedholm 2018 Grignolino del Monferrato Casalese DOC

Two months of maceration; the nose shines with cerise aromas and hints of sweet wood, very elegant and silky sip with a vibrant acidity in the after taste.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)



Brasal 2018 Sulin Grignolino del Monferrato Casalese DOC

Two weeks of maceration, garnet ruby color but very transparent; great dynamism for a textured, lengthy sip with vertical development protracted by a great acidity.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)



Les Sept Couleurs

Where East meets West

Les Sept Couleurs restaurant opened in May 2021 in Saint-Germé which counts 500 inhabitants only. The municipality invested in a renovation project and invited two young restaurateurs to run a restaurant. Mélanie and Ritish Ragadu accepted the challenge and took care of the decoration of the whole, including an indoor area that can seat more than 30 people, as well as a shaded terrace, which is very popular in this season. Bistro concept & fusion cuisine are the main ideas: foie gras & mango, duck breast & rum sauce, floating island & passion fruit. Ritish, a Mauritian native, skilfully combines Indian, Creole and Asian flavours with local Gers ingredients.

VertdeVin: Which dish in your restaurant is a must-try and should be tasted by every customer?

Mélanie Ragadu: Our menu changes very often and we don't have fixed dishes. The chef proposes Mauritian specialties with Indian or Asian influences. However, we have a signature dessert: Comme une île flottante. It is a dessert made with soft egg whites, fresh mango cream, candied kumquats and grated lime. It has a great texture.

Which wine would you recommend to accompany this dish?

M.R.: We have some wonderful local wines. We always recommend a sweet Pacherenc du Vic Bilh: Louise d'Aure from Château Viella or Gaïa from Château du Pouey are our favorites. We know the winemakers, they have a family heritage and are young, innovative and dynamic.

Which wines are the most appreciated by your customers?

M.R.: We have Les Bons crus d'Artagnan label and so we offer many local wines at less than 21€ per bottle. There are lots of labels from small independent producers in the Gers and a renowned cooperative winery, Plaimont. We have noticed a trend towards less alcoholic, fresh, light wines.

The most unexpected food and wine pairing you have ever served?

M.R.: The chef offers a lot of fish and seafood dishes with a Mauritian twist. We have a great culture of red wine here in the Gers but few dare to drink it with fish and seafood. We offer light red wines such as "Uby bio 27". We also have a local aperitif, Flocc de Gascogne in red and white. Here at the restaurant we have chosen the Domaine de Bilé. Apart from the aperitif, we can pair it with a dessert and it is much less traditional.

Valéria Tenison



Restaurant Les Sept Couleurs

4 Place de l'église, 32400 Saint-Germé (Gers) - France
www.restaurant-les-sept-couleurs.eatbu.com



Ristorante **Opera Torino**



Just a few steps from Porta Susa train station, this restaurant offers French-style cuisine besides menus on vegetables; Stefano Sforza chef has been leading the team for two years after several experiences in France and Italy. His cuisine is looking for balance, where brown grounds, spices and different cooking methods become the pivot to enhance the pure taste of the ingredients.

Well-done plates are the rice with celery water, beef heart and red currants, the spaghetti with citrus oil and the pigeon with banana and curry. The selection of wines embraces all of Italy and rides hard on the French wine-growing regions; the young sommelier Carlo Salino's selection is rigorous, and its attention to small producers juxtaposed with the greatest interpreters of terroirs is well appreciated. To underline, the rich presence of teas and waters.

Erika Montovan

Opera Torino

Via Sant'Antonio da Padova, 3, 10121 Torino TO - Italy
Phone: 011 1950 7972 - www.operatorino.it



Ristorante **Rocca di Arignano**



Finely restored, the structure is an example of military gothic architecture at the entrance of Monferrato terroir. Rocca di Arignano holds a few luxury rooms, and many areas addressed to corporate meetings, courses and events, framing the inn in which to appreciate a cuisine inspired by the Middle Ages; the leathery taste is decisive and set on Piedmontese and km0 raw materials taken from a proper garden or local suppliers.

The young Lorenzo Careggio manages the cuisine buttressed by Ugo Alciati's advice, chef of Guido Ristorante 1* Michelin. Poché egg with topinambur cream and Rocca tuna with cooked and raw herb salads deserve the mentions. The wine list ranges from a small but curious selection of French and Langhe wines to a more detailed and complex survey of wines produced in the appellations set up around the cities of Turin and Asti.

Erika Montovan

Rocca di Arignano

Via Gino Lisa, 16, 10020 Arignano TO - Italy
Phone: 011 403 1511
roccadiarignano.it

Senhor Uva

Refined small plates and low-intervention wines

Hidden in the area next to Jardim to Estrela, Senhor Uva is the place to be for any wine and food lover. Stéphanie Audet and Marc Davidson, both Quebecois, serve here sublime, mostly plant-based ("botanical") cuisine and well-selected set of natural wines. The menu is seasonal and is changing regularly depending on what local producers can offer. The interior is colourful and aerial with pretty plates complementing versatile and fresh food. As for the wines, all the recent trends are there – Portuguese wine, of course, but also Jura and Loire, orange wines from Georgia, Slovenia and Friuli, omnipresent pet-nats and grower Champagnes, rare pearls from Lebanon and even Australia. Marc Davidson, the wine director, has something for every client – even the traditionalists will find a bottle dear to their heart. Reservations are strongly recommended as Lisbon becomes a more and more international, trendy and vibrant city welcoming numerous wine enthusiasts.

VertdeVin: Which dish in your restaurant is a must-try and should be tried by every customer?

Marc Davidson: I would say to start with the jackfruit ceviche that is an explosion of flavour and textures with its "leche de tigre" that gets the palate going or go for the mushroom dish with a miso corn porridge and Vietnamese cilantro that is super umami and wine friendly. But our menu is seasonally driven and changes frequently. So I guess people must come back over and over to try all the new dishes.

Which wine do you recommend to accompany this dish?

M.D.: With the ceviche we like to pour a short macerated aromatic grape like Malvasia, Encruzado or dry Gewurztraminer. On the mushroom we go for a more evolved and savoury wine from the Dao or Cabernet Franc.

Which wines are most appreciated by your customers?

M.D.: With a wine list of over 400 references, it's a tough question. The foreign guests want to discover Portuguese wines and the locals want to drink international wines. Same as the food menu, the wine list is always evolving and changing every week.



© Senhor Uva

The most unexpected food and wine pairing you have ever served?

M.D.: Roasted cauliflower with a vin Jaune from Domaine Labet.

Valeria Tenison

Senhor Uva

Rua Santo Amaro 66A,
Lisboa, 1200-804, Portugal
www.senhoruva.com





© Borgobrufa resort



Ristorante & SPA
Borgobrufa
A voyage through local culinary tradition

A few kilometers from Perugia, an entire hillside host a luxury resort with Umbria's largest spa and three restaurants; the executive chef in the Fine Dining Elementi, is Andrea Impero.

Chef Andrea Impero pays attention to details, seeking the most balanced among the strong flavours of this region, moving from Mediterranean to more international tastes, always putting km0 ingredients at the centre in two menus: Inspiration and Vision. The first is a tribute to his travels, past experiences, and the second is an interpretation of Umbria. In a circular economy work, he draws from local suppliers to propose raw and fresh materials, above all, seasonal. A very valued wine list on local products, Italy and France for almost 300 references. Besides them also a rich selection of spirits as well.

Erika Montovan

Borgobrufa SPA Resort

Via del Colle, 38, 06089, Brufa di Torgiano, PG, Italy
Phone +39 075 9883
borgobrufa.it



ALL I WANT FOR CHRISTMAS IS SAKÉ !



Under the Christmas tree, this year, we want some nice Japanese sakés and we decided to share some festive ideas to entertain your taste buds... As a Saké Sommelier, I really have fun when I play with nihonshu. Everything that doesn't go well with wine, is great with saké, but not only. Its diversity and versatility make it a great companion for food and good memories. Sometimes dry, sometimes sweet, with bubbles or without, authentic with forest floor flavours or modern with a fruity bouquet, served cool in a wine glass or warm in a traditional ochoko, nihonshu has multiple dimensions I wanted to highlight in this article. Though, remember to always drink with moderation.

Bubbles or not bubbles, there is no question!

Yes, Japanese saké can be bubbly, and I love it as aperitif... especially with crispy vegetables and cream cheese verrine, smoked trout with dill or shrimp cocktail! It is obvious that their clearness, transparency, freshness, and fizzy texture are a great way to start (and to end) your Christmas gastronomical marathon!

The Japan Awasake Association¹ gathers several maisons which create sparkling nihonshu, called Awa, with the traditional method of bottle refermentation. Philippe Jamesse², a sommelier in Champagne for 30 years and ambassador of Awa Sakés says *"Sparkling sakés have a great potential for various food pairings, especially with noble fishes³. They have structure, resistance and a stunning minerality: it's without a doubt, a drink of the future"*. I believe it too.

Divine Iodine

Japanese saké is delightful with iodine: seafood and fishes are saké's best friends! Saké Samurai Keiichiro Miyagawa, who is also an importer and creator of the French saké competition Kura Master⁴ with sommelier Xavier Thuizat⁵, is acknowledging this perfect pairing. *"King crab or lobster are even more delicious (with sake ed.) if you garnish them with lemon squeeze or mayonnaise"*. Indeed, don't forget condiments, they are part of the experience too.

Also, I think oysters are a phenomenal pairing too: Japanese saké highlights the iodine while the oyster's saltiness balances the nihonshu's smoothness. Emotional cuisine Cheffe Lobna Liverneaux⁶, who is tofu master and saké sommelier, shares a succulent recipe: *"fresh oysters for appetizer with an amazaké Chantilly and some caviar"*. It might be paired with a Junmai Daiginjo served cool in a beautiful Burgundy glass like Ko-no Tori Label Blanc from Chikusen Shuzo.

Umami please

If nihonshu has different flavours, they all have a common point though: umami. And it's what makes the difference to create marvelous food pairings. For Christmas, think about a big turkey (or another poultry) with porcins cooked in gravy, roasted potatoes with herbs and green beans... Yummy! Then the match will be perfect with a traditional saké like a Kimoto or Yamahai slightly warm. I am thinking about the tasty Rumiko no Sake from Moriki Shuzo for instance.

Say cheese!

Obviously, a Christmas meal cannot be complete without a beautiful cheese board, and you would be surprised how well Japanese saké pairs with cheeses. I discovered some incredible matches with Gaël Segaeer from Pure Sake is Good⁸. For instance, we tried some warm⁹ Junmai from Yamane Shuzo: absolutely stunning with goat cheeses like Foissac Saint Hilaire or Chèvre Madame. Breathtaking! Cow cheeses like runny Saint Marcellin IGP¹⁰ are a savoury pairing too and you should also experience Vieille Mimolette or old Comté with koshu¹¹ especially Daruma Masamune from Shiraki Shuzo.



Sweet tooth

Cheffe Lobna Liverneaux proposes some desserts for the crazy sweet tooth that we are! These recipes can mostly be found in her book *Tendance Saké, des recettes surprenantes*¹². Let's begin with her entremets chocolate and pear. Imagine a biscuit with candied pear infused with aniseed and fennel with a dark chocolate mousse! This fruity dessert is so unique with its mix of Mediterranean flavours and delish chocolat! Dassai 23 from Asahi Shuzo has got a lot of white fruits and aniseed flavours: it will be flawless.

Then, we can dream about her milk chocolate and sesame entremets: the warm power of the sesame with the roundness of milk chocolate will be exquisite with a kijoshu¹³ or koshu.

Finally, you can play with some citrus fruits thanks to her last dessert. Say hi to the chocolate brownie with two crémeux: yuzu tangerine and chocolate candied tangerine. Then, you should try a yuzushu: this infused saké with yuzu offers acidity and sweetness, perfect with this dessert.

The final touch

After a great meal, we can conclude with something very simple but exquisite like a glass of saké with a simple piece of dark chocolate. For the adventurous, why not try nihonshu with a cigar? You need a robust woody spicy cigar to pair well with a Koshu and a light in nicotine strength with sweet spices aromas cigar to try with Kijoshu.

Let us know what you think and if you have tried some nihonshu for your Christmas meals.

Chloé Cazaux Grandpierre



1_ www.awasake.co.jp | 2_ www.philippe-jamesse.com | 3_ Noble fishes are salmon, sea Bass, turbot, sole, halibut, brill, John Dory, monkfish, and gilthead sea bream | 4_ www.kuramaster.com | 5_ Xavier Thuizat is Saké Samurai, Best Sommelier of France 2022, and MOF Sommelier 2022 | 6_ www.cuisine-emotionnelle.fr | 7_ Amazaké is a sweet saké with low alcohol | 8_ www.puresakeisgood.com | 9_ At 50°C | 10_ www.fromage-saint-marcellin.fr | 11_ Koshu is an aged saké (3 years old minimum) | 12_ Only available in French yet | 13_ Kijoshu is a sweet saké

Araba / Álava

Wine and gastronomy trip through the hidden gem of Spain

Last weekend before the “ren-trée” (the back to school time), the traffic jam on the border in the direction of France is tailing out over 7 km, but we are passing quickly the irritated vacationers as we are going in the opposite direction. Our first stop is Vitoria-Gasteiz, the capital of Álava.

Vitoria-Gasteiz

The capital of Álava, Vitoria-Gasteiz, offers a wide range of activities to visitors. History buffs will appreciate visiting the old Medieval town with its impressive, slightly askew Cathedral of Santa Maria whose tower opens a magnificent view of the city and the surrounding mountains. The main square, Plaza España, is a great place to have a ‘pika-txiki’ (small beer with lemon) and admire the classic bow windows, a typical feature of this rainy part of Spain. The fans of outdoor activities will enjoy Vitoria’s Green Ring, a 30.8 km circular route that can be done on foot or by bike. On the way, there are rivers, streams, wetlands, and woods typical of the Álava Plain. Vitoria was a European Green Capital in 2012 and stays oriented to sustainability and zero-waste philosophy: local buses run on biofuel, citizens are regularly seen on a bike, and old buildings are often refurbished to serve the demands of the new era.

Laguardia

The next stop on our itinerary is Laguardia, a picturesque little town in Rioja Alavesa. To come here from Vitoria, we had to cross the beautiful Sierra Cantabria mountain chain. The climate changes drastically: the mountain peaks stop the clouds coming from the Atlantic, so Rioja Alavesa sees much fewer rains than the northern parts of the Basque Country. Laguardia is a cute medieval town surrounded by an impressive fortification wall. Its main tourist attraction is the 12th-century Church of Santa Maria de Los Reyes with its multi-coloured internal portal. But Laguardia is a genuine wine town with around 80 bodegas and 232 underground cellars, called “ca-lados” (“humid” in Spanish). They offer perfect conditions for wine ageing – constant temperature around 13-15C and 85-90% of humidity. Most of the bodegas are open for visits and tastings.



Rioja Alavesa

Rioja Alavesa is the smallest part of Rioja wine appellation and the most northern. Thus, the climate here is the coolest, though the area is still well-protected from the Atlantic rains and winds by the picturesque Sierra Cantabria. Soils here are dominated by limestone and clay with some additions of iron. Vineyards are often located at altitudes between 400 and 1200m above sea level. Rioja Alavesa is a zone where we find old vines, minuscule, often terraced plots, and many small vigneron. Tempranillo is the king here, often made in an easy-drinking style, using the carbonic maceration. Many family wineries produce their wines in massive cement vats and sell “vino de cosecha”, a young, fruity, fresh, quite rustic local wine for immediate drinking. Though, some producers like Herederos del Marqués de Riscal, Remelluri, and Oxer, produce complex and long-living wines.

Wine tasting

El Fabulista La Zorra y Las Uvas Tinto Joven 2021

Tempranillo

The nose is very intense and rich with notes of ripe cherries, some strawberries, and black plums. The palate is juicy with elevated, vivid acidity and grainy, sticky tannins. An easy-drinking and fruity wine that should be served slightly chilled.

Score : 14+/20 (87/100)

El Fabulista La Cierva y la Vina 2017

Tempranillo

(6 months in American oak) The nose is perfumed, and fruity, opening up with notes of red and black cherries, a touch of prunes, cherry compote, and strawberry pie. The palate is round and balanced with smooth acidity and velvety, well-managed tannins. There are notes of chocolate, vanilla, and a touch of sweet coconut in the background. Still easy to drink but with a certain complexity and finesse.

Score : 14.75/20 (89/100)

Herederos del Marqués de Riscal XR Reserva 2017

Tempranillo, Graciano

(24 months in American oak) The nose reveals a lot of oaky, spicy, and savoury notes, with nuances of ripe strawberries, and red and black plums in the background. The palate is juicy with moderate acidity and ripe, velvety, though bold and muscular tannins. Very fruity, succulent, long finish.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)



Where to stay

NH Canciller Ayala Hotel

Ramon y Cajal, 5 – 01007, Vitoria Gasteiz
Price: from 60€

This modern hotel in the centre of Vitoria is perfect for those who want to explore the city on foot. Located next to a green park, it offers comfortable and functional rooms, a quiet environment, and a generous breakfast.

Hotel Hospedería de los Parajes

C/Mayor, 46-48 – 01300, Laguardia
Price: from 130€

A historical hotel, right in the main square of the picturesque Laguardia, Hospedería is the perfect place for a romantic weekend. The rooms are spacious and decorated with an old-fashioned charm and the staff makes you feel spoiled like a wealthy medieval pilgrim who stopped in Laguardia to have a well-deserved rest.

Hotel Marqués de Riscal, a Luxury Collection Hotel

C/Torra, 1 – 01340, Elciego
Price: from 400€

The true architectural masterpiece, created in 2006 by Frank Gehry, Hotel Marqués de Riscal is the local landmark visible from far away. The curvy, coloured shapes of the building attract visitors from all over the world. With only 43 rooms, despite the steep pricing, it is almost always fully booked. The restaurants here are top quality as well, the main one being awarded a Michelin star. The guests can order a very old vintage from the winery's library and the bottle will be decanted and perfectly prepared before they arrive at the restaurant.

Where to eat

Sagartoki

C/Prado, 18 – 01005, Vitoria Gasteiz
Price: €€ Wine list: **

A modern and trendy restaurant in the centre of Vitoria offers an eclectic but well-balanced menu of oysters, pintxos, sushi, and tortillas. The Angus beef chuletóns are also of exceptional quality. Cocktails are the focal point here though the wine list is extensive, representing most of the Spanish wine regions and even some international gems. A few stellar names and old vintages make it look more impressive.

GastroGune

C/Correría, 36 – 01001, Vitoria Gasteiz
Price: €€ Wine list: **

Sonia Fuentes is not a newbie in the pintxos world, her father, Enrique Fuentes, won the Spanish Pintxo Contest in 2006. At GastroGune she organises masterclasses for those who would like to dive into the art of making a quality pintxo with the best local ingredients. The passionate chef, Maria, explains in detail how to prepare a perfect Gilda, and Sonia pairs this masterpiece with a crispy and citrusy local wine Txakoli.

Alútiz Vinos y Enoturismo

C/Matarredo de Abajo, 8 – 01307, Samaniego
Price: € Wine list: *

Local vignerons since the 17th century, the Pascual Alutiz family offer visitors a genuine introduction to the Rioja Alavesa region. Enjoy a hearty meal with local cheeses and charcuteries right next to the vineyards of the omnipresent Tempranillo and stay in the family's rural house if you feel like the wine was too good to stop at a right time.

Villa Lucía Espacio Gastronómico

Carretera de Logroño s/n – 01300, Laguardia
Price: €€ Wine list: **

Asador of Villa Lucía offers an extensive menu of local dishes many of them marked with a Km 0 sign. The portions are hearty, the dishes are well-prepared and the waiters are quick and friendly. The local shop boasts a rich collection of Rioja wines and you can order any of them in the restaurant for a small supplement.

Taberna La Era

Axkoeta, 43 – 01428, Axkoeta (Escota)
Price: €€ Wine list: **

The old family house which used to be a cheesery is now a vibrant local eatery that offers the classics of Basque and Rioja gastronomy with a delicate modern twist. Don't miss Friday's pintxos night! The interior is extremely cosy with many cute details, so you won't want to leave.

What to do

Salt Valley of Añana

01426 Salinas de Añanas

Salt Valley is a unique archeological, architectural and historical site that extends to more than 120.000 m2. Salt production in the valley started in 1014 and continues until today, though on a much smaller scale, as this type of artisanal production could not compete with industrial factories. This area was once a seabed and now the salt obtained from the salt springs by evaporation is rich in minerals like magnesium and copper. This salt is fine and expensive and is used in high-end gastronomic restaurants. During the visit, the guide explains all the details of the ancient method of production and then at the tasting introduces visitors to different types of salt. A singular experience! During the warm months visitors also can plunge their hands and feet into the hypersaline waters of the Salt Spa and enjoy the health benefits of the ritual.

Ollerías – Museo de Alfarería Vasca

B/Ollerías, 9 – 01170 Elosu

The main attraction of the Basque Pottery museum is not a 300-year-old oven, once used to simultaneously bake 8000 pieces of pottery, but its custodian – Blanka Gomez de Segura. She is so passionate about pottery that even those who never felt attracted by the crocks start to gaze at the vessels with interest and affection. Blanka organises masterclasses for children and adults and makes tailor-made pieces of pottery. She is well-travelled and knowledgeable about the subject. It seems like she knows every piece of baked clay in the world!

Quesos Basterra Anaiak Gazta

Ondona Bidea, 6 – 01449, Gouiuri-Ondona

DO (Denominacion de Origen), the analogue of the French AOC, for Idiazabal cheese was created in 1987. It can only be made from unpasteurized sheep milk in the Basque country and Navarra. The milk usually comes from the local breed called "latxa" which has long and coarse wool that allows it to survive the harsh mountainous climate. The cheese has to be cured for at least 2 months but the standard time would be 4 to 8 months. During the "curacion" (curing process) it acquires notes of nuts and a light smoky touch.

Goibeia Natural Park

The 20.016 ha of natural park is perfect for many outdoor activities. Including hiking, mountaineering, mountain biking, horse-riding, etc. The main attraction without a doubt is the mighty Mount Goibeia with its 1,482 m summit delimits the border between the provinces of Álava and Bizkaia. The scenery of the park is varied, ranging from savage forests to bare rocks. The breathtaking Gujuli waterfall with its 100-metre cascade is another landmark of the park.

Valeria Tenison



MAKE YOUR PERFECT GILDA!

Gilda, the iconic Basque pintxo, is named after an eponymous 1940's film with Rita Hayworth. This snack with green olives, salt-cured anchovies, and pickled guindilla peppers is often described as "verde, salado, y picante" which means "green, salty, and spicy" but also can be translated as "dirty, charming, and spicy" that kind of characterises Hayworth's film character.

To make a perfect Gilda we need 3 "piparas" (peppers), 1 half of anchovies, 2 green olives, a bit of olive oil, and a spike. First, we break the tails of the peppers. The sound should be crunchy and juicy. Skewer all the peppers in the middle of the spike. Then take the anchovy and drizzle it with some olive oil. Skewer it around the peppers with the nicer, skinless side out. Then put the olives on both sides of the spike. Ideally, you should eat the pintxo with one bite and wash it down with a glass of zesty Txakoli.

CHÂTEAU LA GAFFELIÈRE

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Wines to discover... and savour this winter!

Domaine Jean Fery Les Combottes 2020 Pernand-Vergelesses (Bourgogne)

Vertde
Vin
Score
17+
94/95/100

The nose is fruity, elegant, delicate, harmonious and reveals a nice finesse of grain. There are notes of juicy quince, ripe, juicy peach and, more slightly, ripe lemon, hints of kumquat, ripe, fresh yellow berries combined with delicate hints of beeswax, nutty butter and a discreet note of sense of place (local biotop), nutmeg and an imperceptible hint of almost fresh pepper (in the background). The palate is fruity, balanced and offers juiciness, acidity, good definition, energy, harmony, lovely vibrant acidity, melodiousness, accuracy and elegance. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy, sour lemon, quince and more lightly citrus mesocarp combined with hints of crunchy peach, tangy medlar, fine hints of quinine, lemon blossom, sweet spice, muscade and a very discreet hint of racy, almost iodine minerality and zest (in the background). A nice acidic and gourmet persistence. Good length. (J.C.C.)

Price: €€



Château Franc Mayne 2019 Saint-Emilion Grand Cru, Grand Cru Classé (Bordeaux)

Vertde
Vin
Score
18+
96/97/100

The nose is elegant, fruity and offers harmony, fullness, a nice finesse of the texture, power in mastery / delicacy, richness, an airy side in the approach as well as a multi-layered side (which therefore requires time in the glass or in a carafe). It reveals notes of bright black blackberry, liquorice stick associated with touches of bright black plum, raspberry, black pepper as well as hints of cornflower, spices, with a discreet hint of tobacco, with an imperceptible hint of cypress and a subtle hint of camphor. [...] On the palate this wine expresses notes of bright wild cassis, bright black blackberry and, more slightly, black pepper associated with small touches of crushed raspberry, bright red plum, hints of lilac, cypress, dark chocolate, caramelisation as well as discreet hints of blond tobacco, camphor, a subtle hint of vanilla (in the base) and a very discreet hint of roasted herbs (in the base). Tannins are elegant, harmonious and supple. Presence of a very nice multi-layered side. A very nice length. (J.C.C.)

Read full review on vertdevin.com

Price: €€



Vertde
Vin
Score
17
94/100

Weingut Malat Grüner Veltliner Ried Höhlgraben 2021

Kremstal DAC (Austria)

The wine shows a pale lemon-green colour with a silver tinge. The nose is aromatic, slightly spicy and herbal, revealing notes of fresh pear, yellow apple, quince, a delicate hint of white pepper, dried herbs and a touch of savoury quality. The palate is dense, with good fruit concentration and ripeness balanced by zesty acidity and a pleasant savoury character. The wine demonstrates notes of ripe yellow apple, Conference pear, quince, a touch of lemon and pomelo, hints of garrigue, thyme and oregano. The finish is powerful, dense and long. (J.C.C.)

Price: €



Vertde
Vin
Score
15.25
90/100

Tenuta Tamburnin Carlin 2021

Albugnano Doc (Piedmont)

(Organic) A fresh, fragrant nebbiolo, vinified in steel in the Albugnano area know as "the balcony of Monferrato" a few kilometers from Turin. This organic wine comes from a blend of grapes harvested from younger vines replanted in recent years in the various plots near the winery on silty, sandy soils with a limestone matrix. The 1700 estate, is located in Castelnuovo Don Bosco, owns 20 hectares of land, 9 of vineyards, 2 hazelnut groves, meadows, woods, and a small vegetable garden. (E.M.)

Price: €

Monbuen Vigneti Aloi Metodo Classico Brut (Piedmont)

Vertde
Vin
Score
15.25
90/100

A small family farmer in the old Borgofranco d'Ivrea area is successfully engages in the production of a fleshy 36-month, slight oxidation is offset on the sip by unbridled acidity; aromas of warm citrus, magnolia, dried fruit and hydrocarbons. It becomes savoury with good volume; the wine base ages 6 months in barrique. Grapes grown 70% pergola, 30% guyot on sandy soil of morainic origin. The winery also engages in nebbiolo production on ancient terraces reconstructed with great pride. (E.M.)

Price: €€



Champagne Piollet Père & Fils - Colas Robin Brut Nature 2015 (Champagne)

Vertde
Vin
Score
18.5+
97-98/100

This Champagne has a nice deep straw color with different sizes of bubbles. They are quite fast. The mousse is soft. The first nose is fresh, fruity with cooked apple notes, almond and roasted hazelnuts. The second nose is all about white pepper and flower like jasmine. The attack is fresh with lively fine and numerous fast bubbles. There are fruits like apricot and peach. The middle of the mouth is floral, pure, limpide. We can taste Philadelphia flowers. We also have pastis landais (brioche) and lemon zest. The acidity brings freshness and structure to this gastronomic Champagne. The finish is delicate with salty minerality and we can feel pine needles and marzipan notes. (J.C.C.)

Price: €€€



DOMAINE LA BÉGUDE

One of the most famous Bandol's wineries



©Drone Pictures

For many centuries, La Béguade was a stopover on the way that led from Marseille to Toulon, a shelter for the night where travellers and pilgrims could find food and “beguda”, the drink in Provençal.

Located on the highest point of the Bandol appellation, at an altitude of 410 meters, more than 300 hectares of land lie in the shade of the mountain Sainte Baume, of which 30 hectares of vines divided into 55 plots. One of them, overlooking the sea, shelters a conservatory to the glory of Mourvèdre: the largest reservoir in the world of this grape, which brings together more than 150 clones.

Domaine de La Béguade is a unique model of biodiversity in which flora and fauna thrive together, and where the vine finds its balance. Bathed in sea breeze, the wines are aged in the 7th century chapel, a vestige of the Abbey of Saint Victor.

The Roulleau family, fifth family to own the wine estate since the Middle Ages, acquired Domaine de La Béguade in September 2022. Laurent Fortin, newly appointed Managing Director, takes the greatest care of the estate and its vineyard so that each of its vintages reflects the splendid beauty of this land and tells you its story.



© José Nicolas

Domaine de La Béguade Cuvée Amphore 2020 Bandol AOC

(Organic) The nose is fresh, racy and offers a certain deepness, purity as well as a nice and discreetly tight grain. The wine needs by being decanted. It reveals notes of fresh quince, fresh white plum and small notes of crunchy white berries associated with fine hints of white flowers, discreet hints of spices as well as a discreet hint of thyme and almond. Fresh. The palate is fruity and offers minerality, freshness, delicacy in its fat / in its matter, a discreet aerial side, a discreetly tight grain, a fine acidulous frame as well as a nice work on the bitterness. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of bright/juicy quince, bright/juicy white nectarine and small notes of lemon associated with fine hints of zest, white flowers as well as a subtle hint of apricot blossom, fresh almond and sage. A very discreet almost liquorice hint in the background/on the finish.

Score 16/20 (92/100)



Domaine de La Béguade Thyrus 2021 Bandol AOC

(Organic) The nose is elegant and offers a nice expression/deepness in its fruit, purity as well as a sensation of roundness/a coating side. It reveals notes of bright cherry, fleshy/juicy strawberry and small notes of bright vine peach associated with fine touches of bright apple as well as delicate hints of quenette, lily, a subtle hint of apricot flowers and an imperceptible hint of pepper. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, an acidulous frame, a good definition, a certain gourmandize, precision as well as control. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/acidulous raspberry, acidulous/pulpy redcurrants and small notes of crunchy apple associated with touches of crunchy small white fruits, quenette, a subtle hint of olive, zest as well as with a very discreet hint of liquorice and fresh thyme.

Score 16+/20 (92-93/100)

Domaine de La Béguade La Brulade 2018 Bandol AOC

(Organic) The nose is elegant, racy and offers elegant concentration, controlled power and a discreetly tight grain. It reveals notes of pulpy/juicy red cherry, bright red plum and slight notes of raspberry jelly associated with small touches of liquorice, olive tree, flowers, peppermint and spices. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, a beautiful acidulous structure, minerality, a good definition, a beautiful grain, a fine powdery/velvety side, harmony, complexity, a nice freshness as well as a beautiful energy. A delicate and silky side despite a nice power. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy raspberry, fresh/bright cherry and small notes of violet associated with touches of violet plum, lilac, fresh thyme, discreet hints of bright red berries, liquorice as well as a subtle hint of black olive, tonka bean and toast. Tannins are precise, elegant, fine, supple and racy. Good length. A beautiful wine on the fruit and with a lot of purity (without however lacking in complexity and power).

Score 16.5+/20 (93-94/100)



The 9th edition of **Taormina Gourmet**

From 22 to 24 October the beautiful city of Taormina saw an exceptional concentration of international and Italian chefs, wine critics, journalists, Masters of Wine and sommeliers.

The 3-day event was slightly disrupted by the national strike of Italian airport employees but as soon as the guests arrived to the classical Hotel Villa Diodoro, all the troubles were immediately forgotten. The event organised by the newspaper Cronache di Gusto, Fizz Comunicazione and the Bica Association was packed with author's dinners, masterclasses on great wines, cooking shows by Italian and foreign chefs, and some of the most important Sicilian pizza makers. Moreover, due to the collaboration with the Consortium D.O.C. Sicilia, this edition of Taormina Gourmet hosted a sommelier competition which celebrated the best US sommelier in Sicilian wines. The walk-around tasting was back after a two-years disruption, this time with 50 wineries from all over Italy to represent some of the best wines produced from the Alps to Sicily.

As many as 13 masterclasses will be held at Taormina Gourmet, among them verticals of old vintages, and tastings dedicated to particular grape varieties or territories, or even entire nations such as Greece or Spain. Below are some of the most memorable.



Wines from Old Vines and the great future

Exclusive tasting with Sarah Abbott MW, in collaboration with Michèle Shah, Old Vine Conference Ambassador Italy

Italy has more than 2000 indigenous grapes, of which around 300 are in commercial production. They create an enormous richness and diversity of the country's viticulture. This phenomenon is closely connected to the history of the country that for the most part of the 20th century was impoverished, and peasants simply could not afford replanting modern, fashionable varieties as it happened in France. Most experts agree that old vines do not necessarily give better wine but the fact that they reached this age means that they were considered giving the yield of high quality and thus were preserved and cherished. Today, when the climate is changing, old vines have the benefit to adapt better to drought and unpredictable weather patterns. During the masterclass the participants had the chance to taste 12 wines from all over Italy. Some of them were surprising.

Mirco Mariotti Brut Nature Abbatia MC 2018

Emilia Romagna

100% Fortana. The shows a creamy, consistent mousse. On the nose the notes of apricots, peaches and pears interlace with delicate floral nuances. The palate reveals fresh, racy acidity balanced by the creamy texture. The wine opens up with notes of jasmine, chalky minerality, pleasant saltiness and a subtle touch of bitter almond on the finish.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Ruggeri Conegliano Valdobbiadene Prosecco Superiore D.O.C.G. Brut Vecchie Viti 2021

Veneto

94% Glera, 2% Verdiso, 2% Bianchetta, 2% Perera taken from single vines between 80 and 100 years old. The wine offers the typical notes of Glera, nuances of pear

blossom, fresh white pears and yellow apples, delicate hints of white flowers. The palate is light and aerial with refreshing, soft acidity, pleasant salinity, complicated by nuances of pear drops and citrus zest.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Quintodecimo Exultet Fiano di Avellino D.O.C.G. 2021

Campania

35-year-old Fiano vines of a local biotype, discovered by Professor Luigi Moio and recuperated by him. The nose is ripe and dense, offering intense nuances of yellow apples, white peaches and meadow flowers, combined with a distinct mineral, smoky note. The palate is round and powerful with round and textured body, elevated acidity, pronounced salinity and phenolic grip. The wine that perfectly reflects its origin.

Score : 16.25+/20 (93/100)



Villa Bogdano 1880 Lison Classico DOCG 2019

Friuli

(Organic) 100% Friulan from a historic plot of 3,09ha, planted in 1943. The nose is initially very herbal, revealing notes of green tea, sencha, dried herbs and hay, later opening up with delicate nuances of apricots and pineapples. The palate is savoury and saline, offering moderate acidity and grippy texture.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Gini Contrada Salvarenza Vecchie Vigne Soave Classico DOCG 2016

Veneto

Garganega 100%, 100-year-old vines. The nose reveals generous notes of yellow apples, white peaches, a touch of pineapple in the echo. The palate is full-bodied and textural with refreshing acidity, notes of flower honey notes, hints of ripe yellow pears and peaches, a solid mineral backbone. Slight bitterness on the lingering finish.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Cantine Fratelli Addimanda Aciniell' Grecomusc IGP 2019

Campania

Roviello Bianco (Grecomusc) 100%. The nose is smoky, offering notes of gunflint, silex, roasted seeds and sesame. On the palate herbal notes interlace with nuances of spices and nuts. The wine reveals a piercing, crisp acidity, moderate weight and grippy texture. The finish is nutty and slightly bitter.

Score : 14.5+/20 (88/100)

Vinchio Vaglio Barbera 50 Vigne Vecchie Barbera d'Asti DOCG 2020

Piemonte

Barbera 100%, 50-year-old vines. The nose is vivid and vibrant, revealing juicy notes of ripe red and black cherries, a hint of spices, like black pepper and a touch of raspberry compote. The palate shows the typical for Barbera, crunchy and succulent acidity balancing the high alcohol, a lot of gourmandise, moderate weight, long juicy finish.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Cantina Roeno Enantio Riserva "1865 Pre-fillossera" Terra dei Forti DOC 2017

Veneto

Enantio (family of Lambrusco) The nose reveals vivid notes of red and black cherries, sour cherry compote, nuances of sweet spice and a touch of cedar wood in the background. The palate is smoky, offering grippy texture and bold, slightly drying tannins. The acidity is well-balanced and juicy. A bit bitter, astringent finish.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Bentu Luna Be Luna IGP 2019

Sardinia

Bovale Sardo 40%, Cannonau 35%, Monica 25%, 115-year old vines. The wine shows a typical Mediterranean character with fruity profile, high alcohol and moderate, suave acidity. Notes of prunes and figs interlace with nuances of macchia and sage. The tannins are bold, but ripe and smooth. There is a hint of overripeness on the palate. Gourmet, chocolatey finish.

Score : 14+/20 (87/100)

Elisabetta Foradori Granato Vigneti delle Dolomiti IGT 2009

Trentino Alto Adige

Teroldego 100%, old pergola-trellised vines of 70 years of average age. The wine shows a deep ruby, still youthful and vivid. The nose is herbaceous, minty, revealing notes of black cherries, blackberries, bramble, complicated by a hint of smoke and delicate roasted meat notes. The palate is intense and concentrated, offering a lot of freshness, crunchy, youthful acidity, balancing the high alcohol, bold, sticky tannins and fluid, athletic body. The wine still seems young and vibrant, has potential for further ageing.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Feudi di San Gregorio Serpico Irpinia Aglianico DOC 2015

Campania

Aglianico 100% from the historic "Dal Re" vineyard, old ungrafted vines. The nose is dark and slightly closed, needs aeration to open up. It reveals notes of tar, iodine, nuances of blackberries, thorn and bramble, a hint of cinnamon and cedar wood. The palate is bold and concentrated, packed with dark berries, complicated by nuances of prunes and smoke. Very full-bodied and hearty, the wine has a long, smoky finish and excellent ageing potential.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Pietro Beconcini Vigna Le Nicchie IGT 2016

Toscana

Tempranillo 100%, centuries-old vines. The nose is dense and concentrated, offering ripe notes of blackberries, bramble and black cherries, complicated by nuances of cinnamon, cloves and cocoa. The palate is heady, with elevated, warming alcohol, pronounced sweetness, luscious texture and bold, muscular tannins. The wine reveals notes of figs and coffee, reminding of a good vintage port. A powerful, extravagant style.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Between Cannonau and Vermentino, Sardinia of Dettori that defies the years

Tenuta Dettori is a winery in Sennori, in the province of Sassari in northern Sardinia. Sennori and the nearby municipality of Sorso together cultivate more than three hundred hectares dedicated to the signature Sardinian red grape, Cannonau. The particularity of the cultivation area, called Romangia, is that it is considered the most fertile part of the whole of Sardinia. The vines of the Dettori Estate lie on a hillside, with predominantly calcareous soil, around which the vegetation consists of Mediterranean scrub and olive groves. The altitude of around 250 m provides an ideal climate for growing grapes. The eager guardians of ancient traditions, the Dettori family use completely natural methods to produce their wines. The company eschews large-scale advertising and remains faithful to the old ways of winemaking. During the masterclass, wine professionals from all over the world could taste mature vintages both of Vermentino and Cannonau and confirm their exceptional ageing potential.

Dettori Bianco 2005

The nose shows nuances of bruised apple and a distinct saline, savoury touch, well-integrated oxidation that adds to the complexity. The palate is vivid and fresh, with bright fruitiness of ripe apricots and yellow apples, a nutty hint, savoury notes of fennel and liquorice. Multi-layered and long. Bears well its age.

Score : 17.5/20 (95/100)

Dettori Bianco 2012

The nose is slightly volatile, uplifting the exuberant fruit. Notes of ripe apricots interlace gracefully with nuances of ginger and allspice, a touch of iodine and white pepper. The palate is voluptuous and rich, very spicy and savoury. The finish lasts for minutes. A gorgeous wine that has a further ageing potential.

Score : 18/20 (96/100)

Dettori Bianco 2016

The wine is at the moment still very young, a bit closed, needs aeration and time to show its full potential. The nose reveals delicate nuances of apricots combined with herbal hints. The palate is suave and round, with a nice phenolic grip and powerful concentration. Still underdelivers. The wine to watch.

Score : 16/92

Dettori 2007

The wine shows a garnet colour with a lot of sediment. The nose is uplifted, revealing nuances of raspberries and strawberries, complicated by savoury notes of tomato leaf and beef consommé. The palate shows a lot of freshness, elevated acidity, slight volatility, nuances of varnish, pine needles, roasted raspberries, all in a perfect balance and harmony. A very multi-layered and complex meditation wine that develops beautifully in the glass.

Score : 16.5/93

Dettori 2010

The nose shows a lot of spiciness and gourmandise, opening up with notes of cedar wood, cocoa, nutmeg, combined with nuances of sweet, ripe strawberries and forest raspberries. The palate is smooth and round, with bold, grippy tannins. The wine shows a lot of fruitiness and sweetness, typical for Cannonau. The powerful structure is balanced by refreshing, balsamic acidity. A savoury, meaty touch on the finish.

Score : 15.5+/91

Dettori 2005

The wine shows a pale garnet colour, very mature. The nose is uplifted, revealing plenty of balsamic notes, nuances of raspberries and red apple, hint of tar, liquorice and smoke. The palate is high-toned, volatile, very fresh and saline. The wine that feels youthful despite its age. Great sapidity and a savoury, saline, delicious finish.

Score : 16.5/93



Discovering the great wines of Greece: Santorini, Assyrtiko and more

A masterclass presented by Yiannis Karakasis MW



Assyrtiko is the most famous white grape of Greece, an indigenous variety of Santorini, and the signature of the island, producing both dry and sweet wines. It accounts for around 70% of the total 1.100 hectares of plantings. It amounts to approximately 800 ha, from a total of 1.900 ha of Assyrtiko plantings throughout the country. Assyrtiko demonstrates a magnificent combination of vibrant acidity (pH can be as low as 2.80 and TA as high as 7.5 g/l) and high alcohol (up to 15.5% abv), combined with pronounced mineral character and salinity. As Yiannis Karakasis MW says, it has "a distinctive taste of rocks and salt". Tight and firm in its youth, it shows solid ageing potential. 5-8 years seem a safe drinking window for these wines but with the improvement of viticultural and winemaking techniques, Assyrtiko from Santorini can show even more impressive results.

The most exciting thing is that nobody knows how old some vineyards in Santorini are. They might be well around 200 years old or even older as they are cultivated using a unique training system called 'kouloura' (basket) to protect the vines from the violent winds that blow on the island, which can exceed 80 km/h at times. This training system also creates a more humid environment, which helps to ease the hydric stress. The yields are incredibly low, around 10hl/ha, which makes these wines precious and expensive.

Amargiotakis Thrapathiri 2020

Crete

The nose is very herbal, offering nuances of hay, garrigue, a touch of sweet spices, complicated by notes of fresh yellow pears and apples. The palate is creamy and smooth, with moderate acidity, medium weight, some spicy oakiness, nice freshness, fruity and vibrant. Long, succulent finish.

Score : 14.5+/20 (88/100)

T-Oinos Clos Stegasta Assyrtiko 2020

Tinos, Cyclades PGI

This Assyrtiko comes from the granitic soils of Tinos island. The nose reveals juicy nuances of ripe lemons, underpinned by notes of lemon zest and grapefruit pith, a touch of unripe pineapple in the background. The palate is intensely saline

and linear, very structured and vertical, with a powerful phenolic grip and zesty acidity. Salty and mineral finish with a citrus note in the echo.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Argyros Estate Cuvée Monsignori 2019

Santorini

The nose is powerful and intense, revealing juicy nuances of ripe lemons and pomelos, a touch of flowers (geranium), a delicate hint of kerosene. On the palate the texture is waxy, sticks to the gums, refreshed by piercing acidity which also balances the high alcohol. The notes of yellow apples and pears intertwine with nuances of almonds and grapefruits. A pleasant bitter note lingers in the aftertaste. Massive!

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Artemis Karamolegos Winery Pyritis 2019
Santorini

The nose is slightly reductive, smoky, revealing delicate notes of lemon blossom, a touch of citrus zest and white flowers. The palate is tight, still underdeveloped and closed, needs time to smoothen. The acidity is sharp and assertive, accentuating the intense minerality of the wine. Discreet notes of dried herbs and white flowers reverberate in the echo. A lean, mineral, austere style.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Gavalas Winery Enalia 2018
Santorini

The nose is delicate and discreet, later opening up with nuances of apricot blossom, a touch of grapefruit and lemon zest, a hint of meadow flowers. The palate is phenolic and powerful, offering a grippy, waxy texture, intense minerality and salinity, a light bitterness in the aftertaste. Long finish with a clinging marzipan note.

Score : 17.5/20 (95/100)

Domaine Sigalas Kavaleros 2020
Santorini

The nose is citrusy and floral, revealing nuances of lemon zest, a touch of grapefruit, a hint of acacia and honeysuckle. The palate reveals piercing, crisp acidity, a very tight structure, linear and vertical character, phenolic grip. The palate mirrors the nose with citrusy and floral aromas, adding to the chalky mineral hints and a delicate touch of liquorice and fennel. Slightly bitter, herbal finish. A food wine.

Score : 17.5/20 (95/100)

Gaia Wines Ammonite 2020
Santorini

The wine is discreet on the nose, revealing delicate nuances of lemon zest, a touch of apricots and subtle notes of sweet spices. The palate is massive, powerful, with a waxy texture sticking to the gums. Notes of Mediterranean herbs combine with nuances of cloves and nutmeg, with a refreshing citrusy note reverberating in the echo. Nice grip on the finish. Still a baby, will age beautifully.

Score : 17.5/20 (95/100)

Douloufakis Winery Dafnios Vidiano 2016
Crete

The nose is smoky, needs time to open up. Initial smoky notes give way to herbal nuances of garrigue and gentian, a touch of ripe apricot in the echo. The palate is savoury and buttery, with a smooth, creamy texture, elevated, zesty acidity, distinct salinity and a lingering note of liquorice on the long finish.

Score : 18/20 (96/100)

Troupis Winery Pitys Ritinitis 2021
Peloponnese

Assyrtiko 100% made in a Retsina style with pieces of Aleppo pine resin added to the must during the fermentation. The nose shows typical notes of menthol and eucalyptus, very fresh and cooling. On the palate nuances of pine resin, rosemary and sage interlace with citrus notes and mineral hints. Very refreshing and pleasant. A rare example of high quality and accessible, international-style Retsina.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Vinupetra, the quintessence of Etna

Vertical tasting

I Vigneri, the name of an ancient guild of Sicilian winegrowers, Maestranza dei Vigneri, was created in 1435 in Catania, which implemented precise specifications for the cultivation of grapes and winemaking on Etna. More than 500 years later, Salvo Foti revived this association, naming his winery I Vigneri and giving it the symbol of a goblet-shaped vine. All the vineyards of Salvo are planted following the traditional "arberello" method, which consists of leaning the vines against a chestnut pole and positioning them in quincunx.

The vineyards are located in Milo, in the eastern part of Etna, at an altitude of 800m. The soil is of volcanic origin and is rich, thus leading to high densities of 8,000 to 12,000 vines per hectare to limit the vigour of the vine. Salvo Foti does not use any synthetic products. The grapes are harvested by hand between the end of September and the middle of October. The winemaking process is equally natural, are carried out using indigenous yeasts.

Vinupetra is a local word meaning "wine produced in a soil full of stones". The grapes are harvested from a 0,38ha plot in Contrada Porcaria (Feudo di Mezzo) in Castiglione di Sicilia, on the northern slope of Etna, 580 metres above sea level. This wine is produced from a blend of 70-80-year-old vines of Nerello Mascalese (80%), Nerello Cappuccio (10%), Grenache and Francisi (10%). The wine is aged for 12 months in 225L and 500L barrels. Only 3100 bottles are produced in an average year.



I Vigneri Vinupetra 2020

Etna Rosso

The wine shows a pale ruby colour. The nose is perfumed, floral, revealing notes of sour cherries, red forest berries, a touch of dark minerality, nuances of dried Mediterranean herbs. The palate offers elevated, juicy acidity, well-balanced alcohol and plush, silky tannins. The wine is packed with balsamic notes, hints of pine needles, an irony hint. Extremely delicate and elegant wine with great sapidity and good persistence.

Score : 17.5/20 (95/100)

I Vigneri Vinupetra 2016

Etna Rosso

The wine shows a pale ruby colour. The nose initially is very aromatic, dominated by notes of dried herbs, complicated by nuances of red cherries, cherry compote, a touch of peony, tar and iron. The palate is focused and precise, revealing crunchy acidity, bold and powerful structure, muscular, slightly drying, assertive tannins. Notes of orange peel, pine needles, rosemary, black cherries and ripe figs linger on the palate. The wine is still rather austere, needs time to show its full potential.

Score : 18/20 (96/100)

I Vigneri Vinupetra 2014

Etna Rosso

The wine shows a pale ruby colour. The nose is heady and concentrated, with soaring notes of Mediterranean herbs, peonies, rosehip, barberry, red and black cherries. The palate offers powerful concentration, bold, fine-grained, slightly drying tannins, high complexity. The wine is muscular and heady, balanced by refreshing acidity and bright fruitiness, complemented by nuances of pine tar, resin and red tea. Very long finish. Still a very young wine.

Score : 18.5/20 (97/100)

I Vigneri Vinupetra 2011

Etna Rosso

The wine shows a deep ruby colour. The nose is intense, slightly meaty and animalistic, revealing notes of mint, a touch of green pepper, nuances of Mediterranean herbs and sage. The palate is compact and linear, supported by crisp, crunchy acidity, grippy, assertive tannins, very tight structure. There is a lot

Score : 16/20 (92/100)



I Vigneri Vinupetra 2006

Etna Rosso

The wine shows a pale ruby colour with a garnet rim. The nose reveals savoury notes of black olives, soya sauce and beef jus, nuances of prunes, figs and baked cherries. The palate is elegant and vertical, uplifted by crunchy, juicy acidity, balancing the bold, meaty tannins. A lot of balsamic sapidity on the palate. Very persistent, a bit drying on the finish, but still fruity.

Score : 18.5/20 (97/100)

I Vigneri Vinupetra 2002

Etna Rosso

The wine shows a moderate garnet colour. The nose is smoky, opening up with nuances of dried cherries, dried cranberries, figs, prunes, a touch of pomegranate and rosehip. Very complex and multi-layered. The palate is fresh and minty, almost saline, offering a pleasant umami sapidity. Despite the age there is still a lot of freshness, which balances well the elevated alcohol and bold, grippy tannins. The finish lingers long with an earthy, saline note. Very compact and precise wine, not fading at all.

Score : 19/20 (98/100)

Valeria Tenison

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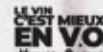
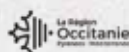
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HORIZONTAL TASTING CLOS DE VOUGEOT

Bourgogne's largest Grand Cru

We make the wine to be aged, but also enjoyed in its youth. Burgundy winemakers have evolved over the last 10 or 15 years, they are looking less and less for ultra-tannic and austere wines that have the potential to age for 50 years in the bottle. This tasting proves that we no longer need to leave the Clos de Vougeot Grand Cru to our descendants, we can open it before we go to heaven! However, to fully benefit from its extremely complex terroir, it is still preferable to let it rest quietly in the cellar for a decade.

What inspires the curiosity of wine lovers is that Clos de Vougeot is shared with more than 80 owners on 50 ha, the largest Grand Cru in Burgundy. The composition of the soil is subtly different due to the location of the parcels, and the producers interpret this terroir differently in the wine. We never tire of Clos de Vougeot

Château de la Tour 2002

This estate is the only one that vinifies in the Clos and owns several parcels to the north and south, top and bottom of the hillside. The colour is starting to turn garnet, but not yet faded. The nose is delicate and elegant with an aroma of dry clementine skin. On the palate, what a delight! Subtle and refined, melting on the tongue like tulle. Its saline attack and tannin grain are quite fine. The bitterness of the tannins underlines the structure. The fruitiness is already evolved. A good model of this appellation, finesse and power cohabit perfectly well in the bottle. Drink now or wait another 5 to 10 years. Very long on the finish.
Score 17.75/20 (95-96/100)

Domaine Gros frères et sœur Lieu-dit « Musigny » 2010

Like the name of the cuvée suggests, the plot is located just opposite the Grand Cru Musigny, next to the Château. Well-evolved and open, the nose reveals notes of cooked fruits like strawberry jam or orange confit with a touch of praline. The wine is elegant and brilliant. On the palate, it does not show its age; raspberry, blackcurrant... we still find juicy fresh fruits. You can also feel the umami that comes from a certain age. It is straightforward, easy to drink, even a little too easy to understand and lacks certain nuances. It can be drunk on its own without accompanying a meal.
Score 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Domaine d'Eugénie 2008

(Magnum) The colour is beginning to take on a garnet tinge. As you approach the nose, you already find aromas like strawberry and fig brandy, which are fragrant and retain their youthful character. When the glass is swirled, the aromas are amplified like perfumes, accompanying a note of cigar and minerality that evokes a piece of limestone. On the palate, this wine is remarkably balanced between fruit, tannins, and freshness. The candied fruit note is not yet withered, the tannins show their presence. The peak is still a long way off. However, its tannins and fruits have come together very well, so it is excellent even today.
Score 16.25+/20 (93/100)

Domaine Manuel Olivier 2012

The parcel is located in the heart of the Clos. The nose is open and reveals aromas of wet leaves, cocoa, toasted notes and blonde tobacco. Compared to the well-developed nose, the palate still holds vitality. This is an elegant and subtle wine, with fine tannins that are very supple, even a little too much to support its body. On the finish, the flinty

minerality gives a pleasant freshness to the wine.
Score 14.75/20 (86-89/100)

Domaine Faivelay 2006

This estate has two parcels at the bottom of the vineyard and one in the middle, next to the château. The nose is delicate with aromas of earth and faded roses. Salinity and tannins are fairly consistent in the attack. Full-bodied, muscular, blood and iron, it is very masculine accompanying the sweet fruit note. Like dried fruit well compressed in a metal box, it is solid and at the same time pleasant. It demands a powerful meal like game. It can be kept for at least another 5 years.
Score 15/20 (89-90/100)

Domaine Méo Camuzet 2010

The robe shows already a light garnet hue. The nose is subtle and delicate like a silk thread, but also splendid and elegant like a blooming rose. The aromas are so melted and complex that it is difficult to specify. On the palate, the wine is still full and keeps its youth! The aromas of fresh fruit are still there, even very persistent. It is full-bodied but also retains its freshness. The fine tannins show their presence, which ensures the longevity of this bottle.
Score 18.25+/20 (96-97/100)

Joseph Drouhin 2010

This house owns several parcels, on the north side, middle and lower slopes. The colour is still youthful compared to the well-evolved nose; earthy, dry leaves, burnt vine shoots. On the palate it is masculine, still active and retains its freshness. The melted but massive tannins support the body well. It is a very straight and harmonious wine.
Score 15.75/20 (91-92/100)

Yukiko Kumata



HORIZONTAL TASTING GEVREY-CHAMBERTIN

Tasting of communal wines of the 2021 vintage



In line with the style of vintages ending in 1, light and marked by delicatessen of Pinot Noir

I write frankly. The 2021 vintage of Gevrey Chambertin does not have the style we have seen for decades; the wines are very light due to the climatic conditions. The vegetative cycle started during the warm weather at the end of March and the buds were already well out. Unfortunately, chilly nights with snow hit the vineyard at the beginning of April, and the spring and summer were cool and rainy. The good weather in August was enough to ripen the grapes, but the harvest was a little late, as in the 1990s, and most growers started picking in the second half of September.

It is true that the wines are light, and some lack substance and balance. However, one can find subtlety, delicacy, silkiness.. all the charm of Pinot Noir of the old times! We often talk about vintages ending in 9, such as 1999 or 2009, which are massive and have a long ageing potential. On the other hand, one should not forget the fresh vintages with a 1, like 91 or 01, which are vintages of Pinot Noir, of little waiting in the cellar and also of a winemaker; some express the character of this delicate vintage, and the others keep their style. So choose wisely!

Yukiko Kumata

Here is a fine selection of our 5 favourite wines:

Domaine Denis Mortet 'Ma cuvée' 2021 Gevrey Chambertin

This estate makes 2 cuvées in the village of Gevrey village. "Mes Cinqs Terroirs" comes from parcels in the southern part, and 'Ma cuvée' is from the northern part. Arnaud Mortet has perfectly interpreted the character of this delicate vintage, while keeping his own dense style. It is true that its colour, its first nose and its attack are light and discreet compared to the wines of recent years. But its aroma of red berries is extremely subtle and refined. On the palate, this wine is reminiscent of 'dashi' (a basic broth in Japanese cuisine), i.e. it is not powerful but has the concentration of umami. Its texture is dense like tightly woven silk. Very pleasant finish.

Score : 18/20 (96/100)

Domaine Taupenot-Merme 2021 Gevrey Chambertin

Based in Morey St Denis, this estate also makes excellent wines from Gevrey. The nose is still closed. Its attack is supple and light, but its texture is elegant and smooth. On the palate it is ephemeral and racy like 20th century Pinot Noir. On the finish, the fine tannins support this delicate wine. Balanced, the fruit and the tannins are already well-balanced. The aftertaste is persistent like silk thread. It is already ready to drink today.

Score : 16+/20 (92-93/100)

Domaine Thierry Mortet 2021 Gevrey Chambertin

Its colour is not very intense, but its aromas of red and black fruits are well-pronounced. In spite of the light vintage, its attack is direct, juicy and gourmet with nuances of sour red berries like acerola and raspberry. It has tannins but is very fine and supple, this balanced wine is already in harmony. Slight bitterness on the finish. It is ready to drink. Remarkable.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Domaine Claude Dugat 2021 Gevrey Chambertin

Despite the light vintage, this estate keeps its concentrated style well. The nose is still very woody. But it reveals floral aromas, and intense cherry drupe. On the palate, it has substance, density, volume and roundness. Its texture is supple and smooth like very ripe red fruit liqueur. It seems to be a premier cru. But there is less character of a delicate vintage. Better to wait a few more years.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Domaine Taupenot-Merme 2021 Mazoyères-Chambertin

This estate has decided to separate this cuvée from Charme-Chambertin from 2020 onwards in order to precise its terroir marked by more power. But this 2021 vintage is more about finesse than power. Its splendid nose is accompanied by sour red fruits such as wild strawberry and cherry, and also very floral like violet. On the palate, it is fresh and pure, nothing stops it from going down the throat. It can be drunk young, but the fine-grained tannins that appear in the back palate justify that this wine has good ageing potential.

Score : 17+/20 (95-96/100)

Piemonte Sparkling wines

There are several appellations for sparkling wines in Piemonte, which can be made using the second fermentation in the bottle or in pressurized tanks: Asti DOCG from Moscato grape, Brachetto d'Acqui DOCG from Brachetto grape, and Piedmonte DOC Spumante from varieties allowed by the rules of Piemonte appellation.

Since 2011, the region of Piedmont has a new DOCG for sparkling wines - Alta Langa, situated on the right bank of the river Tanaro, on the hills of the provinces of Asti, Alessandria and Cuneo. Chardonnay and Pinot Noir, authorised in the production, grow on calcareous clay-marl soils, at an altitude of a minimum of 250 m. The wines must be made using the traditional method with a minimum of 30 of aging on lees. White or rosé, the dosage of Alta Langhe sparkling wines varies from Pas dosé to Brut, and the wine offers intense fruity and floral aromatics with defined autolytic character.

Malvira' – Rive Gauche Metodo Charmat, Extra-Brut

(base 2020) The nose is fruity and offers a certain delicacy. It reveals notes of fleshy white peach, lychee and, more slightly, - notes of peach blossom associated with touches of crushed white fruits as well as a discreet almost chalky hint. The palate is balanced and offers minerality, a tangy frame, some crunchiness, a fine chewiness, a fine roundness and a certain tension. The effervescence is very dynamic, frank and energetic. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of crisp apple, crisp green peach and slight notes of lychee associated with slight touches of quince as well as slight hints of limestone. Good length. A subtle hint of almost juicy pineapple in the finish.

Score : 15/20 (89-90/100)

Malvira' – Rive Gauche Rosé Metodo Charmat, Extra-Brut

(base 2020 - organic) The nose is fruity and offers juiciness as well as good definition. It reveals notes of juicy/pulpy peach, pear and slight touches of fresh mandarin associated with a fine touch of fresh raspberry as well as a discreet hint of kumquat, almost fresh almond and a very discreet hint of rose. The mouth is fruity, elegant, a bit aerial and offers a nice definition, delicacy and a nice tangy frame. The effervescence is very fine and offers delicacy as well as energy. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy peach, rose and slight notes of fresh/pulpy raspberry associated with touches of crushed green apple as well as slight hints of lychee, a subtle hint of almond as well as with an almost imperceptible hint of apricot. Good length. A nice hint of almond and a very discreet hint of brioche on the finish/persistence.

Score : 15.5/20 (90-91/100)





Ettore Germano 2018, Extra Brut

Alta Langa

The nose is fresh, fruity and offers a nice expression of terroir. It reveals notes of crunchy apple, juicy nectarine and slight notes of lychee associated with fine touches of juicy mandarin as well as a subtle hint of almost ripe fresh white bramble. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, a tangy frame, a good definition, a fine suavity, precision, pureness, a refined straightness as well as accuracy. The effervescence is very fine and elegant. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy green apple, juicy/tangy nectarine and slight notes of crunchy pear combined with touches of citrus fruit as well as a subtle hint of lime. Good length.
Score : 15.5/20 (90-91/100)

Ettore Germano – Rosanna Rosé – Extra Brut

(base 2018) The nose is fruity and offers a pleasant delicacy, good definition and a refined intensity. It reveals notes of fresh raspberry, fleshy/juicy peach and slight hints of crunchy apple associated with a discreet hint of quince as well as a subtle hint of toasted almond. The mouth is fruity and offers freshness, minerality, a nice definition, a tangy frame as well as precision. The effervescence is very fine, precise and offers a refined straightness. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of juicy/fleshy apple, fleshy/juicy nectarine and slight notes of small white berries associated with slight touches of apricot, toasted almond and an imperceptible hint of lemon cream/meringue (in the aftertaste). Good length. A subtle hint of tannins both in the structure and in the aromatics (in the finish of the palate). A slight salinity and a fine chalky note in the aftertaste.
Score : 15.25+/20 (90-91/100)

Ettore Germano – 2015 Riserva Blanc de Blanc, Pas dosé

Alta Langa

The nose is mineral, clear, precise and offers some fruitiness. It reveals notes of apple, lychee and white flowers associated with fines touches of almost green asparagus as well as fine hints of starfruit and an imperceptible spicy hints. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, a fresh/tangy frame, minerality, a nice definition, a fine creaminess, finesse as well as precision. The effervescence is fine and delicate. Nice energy, precision and accuracy. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/tangy apple, pulpy/tangy nectarine and slight notes of white flowers associated with touches of fresh yellow fruits as well as a subtle varietal hint and a very discreet hint of egg cream. Good length. Presence of a very discreet hint of dried almond and saline note in the finish.
Score : 15.75/20 (91-92/100)

Ettore Germano – 2015 Riserva Blanc de Noir, Pas dosé

Alta Langa

The nose is fresh, fruity and offers delicacy in its fruit. It reveals notes of juicy yellow apple and slight notes of juicy quince associated with slight touches of apple blossom as well as slight hints of juicy/fresh mirabelle plum and discreet hints of fresh nutmeg in the aftertaste. The palate is fruity and offers a tangy frame, juiciness and good definition. On the palate, this sparkling wine expresses notes of juicy yellow apple, quince and slight notes of tangy/crunchy apple associated with touches of star fruit, dried almond as well as a subtle hint of juicy/fresh lime and a discreet hint of dried almond. Good length.
Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

TM Brut 24, Metodo Classico

The nose is fruity and offers fine concentration, freshness, good definition and a refined richness. It reveals notes of yellow apple, juicy/ripe mirabelle plum and slight notes of juicy/fresh white fruits associated with a discreet hint of egg cream and a subtle hint of cereal/wheat. The mouth is fruity and offers freshness, a nice definition, a certain concentration, fullness, a fine creaminess as well as delicacy. The effervescence is relatively fine, precise and finely tight. On the

palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy mirabelle plum, crunchy green apple and slight hints of apricot associated with touches of fresh white fruits, citrus fruits as well as a subtle hint of zest, a very discreet touch of pastry (in the aftertaste) and an imperceptible, almost honeyed hint in the finish. Good length. Nice acidity on the finish/persistence.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

TM Brut 36, Metodo Classico

The nose is nicely aromatic, fresh and offers a fine concentration as well as a nice little stretched side. It reveals notes of mirabelle plum and slight notes of crushed nectarine associated with touches of vanilla, fine hints of pineapple, lemon/citrus as well as discreet hints of toasted almond and a subtle almost saline note. The palate is fruity and offers freshness, energy, dynamism, a nice tangy frame, a slight iodized hint as well as a discreet and good integration of the "good" bitterness. The effervescence is fine, dynamic (more than on the TM24) and offers a fine creaminess. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of luscious mandarin, apricot and slight notes of crushed yellow fruits associated with touches of vanilla as well as slight hints of pastries/honey, a discreet hint of apricot and a subtle hint of zest. A fine salinity and delicacy on the finish.

Score : 15.5/20 (90-91/100)

Bera – 2016 Extra Brut

Alta Langa DOC

The nose is fruity and offers a fine minerality. It reveals notes of fresh pear, fresh quince and slight hints of yellow peach associated with fine touches of toast and an almost imperceptible hint of egg cream. The palate is fruity and offers a tangy frame, energy, good definition and dynamism. The effervescence is fine, elegant and dynamic. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of juicy/ripe lemon, quince and slight notes of crisp/tangy white peach associated with slight touches of pear, slight hints of fresh almond as well as a subtle hint of white flowers, dried almond (in the aftertaste) and an imperceptible almost saline/egg cream note. Good length.

Score : 15+/20 (89-90/100)

Pasquale Pelissero – Crosé 2019 – Brut Piemonte Spumante

The nose is fruity, fresh and slightly tight. It reveals notes of quince, apricot and, more slightly, hints of pear associated with fine touches almost of citrus zest as well as a discreet hint of dried mandarin and spices. The palate is fruity and offers a tangy frame, a bit of roundness and energy. The effervescence is frank, straight, fine and dynamic. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of quince, apricot and, more slightly, - notes of yellow peach associated with small touches of quenette, lemon as well as slight hints of dried mandarin and A subtle hint of almost almond / toasted brioche. Good length. Presence of a fine chalky hint on the finish/persistence.

Score : 15/20 (89-90/100)

Sara Vezza – 2018 Metodo Classico

Alta Langa DOCC

Nice fruity nose, fresh and straight, which offers a good definition as well as a fine creaminess. It reveals notes of creamy green apple, tangy/fleshy flat peach and slight notes of fresh berries associated with a subtle hint of fresh quenette and a discreet hint of caviar lemon. The mouth is fresh, fruity, bright, elegant and offers a nice definition, a tangy frame, a nice sapidity / delicacy, a fine definition as well as a certain generosity in precision / straightness. The effervescence is fine, elegant, racy and offers a fine creaminess and freshness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/tangy green apple, creamy nectarine and slight hints of juicy lemon associated with touches of peach blossom as well as a subtle hint of verbena and a discreet hint of candied lime (in the aftertaste). Good length. A fine chalky point and a subtle saline hint in the finish.

Score : 15.75+/20 (91-92/100)



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Bourgogne

Camille Giroud – Les Cras 2018 Beaune

Nice aromatic, flowery, delicious nose, which offers a nice maturity of the fruit as well as floral aromas certain intensity and complexity. It reveals notes of pulpy/juicy cherry, violet, and slight notes of ripe purple plum associated with touches of lily, rose, slight hints of ripe/pulpy currants as well as a hint of small blue fruits and fresh liquorice. The palate is aerial, and fruity and offers juiciness, a tangy frame, a nice quality of fruit, tension, and gourmandise as well as purity (of the fruit). On the palate, this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy cherry, pulpy/fresh violet plum, and slight notes of fresh bramble associated with touches of cornflowers, lily, and lilac as well as a subtle hint of laurel (on the finish). A discreet hint of noble varietal aromas.
Score: 16/20 (92/100)

Camille Giroud – Aux Clous 2018 Savigny

The nose is fruity, and gourmand and offers a nice sensation of texture. It reveals notes of morello cherry, bright purple plum, and slight notes of lily associated with some touches of bright small black fruits as well as discreet hints of star anise and a subtle hint of sweet spices. The mouth is fruity and offers freshness, minerality, a nice definition, elegance, precision, a certain straightness and a nice energy, a certain density as well as tension. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/bright cherry, purple plum, and slight notes of fleshy/juicy blackberry, hints of small wild berries as well as discreet hints of flowers, good bitterness, and a subtle hint of laurel berries. Good sapidity and good length. Nice fresh fruits.
Score: 16/20 (92/100)

Camille Giroud – Aux Echanges 2018 Chambolle Musigny, 1er Cru

A nice nose that offers richness in elegance, and fleshiness as well as a nice maturity of the fruit. It reveals notes of morello cherry, crushed blue plum, and slight notes of blackberry cream associated with slight touches of cornflowers, terroir as well as slight hints of lily, vanilla, liquorice and a very discreet hint of chocolate. The mouth is fruity and offers juiciness, freshness, a nice definition, minerality, a tangy structure, some fattiness, deepness as well as finesse in its richness (well-mastered). On the palate, this wine expresses notes of luscious/crushed cherry, cornflowers, and slight notes of fleshy blue plum associated with touches of blackberry cream, fine hints of crunchy wild small red fruits as well as a hint of lily, and mocha/spices. Beautiful racy and elegant tannins. Good bitterness on the finish/on the persistence. Good length.
Score: 16.25+/20 (93/100)

Camille Giroud – Les Avaux 2017 Beaune, 1er Cru

Nice aromatic nose and offers a well-mastered intensity as well as delicacy. The wine benefits from being decanted. It reveals notes of wild blackberry, ripe black fruit, and, more slightly, - notes of strawberry associated with slight hints of cornflowers as well as discreet hints of mocha, pepper, and a subtle almost varietal note. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, freshness, minerality, good definition, and accuracy as well as a nice juicy fruit. Currently, the wine is a bit restrained. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of juicy cherry, juicy raspberry, and slight notes of juicy blackcurrant associated with touches of violet, a subtle varietal hint, pepper as well as a discreet/delicate hint of liquorice and a subtle touch of cardamom. A subtle hint of toasted/almost vanilla on the finish. Almost a discreet hint of over-ripeness on certain fruits. Good persistence.
Score: 16.5+/20 (93-94/100)

Camille Giroud - Les Lurets 2017 Volnay, 1er Cru

The nose is fresh, fruity, and finely tight. The wine beneficiates from decantation. It reveals notes of raspberry, small pulpy red fruits, and slight notes of violet associated with fine touches of lilac, fresh violet, as well as discreet notes of fresh nutmeg. The palate is fruity, a bit aerial, it offers freshness, good definition, some fattiness, minerality, a nice fresh frame, roundness, a nice texture, a nice volume, deepness, sapidity as well as fine straightness. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of fresh/pulpy blackberry, fresh cherry, and, more slightly, notes of small red fruits associated with touches of fresh flowers, a subtle hint of fresh/

pulpy blueberry as well as slight hints of star anise, of nutmeg and a very discreet almost varietal hint (in the finish). A lot of delicacy. The tannins are supple and elegant. Nice bitterness on the finish/persistence.
Score: 17/20 (94/100)

Camille Giroud 2014 Charmes-Chambertin

The nose is elegant, and flowery and offers aromatic power, a nice finesse of grain, velvety, a certain deepness as well as power in finesse. It reveals notes of fresh purple plum and, more slightly, - notes of fresh cherry, and violet associated with touches of wild red fruits as well as a slight hint of liquorice, lilac, and a subtle varietal hint. The mouth is fresh, mineral, juicy, and nicely acidulous and offers gourmandise, some fattiness, and a nice finesse in its substance/unctuousity. It is a bit aerial in its power. Nicely racy and clayey. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blue plum, fleshy/juicy blackberry, and slight notes of crushed raspberry associated with touches of small red fruit as well as hints of toast and toasted hazelnut. The tannins are fine and supple.
Score: 17.5/20 (95/100)

Camille Giroud 2017 Pommard

Nice elegant nose, which offers complexity, freshness, a velvety touch as well as a certain power with delicacy. It reveals notes of luscious boysenberry, violet, and slight notes of ripe cherry associated with touches of minerality, and lily as well as fine hints of blueberry and subtle hints of spices. The palate is fruity, and straight and offers juiciness, freshness, good definition, energy, a nice texture, as well as elegance. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, juicy/fresh plum, and, more slightly, - notes of violet associated with touches of blueberry, cornflower as well as a subtle hint of rose and a very discreet hint of sense of the place/laurel/local grove. A beautiful clayey freshness. The tannins are a bit chewy. Good length.
Score: 17.5/20 (95/100)

Philippe Pacalet 2020 Gevrey-Chambertin

The nose is fruity and offers crunch as well as a fine hint of fresh flowers. It reveals notes of pulpy/juicy blackberry, fleshy/juicy raspberry, and slight hints of violet associated with touches of fleshy strawberry as well as slight hints of lily and cherry blossom. The palate is fruity and offers freshness, a mineral frame, good definition, juiciness, freshness, minerality,

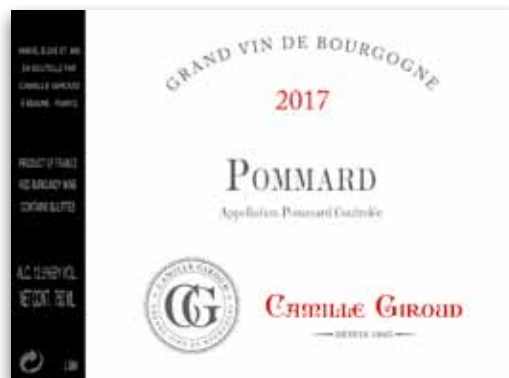
tension, and certain straightness. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of fresh/juicy raspberry and small fresh/crunchy red fruit associated with subtle hints of cherry, blackcurrant, and a subtle hint of cherry blossoms. Good length.
Score: 15.25/20 (90/100)

Philippe Pacalet 2020 Nuits-Saint-George

The nose is fruity and offers a fine power/intensity as well as a fine grain. It reveals notes of crushed raspberry and small ripe/crushed red fruit associated with discreet hints of blackberry, cardamom, and an imperceptible hint of lily. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, freshness, good definition, a certain straightness as well as some definition. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy raspberry, pulpy /juicy cherry, and, more slightly, notes of violet associated with touches of small red fruit as well as slight hints of almonds and cardamom. The tannins offer a mellow texture and some chewiness. Good length and good persistence.
Score: 15.25+/20 (90-91/100)

Philippe Pacalet 2020 Pommard

The nose is fruity, racy, and gourmand. It reveals notes of pulpy strawberry, crushed red fruits, and, more slightly, - notes of crushed blackberry associated with fine touches of nutmeg as well as a very discreet hint of chocolate. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, minerality, a mineral frame, a good tangy structure as well as a slight straightness. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of juicy/fresh blackberry, tangy raspberry, and, more slightly, notes of small red fruits associated with slight hints of violet, and lily as well as a subtle varietal and savoury/saline hint. The tannins are well-built.
Score: 14.75+/20 (89/100)



Bourgogne

Philippe Pacalet 2020 Aloxe Corton 1er Cru

The nose is fruity and offers a fine richness of fruit as well as a certain intensity. It reveals notes of crushed strawberry, creamy blackberry, and, more slightly, hints of violet associated with a touch of chocolate as well as a subtle almost vanilla/toasted hazelnut hint. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, a mineral frame, freshness, as well as some stretchiness. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of small red fruits, fresh cherry, and, more slightly, - notes of fresh flowers combined with a touch of fruits blackberry.

Score: 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Philippe Pacalet – Aux Argiles 2020 Nuits-Saint-Georges 1er Cru

The nose is fruity and offers juicy and crunchy fruit at the same time. It reveals notes of juicy/ripe cherry, small juicy/ripe red fruits, and, more slightly, - notes of cherry blossom associated with fine touches of fresh plum as well as discreet hints of nutmeg. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, a fresh frame as well as limestone/racy minerality. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of juicy blackberry, juicy/fresh raspberry, and, more slightly, - notes of juicy/fresh plum associated with slight touches of toasted almond, toast as well as a subtle almost vanilla hint. Good length. A subtle chewiness on the finish/persistence.

Score: 15.75/20 (91-92/100)

Philippe Pacalet – Les Sentiers 2020 Chambolle-Musigny, 1er Cru

The nose is fruity and offers a slight concentration, a slight tension as well as a very slight richness. It reveals notes of crushed cherry, crushed strawberry, and slight notes of juicy/pulpy plum associated with slight touches of chocolate and hints of crushed blackberry. The palate is fruity and offers freshness, minerality, good definition, and a slight density. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of raspberry, juicy cherry, and, more slightly, - notes of fresh plum associated with a touch of lily as well as discreet hints of racy minerality and a hint of toasted almond. The tannins offer a fine chew. Persistence is sapid.

Score: 15.5/20 (90-91/100)

Philippe Pacalet 2020 Corton Bressande Grand Cru

The nose is aromatic, and delicate and offers some complexity as well as good definition. It reveals notes of bright purple plum, cherry, and, more slightly, - hints of violet associated with slight touches of small crushed red fruits as well as slight hints almost of ripe almond. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, freshness, minerality, good definition, delicacy, a captivating side as well as a certain complexity. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of bright purple plum, bright cherry and, more slightly, - hints of violet combined with touches of cornflower as well as fine hints of crushed red fruits, a discreet hint of chocolate. A gourmandise.

Score: 16+/20 (92-93/100)

Philippe Pacalet 2020 Echezeaux Grand Cru

The nose is aromatic and offers elegance as well as a certain power in delicacy. It reveals notes of crushed raspberry, pulpy purple plum, and, more slightly, - notes of cornflower associated with fine touches of cherry blossom as well as a discreet almost vanilla hint. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, minerality, freshness, good definition, density, and a certain fleshiness/richness. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of fleshy/juicy cherry, fleshy/juicy violet plum, and, more slightly, - notes of violet associated with touches of fleshy blackberry as well as slight hints of toasted almonds and a discreet hint of chocolate. The tannins are soft. Some chewiness on a good finish/persistence. A certain richness on the persistence which offers gourmandise.

Score: 16.25/20 (92-93/100)

Maison Chanzy – Les Cornières 2020 Santenay

The nose is fresh and offers a certain intensity as well as minerality. It reveals notes of racy minerality, fresh flowers, and, more slightly, - notes of crushed blackcurrant associated with slight touches of fleshy cherry as well as fine varietal hints. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, a tangy/fresh frame, racy minerality, a nice energy on the tanginess, gourmandise as well as a certain density/richness of the fruit. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy cherry, crushed raspberry, and, more slightly, notes of blackcurrant associated with slight touches of cornflower, star anise, and toast.

Score: 15.25/20 (90/100)

Maison Chanzy – Les Bussières 2020 Mercury

The nose is mineral. It reveals notes of ripe/fresh black fruits, crushed red fruits, and slight hints of lily associated with slight touches of boysenberry, rose as well as a discreet hint of spice. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, minerality, slight fatness as well as tension. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of juicy/fresh blackberry, juicy/bright blue fruits, and, more slightly, notes of raspberry associated with touches of rose/flowers as well as slight hints of toast and chocolate. The tannins offer some straightness.

Score: 15/20 (89-90/100)

Maison Chanzy – Le Bois Cassien 2020, Monopole Mercury

The nose is racy and offers some power. It reveals notes of fresh leather, cherry, and, more slightly, - hints of fresh spices associated with slight touches of pulpy plum as well as slight hints of tea. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, a mineral frame, freshness, tension, a discreet tightness as well as a slight intensity. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of morello cherry, quite juicy/fresh small red fruits, and, more slightly, - notes of violet associated with touches of fresh leather, spices as well as hints of almonds and clove.

Score: 14.5+/20 (88/100)

Maison Chanzy – Clos Voyens 2020 Mercury Premier Cru

The nose is toasted and offers a slight density, a velvety side as well as some gourmandise. It reveals notes of toasted bread, crushed boysenberry, nutmeg, and, more slightly, notes of crushed red fruits as well as a hint of pepper and liquorice. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, minerality, a tangy structure, good definition, freshness, and some tightness. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of juicy/ripe cherry and more slightly notes of small juicy purple plum associated with touches of small crushed red fruits as well as slight hints of violet, liquorice, toast, and an almost imperceptible hint of fig in the finish. Sapidly on the finish/persistence.

Score: 15+/20 (89-90/100)

Maison Chanzy – Clos du Roy 2020 Mercury Premier Cru

The nose is fruity, and pulpy and offers a certain mastered richness as well as elegance. It reveals notes of fleshy/juicy cherry, fleshy/juicy raspberry and slight notes of pulpy wild blackberry associated with touches of violet as well as slight hints of Bourbon vanilla, lilac, nutmeg, and a discreet hint of toast. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, a tangy structure, good definition, minerality, juiciness as well as a certain density in its fruit. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy cherry, juicy/bright blackberry, and slight notes of juicy/tangy plum associated with touches of raspberry, hints of lilac, violet, and nutmeg as well as a discreet hint of chocolate, and a very discreet almost saline hint. The tannins are well-built, sapid, and supple.

Score: 15.75/20 (91-92/100)

Pierre Naigeon – Les Herbeux 2020 Nuits-Saint-Georges

(Organic) The nose is aromatic and offers complexity, good definition, a nice fleshy/fresh fruit as well as some floral hints. It reveals notes of juicy/bright cherry, juicy/bright redcurrant, and, more slightly, - notes of juicy purple plum associated with touches of star anise, cornflower/lily as well as slight hints of fresh tobacco and a very discreet saline hint in the finish. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, a nice freshness, minerality, a tangy frame, some fatness, energy as well as a good tannic structure. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of juicy/ripe cherry, small fresh/juicy wild red fruits, and, more slightly, - hints of lily associated with touches of violet plum as well as slight hints of violet, nutmeg, and salinity. A good job on the good bitterness. Nice juiciness and freshness.

Score: 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Pierre Naigeon – En Pallud 2020 Gevrey-Chambertin

The nose is fresh, racy, and offers some minerality as well as a certain racy power. It reveals notes of fresh wild blackberry, fresh wild red fruits, and, more slightly, - notes of clove associated with floral touches as well as a subtle hint of star anise and nutmeg. The palate is fruity and offers minerality, good definition, juiciness, fine density, a certain freshness as well as good work on the bitterness. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of juicy/fresh raspberry, pulpy/fresh cherry, and slight notes of cornflower associated with touches of small fresh/juicy berries as well as slight hints of nutmeg and sweet spices. The tannins are fine and finely tight.

Score: 15.5/20 (90-91/100)

Bourgogne

Grain de Nature par Pierre Naigeon – Les Corvées 2020 Gevrey-Chambertin

(Organic) The nose is fruity, elegant, delicious, and offers some nice richness in balance as well as chewiness/pulpiness. It reveals notes of pulpy/fleshy cherry, fleshy/juicy blackberries, and, more slightly, - toasted notes associated with slight touches of crushed plum, flowers, and fruits as well as slight hints of cornflower, toasted hazelnut, and a very discreet hint of chocolate. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, gourmandise, a tangy structure, purity (of the fruit), a nice definition, a nice flesh, and some fatness. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy raspberry, cherry, and slight hints of pulpy/juicy purple plum associated with touches of juicy blackberry, cornflower/lilac, and nutmeg as well as discreet hints of toast. The tannins are chewy. Presence of some chewiness on the finish/persistence.

Score: 16.5/20 (93/100)

Vincent Royet – Beauregard 2020 Santenay 1er Cru

Nice racy nose, mineral, precise, frank, which offers a nice finesse of the grain. It reveals notes of fresh cherry, fresh/crunchy berries, and slight notes of fresh iris associated with touches of racy minerality, a discreet hint of nutmeg, and an imperceptible almost vanilla hint that coats/underlines the fruit. The palate is fruity and offers a tangy frame, minerality, juiciness, and a nice finesse in its roundness as well as silkiness. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy cherry, small fresh/crunchy red fruits, and, more slightly, notes of iris/varietal (and not vegetal) associated with touches of juicy/fresh blackcurrant, with fine hints of nutmeg, sense of the place as well as a discreet hint of fresh tobacco and liquorice. The tannins are supple and suave.

Score: 15.5/20 (90-91/100)

Domaine Guy & Yvan Dufouleur – Clos Genets 2020 Santenay

The nose is fresh, fruity, and offers precision as well as a nice power in delicacy and accuracy. It reveals notes of fresh cherry, wild blackberry, and, more slightly, notes of fresh berries associated with a fine touch of blueberry, chocolate, and racy minerality as well as discreet hints of vanilla and an imperceptible hint of pepper. The palate is fruity and offers brightness, juiciness, a very nice definition of the fruit, purity as well as a bright/juicy fruit. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, bright raspberry, and, more slightly, - hints of blueberry associated with touches of chocolate, toasted hazelnut, and a subtle hint of star anise. Good length.

Score: 16/20 (92/100)

Domaine Guy & Yvan Dufouleur – Aux Saint-Julien 2020

Nuits-Saint-Georges

Pretty fresh nose, aromatic, fine, elegant which offers crunch as well as harmony. It reveals notes of fresh violet, fresh lily, and, more slightly, - notes of racy minerality associated with touches of morello cherry, and fresh violet plum as well as slight hints of liquorice and chocolate/toast. The palate is fruity and offers freshness, minerality / a mineral frame, fatness, harmony, gourmandise, delicacy as well as a certain suavity. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/tangy cherry, juicy/tangy raspberry, and, more slightly, - hints of bright berries associated with touches of racy minerality, lily/lilac, star anise as well as a subtle hint of fresh tobacco. The tannins are fresh, and elegant and offer a slight chewiness. Good length.

Score: 15.75/20 (91-92/100)

Domaine Guy & Yvan Dufouleur – Les Crots 2020 Nuits-Saint-Georges, Premier Cru

The wine benefits from being decanted. Nice elegant and racy nose, which offers a certain density/richness, some spiciness as well as a slight and discreetly tight grain. It reveals notes of violet, ripe purple plum, and slight notes of morello cherry associated with touches of toast, graphite, sweet spices, as well as a subtle hint of clove. The mouth is nice, well-built, a bit aerial in its density/richness, nicely tangy and offers energy, a good guideline, a tangy frame, roundness, delicacy. All in finesse. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of violet plum, blueberry, and, more slightly, - notes of crunchy cherry combined with touches of currants as well as hints of nutmeg, toast, mocha, and a hint of clove. Nice freshness and minerality.

Score: 16.25+/20 (93/100)

Domaine Guy & Yvan Dufouleur – Les Vaumuriens 2020 Pommard

A nice racy nose that offers power, deepness, a certain complexity as well as a relatively tight grain. The wine benefits from being decanted. It reveals notes of fresh cherry, lily/fresh rose, and, more slightly, - notes of small fresh red fruits associated with touches of violet, and boysenberry as well as hints of racy

minerality, graphite, and a subtle hint of gray pepper. The mouth is aerial, fruity, all in elegance, and offers suavity, minerality, a very nice acidity, precision, and finesse in its fullness as well as delicacy. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of juicy/tangy blackberry, small bright red fruits, and, more slightly, - hints of crunchy red fruits associated with touches of violet, fresh rose, hints of cardamom, incense as well as a subtle hint of mocha, crushed almond, and toasted hazelnut. Nice chewy finish and nice persistence. Congratulations!

Score: 16.5/20 (93/100)

Bouchard Père & Fils – Clos de la Mousse 2018, Monopole

Beaune, Premier Cru

The nose is all in delicacy and offers racy power, accuracy, a certain intensity as well as deepness. The wine benefits from being decanted. It reveals notes of fresh purple plum, rose/lilac, and, more slightly, - notes of fresh/crunchy strawberry associated with touches of juicy cherry as well as hints of nutmeg, cardamom, vanilla pod, and discreet hints of fresh blond tobacco. The mouth is well-built, all in finesse/delicacy and offers accuracy, gourmandise, suavity, a nice sapidity, fullness, a nice balance as well as silkiness. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, juicy/pulpy cherry, and, more slightly, - hints of bright raspberry associated with touches of violet, purple plum, and lilac as well as slight hints of clove, cardamom, sweet spices, and Bourbon vanilla. The tannins are supple and elegant. A very discreet hint of pepper in the finish. Nice gormand and creamy persistence.

Score: 17+/20 (94-95/100)

Bouchard Père & Fils, Domaine – Taille Pieds 2018 Volnay, Premier Cru

Nice fresh delicate nose, which offers a fine incisive side, complexity as well as a velvety side. It reveals notes of morello cherry, purple plum, and, more slightly, - hints of blackberry associated with delicate touches of cardamom, and small blue fruits as well as slight hints of minerality/graphite and discreet hints of salinity. The palate is fruity, racy, and precisely chiseled and offers freshness, minerality, nice energy, a tangy frame as well as delicacy. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy blackberry, purple plum, and slight hints of bright/tangy cherry associated with touches of tonka bean, cardamom, racy minerality as well as a subtle hint of toast, and lily. The tannins are velvety and elegant. Nice iodized side and a good job on the bitterness on the finish.

Score: 17.5/20 (95/100)

Bouchard Père & Fils, Domaine 2018 Le Corton, Grand Cru

The nose is elegant, racy, and offers complexity, a multilayered side, as well as a certain power in finesse. It reveals notes of blackcurrant, violet, and, more slightly, - notes of ripe wild red fruits associated with slight touches of almost ripe cherry, Cuben pepper, lilac, and spices as well as a slight hint of blond tobacco. The mouth is all in subtlety and delicacy and offers a very nice silkiness, a lacy side, a slight richness, energy, a pretty guideline as well as a good balance. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/bright blackberry, pulpy purple plum, and slight hints of violet associated with touches of fairly ripe/tangy red fruits as well as hints of toast, tonka bean, vanilla, with a subtle hint of flowers and chocolate. The tannins are elegant, delicate, and precise. A fine unctuousity at the end of the mouth. A gourmandise Nice and very discreet work on the good bitterness. Congratulations!

Score: 18+/20 (96-97/100)

Domaine Guy & Yvan Dufouleur – Renardes 2020 Corton, Grand Cru

A nice racy, complex nose that offers a certain power as well as a nice fine, powerful and racy grain. It reveals notes of violet plum, more slightly - notes of ripe berries associated with slight touches of cloves, and pepper as well as a discreet hint of crushed raspberry, toast, and spices. The palate is well-built, fruity and offers juiciness, a nice minerality/freshness, roundness in delicacy, energy, and a tangy frame as well as the purity of the fruit. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of bright blackberry, purple plum, and slight notes of cherry associated with touches of tangy raspberry as well as hints of blueberry, cardamom, mocha, a subtle hint of clove and of fresh blond tobacco. The tannins are racy, and precise and offer slight straightness. Good length. The wine benefits from being decanted.

Score: 17/20 (94/100)

Maison de la Chapelle 2020 Ircany

Nice nose with delicacy, which offers a certain intensity as well as a fine deepness. It reveals notes of wild strawberry, pulpy wild blackcurrant, and, more slightly, - notes of violet associated with slight touches of lilac and pepper. The palate is

Bourgogne

fruity and offers juiciness, a tangy frame, minerality, and energy. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy cherry, violet, and, more slightly, - notes of crunchy blackcurrant associated with touches of fresh lily as well as a subtle hint of nutmeg. A certain straightness as well as a fine tightness at the finish.

Score: 15.25/20 (90/100)

Maison de la Chapelle – Version Libre 2020

Irancy

(No sulfur added) The nose is aromatic, and velvety and offers gourmandise, a nice grain, a certain intensity, deepness, and a fleshy end as well as some velvety side. It reveals notes of fleshy blueberry, wild strawberry, and, more slightly, - hints of violet associated with fine touches of spices, cloves, and fleshy berries as well as a subtle almost toasted and almost saline hint. The palate is fruity and offers freshness, a certain brilliance of the fruit, aromatic purity, energy, and a certain complexity as well as a nice pulpy/tangy/fresh fruit. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy raspberry, bright redcurrant, and, more slightly, - hints of blueberry associated with touches of tangy plum as well as a subtle hint of violet, iris, and a discreet hint of toasted/chocolate. Good length. Nice juiciness and persistence.

Score: 15.5/20 (90-91/100)

Maison de la Chapelle – Les Bâtardes 2020

Irancy

A nice nose that offers intensity, flesh, a certain power as well as a discreetly tight grain. The beneficiaries from being decanted. It reveals notes of crushed purple plum, crushed blackberry, and, more slightly, - hints of bright red fruits associated with touches of caramelisation as well as a slight hint of Sichuan pepper and vanilla. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, a nice tangy frame, minerality, fullness, as well as some purity of the fruit. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy black cherry, bright purple plum and, more slightly, notes of raspberry associated with hints of bright cherry as well as hints of tonka bean, vanilla, and toasted hazelnut. Good length and sapidity. Nice persistence.

Score: 15.5/20 (90-91/100)

Maison de la Chapelle – Les Beaux Monts 2020

Irancy

The nose is mineral, racy, and finely tight. It reveals notes of violet, bright purple plum, and, more slightly, - notes of cornflower associated with touches of crushed blue fruits, small red fruits, slight hints of graphite, and pepper as well as a discreet hint of star anise and salinity. The palate is mineral, and fruity and offers a nice freshness, precision, and good definition as nice bright well-structured fruits. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of bright purple plum, juicy/tangy cherry, and, more slightly, hints of bright/fresh raspberry associated with slight hints of crunchy blue fruits, fresh cornflower as well as slight hints of star anise and toast/sweet spices. The tannins are supple and suave. Good length.

Score: 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Domaine du Château Philippe le Hardy – Les Doués 2020

Mercrey

The nose is fruity and offers a slight concentration/density, a certain deepness as well as a finely tight grain. It reveals notes of pulpy cherry, plum, and, more slightly, - clove associated with slight touches of bright red fruits as well as a slight hint of violet and mocha. The palate is nicely mineral and offers freshness, a certain roundness, and finesse. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, cherry, and, more slightly, hints of violet associated with touches of crunchy purple plum as well as hints of cloves and discreet hints of spices. Good length and sapidity. The tannins are supple. Presence of a slight hint of toasted/chocolate on the finish and persistence.

Score: 15+/20 (89-90/100)

Château d'Étroyes – La Sente aux grives 2019

Mercrey 1er Cru

Pretty gourmand nose, intense, fine, precise and offers a tight side. It reveals notes of creamy blackberry, clove, and, more slightly, notes of bright morello cherry associated with slight touches of vanilla. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, brightness, and energy as well as a nice acidity/pulp of the fruit. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/tangy blackberry, violet, and, more slightly, - hints of bright/tangy small red fruits associated with touches of tangy plum, hints of cornflower as well as slight hints of vanilla, and toast. Good length. A slight sapidity/salinity on the finish/persistence.

Score: 15.25/20 (90/100)

Domaine du Château Philippe le Hardy – Les Hâtes 2020

Santenay

The nose is mineral, and fruity, and offers hints of cloves and spices. It reveals notes of pulpy cherry, violet, and, more slightly, - clove associated with fine hints of spices as well as a discreet hint of fresh leather and a very discreet hint of pepper. The mouth is juicy, and tangy and offers energy, minerality, good definition, and fine straightness. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of luscious/juicy cherry, tangy/fresh plum, and slight notes of clove associated with touches of spices and small pulpy berries. Good tangy persistence.

Score: 15/20 (89-90/100)

Henri de Villamont – La Pllice 2019

Santenay

The nose is fruity and offers a certain aromatic power. It reveals notes of pulpy cherry, pulpy wild strawberry, and, more slightly, slight hints of fresh iris associated with touches of star anise, violet, and slight hints of clove. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, freshness, as well as certain brightness. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy cherry, tangy/fresh plum, and, more slightly, notes of fleshy/pulpy red fruits associated with touches of iris, lily, and mocha as well as a subtle hint of toast. Good length. Sapidity and suavity on the finish/persistence. A very discreet hint of good bitterness on the finish.

Score: 15/20 (89-90/100)

Domaine du Château Philippe le Hardy – Les Prarons Dessus 2020

Santenay

The nose is spicy and offers a certain freshness as well as some fruitiness. It reveals notes of fresh clove, fresh cherry, and, more slightly, - notes of pulpy plum associated with fine hints of vanilla. The palate is nicely fresh and offers minerality, acidity, and a slight crunch. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of juicy/tangy cherry, crunchy plum, and, more slightly, - notes of clove associated with slight touches almost of the root of iris as well as slight hints of mocha and fresh leather. Good job on the bitterness.

Score: 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Henri de Villamonte – Les Belles Filles 2020

Pernand-Vergelesse

The nose is fruity and offers some concentration, a slight richness as well as a slight creaminess in freshness. It reveals notes of creamy strawberry, creamy wild blackcurrant, and, more slightly, notes of fleshy plum combined with fine touches of lilac, violet, and a discreet hint of spice. The palate is mineral and offers freshness, a slight spherical side as well as a nice brightness and good definition of the fruit. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of bright cherry, bright purple plum, and, more slightly, notes of cornflower/violet associated with touches of pulpy red fruits as well as slight hints of mocha and fresh blond tobacco. A discreet hint of root in the finish. A good job on the good bitterness. The tannins are supple, fresh, and suave.

Score: 15+/20 (89-90/100)

Henri de Villamont 2019

Gevrey-Chambertin

The nose is fruity, complex, and aromatic and offers pretty flowery side as well as gourmandise. It reveals notes of creamy blackcurrant, pulpy plum, and, more slightly, notes of crushed cherry associated with touches of violet, and lily as well as slight hints of rose, toasted hazelnut, chocolate, and a very discreet hint of vanilla. The mouth is nicely gourmand, racy, all in balance, and offers freshness, juiciness, energy, some density as well as a slight richness. Good length. Sapidity on the finish.

Score: 15.25+/20 (90-91/100)

Château d'Étroyes – Le Clos l'Évêque 2020

Mercrey 1er Cru

The nose is fruity and offers a certain intensity and power as well as a fleshy fruit. It reveals notes of violet plum, fresh blueberry, and, more slightly, - notes of fresh wild strawberry associated with touches of violet/fresh iris as well as slight hints of star anise and a discreet hint of almost caramelisation. The palate is fruity and offers a nice tangy structure, juiciness, good definition, energy, a slight straightness as well as a slight tension. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/tangy cherry, and blueberry and, more slightly, notes of crushed blue plum associated with touches of nutmeg, sweet spices, cornflower, and a subtle hint of toasted hazelnut (on the finish). Good length. Nice tangy finish.

Score: 15.25+/20 (90-91/100)

Bourgogne

Henri de Villamont – Les Baudes 2019 Chambolle-Musigny, 1er Cru

The nose is fresh, spicy, relatively powerful and offers a fine grain. It reveals notes of fresh violet and pulpy wild blueberry associated with touches of wild strawberry, lily, and fine hints of pepper. The palate is fruity, nicely juicy, fresh, and balanced and offers a fresh/tangy frame. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy cherry, bright/fresh plum, and, more slightly, - hints of violet associated with touches of bright red fruits as well as a subtle hint of crushed blueberry, fresh almond, and a very discreet hint of peony (on the finish). Good length. Nice freshness and minerality.

Score: 15.25/20 (90/100)

Domaine du Clos des Poulettes – Clos des Poulettes 2020

Nuits-Saint-Georges 1er Cru

Nice flowery nose, precise, harmonious, and offering a slight intensity. It reveals notes of iris, peony, and slight notes of juicy/fresh red fruits associated with fine hints of lilac and pulpy blackberry. The palate is fruity, and flowery and offers juiciness, a tangy frame, acidity, good definition, some nice fatness, and harmony. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy plum, rose and, more slightly, notes of peony associated with touches of bright red berries as well as fine hints of fresh almond and a subtle hint of star anise. Pretty freshness and a certain breadth of the wine.

Score: 15.25+20 (90-91/100)

Domaine du Clos des Poulettes – Les Vaucrains 2020

Nuits-Saint-Georges 1er Cru

Nice gourmand nose, elegant, well-built, which offers complexity, a certain creaminess as well as a slight intensity. It reveals notes of creamy blackberry, crushed plum, and, more slightly, notes of crushed redcurrant associated with slight touches of lily, and bright cherry as well as slight hints of star anise. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, a tangy frame, minerality, good definition, fine creaminess, tension, and energy and some vibrant side. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy cherry, tangy blackcurrant, and, more slightly, - hints of crushed violet plum associated with touches of lilac, lily, slight hints of fresh star anise/licuorice as well as a subtle hint of fresh blond tobacco and vanilla. The tannins are chewy. Good persistence. Nice freshness.

Score: 16/20 (92/100)

Domaine du Clos des Poulettes – Vierville 2020 Côte de Nuits Villages

The nose is fruity, a bit tight and offers a fine concentration as well as some power. The wine benefits from being decanted. It reveals notes of violet, fresh lily, and, more slightly, - hints of purple plum associated with touches of clove, cherry blossom, and a hint of white pepper. The mouth is nicely juicy, precise, and framed and offers straightness, juiciness, a nice acidity of the fruit as well as energy. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of crunchy cherry, cherry blossoms, and, more slightly, - notes of strawberry associated with touches of juicy plum, hints of luscious blackberry as well as a discreet hint of fresh rose and clove. A good job on the good bitterness in the background. The tannins are finely chewy.

Score: 15+20 (89-90/100)

Henri de Villamont 2020 Grands Echezeaux, Grand Cru

The nose is fruity, and racy and offers a slight power, some creaminess as well as minerality. It reveals notes of creamy cherry, wild strawberry, and, more slightly, - hints of violet associated with touches of rose / fresh flowers, hints of tonka bean as well as a subtle hint of graphite and pepper. The palate is nicely fresh, and juicy and offers a fine creaminess in freshness, a nice racy minerality, a fine airy side as well as a fine framed and balanced richness. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of creamy cherry, juicy/pulpy blackberry, and, more slightly, - notes of creamy plum, and rose associated with touches of almost root, violet, and star anise, with a discreet hint of chocolate, toasted as well as with a subtle hint of fresh almond and clove. The tannins are well structured.

Score: 15.5+20 (91/100)

Domaine Guy & Yvan Dufouleur – En Vaut 2020 Volnay

The nose is racy and offers elegance as well as precision. It reveals notes of clove, fresh tobacco, and, more slightly, - notes of peony associated with touches of creamy blackberry as well as hints of crushed strawberry and a subtle hint of white pepper. The mouth is fresh, velvety, mineral, and balanced and offers juiciness, as well as

a tangy frame. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of juicy/fresh blackberry, crunchy plum, and, more slightly, - hints of fresh rose associated with touches of peony, and camphor as well as slight hints of fresh red fruits and hints of racy minerality. The tannins are racy. The wine benefits from being decanted.

Score: 15.25+20 (90-91/100)

Domaine du Philippe le Hardi – Les Champs Martin 2019

Mercury, 1er Cru

The nose is spicy and offers some power. The wine benefits from being decanted. It reveals notes of fresh cloves, nutmeg, and, more slightly, - notes of crushed strawberry associated with fine touches of blueberry as well as a subtle hint of fresh pepper and lily. A nice fresh, juicy, nicely tangy mouth that offers gourmandise, tension, accuracy, and brightness as well as a tangy/juicy frame. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/bright cherry, juicy/bright raspberry and, more slightly, - hints of bright plum associated with touches of racy minerality (almost iodized) as well as a subtle hint of fresh flowers, toasted almond and discreet hints of clove on the finish. The tannins are supple and sapid. Good length. Nice gourmandise on the palate.

Score: 15.25+20 (90-91/100)

Domaine Roger Belland – La Fussière 2021 Maranges 1er Cru

Nice elegant, aromatic, intense nose, which offers power, brightness, and fine grain. It reveals notes of fresh cherry, violet/peony, and, more slightly, - notes of creamy violet plum associated with touches of pepper, toast, and an imperceptible hint of clove. The palate is fruity and offers a nice acidity, gourmandise, tangy frame, minerality, energy, and a nice freshness. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy plum, juicy/tangy cherry, and, more slightly, - notes of raspberry associated with touches of blueberry, small fresh berries, and fresh flowers as well as hints of iodine and fresh blonde tobacco. Nice finish and gourmandise. The finish is all in acidity and sapidity.

Score: 16+20 (92-93/100)

Domaine Rapet 2020 Aloxe-Corton

Nice fresh, refined nose which offers a nice definition/purity of the fruit, deepness as well as a certain elegance in its well-mastered richness. It reveals notes of crushed cherry, fleshy raspberry, and, more slightly, - hints of violet associated with touches of crunchy plum, slight hints of cornflower, sweet spices, and toast as well as discreet hints of racy minerality and flowers. The mouth is nicely defined and offers delicacy, silkiness, a slight richness, a nice acidity as well as a nice purity and precision of the fruit. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, small bright red berries, and, more slightly, - hints of cornflower, juicy/fleshy blueberry associated with slight touches of vanilla, toasted notes as well as discreet hints of minerality/ almost iodized. The tannins offer some chewiness. Good length. Pretty juiciness, radiance, and freshness. Congratulations!

Score: 17/20 (94/100)

Domaine Stéphane de Sousa - Les Pasquiers 2020 Volnay

The nose is elegant, precise, well-mastered, and offers a fine grain, some spiciness as well as a discreet tightness. The wine benefits from being decanted. It reveals notes of wild blackberry, nutmeg, and, more slightly, - hints of bright red cherry associated with a hint of fresh lily and spices. The mouth is fruity, discreetly tight, and offers juiciness, a nice freshness, energy, and some straightness as well as a good guideline. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of bright cherry, juicy/bright plum, and slight notes of cornflower associated with touches of juicy/tangy blackcurrant as well as hints of lily, clove and sweet spices. Good length. A very discreet hint almost chocolate on the finish.

Score: 16.25+20 (93/100)

Domaine Bouchard Père & Fils – Clos des Chênes 2018

Volnay, Premier Cru

The nose is fruity, and elegant and offers a nice brightness of fruit as well as harmony. It reveals notes of bright cherry, redcurrant, and slight notes of violet associated with touches of juicy purple plum as well as a discreet hint of lilac and a subtle almost vanilla note. The palate is fruity, nicely mineral, tense, and precise and offers harmony. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of juicy/fresh blackberry, fresh raspberry and slight hints of fresh cherry associated with touches of lilac, fresh flowers as well as slight hints of racy minerality and a discreet hint of toast (on the finish). The tannins are supple. A slight hint of good bitterness on the finish.

Score: 15.75/20 (91-92/100)

Bourgogne

Domaine du Château de Meursault – Clos des Chênes 2019

Volnay, Premier Cru

A nice elegant, harmonious, delicate nose that offers some velvety side. It reveals notes of fresh/bright red cherry, fresh strawberry, and, more slightly, - notes of small red berries associated with fine touches of violet, racy minerality as well as a very discreet hint of fig and slight hints of sweet spices. The mouth is mineral, elegant, and balanced and offers a nice definition, harmony as well as a tangy frame. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of juicy/fresh raspberry, fleshy cherry and slight hints of bright redcurrant associated with touches of fleshy/pulpy plum, hints of violet/lily, mocha as well as a discreet hint of fresh almond. Good length. A subtle hint of good bitterness/cocoa bitterness on the persistence/retro. Beautiful freshness!

Score: 17/20 (94/100)

Domaine du Château de Meursault – Les Trois Journaux 2020

Beaune-Grèves, Premier Cru

A nice nose that offers intensity, a certain complexity, good definition, some spiciness as well as a good width of the palate. It reveals notes of pulpy strawberry, cherry, and, more slightly, - lily associated with slight touches of nutmeg, pepper, bright fruits as well as fine hints of spices and a very discreet hint of fresh blond tobacco. The mouth is well-built harmonious, and delicate and offers nice energy, a nice texture / velvety touch, a slight richness as well as a nice racy grain, powerful and delicate at the same time. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of violet plum, tangy/fresh redcurrant, and, more slightly, - hints of juicy cherry associated with touches of blackberry, hints of cornflower, and lily as well as slight hints of nutmeg and mocha. A nice "sense of the place" side (local biotop). The tannins are elegant, suave, and chewy.

Score: 17.25/20 (94-95/100)

Domaine du Château de Meursault 2020

Beaune-Toussaints, Premier Cru

The nose is racy, velvety and mineral and offers a certain intensity, a nice grain, as well as a slight spicy and chocolate notes. It reveals notes of bright boysenberry, bright blackcurrant, and, more slightly, - notes of crushed strawberry associated with touches of violet, and chocolate as well as slight hints of vanilla and a hint of sweet blond tobacco. The palate is nicely mineral, fresh, and elegant and offers a nice finesse in its roundness, a nice definition, a certain spherical side, harmony, a fresh/tangy frame, sapidity as well as a good job on the good bitters (on the finish). On the palate, this wine expresses notes of creamy blackberry, juicy/pulpy plum, and slight notes of fresh raspberry associated with touches of crushed redcurrant, hints of violet, lilac as well as a subtle hint of almost iris, a racy minerality, with sweet blond tobacco and toast. Good length. A fine hint of tonka bean on the persistence. Nice freshness.

Score: 16.5/20 (93/100)

Domaine du Château de Meursault 2020

Beaune-Teurons, Premier Cru

Nice elegant nose which offers a certain richness, a nice racy grain, a slight intensity as well as a certain complexity. It reveals notes of crushed strawberry, crushed blackcurrant, and, more slightly, notes of small fleshy fruits associated with touches of pepper, tonka bean as well as slight hints of toasted hazelnut, blond tobacco and a discreet hint of tea. The palate is fruity and offers a nice juiciness, a tangy frame, a good definition, a certain gourmandize, some richness, fatness, a nice tanginess as well as energy. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of tart/juicy redcurrant, tangy/juicy cherries, and, more slightly, - notes of crushed blackcurrant associated with touches of tangy/juicy plum as well as hints of toast, nutmeg, and chocolate. The tannins are soft and elegant. A subtle hint of good cocoa bitterness on the finish/persistence. Nice acidity and energy.

Score: 16.75/20 (93-94/100)

Domaine du Château de Meursault 2020

Beaune-Fèves, Premier Cru

The nose is racy and offers a certain complexity. The wine benefits from being decanted. It reveals notes of wild cherry, violet, and, more slightly, - lily associated with touches of spices, and pepper as well as slight hints of cloves and a discreet hint of fresh tea. The mouth is fresh and offers a nice acidity, energy, a nice racy minerality, and tension as well as a discreetly tight and precise structure. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of fresh/crunchy blackberry, juicy/fresh cherry, and, more slightly, notes of small crunchy red berries associated with touches of fresh flowers as well as hints of blond tobacco, cloves, and a very discreet hint of mocha (on the finish). The tannins are suave and supple. Good length. Nice juiciness and gourmandise.

Score: 16.25+20 (93/100)

Domaine du Château de Meursault – Les Cent-Vignes 2020

Beaune, Premier Cru

The nose is elegant and offers brightness, and pulpiness, as well as nice gourmandise and delicate fruit. It reveals notes of bright raspberry, bright cherry, and, more slightly, - notes of blackberry associated with slight touches of spices, rose, violet as well as a discreet hint of pepper and racy/almost iodized minerality. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, minerality, and concentration all in balance, a nice tangy frame, certain gourmandise, tension, accuracy as well as finesse. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy cherry, bright redcurrant, and, more slightly, - notes of rose associated with touches of juicy blackberry, hints of sweet blond tobacco, cloves as well as a very discreet hint of tonka bean, and toast. The tannins are supple. Good length. Persistence with a hint of dark chocolate and toasted hazelnut.

Score: 16+20 (92-93/100)

Domaine Bouchard Père & Fils – Les Avaux 2018

Beaune, Premier Cru

The nose is elegant, and racy and offers tension as well as a certain power. The wine benefits from being decanted. It reveals notes of boysenberry, small fresh/ripe red fruits, and, more slightly, -notes of violet, iris associated with touches of cloves, gray pepper, and discreet hints of toast. The mouth is well-built and offers a nice tangy frame, tension, straightness, energy, some fatness, a nice powdery grain as well as a good job on the bitterness. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, pulpy/juicy raspberry, and, more slightly, - notes of tonka bean associated with touches of toasted, almond, fresh violet, cherry blossom, juicy cherry as well as discreet hints of mocha and toast. Good length. Nice persistence on the good bitterness.

Score: 16.25+20 (93/100)

Domaine Bouchard Père & Fils – Les Teurons 2018

Beaune, Premier Cru

The nose is racy, and spicy and offers tension, a peppery side, and a certain intensity of grain. It reveals notes of fresh blackberry, racy minerality, and, more slightly, - notes of wild violet plum associated with touches of violet, and crushed berries as well as a discreet hint of pepper, iris, and fresh tobacco (on the finish). The palate is mineral, fresh, a bit tight, and offers a nice mineral frame, energy, complexity, and tension. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of juicy/fresh blackberry, fresh flowers, and slight hints of violet plum associated with touches of fresh raspberry, fine hints of tonka bean, clove, and lilac as well as a discreet hint of iris, tobacco, cardamom, and almost camphor.

Score: 15.75/20 (91-92/100)

Domaine Stéphane de Sousa – Les Vaumuriens 2020

Pommard

The nose is complex and offers a fine racy intensity. The wine benefits from being decanted. It reveals notes of crushed blackcurrant, morello cherry, and, more slightly, - hints of bright red fruit associated with touches of violet, and tangy blueberry as well as slight hints of lilac and pepper. A nice "sense of the place" (local biotop). The mouth is well-built, and finely tight, and offers juiciness, freshness, brightness, a nice definition, a good guideline, tension, harmony, gourmandise, silkiness as well as energy. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy redcurrant, bright cherry, and, more slightly, notes of juicy/bright blueberry associated with touches of plum, iris, racy minerality as well as a discreet almost iodized hint and vanilla. Good length. Fine hints of dark chocolate on the finish. The tannins are supple.

Score: 16+20 (92-93/100)

Domaine Stéphane de Sousa – Les Vaumuriens 2019

Pommard

The nose is elegant, nicely floral, and offers subtlety, fruit as well as a racy and powerful grain. It reveals notes of wild blackberry, fairly ripe blackcurrant, and, more slightly, - notes of violet associated with touches of wild cherry as well as hints of Cuben pepper, nutmeg, and a subtle hint of camphor/graphite. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, minerality, gourmandise as well as a tangy frame. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of juicy blackberry, juicy blackcurrant, and, more slightly, - notes of juicy violet plum associated with touches of violet, small acidulous red fruit, slight hints of cornflower, nutmeg as well as discreet hints of graphite/camphor and sweet spices. Nice sapidity on the finish and good work on the good bitterness. Beautiful freshness and juiciness.

Score: 16.25+20 (93/100)

Bourgogne

Domaine Roger Belland – Beauregard 2020 Santenay, Premier Cru

The nose is aromatic, spicy, with a note of liquorice. It reveals notes of bright blueberry, bright blackcurrant, and, more slightly, - notes of small fleshy/ juicy red fruits associated with touches of cornflower, liquorice as well as a very discreet hint almost fresh nutmeg and fresh vanilla. The mouth is fruity, bright, gourmand and offers purity in its fruit, roundness, nice volume, purity, generosity, a nice definition as well as a fine tension. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of bright blueberry, fleshy/juicy blue plum, and, more slightly, - hints of cornflower associated with touches of cherry, cherry blossoms, a subtle almost lilac hint, star anise as well as a very discreet hint of toast and fresh coffee (on the finish). The tannins are supple and sapid.

Score: 16.25/20 (92-93/100)

Domaine Roger Belland – Charmes 2021 Santenay

The nose is fruity and offers power, a certain gourmandise as well as a fine and relatively powerful grain. It reveals notes of fleshy cherry, ripe wild strawberry, and, more slightly, - notes of luscious blackcurrant associated with fine touches of violet, pear and a discreet hint of mocha. The palate is fruity and offers a nice juiciness, a nice freshness, minerality, a tangy frame, harmony as well as silkiness. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of fleshy/juicy cherry, pulpy blackberry and, more slightly, - notes of creamy plum associated with touches of cornflower as well as a very discreet hint of coffee on the finish. Good length. A wine that is nicely fruity. Nice sapidity.

Score: 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Domaine Roger Belland – Gravières 2020 Santenay, Premier Cru

The nose is fresh, racy, precise and offers tension, a nice gourmandise, finesse in its intensity as well as a nice racy, fine and powerful grain. It reveals notes of bright boysenberry, bright wild strawberry, and, more slightly, - hints of liquorice associated with touches of crushed berries as well as hints of pepper, racy minerality, and a subtle hint of nutmeg. The palate is fresh, mineral, and balanced and offers gourmandise, harmony, delicacy, silkiness, fullness and a tangy frame. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of luscious blackcurrant, morello cherry, and, more slightly, - hints of violet combined with touches of star anise, mocha, racy minerality and a discreet hint of fresh blond tobacco.

Score: 16.5/20 (93/100)

Domaine Roger Belland – Commes 2021 Santenay, Premier Cru

Nice racy nose and offers intensity in finesse as well as peppery notes. It reveals notes of fresh cherry, wild berries, and, more slightly, - pepper associated with touches of blackberry, lily as well as slight hints of small blue fruits and spices. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, minerality, nice acidity and a tangy frame. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of juicy/tangy blackberry, redcurrant, and more - slightly - notes of crunchy wild strawberries associated with touches of pear, iris, lily as well as slight hints of star anise and toasted/nutmeg. The tannins are supple and fresh. Sapidity and a very discreet hint of chocolate on the finish. Good length.

Score: 15.75/20 (91-92/100)

Domaine Roger Belland – Morgeot-Clos Pitois 2020 1er Cru, Monopole Chassagne-Montrachet Premier Cru

The nose is elegant, and racy and offers power in its delicacy, a certain concentration, accuracy, a certain intensity as well as slight notes of fresh spices. The mouth is well-built, racy, bright, a bit aerial, and offers nice

freshness, a tangy frame, power in delicacy, accuracy, silky, nice fatness as well some spherical side. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy raspberry, roasted cherry, and, more slightly, - hints of cornflower associated with touches of pulpy plum, roasted berries, star anise as well as hints of chocolate, toast, caramelized almond. and a subtle hint of mocha (on the finish). The tannins are elegant, precise, supple and fine.

Score: 17.25/20 (94-95/100)

Domaine du Château de Meursault Clos de La Platière 2020 Pommard

Nice floral, racy nose that offers a certain power. It reveals notes of raspberry, rose, and, more slightly, - notes of juicy blackcurrant associated with touches of small red fruits, cornflower, camphor as well as a hint of tobacco and black

pepper. The palate offers good definition, juiciness, a tangy frame, minerality, and silkiness as well as a nice work on the good bitterness. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of juicy/tangy blackberry, small juicy/ tangy red fruit and, more slightly, - notes of rose associated with touches of fresh cornflower, tangy plum as well as slight hints of tonka bean, toasted almond, graphite and a hint of toast/ torrefaction. Good length. Nice sapidity and gourmandise on the finish.

Score: 15.75/20 (91-92/100)

Domaine du Château de Meursault – Clos de La Platière 2019 Pommard, Premier Cru

The nose is spicy, racy and offers a certain

complexity. The wine deserves to be decanted. It reveals notes of blackberry, blueberry and wild strawberry associated with touches of cloves, pepper, slight hints of spices as well as a discreet almost smoky hint and cocoa. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, minerality, a tangy frame, energy and good definition. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, bright plum and, more slightly, - hints of cornflower associated with touches of bright redcurrant as well as slight hints of blueberry, clove, blond tobacco and a discreet hint of spices. The tannins are supple. Good length.

Score: 16/20 (92/100)

Domaine du Château de Meursault – Clos des Epenots 2019 Pommard, Premier Cru

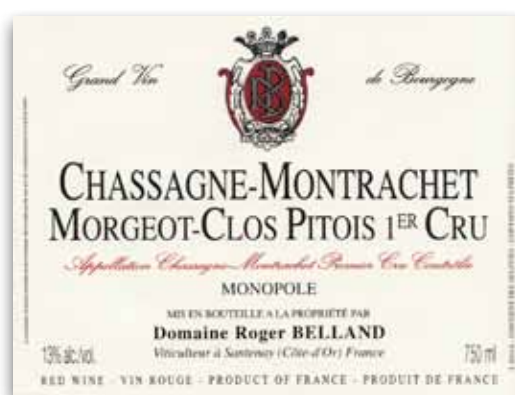
Nice elegant nose, complete, complex, a bit floral and offers certain deepness. It reveals notes of blackcurrant, cornflower, and, more slightly, - mocha associated with touches of pulpy blue berries, bright cherry as well as slight hints of camphor, gray pepper, a very discreet hint almost smoky and with an imperceptible hint of vanilla. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, a mineral structure, elegance, gourmandise, freshness, acidity and a fine crunch. On the palate, this wine expresses

notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, bright blackcurrant, and, more slightly, - hints of cornflower associated with touches of bright raspberry, hints of violet, pepper as well as slight hints of camphor, and cardamom, with a subtle hint of toasted almond and liquorice. A wine all in gourmandise, delicacy and which offers acidity/juiciness. Congratulations!

Score: 17/20 (94/100)

Domaine Faiveley – Vieilles Vignes 2020 Grevey-Chambertin

The nose is elegant, and racy and offers a certain power. It reveals notes of boysenberry, violet, and, more slightly, - notes of bright wild berries associated with touches of smoke, pepper, bright black plum as well as hints of spice, camphor and a subtle almost saline note. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, minerality, a tangy frame, a nice freshness, subtlety, a certain straightness (all in elegance), harmony, finesse, tension as well as a nice



Bourgogne

delicate touch on the palate. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/creamy blackberry, juicy/tangy blackcurrant, and, more slightly, - notes of pulpy raspberry associated with touches of cornflower, violet, juicy/tangy cherry as well as slight hints of small tangy/bright blue fruits, vanilla, toast and nutmeg. The tannins are soft and elegant. Good length.

Score: 16.5/20 (93/100)

Philippe le Hardi – La Comme 2020 Santenay 1er Cru

The nose is spicy and offers some power as well as some intensity. It reveals notes of clove, pulpy/juicy blackcurrant, plum, and, more slightly, - spices associated with touches of fresh blond tobacco and a discreet hint of pepper. The palate is nicely fresh, mineral, and balanced and offers a mineral frame, juiciness and acidity. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of fresh/tangy blackcurrant, tangy plum, and slight hints of violet associated with touches of blueberry as well as hints of salinity, racy minerality, cloves, fresh leather, a subtle hint of fresh pepper and a very discreet hint of iris. The tannins are finely tight.

Score: 15/20 (89-90/100)

Louis Jadot – Clos des Ursules 2017, Monopole Beaune, Premier Cru

Pretty fresh nose, elegant, coating and offers delicacy and suppleness. It reveals notes of pulpy raspberry, violet/fresh rose, and, more slightly, - notes of pulpy/fresh cherry associated with touches of blackberry as well

as a delicate hint of plum, spices and a very discreet hint of lily. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, a tangy frame, minerality, good definition, delicacy, freshness, a certain gourmandise, suppleness as well as energy through its acidity. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/fresh cherry, rose and slight lily associated with touches of pulpy purple plum as well as subtle hints of chocolate, sweet blond tobacco, with a very discreet hint of spices and an imperceptible almost peppery hint. A nice smoothness, elegance and a hint of acidity in the finish/persistence.

Score: 16+/20 (92-93/100)

Louis Jadot – Les Boudots 2017 Nuits-Saint-Georges, Premier Cru

The nose is fresh, precise and offers a certain tension, spices, a discreet hint of tonka bean as well as a fine and precise grain. It reveals notes of cherry, cherry blossoms, and, more slightly, - notes of violet associated with touches of blackberry, cuben pepper as well as discreet hints of nutmeg, sweet spices and an imperceptible hint of berries of laurel. The palate is mineral, nicely juicy, on the fruit, precise and offers a certain complexity, harmony as well as minerality. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of juicy/fresh cherry, juicy/fresh raspberry, and, more slightly, - notes of fresh violet associated with touches of nutmeg, small red berries as well as discreet hints of fresh cornflower and fresh liquorice. The tannins are supple and chewy. Good length. Nice freshness/minerality. A very discreet hint of mocha on the finish.

Score: 16.25+/20 (93/100)



CAMILLE GIROUD
GRANDS VINS DE BOURGOGNE

GG

GRAND VIN DE BOURGOGNE
2017
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Jura

Domaine de La Pinte – Chardonnay Fonteneille 2019

Arbois Pupillin

(Organic) The nose is chiselled, guided/stretched and direct. There are notes of fresh/pulpy yellow fruits, racy minerality and, more slightly, a touch of fresh citrus/quince combined with a discreet hint of gunflint and ripe exotic fruits. The palate is fruity, sustained and offers a certain elegant fatness resulting from the batonnage, juiciness, gourmandise and a certain unctuousness. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of lychee, quenette and, to a lesser extent, pulpy yellow fruits, combined with fine touches of gunflint.

Score : 15/20 (89-90/100)

Domaine de La Pinte – Savagnin 2018

Arbois

(Organic) The nose is fruity and offers a crunchy fruit. There are bright notes of crunchy mirabelle plum, peach and, more slightly, kumquat combined with a discreet hint of pear and quince. The palate is fruity and reveals juiciness, acidity, freshness, some minerality and a fine chiselled edge. On the palate this wine expresses notes of quenette, bright/juicy peach and, more slightly, juicy kumquat combined with hints of gunflint/racy, exotic fruits, juicy/crunchy white fruits and a subtle pineapple hint (in the background). Good length. A very discreet toasty/tannic and buttery touch on the finish.

Score : 15/20 (89-90/100)

Domaine de Lahaye, Guillaume Tissot – 2019

Côtes du Jura

(100% Chardonnay) The nose is juicy, fruity and crunchy. There are notes of juicy white peach and crisp apple combined with a subtle hint of white flowers and very discreet hints of white grapefruit. The palate is fruity and offers a nice minerality, a juicy frame, straightness, a sustained side as well as a nice bitterness. On the palate this wine expresses juicy/pulpy nectarine, juicy/pulpy apple and, more slightly, white flower notes combined with a subtle hint of white grapefruit and an imperceptible, almost graphite-like quality in the background. Good length. Good persistence.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Domaine de Lahaye, Guillaume Tissot – Cœur de Marne 2018

Côtes du Jura

The nose is elegant and offers a certain delicacy, some concentration and elegance. There are notes of kumquat, yellow fruits and, more slightly, mirabelle plum combined with fine touches of almost sultana and a subtle hint of date. The palate is juicy, mineral and offers a nice straightforwardness, finesse and a fine airiness in the straightness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy kumquat, yellow nectarine and, more slightly, fresh date combined with subtle nuances of dried grass as well as discreet hints of curry, fresh walnut and an imperceptible hint of dried lime peel. Good length. Nice saline character on the finish/persistence. Good persistence (10 caudalies).

Score : 16+/20 (92-93/100)

Domaine de Lahaye, Guillaume Tissot 2015

Château-Chalon

The nose is elegant, aromatic and offers good definition, a nice racy edge, minerality and straightforwardness. There are notes of white plum, fresh cape gooseberry and slightly crunchy peach combined with hints of yellow fruits, fine hints of bay leaf and a subtle, almost iodine-like, hint of eucalyptus/lime. The palate is fruity, elegant and offers juiciness, a nice definition, precision, straightness in finesse, a fine stretched side and finesse in its tension. On the palate this wine expresses notes of fleshy white plum, cape gooseberry and more lightly saline, combined with fine touches of crisp yellow apple as well as hints of lime, sense of place (local biotop) and very discreet hints of walnut. Lovely persistence with a subtle, almost sappy, floral and fresh nutty edge.

Score : 16.25+/20 (93/100)

Domaine de Lahaye, Guillaume Tissot 2006

Château-Chalon

The nose is elegant, deep and offers richness and elegance. There are notes of yellow plums, cape gooseberry and slightly menthol with hints of local biotop, zan and hints of dried citrus and a subtle hint of verberna/fresh pepper. The palate is

elegant, balanced, deep, gourmet, salivating and offers juiciness, salinity as well as a nice, relatively unctuous texture. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of cape gooseberry, pulpy yellow apple and, more slightly, white flowers, combined with a touch of orange blossom, verberna and a subtle hint of dried citrus fruit, a discreet touch of liquorice and an imperceptible hint of bay leaf. Nice persistence.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Jérôme Arnoux – Chardonnay Initial 2019

Arbois

The nose is fresh and crisp with a fine varietal hint in the background. There are notes of crunchy mirabelle plum, fresh yellow fruits and a hint of nectarine, combined with a fine touch of apricot blossom and reduction. The palate is fruity and offers minerality, a certain fatness and finesse, a good guideline as well as a fine acidic frame. On the palate this wine expresses juicy/sour mirabelle plum, yellow peach and, more slightly, apricot blossom notes combined with hints of fresh almond/almond blossom and a subtle almost lime blossom touch (in the background). Good length. A very discreet toastiness in the background. Good persistence.

Score : 14.75+/20(89/100)

Jérôme Arnoux – Chardonnay 2018, Chantemerle

Arbois

The nose is fruity, concentrated and juicy. There are notes of quince, crunchy mirabelle plum and, more slightly, of pulpy/juicy gooseberry as well as discrete hints of apple. The palate is fruity and reveals juiciness, minerality, energy, a certain richness of fruit, structure, fatness and a very fine unctuousness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy mirabelle plum, kumquat and, more slightly, nuances of yellow fruits combined with touches of apple as well as a very discreet hint of almost mango and white flowers. Good length. A subtle hint of almond oil/almond seed on the finish/persistence. Nice fresh nutty persistence on the finish.

Score : 15.25+/20 (90-91/100)

Jérôme Arnoux – Chardonnay 2020, Quintessence

Arbois

The nose is racy and offers a certain complexity as well as a good maturity of the fruit. There are notes of yellow fruits, smoke and, to a lesser extent, nutmeg, combined with fine touches of fleshy berries, a discreet hint of toast and an imperceptible hint of pepper. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, minerality, delicacy in its aroma/material, a fine acidic backbone, volume and energy. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of fleshy/pulpy kumquat, fleshy/juicy mirabelle plum and, more slightly, sour yellow peach, combined with fine touches of sour apple and toasted almond and toast. Nice acidity, sapidity and tension on the finish/persistence.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Jérôme Arnoux – Savagnin Ouillé 2016, Autrement

Arbois

The nose is aromatic and offers a certain complexity as well as a fine concentration. There are hints of dried almond, smoke and, more slightly, yellow fruits, combined with discreet hints of clove. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, acidity, gourmandise and a tangy/pulpy fruit. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy kumquat, apricot and, more slightly, almond combined with hints of almost candied citrus as well as a subtle hint of crushed yellow apple and hints of sweet spice. Good length. A lovely wine with good substance. Nice acidic persistence.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Jérôme Arnoux – Savagnin Ouillé 2020, Entre-Deux

Arbois

The nose is fruity and tends to shut down. There are notes of yellow apple, yellow fruits and, to a lesser extent, wild berries, combined with fine touches of smoke, a discreet hint of clove and an imperceptible hint of cumin. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, a certain gourmandise, tension, precision as well as a certain straightness in its richness and structure. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of kumquat, flat peach and, more slightly, wild yellow fruit, combined with a hint of serenity, smoke and a very discreet hint of spice. Good length. A subtle varietal hint on the finish/persistence. A very discreet hint of sourness in the aftertaste.

Score : 15.25+/20 (90-91/100)



Jura

Jérome Arnoux – Savagnin 2018, Authentique Arbois

The nose is aromatic, precise and straightforward. We find notes of dried mandarin peel, dried lemon and, more slightly, kumquat combined with fine touches of fresh hazelnut, sap/white flowers and discreet hints of walnut. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, suavity, an airy side, some fatness in elegance as well as a fine acidic backbone. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of kumquat, dried mandarin and, more slightly, dried yellow fruits, combined with fine hints of fresh walnut, as well as a discreet touch of white flowers and a subtle hint of fresh sap. Good length. Fine chewiness and discreet toasted/roasted hazelnut notes on the finish. Nice acidic persistence. An imperceptible hint of coffee on the finish.

Score : 15.5/20 (90-91/100)

Jérome Arnoux – Vin Jaune 2015 Arbois

The nose is precise, racy, clean and offers a certain aromatic purity. There are notes of kumquat, dried tangerine and, more slightly, dried plum, combined with fine touches of mesocarp, white flowers, discreet hints of spice and a subtle hint of sap and curry. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, a nice/delicate fatness, precision, finesse and an acidic frame. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy kumquat, apricot and slightly dried peach combined with hints of citrus, a subtle hint of flowers and a discreet, almost lactic, spicy, curry, sappy touch and imperceptible note of almond.

Score : 15.25+20 (90-91/100)

Domaine Joly 2017 L'Etoile

(100% Chardonnay) The nose is beautifully elegant, precise, clean and racy. There are notes of mirabelle plum, pear and, more slightly, yellow fruits combined with a fine touch of honeysuckle and a subtle hint of saline/mineral, green walnut and nutty butter. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, a mineral/acidic structure, racy minerality, finesse, precision, freshness and tension. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of crisp apple, green fruits and, more slightly, white flowers, lime leaf, green walnut, as well as fine hints of mirabelle plum and a discreet touch of fresh hazelnut. Good length. A subtle, almost toasty edge to the finish. Nice persistence.

Score : 16+20 (92-93/100)

Domaine de la Pinte – Cuvée d'Automne, NV Arbois

(Organic) The nose is fruity, aromatic and offers a certain gourmandise as well as roundness. We find notes of pulpy mirabelle plum, crushed yellow apple and, more slightly, of stewed peach combined with fine touches of baked apple pie and toasted hazelnut. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, acidity, minerality and a certain roundness as well as some tension. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of fleshy yellow apple, crushed yellow peach and, more slightly, crushed yellow fruits, combined with hints of pastry/baked apple and a discreet sappy hint and a touch of toasted/grilled hazelnut. Good length. Nice sapid and spicy persistence.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Domaine Jean-Louis Tissot – Réserve 2016 Arbois

The nose is aromatic and offers gourmandise, a certain aromatic richness and elegance. There are notes of ripe yellow apple, apricot and, more slightly, yellow fruits combined with a touch of kumquat, fine floral notes and a discreet hint of sap, zest and fresh nuts. The palate is fruity and offers a nice freshness, minerality, good definition, a juicy/acidic structure and precision. On the palate this wine has notes of pulpy yellow apple, kumquat and, more slightly, yellow fruits with a touch of zest and fine spice, fresh nutmeg and fresh nut. Good length. Nice salinity and sapidity on the finish/persistence.

Score : 15.75/20 (91-92/100)

Domaine de Montbourgeau – En Banode 2018 L'Etoile

A lovely, elegant, precise, beautifully racy nose that offers finesse, delicacy, depth and some power of grain. There are notes of kumquat, dried orange peel and, more slightly, dried apricot, combined with hints of dried yellow plum, as well

as fine mineral/racy touch, salinity and a very discreet, almost vanilla-like hint (in the background). The palate is fruity, elegant and offers freshness, juiciness, acidity, minerality, some tension, precision, a nice fine grain, gourmandise and a nice finesse in its roundness and fatness. Nice purity. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy yellow peach, crushed yellow fruits and, more slightly, saline/iodine combined with hints of dried apricot, fine crunchy yellow apple as well as hints of nutmeg, dried flowers, a discreet hint of walnut, toasted and crushed hazelnut. Nice sapidity on the finish/persistence. The finish is dynamic, lean and offers an imperceptible, almost buttery touch. Very good persistence (+12 caudalies).

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Noir Frères – La Petite Marne 2015 - Vin Jaune Côtes du Jura

The nose is racy, elegant and offers purity, delicacy as well as a fine power. The wine benefits from being decanted. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of quince, dried citrus and, more slightly, juicy/crunchy berries combined with a touch of pulpy vine peach, a discreet hint of hazelnut, butter and a very discreet hint of honeysuckle and "flor". The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, some fatness, roundness, smoothness, a fine unctuousness, gourmandise as well as finesse and purity. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy vine peach, quince and, more slightly, lychee combined with a touch of dried mandarin, baked apple pie, fresh hazelnut and a subtle hint of spice/"flor". Good length. Nice finish, sapid and gourmet. Good persistence (+10 caudalies). Congratulations!

Score : 17/20 (94/100)



Fruitière Vinicole d'Arbois – Vin Jaune 2015 Arbois

The nose is fruity, fresh, chiselled and offers a fine power. There are notes of crisp peach, green/crunchy fruits and, more slightly, yellow fruits combined with a hint of fresh walnut (almost walnut oil) and a very discreet touch of toastiness. The palate is fruity, balanced and offers juiciness, minerality and salinity. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy yellow peach, crisp apple and slightly fresh pear combined with hints of crunchy/fresh yellow fruits as well as fine hints of walnut, hazelnut and sultana. Good length. Good persistence with a subtle hint of positive bitterness.

Score : 14.75/20 (88-89/100)

Fruitière Vinicole de Voiteur 2015 Château-Chalon

The nose is nicely harmonious, gourmet, offering a sensation of richness/roundness. There are notes of crushed mirabelle plum, crushed yellow apple and, more slightly, candied yellow fruits combined with hints of crunchy apple, hazelnut, vanilla and a subtle hint of chocolate. The palate is fresh, mineral, fruity and offers tension. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy yellow apple and, more slightly, dried yellow peach combined with hints of quince, fine zest and a very discreet hint of tangerine, seed, hazelnut and fresh nut. Good length. Salinity/sapidity on the finish/persistence. Almost a discreet tannic quality on the finish/persistence. Nice work on the bitter taste.

Score : 15+20 (89-90/100)

Caveau des Jacobins – Vin Jaune 2015 Côtes du Jura

Nice fresh nose, elegant and tight. There are notes of quince, juicy mirabelle plum and, more slightly, fresh pear combined with fine touches of yellow flowers, buttered apple and discreet toasted hints. The palate is fresh, mineral, balanced, tightly wound and offers tension, a certain straightness and a stretch. On the palate this wine expresses notes of fresh pear, juicy/fresh quince and, more slightly, juicy peach combined with fine touches of fresh flowers as well as fine hints of fresh hazelnut and a discreet saline touch. Good length. A touch of positive bitterness in the background.

Score : 14.5+20 (88/100)

Fruitière de Voiteur – Vin Jaune 2015 Côtes du Jura

The nose is fruity, taut, a little tight and offers some spiciness. There are notes of buttered apple, crushed yellow fruits and, to a lesser extent, fleshy pear, combined with hints of butter and a subtle vanilla. The palate is fruity, balanced,

Jura

juicy/fresh and offers a mineral/fresh backbone and a nice energy. On the palate this wine expresses notes of quince, fresh/pulpy yellow fruits and, more slightly, lemon blossom combined with fine hints of fresh apple, beeswax, fresh/toasted oak and a very discreet hint of bitterness/toastiness. Fine salinity on the finish/persistence. An imperceptible hint of fresh mushrooms on the finish.
Score : 14.75/20 (88-89/100)

Domaine Grand – Vin Jaune 2015

Côtes du Jura

Nice, elegant nose, precise and with a nice grain. There are notes of quince, bright mirabelle plum and, more slightly, of fleshy berries combined with hints of flowers as well as a fine buttery touch and fresh/green nuts. The palate is fruity, fresh and offers a tangy structure, finesse in its roundness, a certain purity in its definition and a nice juiciness and acidity of the fruit. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of quince, tart mirabelle plum and, to a lesser extent, fairly ripe lemon, combined with hints of crunchy white fruit, lemon blossom, as well as fine iodine, nutmeg, toasted notes and a very discreet, almost varietal touch (in the background). Good length. Nice sapidity and acidity on the finish. Good persistence. Congratulations!

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Rolet Père et Fils 2014

Arbois

A lovely, elegant nose that offers delicacy, good definition, precision and lovely ripe/chunky fruit. There are notes of pulpy quince, fresh apricot and, more slightly, crunchy vine peach combined with floral touches as well as fine hints of spice and a very discreet touch of fresh pepper. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, minerality, tension, freshness and a controlled/tight quality. On the palate this wine expresses juicy/pulpy vine peach, juicy/pulpy apple and, more slightly, crisp nectarine notes combined with hints of lemon, a discreet almost tangerine edge and a subtle floral and fresh nutty edge. Nice nutty acidity on the finish. Good persistence.

Score : 16.75/20 (93-94/100)

Domaine Badoz – Vin Jaune 2015

Côtes du Jura

Nice racy nose that offers some restraint and a nice grain. The wine needs aeration in the glass or decanter. There are lovely notes of candied mirabelle plum, crunchy yellow fruits and, more slightly, quince combined with hints of white flowers, crisp apple and hints of beeswax/pastry. The palate is mineral, fruity and offers nice definition, roundness, fullness and a nice freshness that carries on. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy yellow peach, crushed yellow fruits and, more slightly, nectarine combined with a touch of roasted pineapple, honey/beeswax as well as a subtle almost buttery edge, a discreet hint of spice, fresh sap and "flor".

Score : 16.25+/20 (93/100)



© Domaine de Laboye

Southern Rhône

VENTOUX WHITE WINES

Vindemio - Ignis 2020

Ventoux

(Organic) The wine shows a pale lemon colour with a golden tinge. The nose is intense and aromatic, revealing nuances of ripe yellow apples, nuances of yellow pears, hints of apples blossom and white flowers, a touch of quince and flower honey. The palate offers bright juiciness, elevated acidity, a certain creaminess and roundness. The palate mirrors the nose with nuances of yellow orchard fruits but complicated by nuances of dried herbs, gentian and camomile. An intense bitter note on the finish adds to the freshness.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Domaine Vintur Blanc 2020

Ventoux

(Organic) The wine shows a pale lemon straw colour with a platinum tinge. The nose is slightly reductive and smoky initially, later opening up with notes of white apples, lemons, a touch of dried Mediterranean herbs, very pronounced minerality. The palate is fresh and juicy, pleasantly round and creamy, with balanced acidity and intense warming sensation on the back-palate. The wine demonstrates nuances of yellow pears, a hint of pineapple, a touch of garrigue and pronounced saline notes. The typical bitterness on the finish is well-balanced and gives a nice kick to the overall complexity.

Score : 14.5/20 (88/100)

Domaine Vintur Séléne 2017

Ventoux

(Organic) The wine shows a bright, vivid yellow golden colour. The nose is exuberantly rich and opulent, revealing nuances of ripe pineapples, mango, a touch of lychee and a hint of ripe gooseberry in the echo, complicated by notes of cinnamon and a touch of ginger. On the palate the oak becomes more evident, showing through the notes of cloves, nutmeg and cedar wood and a particular bitter touch. The wine is juicy and luscious with a good balance between the opulence of the texture and acidity supported by the bitterness. It lingers long and leaves a succulent, saline and woody aftertaste.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Château Pesquié Quintessance 2020

Ventoux

(Organic) The wine shows a deep and bright yellow straw colour with a golden tinge. The nose is dense and rich, offering nuances of sweet spices like ginger and cinnamon, a touch of ripe yellow apple, apricot and quince, a hint of white flowers and camomile. The palate is creamy, round, revealing powerful concentration and depth, a multi-layered character and pleasant salinity. Generous oak is well-balanced by intense nuances of ripe pineapples, mango, yellow apples and apricots. The wine is bold without being heavy. Nice grip and pleasant bitter note on the finish.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

VACQUEYRAS WHITE WINES

Grandes Serres Urban Series

Vacqueyras

The wine shows a pale lemon green colour. The nose is a bit shy, slightly balsamic, with aeration revealing nuances of bruised apples, pears, a touch of lemons and white flowers. The palate is warming, offering nuances of yellow apples, canned pineapples, pear drops and white flowers, quite muted. There is a light bitterness on the finish. Moderate length.

Score : 13.75+/20 (86-87/100)

Domaine Fontaine du Clos Reflets de l'Ame Blanc 2021

Vacqueyras

The wine shows a pale lemon straw colour. The nose is dense and intense, revealing nuances of dried Mediterranean herbs, garrigue, a hint of saffron and camomile, a touch of apricot and melon in the echo. The palate is round, with moderate acidity but a nice grip, tension and a certain minerality. The wine has a typical Rhône herbal character, opening up with notes of wormwood, sage, a touch of green tea and sage. A well-balanced Southern wine that requires a food pairing.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Domaine La Fourmone Le Fleurantine 2020

Vacqueyras

(Organic) The wine shows a vivid yellow green colour. The nose is open and youthful, very aromatic, revealing nuances of white flowers and pollen, a touch

Southern Rhône

of white peach, poached pear and a hint of apricot purée. The palate is juicy and intense, rather warming, but well-balanced, offering nice fruitiness and suavity, a touch of liquorice and fennel that enhance the freshness. There is a light bitterness and spiciness on the finish. Heady and long.

Score : 14.5+/20 (88/100)

CHÂTEAUNEUF-DU-PAPE WHITE WINES

Château des Fines Roches Blanc 2021

Châteauneuf-du-Pape

The wine shows a pale lemon straw colour. The nose is slightly smoky, reductive, revealing notes of gunpowder, silex, with a touch of dried herbs and fennel in the background. The palate is delicate, offering subtle notes of white apples and unripe apricots, a touch of garrigue, discreet minerality. A relatively light and aerial style of white Châteauneuf-du-Pape with moderate alcohol and good sapidity. Discreet and restrained but with a nice tension, minerality and a lingering finish.

Score : 14.5+/20 (88/100)

Domaine de la Charbonnière Blanc 2020

Châteauneuf-du-Pape

The wine shows a vivid, bright yellow golden colour. The nose is intensely spicy, showing nuances of cinnamon, cloves, saffron, a touch of nutmeg and vanilla, all complicated by the notes of ripe apricots and yellow apples. The palate is round, heady and powerful, offering a lot of concentration and ripeness. Notes of yellow apples and pineapples interlace with nuances of dried herbs, liquorice and gentian. The finish is powerful, warming, slightly bitter. Classic!

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Domaine de la Janasse Blanc 2020

Châteauneuf-du-Pape

The wine shows a vivid, bright yellow golden colour. The nose is intensely oaky, revealing nuances of cinnamon and cloves, supported by notes of yellow apples, a hint of peach and apricot, a touch of pineapple in the echo. The palate is juicy and luscious, offering a lot of concentration, fruitiness and gourmandise. The richness of body is well-balanced by the freshness, the wine is bold but not heavy. The oaky notes persist well on the palate, giving it a spicy and warming character. Long, lingering finish with an attractive bitter, gentian note.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Comte de Lauze Blanc 2020

Châteauneuf-du-Pape

The wine shows a vivid yellow straw colour with a golden tinge. The nose is intense, revealing nuances of ripe yellow apples and apricots, complicated by nuances of sweet baking spices, garrigue and gentian. The palate is bold and juicy, offering good tension and roundness. It opens up with notes of ripe, even overripe apples, pineapples, a touch of bitter herbs and citrus zest. The finish is spicy with a medium length.

Score : 14+/20 (87/100)

Grandes Serres La Cour des Papes Blanc 2021

Châteauneuf-du-Pape

The wine shows a pale yellow colour, a bit dull. The nose is intense, revealing nuances of dried herbs, hay, gentian, a touch of yellow apples and apricots, a hint of ripe, even overripe yellow pear. The palate offers freshness and lightness, bordering to dilution, offering delicate notes of dried apricots, almonds, a touch of yellow pear and apple. Finishes quickly.

Score : 13.75+/20 (86-87/100)

Château Jas de Bressy Blanc 2019

Châteauneuf-du-Pape

The wine shows a bright and vivid yellow golden colour. The nose is intense and opulent, revealing nuances of ripe and canned pineapples, a touch of passion fruits, a hint of yellow gooseberry, all complicated by sweet spices like cinnamon and cloves. The palate is juicy and luscious, offering refreshing acidity which balances well the textured, rich body, nice creaminess, opulent fruit concentration and good integration of oak. Definitely a very rich, generous style but balanced and well-managed. The finish has a nice bitterness adding to the freshness. Will age beautifully.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

VENTOUX RED WINES

Domaine Vintur – Cuvée Le Gentleman 2017

Ventoux

(Organic) The wine shows a medium ruby colour with a garnet hue. The nose is perfumed and gourmet, offering nuances of fresh and cooked strawberries, crushed raspberries, red cherry compote, supported by notes sweet spices like vanilla and cinnamon and a floral touch in the echo. The palate is fresh and juicy, with elevated acidity, balanced alcohol, pulpy, gourmet structure and polished tannins. Notes of red cherries and strawberries dominate the palate, complicated by nuances of dried herbs and leather. The finish is slightly drying, juicy, packed with fruitiness.

Score : 14.75/20 (88-89/100)

Vindemio – Terra 2020

Ventoux

(Organic) The wine shows a deep ruby purple colour. The nose is slightly restrained and dominated by black fruits and spices, offering nuances of blackberries, black cherries, plums and black pepper, complicated by notes of black olives and thorn. The palate is dense and concentrated, offering bold, grippy tannins, good freshness and sapidity, a lot of power and muscles. Notes of blackberries and black cherries interlace with nuances of tar, black pepper and cloves. A very powerful, dense and concentrated wine with good ageing potential.

Score : 14.5/20 (88/100)

Vindemio - Amadeus 2020

Ventoux

(Organic) The wine shows a bright ruby colour with a brightening rim. The nose is dense and concentrated, dominated by dark berries, like forest blackberries and blueberries, a touch of black cherries, supported by nuances of black olives and garrigue. The palate is powerful and spicy, offering bold, grippy tannins, moderate acidity and muscular structure. The wine opens up with intense notes of black and Kampot pepper, hints of blackberries and blackcurrant, a delicate bitter coffee-like touch. Moderate finish.

Score : 14+/20 (87/100)

Château Pesquie – Quintessence 2019

Ventoux

(Organic) The wine shows a deep ruby purple colour. The nose is slightly restrained, needs aeration to open up. It opens up with nuances of roses and violets, blackberries, black cherries, supported by nuances of black pepper, liquorice, tar and resin. The palate is dense and concentrated, with bold, grippy and assertive tannins, good freshness and bright fruitiness. The wine shows a dark fruit profile, offering notes of bramble, forest blackberries, blackcurrant and thorn, supported by nuances of sweet and pungent spices, liquorice and chocolate. Very young wine with bold structure and good ageing potential. Astringent, austere finish at the moment.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Château Pesquie – Silica 2019

Ventoux

(Organic) The wine shows a deep ruby colour with a garnet hue. The nose is open, slightly oxidative, revealing nuances of roasted raspberries, cooked strawberries, a touch of cherry compote, nuances of cinnamon and cloves, a touch of almond in the echo. The palate is concentrated, round and luscious, offering moderate acidity, bold, grippy, very dense tannins and good balance between alcohol and fruitiness. The wine opens up with notes of red cherries, candied raspberries, strawberry yogurt, complicated by nuances of Mediterranean herbs, liquorice and black pepper. Savoury, warming finish.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Château Pesquie – Artemia 2019

Ventoux

The wine shows a medium ruby colour. The nose is intense and herbal, revealing nuances of garrigue, rosemary, a touch of liquorice and anise, notes of very ripe red cherries and cooked strawberries in the background. The palate is juicy and crunchy with bold, astringent but ripe and well-managed tannins, good freshness and intense fruit concentration. Notes of ripe bramble and black cherries combine intriguingly with nuances of wormwood, gentian and thyme. The wine is coating the mouth with its powerful texture, leaving a warming, but fresh, slightly bitter sensation in the aftertaste.

Score : 15.75/20 (91-92/100)

Southern Rhône

VACQUEYRAS RED WINES

Domaine Fontaine du Clos Reflets de l'Ame Rouge 2020 Vacqueyras

The wine shows a pale ruby garnet colour. The nose is intense and perfumed, with delicate nuances of rose petals, lavender, a touch of wild strawberries and raspberries, a hint of Mediterranean herbs. The palate is fresh and quite delicate, offering moderate weight, refreshing acidity and grippy, slightly drying tannins. Notes of red cherries and forest red berries intermingle with herbal notes of garrigue, a touch of anise and liquorice. A delicate bitter, gentian note on the finish.
Score : 14.75/20 (88-89/100)

Les Grandes Serres – Les Hautes Vacquières 2019 Vacqueyras

The wine has a medium ruby colour. The nose is slightly reductive and restrained, will benefit from aeration. It opens up with floral notes of violets and geranium, nuances of blueberries and juicy blackberries, a touch of sweet spices and cocoa in the background. The palate is juicy and full-bodied, with intense fruit concentration, refreshing acidity that balances well the powerful structure, and bold, muscular but polished tannins. Black fruits dominate, coating the mouth with luscious notes of blueberry pie and blackberry jam, supported by nuances of dried herbs and barriques. A well-balanced and pleasant wine that is already accessible.
Score : 15/20 (89-90/100)

Les Grandes Serres 2019 Vacqueyras

The wine shows intense ruby colour. The nose is dense and gourmet, revealing nuances of ripe red cherries, a touch of raspberry confiture and strawberry compote, complicated by hints of Mediterranean herbs. The palate is juicy and opulent, offering nice fruit concentration, good freshness and bold, grippy, slightly drying tannins. The wine opens up with exuberant notes of red forest berries and pomegranate, supported by nuances of rosemary and gentian, a bitter hint of coffee in the aftertaste. Astringent finish.
Score : 14.75/20 (88-89/100)

Domaine du Bois de Saint-Jean – La Ballade des Anglès 2020 Vacqueyras

The wine shows an attractive, bright ruby colour. The nose is intense, fruity and vibrant, revealing nuances of ripe red cherries, wild strawberries and crushed raspberries, combined with notes of liquorice, sweet spices and black olive tapenade. The palate is round and creamy with extremely well-integrated alcohol, nice freshness, pulpy and juicy texture, fruity, ripe and fluid tannins. Vibrant notes of red berries reverberate on the palate, supported by savoury nuances of black olives, almost soya sauce and Mediterranean herbs. Long and juicy finish. A gourmandise!
Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Mas des Restanques - Vacqueyras Rouge 2020 Vacqueyras

(Organic) The wine shows a bright ruby colour. The nose is juicy and perfumed, revealing nuances of roses and violets, notes of black cherries and bramble, a hint of black olives and cocoa. The palate offers a lot of concentration, roundness, gourmandise, refreshing acidity, bold, ripe and juicy tannins, elevated alcohol that is well-balanced by the exuberant fruit. The wine has a distinct dark character, offering nuances of pulpy blackberries, juicy black currants, nuances of black pepper, black olive tapenade and liquorice. Very juicy finish with a pleasant bitter note. Good ageing potential.
Score : 15.25+/20 (90-91/100)

Domaine La Fourmone – Le Poète 2020 Vacqueyras

(Organic) The wine shows a bright ruby colour. The nose is dense and concentrated, revealing notes of ripe dark cherries, nuances of sweet spices with a touch of cumin, anise and liquorice in the echo. The palate is powerful and austere at the moment, with bold, grippy tannins, nice juiciness and muscular body. The wine reveals nuances of fleshy red and black cherries, a touch of blackberries and black currant, a lot of darkness, some umami character with notes of soya sauce and savoury spices. Astringent on the finish, needs time.
Score : 15+/20 (89-90/100)

Domaine de la Charbonnière 2019 Vacqueyras

The wine shows an intense and vivid ruby colour. The nose is a bit restrained, with

aeration revealing nuances of dark forest berries, blackberries and black plums, supported by nuances of cedar wood, nutmeg and cloves. The palate is dense and concentrated with good freshness, elevated alcohol and bold, drying, slightly rustic tannins. Notes of ripe dark berries interlace with savoury nuances of black olives, tar and resin, with black pepper and nutmeg in the aftertaste. Bold and muscular wine with a pleasant, savoury finish. Needs time.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Domaine de la Charbonnière – Cuvée Spéciale 2019 Vacqueyras

The wine has a deep ruby colour. The nose is restrained, needs aeration to open up. It reveals delicate aromas of red cherries, strawberries, a hint of almond and cherry drupe, a hint of sweet baking spices in the echo. The palate is juicy, warming and powerful, offering bold, ripe, rather astringent tannins and opulent body. It demonstrates nuances of red berries, Mediterranean herbs, a touch of black tea, cinnamon and cloves. Warming, spicy finish. Good length and excellent ageing potential.

Score : 15.5/20 (90-91/100)

Vidal-Fleury – Vacqueyras Rouge 2019 Vacqueyras

The wine shows a medium ruby colour with a brightening, slightly garnet rim. The nose is intensely floral, revealing nuances of dried rose petals, cooked strawberries and cherry compote, complicated by notes of rosemary and gentian. The palate is juicy and intense, offering good fruit concentration, nice freshness and delicate, slightly drying, suave tannins. The wine shows its potent Mediterranean character with nuances of spices, dried herbs and garrigue, supported by juicy and ripe red berries. The finish lingers with a slightly bitter, herbal note.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Domaine le Clos des Cazaux – Grenat Noble 2018 Vacqueyras

The wine shows a pale ruby garnet colour with a brightening rim. The nose offers nuances of ripe red and black cherries, strawberry compote, a hint of dried leaves and forest floor, a touch of sweet baking spices and nutmeg. The palate reveals intense fruit concentration, bold, astringent tannins and nice freshness, balancing the potent alcohol. The wine opens up with nuances of dried Mediterranean herbs, notes of pungent spices like black pepper, supported by ripe red cherries and strawberries. Still slightly astringent and oaky on the palate, this wine has a good ageing potential.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

GIGONDAS RED WINES

Domaine La Fourmone – Le Fauquet 2021 Gigondas

(Organic) The wine has a medium ruby colour, bright and vivid. The nose is slightly reductive and restrained, needs aeration. It opens up with notes of sour red cherries, a touch of strawberries and forest raspberries, a hint of black pepper in the background. The palate is relatively light and delicate, with moderate acidity and chalky, dispersed tannins. The wine opens up with nuances of red cherries and strawberry compote, complicated by notes of Mediterranean herbs and garrigue. Delicate, fruity finish.

Score : 14.5/20 (88/100)

Domaine La Fourmone – Le Secret 2020 Gigondas

(Organic) The wine shows a deep ruby purple colour. The nose is restrained, the wine will benefit from being decanted. It opens up reluctantly with nuances of sour dark cherries, juicy blackberries and blueberries, a hint of smoke and tar in the echo. The palate is dense, juicy and "dark", offering delicate, even elegant structure, refreshing acidity and bold, juicy, well-managed tannins. Notes of juicy dark berries interlace with nuances of sweet spices, cedar wood, a touch of black olive tapenade and resin. Drying finish, still needs time to soften.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Mas des Restanques - Gigondas Rouge 2020 Gigondas

(Organic) The wine shows a deep ruby garnet colour. The nose is intense and savoury, revealing appetizing nuances of salted fish, charcuterie, as well as ripe red cherries, wild strawberries and raspberries. The palate is dense and juicy, offering powerful texture, moderate acidity and bold, sticky tannins. The wine opens up with bright notes of red and black cherries, a touch of bramble and blackcurrant, delicate nuances of dried herbs. The finish is warming. Still quite elegant despite the weight and power.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Southern Rhône

Les Grandes Serres - La Combe des Marchands 2020 Gigondas

The wine shows a deep ruby colour with a garnet hue. The nose is spicy, offering nuances of ripe red cherries, forest raspberries and wild strawberries, complicated by nuances of leather, cloves and cinnamon. The palate is juicy, warming, with bold, drying tannins, moderate weight and acidity. The wine offers nuances of red berries, combined with notes of sweet spices, an animalistic touch and a hint of dried herbs. Spicy and fruity, rather astringent finish.

Score : 14+/20 (87/100)

Les Grandes Serres – Cuvée Romaine 2020 Gigondas

The wine shows a deep ruby garnet colour. The nose is profound, revealing nuances of garrigue, rosemary and thyme, supported by nuances of roasted raspberries and cherry compote in the background. The palate is juicy, fresh and exuberant, offering intense fruit concentration, good acidity and bold but ripe and velvety tannins. Juicy notes of red berries intermingle with nuances of Mediterranean herbs, gentian and lavender. Slightly astringent on the finish. Well-balanced.

Score : 14.75/20 (88-89/100)

Domaine le Clos des Cazaux – Les Souiras 2019 Gigondas

The wine shows a deep ruby garnet colour. The nose is deep and ripe, revealing nuances of cooked red and black cherries, blueberry pie, complicated by hints of milk chocolate, cocoa and sweet spices. The palate is juicy, dense and concentrated, offering warming, heady structure, moderate acidity and ripe, polished tannins. The wine opens up with ripe notes of red and black cherries, kirsch, a hint of crème de cassis, supported by hint of cloves and cinnamon. Juicy, lingering finish with a light astringency.

Score : 15+/20 (89-90/100)

Domaine le Clos des Cazaux – Préstige 2019 Gigondas

The wine shows a medium ruby colour. The nose is slightly restrained, needs aeration. It opens reluctantly with nuances of bramble, blackberries, some ripe red and black cherries, nuances of sweet and pungent spices, a touch of liquorice. The palate is dense, concentrated and warming, with massive, drying tannins and intense oaky spiciness. A very powerful wine that reveals notes of ripe forest berries, complicated by nuances of cedar wood, cinnamon, black pepper and cloves. Still very tight and austere, needs time to open up. Astringent finish.

Score : 15.25+/20 (90-91/100)

Olivier Ravoire – Armatura 2019 Gigondas

The wine shows a bright ruby colour. The nose is intense and gourmet, revealing nuances of fresh rose petals and lavender, with juicy red cherries and strawberries in the background. The palate offers a lot of juiciness and concentration, fresh acidity, bold and grippy tannins, a bright and perfumed fruit. The wine opens up with exuberant notes of red cherries and raspberries, cherry blossom, a touch of garrigue, rosemary and lavender. The tannins cover completely the mouth. Needs time, very astringent and tight at the moment. Like armour!

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

CHÂTEAUNEUF-DU-PAPE RED WINES

Olivier Ravoire – Caparaçon 2019 Châteauneuf-du-Pape

The wine shows a bright ruby colour. The nose is floral and delicate, revealing nuances of dried red cherries, strawberry compote and forest raspberries, as well as nuances of Mediterranean herbs and dried rose petals. The palate offers nice freshness and juiciness, while the tannins are bold and firm. Notes of juicy red fruits interlace gracefully with nuances of garrigue, pomegranate and a delicate floral hint. Astringent finish that needs time to soften.

Score : 14.75/20 (88-89/100)

Les Grandes Serres - La Cour des Papes 2019 Châteauneuf-du-Pape

The wine shows a medium ruby colour. The nose is restrained and slightly smoky, needs aeration to open up. The wine reveals aromas of red cherries, a touch of raspberries, a hint of savoury herbs and spices. The palate is heady and spicy, with moderate acidity, drying, bold tannins and powerful structure. The flavours are muted as well, grudgingly delivering nuances of wild strawberries and forest raspberries, completed by nuances of sweet spices, liquorice and balsamic. The finish is astringent, lingering with a light bitter note.

Score : 14+/20 (87/100)

Les Grandes Serres – Cuvée Bargeton 2019 Châteauneuf-du-Pape

The wine shows a pale ruby garnet colour with a brightening rim. The nose is floral and fruity, revealing nuances of overripe strawberries, red cherry compote, a hint of cloves and dried rose petal, a touch of violets in the background. The palate is fruity, offering a kind of sweet sensation of very ripe berries, drying, a bit rustic tannins, moderate concentration. The wine opens up with nuances of red cherries, poached strawberries, a touch of forest raspberries, combined with notes of dried herbs and sweet spices. Warming and drying finish with a light bitter note.

Score : 14.5/20 (88/100)

Domaine Paul Autard 2019 Châteauneuf-du-Pape

The wine shows a bright ruby colour. The nose is delicate, floral, revealing notes of rosehip and fresh rose petals, nuances of ripe red cherries and cooked raspberries, a hint of cloves and cinnamon in the echo. The palate is juicy, round and powerful, offering fresh acidity, elevated alcohol and chalky, slightly drying tannins. The wine reveals notes of cherry compote and confiture, hint of Mediterranean herbs, pungent spices like black pepper and nutmeg, a hint of liquorice and cocoa. A hint of balsamic on a juicy finish.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Domaine Paul Autard – Jules et Pauline – Juline 2019 Châteauneuf-du-Pape

The wine shows a bright ruby colour. The nose is very smoky, showing a lot of oak impact. Notes of ripe red and black cherries, as well as some bramble and forest blueberries, appear slowly. The palate offers intense fruit concentration, massive structure, a lot of oak sweetness and polished, well-managed tannins. This modern style of Châteauneuf-du-Pape reveals bright and juicy notes of blackberries and blueberries, along with dark cherries, complicated by sweet notes of vanilla and cinnamon. Very well-balanced, polished and suave, this wine shows good ageing potential.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Vignobles Lucien Gabriel Barrot - La Sousto 2019 Châteauneuf-du-Pape

The wine shows a bright ruby colour. The nose is slightly smoky, with aeration revealing nuances of red and black cherries, hints of black pepper, cloves and cinnamon, a savoury touch of laurel and sage. The palate is powerful and heady still with a good freshness, nice gourmandise, bold, grippy tannins and a certain roundness. Nuances of red cherry compote and confiture interlace with savoury notes of black olives, pomegranate sauce and garrigue. Long finish and nice persistence.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Domaine du Grand Tinel 2019 Châteauneuf-du-Pape

The wine shows a vivid ruby colour. The nose is oaky, revealing serious oak ageing that frames perfumed notes of red cherries and strawberries, a hint of black pepper and sage, nuances of roses and cornflowers. The palate is juicy and vibrant, offering nice freshness and balance, grippy and bold tannins, roundness and gourmandise. The wine offers juicy nuances of red berries, pomegranate, a hint of red currants and red plums, complicated by nuances of sweet spices, a hint of pepper and nutmeg. Moderate finish with a light astringent note.

Score : 15+/20 (89-90/100)

Château des Fines Roches 2019 Châteauneuf-du-Pape

The wine shows a medium ruby colour. The nose is spicy and gourmet, offering nuances of ripe red cherries, cooked raspberries, strawberry compote, complicated by nuances of balsamic, savoury spices and liquorice. The palate shows a nice freshness, combined with a bold, powerful structure and grippy, slight a bit rough tannins. The notes of red cherries and strawberries are combined with spicy hints of black pepper and nutmeg, nuances of garrigue, sage and gentian. Oaky, astringent finish. Moderate length.

Score : 14.75/20 (88-89/100)

Domaine de la Charbonnière 2019 Châteauneuf-du-Pape

The wine shows a deep ruby colour. The nose is slightly restrained, needs aeration to open up, later revealing nuances of cooked black cherries, blackberries, combined with hints of black olives, some earthy notes and savoury notes of black pepper, thyme and liquorice. The palate is dense, concentrated and tight, offering bold, grippy tannins, elevated alcohol, nice roundness and volume. The wine is dominated by nuances of black cherries and blackberries, supported by pleasant saline notes of tapenade and soya sauce. Juicy finish and good length.

Score : 15.25+/20 (90-91/100)

Southern Rhône

Domaine de la Charbonnière – Cuvée Vieilles Vignes 2019

Châteauneuf-du-Pape

The wine shows medium ruby colour. The nose is slightly restrained, needs aeration. With air it reveals nuances of cooked red and blacked cherries, cooked strawberries, a touch of hibiscus, a hint of black pepper and cinnamon. The palate is juicy, opulent and rich, offering nice balance between elevated alcohol and exuberant body, a nice mineral backbone, bold, grippy, fine-grained tannins. The wine opens up with nuances of liquored black cherries, strawberry confiture, a touch of cinnamon and cloves, a touch of cocoa and garrigue. Long, juicy finish with a refreshing orange zest note. Good length.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Domaine de la Charbonnière – Les Hautes Brusquières Cuvée Spéciale 2019

Châteauneuf-du-Pape

The wine shows a bright ruby colour with a brightening rim. The nose is slightly restrained, the wine will benefit from being decanted. It opens up with notes of ripe and even overripe red cherries, a hint of dried herbs and tobacco, light herbal bitterness on the finish. Bold and powerful but well-balanced and juicy wine.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Domaine de la Janasse 2020

Châteauneuf-du-Pape

The wine shows a medium ruby colour. The nose is perfumed and floral, revealing nuances of rosehip and roses, crushed strawberries, forest raspberries, complicated by nuances of hibiscus, red tea and sweet baking nuances. The palate is luscious and juicy, offering exuberant fruitiness, powerful structure, refreshing acidity and bold and muscular tannins. The wine is succulent and very attractive, showing ripe, juicy red cherry flavours, wild strawberries and raspberries, framed by delicate nuances of oak, sweet spices and cedar wood. Beautiful expression of the terroir and varieties. Long, juicy finish, highlighting the signature Grenache sweetness.

Score : 16.75/20 (93-94/100)

Clos St Antonin 2019

Châteauneuf-du-Pape

The wine shows a deep purple colour. The nose is slightly muted, the wine will benefit from being decanted. It opens up with nuances of red and black cherries, black plums, thorn and bramble, complicated by nuances of black tea, prunes and sweet baking spices. The palate is dense and concentrated with bold, astringent tannins, good freshness balancing the rich, opulent body. The wine is packed with black fruit aromas, complicated by hints of black olive tapenade, soya sauce and tar. Juicy, long finish with a lingering savoury note.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Château Jas de Bressy - Châteauneuf-du-Pape Rouge 2019

Châteauneuf-du-Pape

The wine shows a pale ruby colour with a brightening rim. The nose is intense and floral, offering delicious notes of cherry blossom, caramelized cherries and strawberry confiture, complicated by nuances of forest raspberries and sweet baking spices. The palate is equally delicious and gourmet, opening up with juicy notes of ripe strawberries, raspberries in sugar, a hint of milk chocolate and cocoa, complicated by nuances of Mediterranean herbs. The tannins are bold but luscious and polished. Good freshness and length. A gourmandise!

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Vignobles Mousset-Barrot - Fines Roches de Châteauneuf-du-Pape 2019

Châteauneuf-du-Pape

The wine shows a pale ruby colour with a brightening rim. The nose is dense and concentrated, revealing nuances of ripe forest raspberries, wild strawberries, a touch of cherry liqueur, complicated by notes of garrigue, anise and liquorice. The palate is opulent and luscious, with a serious oak imprint, good fruit concentration balancing the oak, nice freshness and elegance despite the opulent style, polished, sweet and ripe tannins. The wine opens up with sweet strawberries, a touch of cherry compote and raspberry jam, a hint of gentian bitterness that adds to the freshness. Long juicy, succulent finish. Good ageing potential.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Domaine Paul Autard – Cuvée la Côte Ronde 2019

Châteauneuf-du-Pape

The wine shows a medium ruby colour with a brightening rim. The nose reveals nuances of dark berries, like black cherries, ripe blackberries and blueberries, complicated by nuances of black pepper, cinnamon and cloves. The palate is dense and heady, offering a lot of concentration, power and volume, a dark fruit character, bold and grippy tannins that stick to the gums. The wine opens up with intense notes of blackberries and bramble, black forest raspberries, a lot of spicy notes and a touch of thorn. A bold and powerful style with long, drying finish and good ageing potential.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Comte de Lauze - Châteauneuf-du-Pape Rouge 2019

Châteauneuf-du-Pape

The wine shows a medium ruby colour. The nose is intense, floral and fruity, revealing nuances of ripe forest raspberries, bramble, ripe black cherries, supported by nuances of dark chocolate, cocoa and liquorice. The palate is concentrated and heady, with bold, drying tannins, good intensity and powerful body. The wine opens up with notes of ripe red and black cherries, a hint of blackberries, some pomegranate and sweet spices. The finish offers a certain rusticity and astringency, has a moderate length.

Score : 15+/20 (89-90/100)

Comte de Lauze - Châteauneuf-du-Pape Rouge – Réserve de la Comtesse 2019

Châteauneuf-du-Pape

The wine shows a medium ruby colour with a brightening rim. The nose is profound and multi-layered, revealing nuances of blueberries, bramble, blackberries, combined with notes of black pepper, cloves and cinnamon, with a touch of gentian in the background. The palate shows a good freshness, balancing elevated alcohol, a certain restraint and bold, massive tannins. It opens up with notes of bitter herbs, rosemary and garrigue, as well as kirsch and cherries in dark chocolate. The wine still needs time to reveal its potential. Herbal and juicy finish, still quite astringent.

Score : 15.25+/20 (90-91/100)

RASTEAU RED WINES

Les Grandes Serres 2019

Rasteau

The wine shows a pale ruby garnet colour. The nose is heady, revealing nuances of cherry liqueur, wild strawberry confiture, a touch of Mediterranean herbs and liquorice. The palate offers moderate acidity, opulent body and grippy, slightly rustic tannins. The wine opens up with nuances of red and black cherries, a touch of strawberries, a hint of red tea with a delicate note of coffee. Drying on the finish, moderate length.

Score : 14+/20 (87/100)

VINSOBRES RED WINES

Domaine Saint Vincent Rouge 2019

Vinsobres

The wine shows a deep ruby colour. The nose is fruity and intense, revealing nuances of blueberries and blackberries, supported by notes of violets and dried rose petals. The palate is juicy, dense and concentrated, offering refreshing acidity, bright fruitiness and bold but suave tannins. The wine opens up with nuances of dried red cherries, fresh black cherries, hint of garrigue and a pleasant touch of bitterness on the finish. Succulent, slightly herbal aftertaste.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Domaine Saint Vincent – Cuvée Saint-Pierre Rouge 2016

Vinsobres

The wine shows a deep ruby colour. The nose is dense and spicy, revealing nuances of dark cherries and juicy blackberries, supported by rich notes of cocoa, dark chocolate, sweet spices and noble wood. The palate offers intense concentration, richness of body and suave and velvety tannins. Notes of ripe and over-ripe black cherries intertwine with nuances of Christmas spices and chocolate. A bold and powerful wine that still keeps the freshness and delicacy. Long, juicy and spicy finish.

Score : 15.5/20 (90-91/100)



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Grand Cru Classé
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SAINT-EMILION GRAND CRU

L'ABUS D'ALCOOL EST DANGEREUX POUR LA SANTÉ, À CONSOMMER AVEC MODÉRATION

Médoc area

CRUS CLASSÉS 2019

AOC MARGAUX

Château Cantenac Brown 2019

Margaux 3ème Grand Cru Classé

The nose is fresh, racy, elegant, subtly tight and offers a nice finesse and power of grain. There are notes of pulpy/fresh boysenberry, fresh/crunchy raspberry and, more slightly, fresh violet combined with hints of red berries, fresh blueberry as well as a fine hint of lily, cocoa/tonka bean, fine hints of bergamot, star anise, discreet hints of toast and a subtle hint of Bourbon vanilla. The palate is fresh, mineral, fruity and offers a nice definition, a nice substance/roundness, delicacy, airiness, a fine straightness, fleshiness, freshness as well as a fresh/acidic backbone. All in finesse and elegance. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy raspberry, blueberry and, more slightly, fleshy blackcurrant combined with hints of fleshy red berries, fresh/crisp blue berries, hints of violet, lily/blueberry as well as fine hints of cocoa, racy minerality, sense of place and a subtle touch of cocoa. Subtle chewiness on the finish. The tannins are elegant and well-conducted. Good length. Nice sapidity on the finish.

Score : 17.5+/20 (95-96/100)

Château Kirwan 2019

Margaux 3ème Grand Cru Classé

The nose is fruity, beautifully racy and offers power, precision, racy minerality, depth, delicacy and controlled intensity. There are notes of crunchy raspberry, crunchy cherry and, more slightly, of fleshy blackcurrant combined with hints of juicy plum, violet, sweet spice, fine cinnamon, zan, toast, as well as discreet hints of racy minerality, a subtle hint of rose and a discreet hint of Sichuan pepper (in the background). The palate is fruity, elegant, racy and offers juiciness, smoothness, finesse, roundness, some fatness, gourmandise, crunchiness of the fruit as well as an acidic/juicy backbone. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of crunchy cherry, pulpy blackcurrant and, more slightly, wild red berries combined with touches of violet, liquorice and rose as well as a subtle hint of firm red plum, zan, blond tobacco and fine hints of almond. Mellow on the finish. Sapidity and a good management of the bitter taste. Gourmandise. Good length.

Score : 16.75/20 (93-94/100)

Château Prieuré-Lichine 2019

Margaux 4ème Grand Cru Classé

The nose is racy and offers a certain power in finesse, a fine grain, gourmandise in finesse as well as a certain mastered intensity. There are notes of crunchy blackberry, crunchy strawberry and, more slightly, crushed strawberry, combined with hints of vanilla, blueberry, as well as fine hints of liquorice, a touch of pepper and a discreet touch of nutmeg. The palate is fruity, balanced and offers juiciness, smoothness and sapidity. On the palate this wine expresses notes of crushed raspberry, fleshy currant and slightly pulpy blackberry combined with hints of fleshy blue berries combined with hints of blueberry, vanilla, liquorice, salinity/iodine and hints of Bourbon vanilla. The tannins are supple and smooth. Good length. Chewy on the finish.

Score : 16.75/20 (93-94/100)

Château Lascombes 2019

Margaux 2ème Grand Cru Classé

The nose is elegant, fruity and offers gourmandise, some richness justly carried out, creaminess as well as a nice fine and elegant grain. There are notes of creamy blackcurrant, wild blackberry and, to a lesser extent, violet, combined with delicate touches of cherry, cherry blossom and fine hints of liquorice. The palate is fruity and offers minerality, creaminess, smoothness and a fine gourmandise. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of creamy blackberry, creamy cherry and, more slightly, raspberry, combined with hints of chocolate, vanilla, toast and fine points of toasted hazelnut. Finesse in its richness. Subtle hint of positive bitterness on the finish.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Château Desmirail 2019

Margaux 3ème Grand Cru Classé

The nose is racy and offers elegance, concentration and a racy/gravelly minerality. There are notes of pulpy wild blackcurrant, liquorice and, more slightly, violet combined with hints of flowers, pepper and a discreet touch of blond tobacco. The palate is mineral, balanced and offers freshness, good definition, a certain freshness and a fine tension. On the palate this wine expresses juicy/pulpy black-

berry, pulpy blackcurrant and, more slightly, vanilla notes combined with hints of tart raspberry and fine points of racy/gravelly minerality, cardamom and a subtle hint of sweet blond tobacco. The tannins are very fine and tight. Subtle chewiness and sapidity in the background.

Score : 15.75/20 (91-92/100)

Château Rauzan-Gassies 2019

Margaux 2ème Grand Cru Classé

The nose is fruity, elegant, harmonious and offers power with delicacy, fine grain and depth. There are notes of crunchy wild blackcurrant, boysenberry and, more slightly, violet combined with hints of saffron, pepper and a subtle touch of spice and nutmeg. The palate is mineral, fruity, balanced and offers minerality, freshness, depth, definition, dynamism and a nice guideline. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy strawberry, crushed currant and, more slightly, blueberry combined with hints of blackcurrant, chocolate, toast, cardamom and fine points of sweet tobacco. The tannins are precise and structured. Good length.

Score : 17+/20 (94-95/100)

Château Ferrière 2019

Margaux 3ème Grand Cru Classé

The nose is fruity and offers some power in its richness, nice grain and purity. There are notes of fleshy blackcurrant, crushed/jammy raspberry and, more slightly, crushed redcurrant combined with hints of violet, liquorice and a fine touch of colas. The palate is fruity, fresh, balanced and offers a nice juiciness/crunchiness of fruit, a tangy/juicy frame and purity. On the palate this wine expresses crunchy cherry, crunchy redcurrant and slightly jammy red berry notes combined with juicy/acidic blackberry and hints of blueberry, cola, caramelisation and a subtle vanilla edge. The tannins are precise and smooth. Good length. Nice juiciness and freshness of the fruit. A discreet hint of eucalyptus on the finish.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Château Margaux 2019

Margaux 1er Grand Cru Classé

The nose is elegant, aromatic, precise and offers a nice power in mastery / delicacy with a fine contained side. The wine benefits from being decanted. There are notes of pulpy cherry/cherry, crunchy raspberry and, more slightly, pulpy/fresh plum combined with delicate touches of crushed strawberry, fine hints of blueberry, nutmeg, Bourbon vanilla bean, tonka bean, sweet spices as well as a discreet touch of racy minerality and bergamot. The palate offers a superb freshness, a very nice acidic frame, a nice racy minerality, a velvety character, power in finesse, a fine contained side as well as a fine airy side in the approach. A certain richness in delicacy. On the palate this wine expresses notes of crunchy red berries, juicy/fresh cherry and, more slightly, crushed blackberry combined with a touch of violet plum, chocolate, vanilla, fine hints of lilac, nutmeg, saline minerality as well as a discreet hint of cardamom and toasted oak. The tannins are elegant, mellow and nicely carried out. A subtle hint of blond tobacco and dried almond on the finish.

Score : 19/20 (98/100)

Château Palmer 2019

Margaux 3ème Grand Cru Classé

The nose is racy, elegant and offers a nice racy minerality/sense of place, a nice grain, some concentration as well as a nice ripeness of the fruit (bordering on over-ripeness). There are notes of boysenberry, blueberry and, more slightly, black tea combined with delicate touches of black pepper, camphor, fairly ripe red berries as well as a hint of saffron (on the floral side) and a subtle hint of toast/grey pepper in the background. The palate is very discreetly tight and offers a nice freshness, minerality, a fresh frame, a nice definition, power/force and a nice stretch. A wine full of freshness, balance and power "in balance" (without exuberance). On the palate this wine expresses crisp/fresh blueberry, fresh cherry and, more slightly, crunchy/fresh red berry notes combined with hints of boysenberry, fine blueberry, graphite, chocolate, subtle hints of bergamot and cardamom. Lovely persistence and subtle chewiness on the finish. Nice quality of tannins, mellow, racy. Nice generosity and authenticity of fruit. A fine flowery side on the finish.

Score : 19/20 (98/100)

Château d'Issan 2019

Margaux 3ème Grand Cru Classé

The nose is elegant and offers delicacy in its power, a fine airiness in its approach and a fine, discreetly tight grain. There are notes of crunchy wild blackcurrant, crunchy red berries and, more slightly, morello cherry combined with fine hints of

Médoc area

violet, racy minerality and a discreet hint of plum blossom, lily, pepper and a very discreet hint of vanilla. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, delicacy, finesse in the definition of the fruit, minerality, fine tension, silky finesse and a nice body/texture. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy cherry, juicy/pulpy blackberry and, more slightly, of red berries combined with a touch of violet plum, violet, fine notes of lily, tonka bean, a subtle hint of good bitterness/variety as well as a discreet touch of camphor/black tea and cocoa. The tannins are racy. A very fine saline edge to the finish. Good length. Nice acidic, crisp and sapid finish.
Score : 17.25/20 (94-95/100)

Château Dauzac 2019 Margaux 5ème Grand Cru Classé

The nose is elegant and offers complexity, a certain controlled concentration as well as accuracy in its construction. It has notes of creamy blackcurrant, pulpy wild strawberry and slightly violet, combined with hints of crushed raspberry, as well as fine hints of liquorice, caramelisation, blueberry, tea, a touch of chocolate, blue plum and a discreet touch of vanilla. The palate is fruity and offers minerality, freshness, juiciness, a nice definition, suavity, a certain gourmandise, a fine acidic backbone as well as an airy side in the approach. On the palate this wine expresses crunchy boysenberry, crushed raspberry and, more slightly, pulpy cherry notes combined with hints of blueberry, fresh/juicy blueberry, delicate hints of racy/gravelly minerality as well as subtle sapid, peppery and sweet blond tobacco hints. A very nice definition of pulpy/acidic fruit. The tannins are precise and mellow. Good length. Some chewiness on the finish. Good length (13 caudalies). Sincerity, purity and sapidity in this beautiful wine.
Score : 17.5+/20 (95-96/100)

Château Marquis de Terme 2019 Margaux 4ème Grand Cru Classé

The nose is spicy, elegant and offers fruit, delicacy, a nice harmony and a nice spicy side. There are notes of crushed boysenberry, pulpy strawberry and, more slightly, morello cherry combined with delicate touches of violet, balsamic, fine nuances of sweet blond tobacco as well as a fine touch of star anise and chocolate. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, freshness, smoothness, good structure, elegance and a nice mineral/acidic structure. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy blackberry, morello cherry and, more slightly, star anise, combined with hints of fleshy/juicy strawberry, star anise, sweet gingerbread, fine chocolate notes and a subtle hint of cardamom and vanilla. Good length.
Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Château du Tertre 2019 Margaux 5ème Grand Cru Classé

The nose is fruity, fresh and offers some power, fine concentration, depth and intensity. There are notes of crunchy wild blackberry, raspberry and, more slightly, pulpy red berries combined with fine hints of violet, zan, and discrete hints of almost crushed blue berries, camphor, cardamom, pepper and a subtle sapiness. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, smoothness, nice definition, precision, tension and acidity. A flattering/gourmet quality of the texture. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy cherry, pulpy/juicy strawberry and, more slightly, crushed redcurrant combined with hints of juicy/fresh plum, a touch of blackcurrant, fine hints of racy minerality, star anise, chocolate, toasted almond as well as a subtle hint of toasted hazelnut and a very discreet almost mentholated finish. Powerful finish.
Score : 16.75/20 (93-94/100)

AOC SAINT-JULIEN

Château Talbot 2019 Saint-Julien 4ème Grand Cru Classé

The nose is nicely racy, elegant, precise and offers mastery, complexity as well as a nice fine and powerful grain. The wine benefits from being decanted. There are notes of blackberry, violets and, more slightly, ripe/pulpy black fruit combined with hints of tonka bean, spice, crushed strawberry, fine spice, fresh tobacco and a discreet hint of pepper and nutmeg. The palate is fruity and offers freshness, minerality, good definition, a certain gourmandise, an acidic backbone, pulpiness, precision and purity of fruit. Progressive power on the palate. This wine expresses notes of juicy blackberry, juicy raspberry and slightly crunchy Morello cherry combined with touches of crisp red berries, racy minerality, fine hints of lilac, fresh violet, cocoa, fresh blond tobacco as well as a discreet hint of sweet spices, cinnamon and a subtle touch of roast. Good length. The tannins are precise and mellow. Nice work on the bitter taste. Sapidity and a smokiness (quite classic for Talbot) on the finish.
Score : 17.5/20 (95/100)

Château Beychevelle 2019 Saint-Julien 4ème Grand Cru Classé

The nose is powerful, elegant, precise and offers freshness, a nice power/finesse and a nice fine, racy and tense grain. There are notes of crunchy blackcurrant, violet, lily and slightly fresh nutmeg combined with hints of boysenberry, wild red berries, a hint of violet plum, discreet spice and a subtle hint of pepper, toast and a very discreet, almost aniseed-like note. The palate is nicely managed, elegant and offers delicacy, suppleness, a nice fine grain, a racy minerality as well as a nice richness and substance all in elegance / with an airy side. All in balance. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/flavoured blackcurrant, boysenberry and, more slightly, purple plum combined with hints of raspberry, crunchy blue berries, dark chocolate, cardamom and a subtle hint of nutmeg and vanilla. The tannins are precise, elegant and airy. Good length.
Score : 17.25+/20 (95/100)

Château Gruaud Larose 2019 Saint-Julien 2ème Grand Cru Classé

The nose is fruity, elegant, beautifully racy and offers precision, power with finesse and a very fine, racy / discreetly tight grain. There are notes of creamy boysenberry, wild strawberry and, more slightly, crushed redcurrant combined with fine hints of black cherry, liquorice, cardamom as well as fine hints of spice, colas and a subtle hint of salinity/gravity. The palate is fresh, mineral, balanced, fine/clear and offers a nice definition, a "fresh velvet" side, power with finesse/mastery, roundness, a fine creaminess and a fine grain. A little airiness in its richness. A discreet side of restraint but with elegance. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of creamy blackcurrant, boysenberry and, more slightly, saline minerality combined with hints of wild strawberry, fresh/creamy berries, fine toasted notes and a very discreet hint of roasting, Bourbon vanilla and an imperceptible touch of pepper. A very discreet and nice work on positive bitterness. The tannins are sapid, elegant, racy and delicate. An imperceptible hint of eucalyptus in the background. A very nice persistence.
Score : 18/20 (96/100)

Château Léoville Poyferré 2019 Saint-Julien 2ème Grand Cru Classé

The nose is elegant, precise, delicate, complex and offers a nice definition, a floral character as well as delicacy. We find notes of pulpy blackcurrant, lily and, more slightly, redcurrant combined with hints of raspberry, chocolate and a very discreet touch of vanilla and pepper. The palate is mineral, fresh, elegant, balanced, precise, with a nice definition, a fine acidic backbone, a lot of delicacy/suavity, a racy grain, tension and a nice airy quality in its freshness and power. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of fleshy blueberry, pulpy strawberry and, more slightly, crunchy redcurrants, combined with touches of blueberry, lily, tonka bean and fine toasted, roasted and vanilla notes. The tannins are precise, very fine and supple. Good length. Nice work on the positive bitterness.
Score : 17.75/20 (95-96/100)

Château Langoa-Barton 2019 Saint-Julien 3ème Grand Cru Classé

The nose is fruity and offers some power, concentration, finesse and complexity. There are notes of pulpy raspberry, violet and, more slightly, crushed berries combined with a touch of blackcurrant, lily, a fine hint of nutmeg as well as discreet hints of grey pepper and toastiness. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, minerality, freshness, good definition and a certain fatness with finesse. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy blackcurrant, fresh/juicy boysenberry and, more slightly, crushed raspberry, combined with hints of lily, tonka bean, toastiness and discreet hints of flowers and chocolate. The tannins are precise, soft and sapid. Nice persistence.
Score : 16.25/20 (92-93/100)

Château Léoville-Barton 2019 Saint-Julien 2ème Grand Cru Classé

The nose is elegant and delicate, offering silkiness and finesse. There are notes of boysenberry, creamy black berries and slightly crushed strawberry combined with a fine touch of plum, fine zan, spice and a discreet touch of graphite and pepper. The palate is fresh, juicy, elegant, nicely defined and offers gourmandise, freshness and precision. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy blackberry, crunchy raspberry and, more slightly, crushed redcurrant combined with a touch of juicy blueberry as well as hints of saltiness, pepper, chocolate, toastiness and a subtle hint of vanilla. The tannins are precise, elegant and structured. A very discreet hint of caramelisation on the finish.
Score : 17.5+/20 (95-96/100)

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Château Branaire Ducru 2019 Saint-Julien 4ème Grand Cru Classé

The nose is fruity, elegant, fine and offers a very nice finesse and delicacy in its power. There are notes of camphor, crunchy wild black berries, lily, blueberry and wild red berries combined with hints of liquorice/zan as well as hints of caramelisation and a discreet hint of mocha. The palate is nicely fresh, with finesse/precision and offers a nice burst of fruit, purity of fruit, a nice roundness as well as a nice airiness in its richness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of crunchy cherry, crunchy strawberry and, more slightly, blackcurrant combined with hints of pulpy blueberry, fresh flowers as well as hints of racy minerality / racy gravel and a subtle hint of varietal (which brings a nice dynamism, gourmandise). A subtle hint of dark chocolate/mocha in the background. Nice freshness and roundness.

Score : 17.75+/20 (96/100)

AOC PAUILLAC

Château Croizet Bages 2019 Pauillac 5ème Grand Cru Classé

The nose is aromatic, racy and offers a certain controlled power as well as a discrete tightness. The wine should be decanted. There are notes of blackcurrant, roast and, more slightly, crunchy blue berries combined with hints of morello cherry, a subtle hint of crushed strawberry, zan, as well as a discreet hint of graphite, sap and a subtle touch of pepper. The palate is fruity, balanced and offers minerality, freshness and juiciness, purity, a nice crunchiness of the fruit as well as gourmandise. On the palate this wine expresses crunchy blackberry and blue berries notes combined with hints of morello cherry, blackcurrant as well as fine violet, roasted notes and a touch of positive bitterness. A fine touch of mocha, toast and bergamot in the background/on the finish.

Score : 17.25+/20 (95/100)

Château Haut-Bages Libéral 2019 Pauillac 5ème Grand Cru Classé

The nose is elegant, precise, delicate and offers a certain intensity in mastery and accuracy. We find notes of graphite, blackberry and, more slightly, morello cherry combined with fine touches of violet, cornflower, fine points of crunchy black berries as well as a discreet hint of tonka bean, black tea, vanilla and a very discreet touch of pepper (in the background). The palate is juicy, crunchy, balanced and offers a nice fatness, a nice acidity, a nice crunchy/crisp fruit, a fine unctuousness, a melodious side in finesse as well as racy/mastered power. A fine airiness in its richness. On the palate, this wine expresses crunchy redcurrant, pulpy/flavoured cherry and slightly fleshy strawberry notes combined with hints of pulpy blueberry, chocolate as well as fine toasted/caramelised notes and a subtle hint of sweet blond tobacco. Good length.

Score : 17.75/20 (95-96/100)

Château Pédesclaux 2019 Pauillac, Grand Cru Classé

The nose is elegant, racy and offers purity, deepness, a nice finesse of the grain as well as a certain concentration in finesse. It reveals notes of blackberry, pepper and small notes of liquorice associated with small hints of cassis, racy minerality as well as hints of morello cherry, chocolate and a subtle hint of star anise / almost minty. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, an acid frame, minerality, a good definition, a small tension as well as suavity. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of blackberry, morello cherry and small notes of crushed strawberry associated with small touches of salinity, crushed blueberry as well as hints of nutmeg, sap, toasted hazelnut and a subtle hint of vanilla. Salinity/sapidity on the finish. Tannins are supple and elegant.

Score : 16.25/20 (92-93/100)

Château Grand-Puy Ducasse 2019 Pauillac 5ème Grand Cru Classé

The nose is fruity and offers freshness, intensity, concentration, some depth as well as a nice racy and fine grain. The wine benefits from decanting. There are notes of fresh wild blackberry, liquorice and slightly cardamom combined with hints of fresh red berries and a touch of pepper and a subtle almost smoky edge. The palate is fruity, balanced and offers juiciness, minerality, good definition, a certain gourmandise as well as an acidic frame. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/creamy blackberry, fleshy/juicy cherry and, more slightly, blueberry, combined with hints of liquorice, toast, Bourbon vanilla, as well as a subtle hint of gravel, fine chocolate and a very discreet hint of fresh leather in the background. The tannins are structured and relatively polished.

Score : 16.5+/20 (93-94/100)

Château Pichon Baron 2019 Pauillac 2ème Grand Cru Classé

The nose is aromatic and offers power/force in delicacy, mastery, depth as well as a certain intensity in finesse/ripeness. There are notes of liquorice, fresh violet and, more slightly, graphite combined with delicate mineral touches, fine points of black tea, sap as well as a subtle hint of spice, Sichuan pepper, a discreet touch of saffron, cardamom and an imperceptible hint of clove/incense. The palate is fruity and offers accuracy, minerality, good definition, a mineral backbone, some well-managed richness, a very discreetly tight material, precision, neatness and a fine airy side in the approach. Richness/power with delicacy and control. On the palate this wine expresses notes of creamy raspberry, fleshy strawberry and, more slightly, blueberry combined with touches of liquorice, crushed blackcurrant, fine hints of cocoa bean, sweet blond tobacco, a subtle hint of vanilla cream as well as a very discreet hint of saffron (in the background) and sweet spices. A nice and fine salinity at the end of the mouth. Some mellowness at on the finish. Nice persistence.

Score : 17.75/20 (95-96/100)

Château Clerc Milon 2019 Pauillac 5ème Grand Cru Classé

The nose is fruity, fresh, racy and offers concentration and depth. There are notes of wild blackcurrant, wild berries and, more slightly, pepper, combined with hints of violet, green cardamom, wild red berries, as well as fine spices and a discreet hint of blond tobacco. A discreet, almost smoky hint in the background. The palate is fresh, mineral, balanced and offers an acidic backbone, tension, a nice tannic structure and a little crunch. On the palate this wine expresses notes of crisp/juicy Morello cherry, blackcurrant and, more slightly, mocha combined with hints of violet, camphor, gravelly minerality, hints of violet, violet plum, crunchy red berry fruit as well as fine hints of blond tobacco, toasted almond and a discreet hint of clove. Nice acidity and fruitiness.

Score : 17.25/20 (94-95/100)

Château Mouton Rothschild 2019 Pauillac 1er Grand Cru Classé

The nose is elegant, fruity, complex and offers elegance, intensity and finesse, a fine grain and a nice aromatic intensity. There are notes of graphite, Bigarreau cherry and, more slightly, camphor, combined with delicate touches of crunchy black fruit, fine raspberry, discrete hints of lily, lilac and a subtle hint of clove, nutmeg and a subtle touch of sweet spices. The palate is fresh, mineral, balanced, elegant and offers delicacy, precision, juiciness, a nice acidity of the fruit, roundness, a nice definition, fleshiness, acidity, tension and a certain straightness in elegance. On the palate this wine expresses crunchy blackcurrant, crunchy blueberry and slightly raspberry notes combined with hints of fleshy/pulpy currants as well as hints of violet, lily, nutmeg, racy/gravelly almost saline minerality, crunchy blueberry and a fine touch of vanilla. Good length. Nice fleshiness and aromatic purity. Superb persistence (+17 caudalies). Some chewiness on the finish. Harmony!

Score : 20/20 (100/100)

AOC SAINT-ESTÈPHE

Château Montrose 2019 Saint-Estèphe 2ème Grand Cru Classé

The wine benefits from being decanted. The nose offers finesse, elegance, concentration and precision. There are notes of crunchy blackcurrant, pepper and, more slightly, wild berry fruits combined with hints of black tea, racy minerality, iodine, hints of cola, crunchy morello cherry, strawberry and fine hints of sweet blond tobacco, Bourbon vanilla and a subtle almost cinnamon edge. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, acidity, fleshiness, minerality, power, a racy (and elegant) texture, roundness, harmony and a nice finesse/elegance in its straightness. Nice freshness and dynamism. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of tart/pulpy cherry, fleshy currant and, more slightly, blackberry, combined with a touch of tart/crunchy blackcurrant, as well as hints of pulpy plum, tonka bean, toasted almond, and a discreet hint of coffee and cardamom. Tannins are elegant and racy.

Score : 18.5/20 (97/100)

Château Cos Labory 2019 Saint-Estèphe 5ème Grand Cru Classé

The nose is racy and tightly wound. The wine benefits from being decanted. There are notes of ripe wild blackberry, redcurrant and, more slightly, racy minerality combined with fine hints of fresh/ripe wild berries as well as fine pepper, a delicate hint of liquorice and an imperceptible hint of bourbon vanilla. The palate of-

Médoc area

fers minerality, freshness, tension, good definition, a certain gourmandise, a fine creaminess as well as a nice acidic backbone. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of creamy strawberry, juicy/tart redcurrant and, more slightly, fresh/tart plum combined with a touch of blackcurrant, racy minerality, graphite, a subtle saline touch and a very discreet touch of good bitterness and vanilla. Tannins are mellow. Good length. Nice acidity and positive bitterness on the finish.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

AOC HAUT-MÉDOC

Château Belgrave 2019

Haut-Médoc 5ème Grand Cru Classé

The nose is racy, spicy and offers a fine intensity/concentration. There are notes of pulpy wild blackberry, pulpy raspberry and, more slightly, cardamom combined with fine hints of tonka bean, crushed ripe berries as well as a subtle hint of bergamot and a very discreet pepper. The palate is fruity and offers freshness, minerality, acidity, a nice guideline and a fine tension. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of crisp/juicy red berries, juicy/pulpy blackberry and slightly juicy/fresh cherry combined with hints of violet, lily, tonka bean and fine toasted notes. The tannins are smooth and precise. The wine is gourmet and has a subtle chewiness on the finish. Delicate, with some salinity/sapidity on the finish.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Château La Lagune 2019

Haut-Médoc 3ème Grand Cru Classé

The nose is fruity, elegant, racy and offers depth as well as a fine, powdery texture. There are notes of fleshy blackcurrant, pulpy raspberry and, more slightly, fleshy/ripe cherry combined with fine touches of star anise, violet and a fine hint of clove and a very discreet hint of exotic spices. The palate is fruity and offers minerality, juiciness, a fresh/acidic frame, good definition, elegance, straightness, a nice precision, energy and depth. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/acidic blackberry, pulpy/acidic raspberry and, more slightly, fleshy/acidic strawberry, combined with hints of pulpy blue berries/blueberry, zan, a subtle hint of sap, vanilla, pepper and discreet hints of mocha, racy honey and graphite.

Score : 16.75/20 (93-94/100)

CRUS CLASSÉS 2015

Grand Vin de Château Latour 2015

Pauillac 1er Grand Cru Classé

The nose is elegant, mineral and offers delicacy, purity, depth, grain and a fine airiness in the approach. There are notes of wild blackcurrant, star anise and, more slightly, ripe black berry fruit, combined with hints of pulpy cherry, graphite, racy minerality and discreet, almost toasted almond notes. The palate is nicely fruity, racy and offers a very nice minerality, purity, acidity, energy, tension, a very nice delicacy and a nice mineral/crystalline side. An enveloping and delicate side. On the palate this wine expresses juicy/fresh blackcurrant, juicy/fresh boysenberry and, more slightly, wild berry notes combined with hints of blond tobacco/cigar, theirs as well as fine almost tonka bean/chocolate, a subtle saline character, a discrete liquorice note and an imperceptible hint of vanilla bean. The tannins are supple, elegant and offer a subtle powdery quality. Nice work on the positive bitterness (which gives the wine depth and length). A discreet almost tightness on the finish.

Score : 18.25/20 (96-97/100)

CRUS CLASSÉS 2012

AOC MARGAUX

Château Palmer 2012

Margaux 3ème Grand Cru Classé

A lovely nose offering power, minerality, depth, intensity, complexity and a very fine grain of power. There are notes of zan, black tea and, more slightly, nutmeg, morello cherry combined with delicate touches of violet, tobacco as well as fine points of ripe violet plum, crunchy redcurrant and a subtle hint of almost lavender. The palate is nicely fresh and offers power in delicacy, a nice powdery texture, a certain intensity in control, a mineral frame, complexity as well as a nice fruit (a fine point of over-ripeness but all in freshness). On the palate this wine expresses morello cherry, crunchy/fresh blackberry, fairly ripe (but fresh) wild strawberry and, more slightly, violet combined with hints of cocoa, lavender, tobacco leaf as well as fine dots of nutmeg, Bourbon vanilla and a discreet almost herbal hint (lavender, tea...). Nice sapidity and chewiness on the finish. The tannins are soft and gourmet.

Score : 18.75/20 (97-98/100)

Château d'Issan 2012

Margaux 3ème Grand Cru Classé

The nose is aromatic, elegant, discreetly tight and offers a certain intensity and elegance as well as airiness. There are notes of Cuben pepper, wild blackcurrant and, more slightly, of spices combined with touches of lily, red berries as well as discreet hints of toastiness and a very discreet hint of almost aromatic herbs / roast. The palate is mineral, tightly wound and offers freshness, good definition, delicacy and finesse, silkiness, a certain richness, a nice acidic structure, precision, finesse, a fine fatness and a fine straightness. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of fairly ripe blackcurrant, camphor, Cuben pepper and, more slightly, wild red berries, combined with hints of clove, a fine touch of tobacco, saline minerality, a subtle animal touch, and a discreet hint of spice and chocolate (in the background). A very discreet hint of roasting in the background. The tannins are racy. A very fine hint of undergrowth both on the nose and on the palate.

Score : 16.75/20 (93-94/100)

Château Dauzac 2012

Margaux 3ème Grand Cru Classé

The nose is fruity and offers a certain intensity/concentration, a fine floral side as well as a fine spicy side. There are notes of creamy blackberry, crushed raspberry and, more slightly, of violet combined with delicate touches of iris, cherry blossom, Cuben pepper as well as discreet vanilla and a subtle hint of blond tobacco. The palate is fruity and offers freshness, minerality, a juicy/acidic structure, good definition, a certain gourmandise, tension, precision, a discreet straightness, dynamism and fat. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/fresh raspberry, juicy/fresh cherry and, more slightly, tart/fresh blackberry, combined with hints of violet plum, fine points of lily, iris, nutmeg, toasted hazelnut and a subtle hint of bourbon vanilla and bergamot. A discreet hint of salinity in the background.

Score : 16.5+/20 (93-94/100)

Château du Tertre 2012

Margaux 5ème Grand Cru Classé

The nose is racy. There are notes of wild blackcurrant, wild black berries and, to a lesser extent, violets, combined with hints of grey pepper, nutmeg and fine hints of dried wild strawberry and undergrowth. The palate is fruity, a little tight and offers juiciness, acidity, tension, finesse, delicacy and a nice acidity. A certain concentration and power with finesse. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of tart/juicy cherry, crushed redcurrant and, more slightly, violet combined with hints of blackberry, undergrowth, a touch of cedar, toastiness as well as a fine touch of zan, salinity and discrete hints of roasting. The tannins are precise and well-managed. A very discreet hint of mint on the finish.

Score : 16.5+/20 (93-94/100)

Château Cantenac Brown 2012

Margaux 3ème Grand Cru Classé

The nose is elegant and offers purity, intensity and a fine, discreetly tight grain. There are notes of wild raspberry, fleshy boysenberry and, more slightly, blue berries combined with delicate touches of plum blossom, fine hints of tonka bean, a discreet hint of Sichuan pepper and a subtle hint of star anise (in the background). The palate is fresh, fruity, elegant and offers a nice definition, a certain straightness, roundness and finesse, a certain fatness as well as gourmandise. On the palate this wine expresses notes of crunchy red berries, fleshy/pulpy blackberry and, more slightly, blueberry combined with hints of fresh/pulpy red berries, hints of nutmeg, cardamom, fine hints of vanilla, a subtle hint of cocoa, cinnamon as well as a discreet hint of bergamot and pepper. The tannins are precise, fine and elegant.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Château Prieuré-Lichine 2012

Margaux 4ème Grand Cru Classé

The nose offers a certain power and intensity as well as some animalistic, wild notes. There are notes of ripe blackberry, ripe wild blackcurrant and slightly wild strawberry combined with hints of salinity, violet, almond, nutmeg and a discreet hint of incense and game. The palate is fruity, balanced and offers minerality, freshness and linearity. On the palate this wine expresses juicy/fresh blackberry, pulpy blackcurrant and a touch of raspberry notes combined with hints of violet, dried lily as well as hints of dried currant, undergrowth, discreet hints of smoke and a subtle pepper note. The tannins are supple.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Médoc area

Château Rauzan-Gassies 2012

Margaux 2ème Grand Cru Classé

The nose is elegant, racy and offers complexity as well as a nice fine and powerful grain. The wine benefits from being decanted. The nose has morello cherry, ripe red berries, liquorice, violet, strawberry, a subtle hint of blackcurrant and a discreet touch of camphor and cardamom. The palate is mineral, balanced and offers freshness, a juicy/mineral structure, dynamism, good definition and quite ripe fruit. On the palate this wine expresses morello cherry, fairly ripe blackberry and slightly black plum notes combined with hints of fairly ripe/fresh berries, zan/ liquorice, hints of green cardamom, vanilla and hints of toast and sweet spice. The tannins are soft. A discreet, almost sticky touch on the finish. Some straightforwardness and dynamism.

Score : 16.75/20 (93-94/100)

Château Ferrière 2012

Margaux 3ème Grand Cru Classé

The nose is fruity, elegant and offers a certain purity of fruit. There are notes of crunchy Morello cherry, crunchy strawberry and slightly blueberry combined with hints of violet as well as a fine touch of camphor, bergamot, eucalyptus and a subtle hint of pepper. The palate is fruity, juicy, balanced and offers good freshness, silkiness, minerality, and purity/cleanliness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of fresh/pulpy cherry, crushed currant and slightly crushed blueberry combined with hints of fresh/juicy black berries, fine hints of blueberry, mocha, cardamom as well as a discreet hint of black tea and an imperceptible hint of Sichuan pepper (in the background). Good length. Subtle, almost roasted, hint of eucalyptus in the background/finish. A fine touch of positive bitterness on the finish.

Score : 16.5+/20 (93-94/100)

AOC SAINT-JULIEN

Château Talbot 2012

Saint-Julien 4ème Grand Cru Classé

The nose is fresh, powerful and offers a certain controlled intensity, controlled power and some powdery quality. There are notes of Morello cherry, blackcurrant and, more slightly, violets combined with touches of fairly ripe/crushed red fruits as well as fine nuances of camphor, incense, spices, a discreet hint of cardamom, pepper and an imperceptible touch of coffee. The palate is fresh, fruity, elegant, tense and offers minerality, roundness, gourmandise, juiciness, some fat, good definition and an acidic backbone. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy blackberry, fleshy Morello cherry and slightly crushed blackcurrant, combined with hints of blue berries, violet/lys, fine hints of liquorice, star anise, camphor and a subtle touch of cocoa, smoke and vanilla. The tannins are precise, fine and tight. Sapid on the finish.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Château Beychevelle 2012

Saint-Julien 4ème Grand Cru Classé

The nose is powerful, elegant, precise and offers a nice controlled power, intensity, depth and concentration. There are notes of blackcurrant, Cuben pepper and, more slightly, violets, combined with hints of morello cherry, raspberry, fine points of pulpy violet plum, as well as a hint of lily, ash/incense, star anise and a discreet touch of fresh blond tobacco. The palate is fruity, elegant, delicate and offers depth, harmony, deliciousness, a nice maturity and tension. On the palate, this wine expresses fleshy/pulpy blackcurrant, fleshy/pulpy raspberry and, more slightly, fleshy/juicy berry notes combined with a hint of fleshy strawberry, blueberry, as well as hints of mocha, toast, cardamom and a very discreet touch of undergrowth. The tannins are precise, elegant, racy and finely mellow. Nice sapidity and gourmandise. An imperceptible hint of undergrowth and pepper on the finish.

Score : 17.25+/20 (95/100)

Château Gruaud Larose 2012

Saint-Julien 2ème Grand Cru Classé

The nose is elegant and offers some intensity and depth. There are notes of pulpy wild blackcurrant, wild strawberry and, more slightly, vanilla combined with fine hints of spice as well as a touch of toast, vanilla and a discreet hint of almost cedar/eucalyptus. The palate is fruity, fresh, mineral, elegant, with finesse/precision, and offers delicacy, gourmandise, definition, intensity, freshness, unctuousness, clarity and depth. A discreet restrained character. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy blackcurrant, crushed strawberry and, more slightly, wild berries, combined with touches of salinity, racy minerality and fine hints of chocolate and toasted hazelnut. Nice sapidity and gourmandise (brought by the sapidity). A discreet hint of cedar/eucalyptus in the background. What a delicacy! The wine needs time in the glass to fully open up.

Score : 17.5/20 (95/100)

Château Léoville Poyferré 2012

Saint-Julien 2ème Grand Cru Classé

The nose is elegant, fresh and offers some power and richness. There are notes of creamy blackberry, blueberry and, more slightly, liquorice combined with hints of crushed wild strawberry and fine blueberry fruit as well as hints of Cuben pepper and spice. The palate is fresh, mineral, elegant and offers a nice definition, acidity, tension, precision, dynamism, salinity and a nice energy and finesse. On the palate this wine expresses notes of creamy boysenberry, creamy wild strawberry and, more slightly, blueberry combined with hints of tonka bean, liquorice, saline minerality, fine hints of chocolate and a subtle touch of vanilla and sweet spice. The tannins are elegant and mellow.

Score : 17.5/20 (95/100)

Château Langoa-Barton 2012

Saint-Julien 3ème Grand Cru Classé

The nose offers creaminess and red fruits. The wine should be decanted. There are notes of crushed redcurrants, pulpy cherry and, more slightly, blackcurrant, combined with hints of violet, lily and a fine touch of vanilla and toast. The palate is fruity, balanced and offers minerality, good definition, smoothness, some fat, gourmandise, sapidity and a nice mineral backbone. On the palate this wine expresses crunchy/fresh strawberry, crunchy/fresh cherry and slightly fresh blackberry notes combined with hints of pulpy/fresh berries as well as fine pepper, saltiness, fresh nutmeg, a fine hint of Bourbon vanilla and a subtle hint of crushed almond. Good length. Nice sapidity and a discreet hint of positive bitterness in the background/on the finish. Good persistence.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Château Léoville-Barton 2012

Saint-Julien 2ème Grand Cru Classé

The nose is fruity, fresh and offers some minerality and good definition. There are notes of crunchy blackberry, crushed strawberry and, more slightly, crushed raspberry combined with touches of blueberry, fine hints of liquorice, cardamom as well as discreet hints of vanilla and almost sweet blond tobacco. The palate is fruity, well-balanced, stretched out, precise and offers suppleness, good definition, a certain gourmandise, power with delicacy, harmony and an acidic structure. On the palate this wine expresses juicy/acidic blackberry, crunchy redcurrant and slightly fresh plum notes with a touch of fresh violet, fine vanilla/vanilla bean, zan and a subtle almost sappy edge (in the background) and a discreet hint of chocolate. Nice acidity and ripe/acidic, juicy fruit.

Score : 17.5/20 (95/100)

Château Branaire Ducru 2012

Saint-Julien 4ème Grand Cru Classé

The nose is fruity, elegant and offers complexity. The wine needs to be decanted. There are notes of crunchy blackcurrant, morello cherry and, more slightly, crushed red berries combined with fine points of racy minerality, flowers/violet, discrete cola notes and a subtle hint of nutmeg and vanilla. The palate is fresh, mineral, racy, elegant and offers a nice definition, elegance, purity, concentration and an acidic backbone. On the palate this wine expresses notes of fresh Morello cherry, fresh blackberry and, more slightly, crunchy wild berries combined with hints of blue berries, violet as well as hints of liquorice, camphor, a subtle varietal touch and a discreet hint of cardamom. Fine chewiness and hints of crushed/toasted almond in the background. The tannins are precise, elegant and supple. Good length.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

AOC PAULLAC

Château Croizet-Bages 2012

Margaux 5ème Grand Cru Classé

The nose is elegant, precise and offers a nice finesse of grain as well as power in finesse. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of blackberry, blue berries and, more slightly, blueberry, wild strawberry combined with fine touches of black pepper, racy minerality and a subtle hint of graphite and nutmeg. The palate is fresh, mineral, balanced and offers minerality, good definition and accuracy. On the palate this wine expresses notes of fresh/pulpy purple plum, blackcurrant and slightly graphite combined with hints of mocha, roast and fine vanilla and a subtle hint of toasted hazelnut. The tannins are mellow. A discreet hint of liquorice and caramelisation in the background.

Score : 17+/20 (94-95/100)

Médoc area

Château Haut-Bages Libéral 2012 Margaux 5ème Grand Cru Classé

The wine needs to be decanted. Crunchy blackcurrant, morello cherry and slightly blueberry notes are combined with touches of racy/seedy minerality, fine liquorice/zan, discreet cardamom and an imperceptible hint of clove, fresh vanilla and almost black truffle. The palate is fresh, mineral, balanced and offers a good definition, an acidic backbone, a nice racy minerality, some concentration, accuracy and dynamism. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy blackberry, crunchy blackcurrant and, more slightly, pulpy/fleshy redcurrant combined with hints of blueberry, chocolate, caramelisation, toasted/caramelised hazelnut as well as a subtle hint of almost saffron and truffle. A fine chewiness on the finish. Smooth tannins. Good length.

Score : 17.5/20 (95/100)

Château Grand-Puy Ducasse 2012 Margaux 5ème Grand Cru Classé

The nose is aromatic and offers a certain power, a stretched side, a fine grain as well as a certain intensity. There are notes of wild strawberries, red berries, violets and a hint of pepper, combined with hints of fresh tobacco, tea, sweet spices and cloves. The palate is fruity, tightly wound and offers juiciness, minerality, good definition, a certain gourmandise, tension, energy, an acidic frame and a certain racy minerality. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of fairly ripe wild blackberry, wild strawberry and, more slightly, flowers (violet, lilac) combined with hints of mocha, sweet spices, fine hints of undergrowth, tea and a discreet hint of dried red berries, nutmeg and a subtle hint of clove. The tannins offer a certain straightness. Discreet hints of undergrowth and mushroom on the nose and palate.

Score : 16+/20 (92-93/100)

Château Pichon Baron 2012 Pauillac 2ème Grand Cru Classé

The nose is spicy, aromatic, discreetly tight and offers fine concentration and depth. There are notes of blackcurrant, incense, saffron and a little spice, with hints of ripe wild strawberry, fine hints of star anise and a discreet hint of lilac (in the background) and a subtle touch of sweet pepper. The palate is fruity and offers minerality, good definition, roundness, some fat, a certain gourmandise, minerality and a certain tension. It is currently a little tight/restrained. On the palate this wine expresses notes of crushed blackcurrant, crunchy blackberry and, more slightly, saffron, incense combined with hints of toast, hazelnut as well as fine hints of crushed raspberry, chocolate and a subtle hint of salinity. A lot of gourmandise, generosity, substance and a little creaminess, but all the while maintaining an airy approach and balance.

Score : 17.25/20 (94-95/100)

AOC SAINT-ESTÈPHE

Château Montrose 2012 Saint-Estèphe 2ème Grand Cru Classé

The nose is elegant and offers fleshiness, a certain concentration, a very fine powdery side and richness. There are notes of crushed cherry, crushed raspberry and, more slightly, lily combined with a touch of balsamic, zan, colas, as well as hints of sweet blond tobacco, strawberry, racy minerality / iodised gravel, as well as a discreet hint of saltiness, nutmeg and vanilla. The palate is fresh, mineral, balanced and offers a nice mineral backbone, acidity, harmony, roundness, a nice grain, delicacy as well as a nice work on the bitter taste. On the palate this wine expresses fresh/juicy blackberry, crunchy raspberry and slightly juicy/pulpy cherry notes combined with hints of fresh/chunky blackcurrant, hints of liquorice/zan, colas as well as fine clove, cardamom, vanilla and a subtle hint of cardamom. Hints of crushed hazelnut on the finish.

Score : 17.5/20 (95/100)

CRUS CLASSÉS 2011

AOC HAUT-MÉDOC

Château La Lagune 2011 Haut-Médoc, Grand Cru Classé

(Organic) The nose offers a certain power, a beautiful and fine grain, an aerial side, elegance as well as a certain delicacy. It reveals notes of wild cassis, pepper and small notes of ripe red fruits associated with small hints of pepper as well as slight hints of star anise, menthol and a discreet hint of fresh vanilla pod. The mouth is beautifully fresh, mineral, elegant, well-balanced and offers purity, a beautiful definition of the fruit, delicacy, a small tension as well as an acidulous frame. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of ripe/acidulous wild cassis, tangy/ripe raspberry

and small notes of crunchy strawberry combined with touches of flowers, hints of undergrowth, mocha and a subtle hint of tobacco and almond. Tannins are well-built, racy, elegant and offer a discreet mellowness. Good length.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

AOC MARGAUX

Château Cantenac Brown 2011 Margaux 3ème Grand Cru Classé

The nose is elegant, gourmet and offers controlled power and concentration. There are notes of cocoa, blackberry and ripe wild strawberry combined with hints of violet, crushed raspberry and hints of nutmeg, racy minerality, a subtle note of camphor, torrefaction, vanilla and a discreet hint of sweet spices, eucalyptus and pepper. The palate is fruity, balanced and offers freshness, a nice minerality, a nice freshness, an acidic backbone, delicacy, suppleness, a nice juicy/fresh character as well as a certain crunchiness of the fruit. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy wild blackberry and, more slightly, fleshy/juicy cherry, combined with hints of crushed raspberry, undergrowth, nutmeg, a hint of camphor and a subtle touch of vanilla and fresh hazelnut (in the background). The tannins are fine, supple and fresh. Good length and persistence. A very discreet hint of salt and eucalyptus in the background. The wine needs to be decanted.

Score : 16.25/20 (92-93/100)

Château Prieuré-Lichine 2011 Margaux 4ème Grand Cru Classé

The nose offers power and a fine concentration. There are notes of blackberry, crushed strawberry and, more slightly, ripe red berries combined with touches of tonka bean, hints of undergrowth, fine hints of coffee, a subtle hint of camphor and a discreet hint of coffee and almost anise. The palate is fruity, balanced and offers juiciness, smoothness, freshness, sapidity, stretch and a fine salinity. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of fresh/juicy blackberry, pulpy blackcurrant and, to a lesser extent, raspberry, combined with hints of salinity, racy minerality, tonka bean, star anise, a subtle hint of flowers and a very discreet hint of toasted almond. Good length. Subtle chewiness on the finish. Subtle, almost saline, eucalyptus note on the finish.

Score : 16+/20 (92-93/100)

Château Rauzan-Gassies 2011 Margaux 2ème Grand Cru Classé

The nose is powerful, precise and offers a nice power and finesse of grain. There are notes of ripe blackcurrant, crunchy Morello cherry and, more slightly, violet combined with touches of lily, bergamot as well as fine points of camphor, spices and a subtle touch of pepper. The palate is fruity, balanced and offers a nice minerality, a nice juiciness of the fruit, precision, a fine chewiness as well as a certain purity of the fruit. On the palate this wine expresses morello cherry, pulpy/juicy blackcurrant and, more slightly, crunchy strawberry notes combined with hints of violet, crushed currants, hints of liquorice, bergamot, subtle hints of sweet blond tobacco as well as a subtle hint of liquorice, a very discreet hint of colas and a subtle hint of sense of place and saline/grave minerality. The tannins are precise and racy. Good length. A very pretty, fresh and crunchy wine.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Château Ferrière 2011 Margaux 3ème Grand Cru Classé

The nose is fruity, elegant and offers a little creaminess as well as a fine power. There are notes of crunchy blackberry, crunchy redcurrant and, more slightly, plum combined with delicate hints of zan and blueberry. The palate is fruity and offers a tangy structure, a nice fleshiness of the fruit, good definition, a fine acidic backbone, a nice freshness and a certain gourmandise. On the palate this wine has crunchy redcurrant, pulpy strawberry and slightly blackcurrant notes with a touch of tart/juicy plum, blue berries, fine violet, vanilla and a subtle hint of blueberry, liquorice and eucalyptus (in the background). Nice tannins with a fine mellowness. Fine sapidity/salinity in the background.

Score : 16.25/20 (92-93/100)

Château Palmer 2011 Margaux 3ème Grand Cru Classé

The wine benefits from being decanted. The nose is tightly wound and offers concentration with finesse, nice power/intensity of grain as well as complexity. There are notes of fleshy blackberry, fleshy strawberry and, more slightly, racy/seedy minerality combined with hints of Cuben pepper, sense of place (biotope), fine spice notes, discreet blond tobacco nuances and a subtle hint of flowers and cinnamon. The palate is nicely fresh, delicate and offers minerality, juiciness, a certain verticality, a controlled concentration, a nice tannic structure, a nice mel-

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lowness, a racy power, a fine airy side in the approach as well as a fine unctuousness and subtlety. On the palate this wine expresses notes of fresh/juicy boysenberry, purple plum and, more slightly, of crunchy blackcurrant combined with touches of racy minerality, toasted/crushed hazelnut, a subtle, almost bergamot-like, serenity (in the background) as well as discreet hints of vanilla and nutmeg. The tannins are smooth and elegant. Subtle hints of incense and flowers on the finish. Sapidly on the finish.

Score : 19+/20 (98-99/100)

Château d'Issan 2011

Margaux 3ème Grand Cru Classé

The nose is elegant, open and aromatic. There are hints of ripe blackcurrant, violet and slightly morello cherry combined with hints of wild strawberry, tea, sweet spices, a subtle hint of salt and an imperceptible hint of aromatic herbs. The palate is fresh and offers minerality, good definition, a certain delicacy, a fine blackness and a certain depth. On the palate this wine expresses notes of fairly ripe blackberry, fairly ripe wild strawberry and, more slightly, ripe black berries combined with hints of graphite, camphor, fine points of blond tobacco, violet, a subtle hint of camphor as well as discrete points of truffle and almost roasted herbs. The tannins are racy. Nice work on the bitter taste, especially on the finish. A subtle hint of aniseed and roasted coffee in the background.

Score : 16.25/20 (92-93/100)

Château Dauzac 2011

Margaux 3ème Grand Cru Classé

The nose offers elegance, some airiness in its power and gourmandise. We find notes of pulpy blackberry, wild strawberry and, more slightly, grey pepper combined with touches of lily, racy minerality as well as a fine hint of fresh nutmeg, spices and a discreet hint of sap/verbena (in the background). The palate is fruity, balanced and offers juiciness, suavity, airiness, lightness, good definition, fine tension and precision. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy blackberry, crushed raspberry and, more slightly, pulpy cherry combined with fine touches of almond, Bourbon vanilla and a discreet hint of star anise. A very discreet salinity on the finish. A finish that offers a nice grain and that becomes slightly tighter. The tannins are racy.

Score : 16.25/20 (92-93/100)

Château du Tertre 2011

Margaux 5ème Grand Cru Classé

The nose is fruity, racy and finely grained. There are notes of ripe blackcurrant, wild blackberry and, to a lesser extent, violet, combined with hints of wild strawberry, nutmeg, almond and a hint of undergrowth, camphor and liquorice. The palate is fruity, discreetly tight and offers a nice acidity, a tangy frame, a nice saline side, crunchiness and a fine contained side. Some juiciness on the cherry. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy blackberry, juicy/pulpy blackcurrant and, more slightly, fresh raspberry combined with hints of juicy wild red berries, hints of saltiness, Sichuan pepper, cardamom as well as fine undergrowth, graphite and a subtle hint of tea. The tannins are fine and supple. Good length. A fine animal/truffle touch in the background.

Score : 16.25+/20 (90-91/100)

AOC SAINT-JULIEN

Château Talbot 2011

Saint-Julien 4ème Grand Cru Classé

The nose is fruity, elegant, powdery, racy and offers good definition and power management. There are notes of wild blackcurrant, pulpy blackberry and slightly ripe cherry combined with hints of wild strawberry, wood, camphor, racy minerality, fine tobacco, spice and a subtle hint of chocolate and Sichuan pepper. The palate is fruity, fresh, elegant, nicely mineral, racy and offers tension, good definition and an acidic backbone. On the palate this wine expresses notes of fresh blueberry, fresh/pulpy blackcurrant and, more slightly, violet combined with hints of crushed wild raspberry, fairly ripe red berries as well as fine spice, racy minerality/fresh grapes, mocha, toastiness and a subtle hint of toasted almond. The tannins are fine and powdery. A discreet chest of fresh Morello cherry in the background. Sapidly and a fine iodine/sapid quality on the finish.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Château Beychevelle 2011

Saint-Julien 4ème Grand Cru Classé

The nose is elegant and offers power in harmony, a fine powdery side, some airiness in its power as well as a fine grain. There are notes of crushed blackberry, fleshy/crushed strawberry and, more slightly, nutmeg, cinnamon, combined with

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hints of smoke, fairly ripe red berries, fine camphor, spices, a discreet hint of chocolate, as well as very discreet hints of caramelisation and a subtle, almost aniseed-like touch. The palate is fruity with minerality, acidity, a nice salinity, a nice freshness and good definition. On the palate this wine expresses juicy/very ripe blackberry, juicy/very ripe raspberry and, more slightly, saline minerality, red berries, blueberry, with hints of tobacco, star anise as well as fine hints of zan, sweet spices, nutmeg and discreet almost undergrowth. The tannins are racy. A nice iodine and toasted almond note on the finish.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Château Gruaud Larose 2011

Saint-Julien 2ème Grand Cru Classé

The nose is elegant, fruity and offers delicacy as well as some blackness/charness in elegance. There are notes of crushed blackberry, fleshy wild strawberry and, more slightly, pulpy black berries combined with fine touches of blackcurrant jam as well as a delicate hint of cardamom, clove and a very discreet touch of chocolate. The palate is fruity, balanced, racy and offers freshness, good definition, an acidic backbone, a nice fine grain, tension, delicacy, a certain unctuousness as well as a fine straightness. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy blackberry, pulpy/juicy blackcurrant and, more slightly, fleshy strawberry, combined with hints of cardamom, chocolate, as well as fine points of toasted hazelnut, jammy black berries and a delicate touch of vanilla. The tannins are precise and well-managed.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Château Léoville Poyferré 2011

Saint-Julien 2ème Grand Cru Classé

The nose is elegant and offers power, depth and delicacy as well as a fine dark quality. There are notes of crunchy wild blackcurrant, graphite and, more slightly, crushed black berries combined with hints of chocolate and a subtle, almost caramelised edge. The palate is fresh, mineral, elegant, gourmet and offers richness, substance, a certain depth, creaminess, a nice intensity in finesse, a touch of over-ripeness as well as a fresh/acidic backbone. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of crushed blackcurrant, jammy raspberry and, more slightly, pulpy plum, combined with touches of acidulous/pulpy redcurrant, chocolate/tonka bean and vanilla, as well as a subtle hint of roasting, graphite and a very discreet touch of coffee. Some blackness in the background. The tannins are racy and finely powdered. Good length.

Score : 17.25/20 (94-95/100)

Château Langoa-Barton 2011

Saint-Julien 3ème Grand Cru Classé

The nose is elegant, precise and discreet. The wine benefits from being decanted. There are notes of blackcurrant, crunchy raspberry and, more slightly, fleshy cherry, combined with hints of pepper, vanilla and a delicate touch of cardamom. The palate is fruity, balanced and offers juiciness, acidity, suppleness, minerality, purity and a fine straightness. On the palate, this wine expresses juicy blackberry, pulpy/juicy cherry and slightly violet notes combined with a touch of blue plum, tonka bean, fine vanilla and a touch of racy minerality and salinity. The tannins are supple.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Château Léoville-Barton 2011

Saint-Julien 2ème Grand Cru Classé

The nose is fresh, elegant and offers delicacy and airiness. There are notes of strawberry, crunchy red berries and a hint of salinity, combined with creamy boysenberry, cherry and hints of fresh blond tobacco and a subtle hint of salinity (in the background). The palate is fruity, balanced, racy and offers freshness, good definition, gourmandise and a tangy structure. On the palate this wine expresses notes of crunchy wild raspberry, crushed strawberry and, more slightly, pulpy blackcurrant combined with hints of violet, crunchy plum as well as fine points of salinity, a subtle hint of cardamom and a discreet touch of chocolate. Good length. A discreet, almost caramelised touch on the finish.

Score : 17.75/20 (95-96/100)

Château Branaire Ducru 2011

Saint-Julien 4ème Grand Cru Classé

The nose is elegant, tightly wound and offers complexity and some melodiousness. There are notes of crunchy boysenberry, crushed blackcurrant and, more slightly, ripe wild strawberry combined with delicate notes of zan, a discreet hint of graphite, racy minerality and a subtle hint of grey pepper and an imperceptible sapiness. The palate is nicely juicy, discreetly tight and offers a tangy structure, minerality, a very nice freshness, suavity and a nice juicy/acidic fruit.

A very nice freshness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of fresh cherry, plump redcurrant and, more slightly, juicy/tart/fresh black berry fruit combined with a hint of crunchy purple plum, fine saltiness, pepper and a discreet hint of toasted/crushed almond. Good length. Subtle hints of tonka bean and caramelisation/blond tobacco in the background. The wine needs to be decanted.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

AOC PAUILLAC

Château Croizet-Bages 2011

Pauillac 5ème Grand Cru Classé

The nose is fruity, racy and offers crunchiness, freshness, a certain light intensity and harmony. There are notes of blackcurrant, crunchy, graphite and, more slightly, blueberry, crunchy blue plum as well as fine hints of wild red berries, morello cherry, liquorice, zan and a subtle hint of spice. The palate is fruity, fresh and offers crunchiness, nice fleshy/juicy fruit, minerality and good definition. On the palate this wine expresses morello cherry, liquorice and slightly more crunchy blue plum notes combined with hints of black berries, racy minerality, mocha, a subtle hint of grey pepper and a discreet hint of nutmeg and roast. The tannins are precise, elegant and racy.

Score : 17.25/20 (94-95/100)

Château Haut-Bages Libéral 2011

Pauillac 5ème Grand Cru Classé

The nose is fruity, elegant and offers a certain purity. There are notes of zan, blackcurrant, crunchy wild berries and slightly more crushed cherry combined with hints of sweet blond tobacco, saffron and a discreet hint of crushed blue berries and mocha. The palate is fruity, nicely fresh, guided and offers a fine straightness and precision. On the palate this wine expresses juicy/fresh blackberry and wild berry notes with hints of crushed/override red berries and fine hints of liquorice/zan, cardamom, fresh blond tobacco, crushed almond and a subtle hint of mocha/pretty little chewiness and sapidity on the finish. A wine that nicely unfolds all the complexity of its terroir (clay, then gravel and some limestone).

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Château Grand-Puy Ducasse 2011

Pauillac 5ème Grand Cru Classé

The nose is fruity and offers freshness, a fine concentration, a racy grain and a little stretch/stretch. There are notes of pulpy wild strawberry, fleshy redcurrant and slightly fresher wild berry fruit combined with hints of violet, fresh pepper as well as hints of fresh lilac and a discreet hint of fresh blond tobacco. The palate is fruity with freshness, minerality, good definition, juiciness, acidity and juicy/crisp/fresh fruit. On the palate this wine expresses juicy/pulpy blackberry, juicy/fresh redcurrant and, more slightly, berry notes with hints of violet, toasted almond, racy minerality and fine vanilla. The tannins are elegant and racy.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Château Pichon Baron 2011

Pauillac 2ème Grand Cru Classé

The nose is aromatic and offers delicacy, airy power, intensity and a lovely fine, powerful grain. There are notes of nutmeg, concentrated blackcurrant and, more slightly, graphite, combined with hints of incense, cumin, as well as fine pepper and a discreet hint of spice. The palate is nicely defined, generous and offers a nice freshness, controlled power, nice definition/roundness, gourmandise, a fresh/mineral frame, concentration as well as a nice fineness of grain. On the palate this wine expresses notes of fresh/crunchy blackcurrant, crunchy wild berries and, more slightly, crunchy raspberry combined with a touch of crushed cherry, violet, graphite as well as fine hints of toast, cardamom, chocolate, a discreet hint of caramelisation as well as a subtle hint of tobacco, nutmeg and an imperceptible hint of truffle in the background. Nice roundness and accessibility. Fine chewiness and sapidity on the finish.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

AOC SAINT-ESTÈPHE

Château Montrose 2011

Saint-Estèphe 2ème Grand Cru Classé

The nose is racy, taut/stretched and offers a very fine, powerful and tightly wound grain. The wine benefits from being decanted. There are notes of fairly ripe black berries, violet and, more slightly, ripe violet plum combined with hints of strawberry/red berries, lily as well as fine hints of sweet spices, a subtle touch of balsamic, saffron and an imperceptible hint of pepper. The palate is fresh, mineral, fruity and offers a nice definition, suppleness, tension, good structure and

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a very nice acidity. On the palate this wine expresses notes of wild blackberry, red berries and, more slightly, balsamic combined with hints of racy/iodic minerality, saffron, fairly ripe black berries, crisp/acidic currants and a subtle hint of cocoa, toast, almond, fresh tea and a touch of cardamom. Good length. The tannins are mellow.

Score : 16.75/20 (93-94/100)

CRUS BOURGEOIS 2019

AOC MARGAUX

Château Mongravy 2019

Margaux Cru Bourgeois Supérieur

The nose is liquorice and fresh. There are notes of star anise, crushed blackcurrant and, to a lesser extent, pulpy raspberry, combined with hints of crushed berries, fine hints of fresh blond tobacco, as well as a hint of fresh nutmeg and a discreet touch of pepper. The palate is fresh, mineral, balanced and offers good definition, a fresh/mineral structure, a certain juiciness and a little crunch. On the palate this wine expresses notes of crisp/fresh raspberry, juicy/pulpy blackcurrant and, more slightly, blackberry combined with hints of red fruit, vanilla, chocolate, toasted hazelnut as well as hints of fresh nutmeg and a very discreet hint of dark chocolate. The tannins are very finely marked. A wine marked by red fruits. A discreet varietal touch in the background.

Score : 15+/20 (89-90/100)

Château D'Arsac 2019

Margaux Cru Bourgeois Exceptionnel

The nose offers intensity, power and a fine, fresh grain. There are notes of wild blackcurrant, vanilla and, more slightly, crushed strawberry combined with hints of fresh blond tobacco, nutmeg and fine zan and clove. The palate is fruity and offers freshness, juiciness, acidity, delicacy and a fine stretch. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of fresh red berries, fresh/crisp raspberries and, more slightly, fresh flowers, combined with hints of lily, fresh/juicy berries, as well as fine points of nutmeg and a discreet hint of sweet blond tobacco in the background.

Score : 15.25+/20 (90-91/100)

Château Bellevue de Tayac 2019

Margaux Cru Bourgeois

The nose is fresh, racy and offers dynamism and depth. There are notes of fresh rose, fresh/juicy blackberry and, more slightly, iris/lilac combined with hints of berries as well as hints of liquorice and vanilla. The palate is mineral, fresh and offers a fresh frame, a certain roundness, energy and a good work on the bitter taste. On the palate this wine expresses notes of fresh blackberry, juicy/fresh red berries and, more slightly, fresh cherry combined with hints of rose/iris as well as fine nuances of bud, racy minerality and toastiness.

Score : 15/20 (89-90/100)

Château Pavail de Luze 2019

Margaux Cru Bourgeois Exceptionnel

The nose is elegant, racy and offers concentration and freshness. There are notes of crushed blackcurrant, juicy black berry and slightly crushed strawberry with hints of violet, morello cherry and hints of cardamom and sweet blond tobacco. The palate is mineral and offers freshness, good definition, a fresh frame, good tension and fatness. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy blackberry, morello cherry and, more slightly, crushed black berries combined with touches of redcurrant confiture, fine nuances of sweet blond tobacco, graphite, racy minerality and a hint of camphor and spice. Good work on the bitter taste, especially on the finish.

Score : 15.75+/20 (91-92/100)

AOC MÉDOC

Château Lassus 2019

Médoc, Cru Bourgeois

The nose is fruity and offers a certain small power, a spicy side as well as a fine concentration. It reveals notes of ripe cherry, strawberry and small notes of cassis combined with small touches of balsamic, star anise and a fine hint of pepper. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, an acid frame, minerality, freshness and a fine concentration. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy cherry, juicy small red fruits and small notes of strawberry associated with touches of cassis as well as hints of balsamic, pepper and a fine hint of varietal.

Score : 14.25+/20 (87-88/100)

Château Preuillac 2019

Médoc, Cru Bourgeois Supérieur

The nose is spicy and offers a fine intensity. The wine need to be decanted. It reveals notes of crunchy wild cassis, crushed small red fruits and small notes of acidulous red plum associated with fine hints of spices, pepper and a discreet hint of vanilla. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, suavity, minerality, an acid frame, a good definition as well as a small fat. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, pulpy/juicy raspberry and small notes of star anise associated with touches of fresh flowers, hints of acidulous/fresh small berries, racy minerality as well as a subtle hint of grilled and pepper. Tannins are racy.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

AOC MOULIS-EN-MÉDOC

Château Biston-Brillette 2019

Moulis-en-Médoc Cru Bourgeois Supérieur

The nose is fresh, racy and intense. There are notes of wild blackberry, rose and racy minerality combined with hints of morello cherry, wild black berries, as well as fine zan and a very discreet touch of black pepper. The palate is fresh, fruity and offers a certain gourmandise, concentration and a fine creaminess. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of creamy cherry, pulpy blackcurrant and, to a lesser extent, juicy blueberry, combined with hints of strawberry, star anise, fine nutmeg and a very discreet touch of racy minerality and graphite. A subtle hint of roast on the finish.

Score : 15.75/20 (91-92/100)

Château Lalaudey 2019

Moulis-en-Médoc Cru Bourgeois Supérieur

The nose is fresh, racy and offers some complexity, power and fine grain. There are notes of boysenberry, fresh flowers and, more slightly, racy minerality, fresh pepper combined with hints of pulpy blackcurrant, fresh wild strawberry and fine vanilla and spice. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, freshness, good definition, a certain gourmandise, fatness and a fine creaminess. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy blackberry, creamy strawberry and, more slightly, crunchy red berries, combined with touches of iris, fresh lily, as well as fine points of racy minerality, graphite, a hint of fresh pepper and a discrete, almost saline touch (in the background). Good persistence and work on the bitter taste. A fine hint of coffee/mocha in the background.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Château La Mouline 2019

Moulis-en-Médoc Cru Bourgeois Supérieur

The nose is fruity and offers freshness, intensity and a fine grain. There are notes of wild blackcurrant, fresh flowers/lys and, more slightly, of wild red berries combined with fine hints of nutmeg, a fine touch of iris, fresh cloves and a hint of racy minerality and an imperceptible touch of fresh vanilla. The palate is fresh and offers fruit, tension, acidity and crispness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/fresh raspberry, crunchy blackberry and, more slightly, crunchy red berry combined with hints of iris, varietal, fine hints of fresh nutmeg, a subtle hint of toast and a very discreet hint of almost bergamot and vanilla (in the background).

Score : 15/20 (89-90/100)

Château Caroline 2019

Moulis-en-Médoc Cru Bourgeois Supérieur

The nose is fruity and powerful. There are notes of fleshy boysenberry, crushed raspberry and, more slightly, blueberry combined with hints of morello cherry and a subtle hint of fresh blond tobacco. The palate is fruity, balanced and offers juiciness as well as a tangy/pulpy texture. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy raspberry, fleshy/crushed cherry and, more slightly, juicy blueberry, juicy blackberry combined with fine hints of flowers, tonka bean and a discreet hint of sweet blond tobacco. Good length. A very discreet, almost cinnamon-like quality on the finish/aftertaste.

Score : 15.5/20 (90-91/100)

Château Chemin Royal 2019

Moulis-en-Médoc Cru Bourgeois

The nose is fruity, fresh, racy and tight. Notes of boysenberry, crunchy redcurrant and, to a lesser extent, fleshy cherry are combined with fine cherry blossom, liquorice and a discreet hint of spice. The palate is fruity, balanced and offers freshness, a mineral backbone, good definition and a certain gourmandise. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of fleshy/juicy cherry, crushed redcurrant and, more slightly, violet, combined with hints of violet plum, as well as fine notes of liquorice, sweet tobacco and sweet spices. The tannins are well-managed.

Score : 15/20 (89-90/100)

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Château Duplessis 2019

Moulis-en-Médoc Cru Bourgeois

The nose is fruity, with notes of liquorice and has a fine creaminess. There are notes of crushed blackberry, crushed violet plum, combined with hints of fairly ripe berries and a fine touch of liquorice. The palate is fruity, racy, very tightly wound and offers freshness, minerality, an acidic frame and a certain richness. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy blackberry, pulpy/juicy black berries and, more slightly, of blackcurrant, tart raspberry as well as fine hints of liquorice stick, toastiness and a subtle touch of vanilla. The tannins are racy and very finely firm.

Score : 15+/20 (89-90/100)

AOC LISTRAC-MÉDOC

Château Fonréaud 2019

Listrac-Médoc Cru Bourgeois Supérieur

The nose is fruity, gourmet, racy and offers concentration, complexity and depth. There are notes of fleshy/pulpy blackcurrant, fleshy/pulpy blackberry, and a hint of sweet blond tobacco, combined with hints of violet, crushed cherry, and fine graphite, racy minerality, and a discreet touch of toasted hazelnut. The palate is fruity, balanced and offers juiciness as well as racy minerality / a mineral backbone. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy blackberry, juicy blackcurrant and, more slightly, star anise, combined with delicate touches of zan, violet, cardamom, mocha and a hint of toast and vanilla.

Score : 15.75/20 (91-92/100)

Château Lestage 2019

Listrac-Médoc Cru Bourgeois Exceptionnel

The nose is aromatic, elegant and offers intensity, power and a fine, intense grain. There are notes of wild blackcurrant, liquorice and, to a lesser extent, boysenberry, combined with hints of zan, cardamom and a subtle, almost bergamot-like touch. The palate is fruity, balanced and offers juiciness, fleshiness, freshness, good definition, a certain gourmandise and a mineral backbone. On the palate this wine expresses juicy/pulpy blackberry, crushed currant, crushed strawberry and, more slightly, crunchy black berry notes with hints of liquorice and hints of camphor, cocoa and fine toasted almond. Good length.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Château Donissan 2019

Listrac-Médoc Cru Bourgeois

The nose is fruity and tangy. There are hints of tart/juicy red berries and, more slightly, violet with hints of crushed blackcurrant and a hint of sweet spice. The palate is fruity, tangy and offers freshness, minerality/mineral structure, nice acidity, tension and energy. On the palate this wine expresses notes of tart/ripe red berries and, more slightly, purple plum combined with hints of cherry as well as fine hints of liquorice, mocha and toast. Good length. Good freshness and length.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Château Cap Léon Veyrin 2019

Listrac-Médoc Cru Bourgeois Supérieur

The nose is fruity and offers some complexity, fine grain, concentration and elegance. There are notes of blackcurrant, violet/lys and, more slightly, star anise combined with hints of wild red berries, rose and fine cinnamon, nutmeg and a subtle hint of vanilla. The palate is fruity, balanced and offers a fine creaminess, good definition, an acidic frame, mastery and tension. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy blackberry, creamy blackcurrant and, more slightly, fresh/ crisp wild red berries combined with hints of lily, lilac, racy (almost iodine) minerality as well as fine hints of liquorice, chocolate and a discreet touch of vanilla. Good length.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Château L'Ermitage 2019

Listrac-Médoc Cru Bourgeois

The nose is a bit closed. The wine needs to be decanted. There are notes of pulpy cherry, blackberry and, more slightly, violet, combined with fine touches of nutmeg and fresh flowers. The palate is fruity and offers freshness, minerality, a juicy/acidic structure, good definition and fine tension. On the palate, juicy/pulpy blackberry, crushed blackcurrant and slightly fresh cherry notes are combined with hints of violet, liquorice and fine cherry blossom and subtle hints of sweet spice. Subtle, almost saline, hint of toastiness on the finish.

Score : 15/20 (89-90/100)

Château Liouner 2019

Listrac-Médoc Cru Bourgeois

The wine benefits from being decanted. The nose offers a certain power. There are notes of wild blackberry, spices and, more slightly, crunchy blackcurrant, combined with hints of raspberry and fine pepper. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, roundness, a certain fatness, finesse and good control. Good freshness and minerality. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy cherry, crunchy blackberry and, more slightly, crushed redcurrant combined with touches of racy minerality, fresh berries, fine hints of fresh violet, zan and a discreet hint of star anise, a very discreet almost sappy hint and a subtle hint of fresh blond tobacco.

Score : 15.5/20 (90-91/100)

Château Reverdi 2019

Listrac-Médoc Cru Bourgeois Supérieur

The nose is gourmet. There are notes of liquorice, morello cherry and slightly crushed raspberry combined with hints of cardamom, blueberry and fine hints of star anise. The palate is fruity and offers freshness, minerality, a little roundness/fat, an acidic frame and a good, precise tannic structure. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of morello cherry, crunchy blackcurrant and, more slightly, pulpy raspberry, combined with hints of lily, blueberry, cardamom, as well as discreet hints of coffee, sweet spices and a subtle touch of roasting. The tannins are structured. Good work on the bitter taste on the finish. Good persistence.

Score : 15.5/20 (90-91/100)

Château Saransot-Dupré 2019

Listrac-Médoc Cru Bourgeois Supérieur

The nose is liquorice, racy and offers a nice finesse of grain as well as some power. There are notes of crushed blackcurrant, blueberry and, to a lesser extent, fleshy Gariguet strawberry, combined with hints of liquorice and fine zan. The palate is fruity, mineral, balanced, fresh and offers a juicy/acidic structure, good definition, some tension, precision and clarity. On the palate this wine expresses notes of crushed/creamy blackcurrant, pulpy blackberry and, more slightly, pulpy raspberry combined with hints of chocolate, violet, fine caramelisation as well as fine toastiness and a subtle hint of torrefaction.

Score : 15.75/20 (91-92/100)

Château Lalande 2019

Listrac-Médoc Cru Bourgeois

The nose is fresh, racy and offers a little flowery side. There are notes of fresh violets, rose/buttons and, to a lesser extent, fresh blackberries, combined with a hint of strawberry and fine pepper. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, freshness, good definition, roundness, suavity, fatness and a fine tension. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of fresh flowers, pulpy blackberry and, more slightly, fresh raspberry, combined with touches of crunchy berries, buds, as well as fine points of minerality, zan, and a discreet hint of toastiness/roast. A fine salinity in the background.

Score : 14.75/20 (88-89/100)

AOC SAINT-ESTÈPHE

Château de Côme 2019

Saint-Estèphe Cru Bourgeois Supérieur

(Organic) The nose is fresh, racy and offers tension and fine power. There are notes of wild blackcurrant, violet and, more slightly, wild red berries combined with a hint of pepper, lily, fine hints of star anise and a discreet touch of cola and spice. The palate is juicy, fresh and offers minerality, good definition, a certain juiciness and a little stretch. On the palate this wine expresses juicy/pulpy blackberry, morello cherry and a touch of fresh tobacco combined with hints of jammy wild red berries and fine cardamom, camphor and a subtle hint of vanillin (in the background). The tannins are fine and mellow.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Château Lafitte Carcasset 2019

Saint-Estèphe Cru Bourgeois Supérieur

The nose is fresh, aromatic and offers some power as well as a fine, racy grain. There are notes of boysenberry, fleshy strawberry and, more slightly, crushed raspberry combined with hints of liquorice stick, lilac, pepper as well as a subtle hint of cardamom and a very discreet hint of Sichuan pepper (in the background). The palate is fruity and offers freshness, minerality, concentration, a good structure (discreetly tight) and tension. On the palate this wine expresses morello cherry, pulpy/juicy blackcurrant and, more slightly, notes of violet combined with hints of racy minerality, fine nuances of blond tobacco and a subtle hint of cardamom and vanilla. A subtle, almost iodine-like edge and good work on positive bitterness. The tannins are well-managed. Good length.

Score : 15.25+/20 (90-91/100)

Médoc area

Château Lilian Ladouys 2019

Saint-Estèphe Cru Bourgeois Exceptionnel

The nose is fresh, racy and offers a certain elegance as well as intensity in control and a certain finesse in its power. There are notes of pulpy cherry, fresh/ripe wild strawberry and, more slightly, pulpy berries combined with hints of violet, liquorice, and subtle hints of violet, lily, sweet spice and pepper (in the background). The palate is fruity, fresh and offers minerality, good definition, roundness, sweetness, fine grain, controlled richness and good definition/purity of the fruit. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy cherry, pulpy/juicy wild raspberry and, more slightly, pulpy blackcurrant combined with hints of blueberry, lily as well as fine nuances of sweet blond tobacco, vanilla and a subtle hint of positive bitterness. There is a fine hint of roast in the background.

Score : 16+/20 (92-93/100)

Château Tour des Termes 2019

Saint-Estèphe Cru Bourgeois Supérieur

The nose is fruity, elegant, aromatic and offers some complexity. There are notes of black cherry, violet and, more slightly, crunchy violet plum combined with hints of crushed currants, fine hints of liquorice and a discreet touch of lilac and sweet tobacco. The palate is fruity and offers minerality, freshness, good definition, a certain gourmandise, fresh acidity, a good guideline and a good tannic structure. On the palate this wine expresses morello cherry, blueberry and slightly crunchy blackberry notes combined with hints of pulpy raspberry as well as fine lily, fresh blond tobacco, saline gravel/racy minerality and discreet hints of sweet spice. The tannins are elegant, racy and structured. A subtle hint of mocha in the background. Good length. A great success!

Score : 16.25+/20 (93/100)

Château Coutelin-Merville 2019

Saint-Estèphe Cru Bourgeois

The nose offers notes of ripe/crushed berries and, more slightly, spiced, with fine notes of racy, almost saline minerality and a discreet hint of rosewood, red berries and vanillin. The palate is mineral, discreetly tight and offers fruit, a fine fat and a certain tension. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy raspberry, wild red berries and, more slightly, blackberry, combined with hints of tonka bean, camphor and a fine touch of pepper. The tannins are a little tight and relatively dry/marked.

Score : 14+/20 (87/100)

Château Petit Bocq 2019

Saint-Estèphe Cru Bourgeois Supérieur

The nose is spicy and offers some intensity and good definition. There are notes of Sichuan pepper, blackcurrant and, to a lesser extent, ripe red berries, combined with hints of camphor, morello cherry and fine spices. The palate is fruity, racy and offers minerality, freshness, a mineral frame, a fine tension and concentration. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/fresh blackberry, pulpy/fresh raspberry and, more slightly, of pulpy wild red berries combined with hints of mocha, sweet blond tobacco, fine clove notes and a discreet hint of camphor, racy minerality and a very discreet hint of black pepper. Good work on the bitter taste.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Château Le Boscq 2019

Saint-Estèphe Cru Bourgeois Exceptionnel

The nose is spicy, tightly wound and has a certain intensity. There are notes of clove, Sichuan pepper and wild berries combined with a hint of pepper and a very discreet hint of star anise. The palate is mineral, with freshness, tension, energy and an acidic/mineral structure. On the palate this wine expresses notes of fresh blackberry, tart/juicy red berries and, more slightly, fresh violet combined with hints of iodine, cardamom, cloves and fine nuances of fresh blond tobacco. Good length.

Score : 15/20 (89-90/100)

Château Tour de Termes 2019

Saint-Estèphe Cru Bourgeois Supérieur

The nose is elegant, racy and offers nice fruit, power and depth. The wine benefits from being decanted. There are notes of fleshy wild blackcurrant, pepper and a hint of star anise combined with hints of morello cherry, wild strawberry, black plum, graphite and a hint of lily and mocha. The palate is fruity, fresh and offers minerality, concentration, fine creaminess, good definition, accuracy, tension and elegance. On the palate this wine expresses crunchy wild blackcurrant, morello cherry and slightly crunchy raspberry notes with a touch of juicy/fresh red berries, fine purple plum, racy minerality, violet and a subtle hint of vanilla, mocha and clove (in the background). The tannins are powerful, racy and controlled. Nice persistence and nice work on the bitter taste.

Score : 15.75/20 (91-92/100)

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Médoc area

Château Le Crock 2019

Saint-Estèphe Cru Bourgeois Exceptionnel

The nose is fruity and offers power, precision, stretch, freshness and a nice fine and intense grain. There are notes of blackcurrant, wild cherry and, to a lesser extent, juicy blueberry, combined with hints of violet, fine pepper and a discreet touch of pepper and vanilla. The palate is fresh, focused, precise, tight and offers a nice minerality, a mineral backbone, an airy side as well as a fine and stretched grain. All in finesse and balance. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy raspberry, pulpy/juicy blackcurrant and, more slightly, violet, combined with hints of ripe black berries, fine hints of liquorice and a discreet touch of lilac and vanilla. A subtle hint of positive bitterness and salinity in the background.
Score : 16.75/20 (93-94/100)

Château Tour de Pez 2019

Saint-Estèphe Cru Bourgeois

The nose is fruity and offers a certain gourmandise and purity of fruit. There are notes of cherry, blueberry and, to a lesser extent, violet, combined with hints of tart raspberry, as well as fine hints of liquorice, a subtle hint of vanilla flowers and an imperceptible touch of pepper. The palate is fruity and offers elegance, juiciness, fatness, a nice acidic structure, good definition and a nice pulpy/acidic/juicy fruit. On the palate this wine expresses crunchy cherry and redcurrant fruit with hints of crisp raspberry, juicy/acidic blackcurrant, liquorice, blueberry, a hint of tobacco, cardamom and a subtle touch of clove and chocolate. The tannins are well-managed, racy and discreetly mellow. A very discreet hint of varietal flavours in the background.
Score : 15.5/20 (90-91/100)

AOC HAUT-MÉDOC

Château Larose-Trintaudon 2019

Haut-Médoc Cru Bourgeois Supérieur

The nose is fruity and offers fine complexity and concentration. There are notes of cherry, crushed redcurrant and, to a lesser extent, crunchy raspberry, combined with hints of blackberry, violet, fine hints of blackberry cream and a discreet hint of fresh hazelnut and fresh blond tobacco. The palate is fruity, fresh and offers a certain gourmandise, a fine unctuousness and energy. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of redcurrant cream, crushed cherry and, to a lesser extent, crunchy blueberry, combined with hints of violet, fresh/juicy red berries and hints of fresh blond tobacco and almond. Good length.
Score : 15.25+/20 (90-91/100)

Château Larose Perganson 2019

Haut-Médoc Cru Bourgeois Supérieur

The nose is flowery and offers some power and a very fine concentration. There are notes of wild raspberry, morello cherry and, to a lesser extent, blueberry, combined with hints of liquorice, cherry blossom, chocolate and a very fine hint of liquorice stick, sweet blond tobacco and a subtle touch of nutmeg. The palate is fruity and offers minerality, freshness, good definition, gourmandise, fatness and roundness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of tart blackcurrant, jammy redcurrant and slightly pulpy/juicy cherry combined with hints of blueberry, blueberry, liquorice and a subtle hint of sweet blond tobacco. The tannins are finely mellow. Good length. Nice freshness and minerality.
Score : 15.5/20 (90-91/100)

Clos La Bohème 2019

Haut-Médoc Cru Bourgeois

The nose is flowery and offers a fine complexity as well as depth. There are notes of fresh blackberry, crunchy berries and, more slightly, violet combined with hints of morello cherry and fine hints of liquorice, fresh blond tobacco (in the background) and a subtle hint of almost verben. The palate is fruity with minerality, freshness, good definition, a certain purity of fruit and straightness. On the palate this wine expresses morello cherry, juicy raspberry and, more slightly, liquorice notes combined with hints of fresh lily/iris as well as fine notes of nutmeg, sweet spices and a discreet hint of clove. The tannins are mellow. Good length. Sapidity at the back of the palate and on the finish.
Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Château Balac 2019

Haut-Médoc Cru Bourgeois Supérieur

The nose is fresh and juicy. There are hints of crunchy cherry, juicy raspberry and slightly blackberry with hints of violet and nutmeg. The palate is fruity and offers freshness, good definition, a certain gourmandise and fat. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy raspberry, crunchy cherry and, more slightly, strawberry combined with a touch of fresh flowers, a discreet hint of crunchy red plums as well as fine notes of tonka bean and toastiness. The tannins are racy and well-managed. Good length. Discrete firmness on the finish.
Score : 15.25+/20 (90-91/100)

Château Bel Air Gloria 2019

Haut-Médoc Cru Bourgeois Supérieur

The nose offers a fine richness, concentration, power as well as a fine stretch. There are notes of crushed raspberry, fresh/crunchy red berries and, more slightly, of violet combined with delicate hints of Morello cherry, fine hints of liquorice, discreet hints of Cuban pepper and a subtle hint of racy minerality, lily and cardamom. The palate is fresh, mineral, balanced and offers good definition, juiciness, freshness, a fine crispness, a certain straightness, fine tension, elegance and a nice acidic frame. On the palate this wine expresses juicy/pulpy blackberry, crisp raspberry and slightly juicy/fresh cherry notes combined with hints of vanilla, violet as well as fine notes of racy minerality, a subtle hint of iodine and discreet hints of sweet spices.
Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Château Bellegrave du Poujeau 2019

Haut-Médoc Cru Bourgeois

The nose is fresh. There are notes of fresh flowers and, to a lesser extent, crunchy strawberries, combined with a delicate varietal touch as well as fine hints of fresh tobacco and a mineral edge. The palate is fresh, mineral and offers some fat and a fine straightness. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/fresh raspberry, crisp red berries and, more slightly, fresh flowers combined with a touch of peony, minerality and fine toasted notes.
Score : 14+/20 (87/100)

Château Belle-Vue 2019

Haut-Médoc Cru Bourgeois Exceptionnel

The nose is worth decanting. There are notes of blackberry, spices and, more slightly, violets, combined with touches of wild berries and fine points of fresh pepper (in the background). The palate is fruity and offers freshness, a fine crunch, energy, a certain aromatic purity, fatness and a very fine unctuousness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of crisp strawberry, crisp red berries and, more slightly, violet combined with hints of fresh/crunchy blackcurrant, fine hints of fresh liquorice, racy minerality as well as a subtle hint of sense of place, toasted almonds and discreet hints of fresh spices. Good length. Subtle hint of caramelisation in the background / on the finish.
Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Château Bibian 2019

Haut-Médoc Cru Bourgeois Supérieur

The nose is fresh, racy and offers fine power and minerality. There are notes of fresh blackcurrant, fresh/juicy wild strawberry and slightly juicy/fresh violet plum combined with fine touches of fresh lily, racy minerality and discreet hints of sweet spice. The palate is mineral and offers freshness, good definition, juiciness, some fat and an acidic frame. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy raspberry, juicy red berries and a hint of violet combined with touches of crunchy berries, fine hints of liquorice and a subtle, almost sappy, spicy edge. The tannins are mellow. Good length.
Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Château Cambon La Pelouse 2019

Haut-Médoc Cru Bourgeois Exceptionnel

The nose is aromatic and offers power, a certain intensity and a fine grain. The wine benefits from being decanted. There are notes of fresh boysenberry, ripe red berries and, more slightly, strawberry combined with delicate hints of star anise, crunchy plums as well as fine graphite, camphor, spice, a subtle hint of cardamom and a touch of Sichuan pepper (in the background). The palate is fresh, mine-



Médoc area

ral and offers roundness, fruitiness, some fatness, a certain gourmandise, unctuousness, a nice complexity, a fine grain, delicacy in its power as well as concentration. On the palate this wine expresses notes of crushed blackberry, crushed wild strawberry and, more slightly, crushed redcurrant combined with hints of liquorice stick, pulpy purple plum and a hint of Bourbon vanilla, graphite and a subtle touch of incense. Good length. A subtle hint of star anise on the finish.

Score : 16.25+/20 (93/100)

Château d'Agassac 2019

Haut-Médoc Cru Bourgeois Exceptionnel

The nose is fruity with minerality and a fine creamy feel. There are notes of crushed currant, crushed cherry and, more slightly, strawberry combined with hints of fresh hazelnut, lily and discreet hints of vanilla essence and an imperceptible almost buttery edge. The palate is fruity, discreetly tight/contained and offers minerality, freshness and a fresh/juicy frame. On the palate this wine expresses notes of fresh cherry, juicy/fresh redcurrant and, more slightly, crushed red berries combined with a touch of blackberry, fine nuances of lily as well as a hint of vanillin and a subtle touch of fresh hazelnut.

Score : 15.5/20 (90-91/100)

Château du Cartillon 2019

Haut-Médoc Cru Bourgeois Supérieur

The nose is fresh and offers fresh fruit and a very fine floral side. There are notes of fresh blackberry, lily and, more slightly, concentrated red berries combined with a fine touch of crushed blackcurrant and a subtle hint of sweet spices. The palate is fruity and offers freshness, juiciness, a fine fatness and some roundness. On the palate this wine expresses juicy/fresh blackberry, juicy/fresh raspberry and, more slightly, pulpy cherry notes combined with hints of fresh lily, iris, fine hints of liquorice stick and a subtle hint of cola and spice. There is a very discreet hint of chocolate in the background.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Château Dasvin-Bel-Air 2019

Haut-Médoc Cru Bourgeois

The nose is fruity. There are notes of crushed blackcurrant, cherry and, more slightly, crushed raspberry combined with fine touches of violet and a discreet hint of liquorice. The palate is fresh, mineral, balanced and offers a fresh frame and minerality. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy raspberry, crunchy cherry and slightly violet combined with fine hints of liquorice and a subtle touch of racy minerality and fresh tobacco.

Score : 14.5+/20 (88/100)

Château de Gironville 2019

Haut-Médoc Cru Bourgeois

The nose is fruity and offers a certain aromatic richness, lovely fruit and a certain purity of fruit. There are notes of crunchy cherry, crunchy raspberry and slightly fresh/juicy violet plum combined with hints of liquorice stick, varietal and discreet hints of blackcurrant, lily and a subtle hint of sweet blond tobacco. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, smoothness, minerality, good definition, nice tension, pulpiness/richness and precision. On the palate this wine expresses fleshy/juicy cherry, violet and slightly crunchy blackberry notes combined with hints of red berries and fine points of racy minerality and fresh blond tobacco.

Score : 15.25+/20 (90-91/100)

Château Haut-Madrac 2019

Haut-Médoc Cru Bourgeois

The nose is flowery and juicy. There are notes of violet, lily and, more slightly, fresh blackberry, combined with delicate touches of crushed red berries, as well as fine nuances of racy minerality and a subtle hint of fresh nutmeg. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, sweetness, a fine unctuousness, fatness, acidity and a good work on the bitter taste. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of red berries, lily, iris and, more slightly, blackberry cream, combined with touches of crunchy cherry, as well as fine chocolate/toastiness in the background and a subtle hint of vanilla in the finish. The tannins are mellow. Fine varietal hints on the nose and palate.

Score : 14.5+/20 (88/100)

Château Lamothe-Bergeron 2019

Haut-Médoc Cru Bourgeois Supérieur

The nose is spicy and offers concentration, elegance and minerality. Fleshy/juicy strawberry, blackberry and slightly crunchy blackcurrant notes are combined with hints of Bourbon vanilla as well as fine hints of liquorice, lily, racy minerality and a discreet hint of almost lily (in the background). The palate is fruity, tightly wound

and offers minerality, a certain elegance, unctuousness and a fine richness. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of crème de cassis, crushed cherry and, more slightly, crushed blackberry, combined with hints of lily, vanilla and fine chocolate and a touch of toasted hazelnut.

Score : 15.75/20 (91-92/100)

Château Landat 2019

Haut-Médoc Cru Bourgeois

The nose is fruity. There are notes of crushed blackcurrant, crisp purple plum and, more slightly, wild berries, combined with hints of nutmeg, spice and a discreet touch of clove. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, smoothness, acidity and good definition. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/fresh red berries, crisp purple plum and, more slightly, lily/lilac combined with hints of fresh red berries and a subtle hint of fresh blond tobacco. Good length.

Score : 15+/20 (89-90/100)

Château Lamothe-Cissac 2019

Haut-Médoc Cru Bourgeois

The nose is fresh, flowery and has a fine concentration. There are notes of fresh blackberry, fresh violet and, more slightly, lily combined with hints of fleshy/pulpy berries, crushed blackcurrant as well as fine plum blossom and discreet hints of sweet spices. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, freshness, minerality, good definition, a certain gourmandise, precision, juiciness and fat. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy blackberry, crisp cherry and, more slightly, fleshy/juicy red berries combined with hints of lily, violet, racy minerality, a subtle hint of chocolate, liquorice and a touch of cardamom and toasted hazelnut. The tannins are smooth and precise. Good length.

Score : 15.25+/20 (90-91/100)

Château Lacour Jacquet 2019

Haut-Médoc Cru Bourgeois

The nose is fresh, fruity and has a certain intensity and fine grain. There are notes of racy minerality, pulpy berries and a hint of pepper, combined with touches of crunchy blackcurrant, crushed raspberry, star anise and a discreet hint of Bourbon vanilla (in the background). The palate is mineral and offers freshness, fatness, juiciness and an acidic frame. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of plummy/juicy plum, crunchy raspberry and slightly crushed cherry, combined with hints of vanilla and a touch of fresh lily, racy minerality and fine hints of chocolate (in the background). Good length. A very discreet hint of toasted hazelnut in the background. The tannins are well-managed and finely mellow.

Score : 15.25+/20 (90-91/100)

Château Meyre 2019

Haut-Médoc Cru Bourgeois Supérieur

(Organic) The nose is fruity, well conducted and offers concentration, spiciness and a fine stretch. There are notes of concentrated blackberry, blackcurrant and, more slightly, red fruit pulp/very ripe combined with delicate touches of violet, lily, morello cherry, as well as fine nuances of black tea, liquorice and a discreet, almost roasted touch in the background. The palate is fruity and offers gourmandise, roundness, a spherical side, unctuousness, tension, an acidic frame, good definition as well as a certain purity of the fruit (quite ripe/pulpy). On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy boysenberry, crushed raspberry and, more slightly, juicy/crunchy red berries combined with a touch of crushed blue plum as well as hints of blueberry, liquorice stick, black tea and a subtle touch of vanilla (in the background). Good length. Sapidity and sweetness on the finish, which adds to the deliciousness.

Score : 15.5/20 (90-91/100)

Château Peyrabon 2019

Haut-Médoc Cru Bourgeois Supérieur

The wine benefits from being decanted. The nose offers concentration, power, fine grain and elegance. There are notes of wild black cherry, blackcurrant and, more slightly, grey pepper combined with hints of violet and fine hints of liquorice, black tea and racy minerality (almost discreetly iodised). The palate is fruity, well-balanced, precise and long, with minerality, freshness, good definition, fatness, fine straightness and elegance. On the palate this wine expresses pulpy/juicy blackberry, crunchy blackcurrant and slightly pulpy/juicy black cherry with hints of violet, red berries and fine liquorice, racy/gravelly minerality and a touch of black tea. Good length. The tannins are precise and relatively soft. There is a fine saline/iodine edge and positive bitterness in the background.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Médoc area

Château Lestage Simon 2019 Haut-Médoc Cru Bourgeois Supérieur

The nose has a spicy edge. There are notes of fresh leather, Sichuan pepper and, to a lesser extent, ripe berries, combined with hints of liquorice and spices. The palate offers minerality, acidity and a fine tension. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy cherry, juicy/pulpy red berries and, more slightly, violet combined with touches of fresh leather and a hint of clove.

Score : 14.5/20 (88/100)

Château Magnol 2019 Haut-Médoc Cru Bourgeois

The nose is tight and concentrated. There are notes of wild blackcurrant, ripe wild berries and, more slightly, of Sichuan pepper combined with fine nuances of liquorice. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, smoothness, minerality, good definition, fine fat and a certain gourmandise. On the palate this wine expresses juicy/pulpy blackberry, crushed currant and slightly cherry notes combined with hints of liquorice, fresh violet and a touch of clove and tea.

Score : 14.5+/20 (88/100)

Château Maurac 2019 Haut-Médoc Cru Bourgeois

The nose is racy and offers a fine power and spiciness. There are notes of wild strawberry, wild blackberry and, to a lesser extent, pepper, combined with hints of lily and fine nuances of fresh nutmeg. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, a certain crunchiness of fruit and freshness. On the palate this wine expresses crunchy cherry, pulpy blackcurrant and slightly violet notes combined with hints of fresh lily and a subtle touch of pepper, chocolate and toast. Good length. A subtle saline/savoury edge and good work on the bitter taste.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Château Prieuré de Beyzac 2019 Haut-Médoc Cru Bourgeois

The nose is fruity and offers freshness, pretty floral notes and a fine crispness. There are notes of boysenberry, blueberry and, to a lesser extent, ripe red berries combined with fine touches of blue berries and a subtle hint of lily and vanilla. The palate is fruity and offers crunchiness, juiciness, a certain gourmandise, a good definition of the fruit, a mineral frame and a fine spherical side of the fruit. On the palate this wine expresses juicy/pulpy cherry, crunchy red berry and slightly blueberry notes with a touch of fresh blueberry, racy minerality and fine hints of liquorice and fresh blond tobacco. The tannins are discreetly marked and racy. Good length.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Château Reysson 2019 Haut-Médoc Cru Bourgeois Supérieur

The nose is fruity and offers concentration and depth. There are notes of crushed boysenberry, blue berries and, more slightly, lily/lilac combined with a touch of morello cherry as well as fine hints of bergamot, grey pepper and a very discreet almost saline edge. The palate is mineral and offers freshness, energy and a good guideline / fine stretch. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy cherry, fresh wild blackberry and, more slightly, of fresh flowers combined with a fine touch of bergamot, juicy berries and a hint of fresh blond tobacco and a subtle almost saline edge. A discreet hint of vanilla on the finish.

Score : 15/20 (89-90/100)

Château Rollin 2019 Haut-Médoc Cru Bourgeois

The nose is floral, fresh and relatively aromatic. There are notes of blueberry, violet and, to a lesser extent, pulpy blackcurrant, combined with hints of morello cherry, ripe red berries and hints of zan/black tea. The palate is fresh, mineral, balanced and offers juiciness, acidity, freshness, fatness, roundness and airiness in the approach to its richness/roundness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy blackcurrant, fleshy boysenberry and, more slightly, ripe wild red berry fruit combined with hints of flowers (violet, iris), chocolate, caramelisation and fine toasted hazelnut. The tannins are mellow. A fine chewiness on the finish. Good length.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Château La Tonnelle 2019 Haut-Médoc Cru Bourgeois

The nose is floral and offers intensity and concentration. There are notes of lily, iris and, more slightly, pulpy raspberry, combined with touches of rose, juicy/fresh berries, as well as fine hints of liquorice, Sichuan pepper and a very discreet touch of fresh tobacco. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, minerality, good definition, freshness and a good work on the bitter taste. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of violet, iris

and, more slightly, fresh plum/crunchy plum, combined with touches of red berries, as well as fresh tobacco and a hint of spice. A very fine chewiness on the finish.

Score : 15+/20 (89-90/100)

Château Ramage La Batisse 2019 Haut-Médoc Cru Bourgeois Supérieur

The nose is fresh, racy and offers a fine floral edge, fine depth and a fine stretch. There are notes of blackcurrant and, more slightly, iris/variety, combined with hints of fresh raspberry and fine zan. The palate is fruity, balanced and offers juiciness, smoothness, good definition, a mineral framework and a fine creaminess. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy cherry, juicy/fresh purple plum and, more slightly, blackcurrant combined with delicate touches of flowers/irises and fine points of fresh blond tobacco. The tannins are a little firm. Good length.

Score : 15/20 (89-90/100)

Château Tourteran 2019 Haut-Médoc Cru Bourgeois

The nose is fresh and offers a fine intensity and straightness. There are notes of fresh iris, rose and, to a lesser extent, pulpy blackcurrant, combined with fine varietal hints, pulpy red berries and a fine touch of grey pepper. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, freshness, acidity, fatness, roundness and a fine straightness. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy cherry, pulpy boysenberry and, more slightly, crunchy red berries, combined with hints of fresh flowers, fine points of racy minerality, zan and a discreet hint of camphor and toastiness. Slight bitterness on the finish adds to the palatability.

Score : 15/20 (89-90/100)

Château de Villambis 2019 Haut-Médoc Cru Bourgeois

The nose is fruity, fresh and offers a certain delicacy and clarity. There are notes of pulpy blackcurrant, blackberry and, to a lesser extent, black pepper, combined with hints of crunchy red berries, liquorice stick and a subtle hint of vanilla. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, smoothness, freshness, minerality, sharpness, precision and a fine acidity. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy cherry, crisp raspberry and, more slightly, of fresh flowers combined with a touch of juicy/fresh black berries as well as a hint of iris/variety and a subtle touch of liquorice.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Château Doyac 2019 Haut-Médoc Cru Bourgeois Supérieur

(Organic) The nose is precise, racy and offers a certain power. There are notes of blackberry, wild berries and, more slightly, violets, combined with hints of nutmeg, spice and a subtle touch of camphor, bergamot and vanilla. The palate is fruity, discreetly tight (at present) and offers minerality, good definition, accuracy and precision. On the palate this wine expresses juicy/acidic cherry, crunchy red berry and, more slightly, blackcurrant notes combined with hints of violet, bergamot, nutmeg as well as fine points of fresh blond tobacco and a discreet hint of Bourbon vanilla in the background. The tannins are well-managed. Good length. A nice acidic/gourmet finish.

Score : 15.75/20 (91-92/100)

Château Corconnac 2019 Haut-Médoc Cru Bourgeois

The nose is fruity, racy and offers fine concentration and depth. There are notes of wild strawberry, nutmeg and, more slightly, ripe berries combined with fine clove and crushed redcurrant notes and a hint of tobacco. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, fat, precision, roundness, a fine acidic backbone and creaminess. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/creamy wild strawberry, blackberry and slightly violet combined with hints of creamy blackcurrant, crushed redcurrant, clove, sweet blond tobacco, as well as fine toasted/caramelised notes and a subtle touch of vanilla. Juicy and nicely fleshy/acidic fruit.

Score : 15/20 (89-90/100)

Château Beaumont 2019 Haut-Médoc Cru Bourgeois Supérieur

The nose is spicy. The wine benefits from being decanted. There are notes of ripe wild red berries, liquorice and slightly blackberry with fine vanilla and a subtle hint of racy minerality/grey pepper. The palate is fruity with minerality, tension, sharpness/precision, acidity and elegance. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy blackberry, crunchy raspberry and, more slightly, vanilla combined with hints of juicy/fresh cherry as well as fine nuances of racy minerality, liquorice, chocolate and an imperceptible almost sappy edge (in the background). The tannins are fine and discreetly tight. Good length. A subtle hint of coffee on the finish.

Score : 15.5/20 (90-91/100)

Médoc area

Château de Sénylhaac 2019 Haut-Médoc Cru Bourgeois

The nose is reductive. The palate is fresh and offers some fat, minerality and a fresh saffron edge. On the palate this wine expresses notes of fresh blackcurrant, boysenberry and, more slightly, of fresh/pulpy berries combined with hints of chocolate and toastiness. The tannins are discreetly marked.

Score : 14.25+/20 (87-88/100)

Château La Lauzette Declercq 2019 Haut-Médoc Cru Bourgeois

The nose is reductive. The wine benefits from being decanted. There are notes of red berries, rosebuds and, more slightly, blackcurrants, combined with hints of spices, camphor and a touch of cloves. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, acidity, fatness and roundness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of crushed cherry, crushed raspberry and, more slightly, acidic redcurrant combined with a touch of pulpy blackberry, violet and fine camphor, racy minerality and clove. A subtle hint of chocolate on the finish.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Château du Retout 2019 Haut-Médoc Cru Bourgeois Supérieur

The nose is closed and a bit reductive. The wine needs to be decanted. There are notes of blackcurrant, violet and, to a lesser extent, red berries, combined with touches of liquorice, caramelisation and a subtle hint of pepper, a discreet hint of varietal and an imperceptible hint of camphor. The palate is mineral and offers an acidic backbone, tension, tightness, harmony and a nice freshness. On the palate this wine expresses juicy/pulpy blackberry, wild strawberry and slightly wild berry notes combined with hints of fresh blond tobacco, camphor and a subtle hint of pepper. The tannins are tightly wound and discreetly dry. A subtle hint of bramble/rosewood in the background.

Score : 15/20 (89-90/100)

Château d'Aurilhac 2019 Haut-Médoc Cru Bourgeois

The nose offers concentration. The wine benefits from being decanted. There are notes of crushed blackberry, pulpy blackcurrant and, more slightly, violet combined with hints of pulpy/crushed cherry, fine violet, racy minerality and a subtle hint of cardamom, camphor and clove/spice. The palate is fruity and offers tension, straightness and minerality. On the palate this wine expresses juicy/crunchy blackberry, crushed blackcurrant and, more slightly, fleshy/crushed red fruit notes combined with hints of racy minerality, a subtle hint of iodine as well as fine hints of cardamom, chocolate, toast and almond. The tannins are finely powdered and very tightly wound. Good length. Nice acidity and tension on the finish.

Score : 15/20 (89-90/100)

Château Saint-Ahon 2019 Haut-Médoc Cru Bourgeois

The nose is fruity, tense and offers a certain racy power as well as a slightly tight grain. The wine benefits from being decanted. There are notes of crunchy wild blackcurrant, Cuben pepper and, more slightly, ripe/pulpy red berry fruit combined with fine touches of blueberry, violet and hints of sweet spice. The palate is nicely juicy, racy and offers a nice freshness, minerality, roundness, fatness and an acidic frame. On the palate this wine expresses juicy/pulpy boysenberry, crunchy raspberry and slightly crushed blackcurrant notes combined with hints of fleshy/fresh cherry, lily, racy minerality as well as fine toasted notes and a subtle hint of hazelnut. The tannins are mellow.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Château Clément-Pichon 2019 Haut-Médoc Cru Bourgeois Supérieur

The nose offers a certain delicacy as well as spiciness. There are notes of blackberry, wild strawberry and, more slightly, camphor combined with delicate touches of racy minerality, lily, pepper, as well as fine notes of toastiness, sweet spices and a subtle hint of star anise in the background. The palate is fruity and offers minerality, good definition, a certain gourmandise, a little spherical side, roundness and a fine tension. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy redcurrant, tart raspberry and, more slightly, violet, combined with hints of fresh/juicy violet plum, as well as hints of vanilla, toasted almond, tonka bean and discreet toasted notes.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Château Moulin de Blanchon 2019 Haut-Médoc Cru Bourgeois

The nose is fruity. There are notes of ripe blackcurrant, strawberry and, to a lesser extent, pulpy redcurrants, combined with hints of blackberry, racy minerality and a touch of lily and pepper. The palate is fresh, fruity and offers minerality, acidity and some fat. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/fresh blackcurrant,

crunchy red berries, as well as hints of crunchy cherry, dark chocolate and a subtle touch of violet. Good length. Smooth tannins.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Château Martin 2019 Haut-Médoc Cru Bourgeois

The nose reveals notes of coffee, torrefaction, blackberry and, more slightly, crushed black berries combined with delicate touches of grey pepper. The palate is fresh, mineral, balanced and offers a fresh structure, good definition and some acidity. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy raspberry, blackcurrant and, more slightly, toasted oak combined with a fine touch of cocoa and a discreet varietal touch. There is a fine hint of positive bitterness in the background.

Score : 14.5/20 (88/100)

Château Cissac 2019 Haut-Médoc Cru Bourgeois Supérieur

The nose is fruity and offers power and intensity. There are notes of blackcurrant, blackberry and, to a lesser extent, fresh cherry, combined with hints of violet, lily, Sichuan pepper and a discreet touch of camphor. The palate is fresh, mineral, balanced and offers fresh acidity and a fine tension. On the palate this wine expresses notes of fresh blackberry, fresh wild blackcurrant and, more slightly, violet combined with hints of liquorice, wild red berries and fine varietal, liquorice and toasted notes.

Score : 15.5/20 (90-91/100)

Château Croix du Trale 2019 Haut-Médoc Cru Bourgeois

The nose is fruity and offers some intensity and depth. There are notes of crunchy blackcurrant, black berries and a hint of liquorice combined with hints of fresh flowers/purple as well as hints of saffron and a discreet touch of nutmeg. The palate is fresh, mineral, balanced and offers a tangy structure, juiciness, good definition and some tension. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy blackcurrant, crushed blackberry and, more slightly, raspberry, combined with hints of red berries and fine varietal/fresh flower notes. Racy tannins. Good length. A subtle hint of toast/bitterness in the background.

Score : 15+/20 (89-90/100)

Château de Cartujac 2019 Haut-Médoc Cru Bourgeois

The nose is fruity, fresh and well-defined. There are notes of pulpy blackcurrant, fleshy blackberry and, to a lesser extent, crushed strawberry, combined with hints of plum, as well as fine peppery notes and discreet hints of liquorice. The palate is fruity, balanced and offers freshness, juiciness, good definition, a certain gourmandise, crunchiness and pulpiness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of crunchy blackcurrant, boysenberry and, more slightly, redcurrant combined with hints of red berries, blueberry as well as hints of chocolate and a subtle hint of blonde tobacco (in the background).

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Château Labat 2019 Haut-Médoc Cru Bourgeois Supérieur

The nose is toasted. There are notes of raspberry and, more slightly, crushed cherry, combined with touches of fresh blond tobacco, as well as fine nuances of nutmeg and a discreet hint of almond (in the background). The palate is mineral, balanced and offers freshness, a fine fatness, roundness and fresh acidity. On the palate this wine expresses notes of fresh/pulpy blackberry, pulpy/fresh strawberry and, more slightly, crunchy red berries combined with hints of chocolate, toast and a touch of roast and toastiness. There is a subtle hint of chocolate in the background.

Score : 15/20 (89-90/100)

Château Paloumey 2019 Haut-Médoc Cru Bourgeois Supérieur

(organic) The nose is fruity, gourmet and offers creaminess, intensity and pungency. There are notes of creamy blackcurrant, wild black berries and, to a lesser extent, raspberry, combined with hints of nutmeg, cardamom, zan, and hints of lily and pepper. The palate is fruity, balanced and offers juiciness, a tangy structure, some fat, a nice racy freshness and crunchiness. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of crunchy blackcurrant, wild berries and slightly raspberry, combined with hints of violet, crushed plum, morello cherry, chocolate and a subtle hint of pepper (in the background). The tannins are precise and smooth. A hint of graphite and toast in the background.

Score : 15.5/20 (90-91/100)

Médoc area

Château du Moulin Rouge 2019 Haut-Médoc Cru Bourgeois Supérieur

The nose is fruity and offers some minerality. There are notes of ripe wild strawberry and, more slightly, blackcurrant, combined with hints of spice, liquorice and a subtle hint of sweet tobacco and crushed almond. The palate is fruity, fresh, balanced and offers a fresh structure, juiciness (fruit) and tension. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy blackberry, crushed cherry and, more slightly, blackcurrant combined with hints of chocolate, toasted/roasted almond and a subtle hint of sweet blond tobacco and spice. The tannins are very finely pronounced.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Château Tour du Haut Moulin 2019 Haut-Médoc Cru Bourgeois

The nose reveals notes of crushed black berries, morello cherry and, more slightly, violets combined with hints of pepper and a subtle almost zesty/citrusy edge. The palate is fresh, mineral, balanced and offers fresh acidity. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy blackcurrant, fresh blackberry and, more slightly, fresh flowers combined with hints of fresh cherry, fine notes of crisp red berries and a subtle hint of fresh wild flowers and a discreet hint of toasted almond. The tannins are finely strict. An imperceptible hint of vanilla (in the background).

Score : 14.75/20 (88-89/100)

Château D'Arcins 2019 Haut-Médoc Cru Bourgeois

The nose reveals notes of incense, toast and, more slightly, wild blackcurrant, blackberry combined with hints of violet, lily as well as a fine touch of pepper and fine hints of sweet tobacco. The palate is fresh, mineral, tightly wound and has a slight uprightness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of crunchy raspberry, crunchy redcurrant and, more slightly, black plum combined with nuances of crunchy blackcurrant as well as hints of cardamom, a hint of toast and a subtle hint of positive bitterness (in the background). The tannins are precise, sapid and well-managed.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Château Barreyres 2019 Haut-Médoc Cru Bourgeois

The nose is fresh and offers minerality and a fine graphite quality. There are notes of wild blackcurrant, pulpy raspberry and, to a lesser extent, wild strawberry, combined with hints of boysenberry and fine graphite, tonka bean and a subtle hint of vanilla. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, minerality, acidity, a certain gourmandise, good definition, fine tension and a certain finesse in its gourmandise. On the palate, this wine expresses juicy/pulpy blackberry, crushed blackcurrant and slightly violet notes combined with hints of fleshy cherry, wild strawberry, fine pepper and a discreet touch of graphite and cocoa/mocha. The tannins are precise and finely mellow. Good length.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Château Peyrat-Fourthon 2019 Haut-Médoc Cru Bourgeois Supérieur

The nose is fruity and offers a nice definition of the fruit as well as ripe, fleshy and juicy fruit at the same time. There are notes of creamy blackberry, fleshy blue berries and, more slightly, fleshy raspberry combined with hints of blueberry, liquorice, fresh lily, fine zan and a discreet hint of sweet spice and a very discreet hint of Sichuan pepper. The palate is fresh, balanced and offers a tangy structure, good definition and a racy minerality. A nice juiciness and freshness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of plummy blackberry, crushed blackcurrant and, more slightly, violet combined with hints of creamy plum, pulpy raspberry, ripe/juicy redcurrant and hints of liquorice stick, sweet blonde tobacco and vanilla. The tannins are precise and finely mellow. Good length. Fine chewiness on the finish.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Château de Malleret 2019 Haut-Médoc Cru Bourgeois Exceptionnel

The nose is fruity and offers a fine richness, controlled power, fine intensity and a very fine straightness. There are notes of wild blackcurrant, crushed blackberry and, to a lesser extent, fleshy cherry/griotte, combined with hints of liquorice stick, cardamom, a fine touch of camphor and a discreet hint of pepper and toast. The palate is fruity, balanced and offers juiciness, freshness, fine fluidity, good definition, tension, a very fine creaminess/fatness and a fresh/mineral structure. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of morello cherry, cocoa and, more slightly, pulpy boysenberry, combined with touches of blue berries, toast, cardamom, as well as a discreet hint of black pepper, fine hints of crushed almonds and a subtle, almost fresh floral touch. Good length. A fine hint of pleasant cocoa bitterness on the finish.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Château de Braude 2019 Haut-Médoc Cru Bourgeois

The nose is fruity and offers a fine power and some concentration. There are notes of wild blackcurrant, ripe berries and, more slightly, violet, lilac combined with fine touches of liquorice, tobacco, graphite and a subtle hint of incense and pepper. The palate is fruity, mineral, balanced and offers a fresh/mineral structure, some juiciness and a fine crunch. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/fresh blackcurrant, fresh violet and, more slightly, fresh lilac combined with hints of fresh blackberry, fresh red berries, vanilla, nutmeg and fine toasted hazelnut in the background. A subtle varietal touch on the finish.

Score : 14.75/20 (88-89/100)

Château du Taillan 2019 Haut-Médoc Cru Bourgeois Exceptionnel

The nose is racy. There are notes of fresh blackberry, racy minerality and, more slightly, peppery notes combined with delicate touches of juicy red fruit as well as fine zan and a very discreet hint of blond tobacco (in the background). The palate is fruity, balanced, discreetly tight and offers freshness, minerality, harmony, a juicy/fresh structure, good definition and a certain tension. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/acidic blackcurrant, pulpy/acidic redcurrant and more lightly fresh flowers (almost fresh iris) combined with hints of juicy/fresh blackberry, hints of cocoa as well as a subtle hint of camphor (in the background) and fresh buds.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Château Dillon 2019 Haut-Médoc Cru Bourgeois Supérieur

The nose offers some power, good definition, harmony and some intensity and finesse. There are notes of morello cherry, violet and slightly crushed currant combined with hints of violet plum and hints of blueberry, racy minerality and liquorice. The palate is fruity and offers minerality, freshness, good definition, fine straightness, good structure and an acidic frame. On the palate this wine expresses fresh blackberry, pulpy raspberry and, more slightly, crunchy red berry notes with hints of violet, blueberry, chocolate and fine vanilla. The tannins are relatively soft. Good length. Some chewiness and gourmandise on the finish.

Score : 15.25+/20 (90-91/100)

Château Arnauld 2019 Haut-Médoc Cru Bourgeois Exceptionnel

The nose is elegant, fruity and offers creaminess, freshness and fine complexity. There are notes of creamy blackberry and slightly crushed redcurrant combined with hints of black cherry, violet, liquorice and fine blueberry, bergamot and a subtle hint of sweet spice. The palate is fruity and offers freshness, minerality, good definition, a certain gourmandise, harmony, acidity and a tangy structure. On the palate this wine expresses crunchy black cherry, crunchy blackcurrant and slightly juicy/acidic wild strawberry with hints of jammy currant, blueberry, liquorice, bourbon vanilla and a subtle hint of bergamot, sweet spice and nutmeg. The tannins are well-managed. Good length.

Score : 15.75+/20 (91-92/100)

Château Devise d'Ardilly 2019 Haut-Médoc Cru Bourgeois

(Organic) The nose is fruity, tangy and offers intensity in its fruit and freshness. There are notes of crunchy cherry, raspberry and, more slightly, juicy blueberry, combined with hints of blueberry, pulpy blackcurrant, as well as fine hints of liquorice, cardamom, discreet hints of violet and a subtle touch of zan. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, a certain crunchiness, freshness, straightness, a certain purity of fruit as well as an acidic frame. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, crunchy blueberry and, more slightly, fleshy/pulpy raspberry combined with touches of crunchy redcurrant and hints of liquorice, chocolate and vanilla/toast.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Château Charmail 2019 Haut-Médoc Cru Bourgeois Exceptionnel

The nose is fresh, discreetly tight and tense. The wine benefits from decanting. There are notes of blackcurrant, ripe strawberry and slightly balsamic, combined with fine touches of zan, a subtle hint of Madagascar pepper, as well as a subtle hint of ripe cherry and discreet hints of nutmeg/fresh flowers. The palate is fresh, mineral, balanced and offers a tangy/juicy structure, some fat as well as a finely unctuous and very discreetly tight body. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/crunchy strawberry, crushed redcurrant and, more slightly, crushed/overripe cherry, combined with touches of blueberry, iris, lily/varietal hint, as well as fine notes of caramelisation and a hint of cocoa. The tannins are smooth.

Score : 15/20 (89-90/100)

Médoc area

Grand Vin du Château Puy Castéra 2019 Haut-Médoc Cru Bourgeois

The nose is mineral, liquorice and offers some stretch. There are notes of crushed blackcurrant, crushed black plum and, more slightly, Sichuan pepper combined with hints of crushed/almost jammy wild strawberry as well as hints of sweet blond tobacco and vanilla bean. The palate is fruity, mineral and offers freshness, straightness and tension. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/creamy blackberry, pulpy blackcurrant and, more slightly, blueberry combined with hints of crushed strawberry, hints of sweet blond tobacco as well as a subtle hint of toasted hazelnut and a discreet touch of vanilla. The tannins are chewy on the finish.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

AOC MÉDOC

Loudeulle Le Château 2019 Médoc

Nice nose offering a certain richness, a small power as well as a certain deepness. A pretty fruit. It reveals notes of bright cassis, bright strawberry and small notes of juicy small blue fruits associated with touches of bright cherry as well as fine hints of liquorice and a discreet almost minty hint. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, an acid frame, minerality, tension, freshness as well as a certain energy. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of juicy/fresh cassis, cornflowers and small notes of crunchy raspberry associated with a touch of cherry, cherry blossoms as well as a subtle hint of green pepper, star anise and liquorice. Good length. Tannins are supple and well-built. Salinity.

Score : 15.5/20 (90-91/100)

Grand Saint-Brice 2019 Médoc

The nose is spicy and a bit volatile. It reveals notes of blackberry, balsamic and small notes of crushed strawberry associated with touches of pepper as well as varietal hints. The palate is mineral, fruity and offers tension. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, fleshy/pulpy cherry and small notes of crushed cassis associated with touches of flowers/varieties, hints of salinity, pepper as well as a discreet hint of minerality racy and camphor.

Score : 14.5/20 (88/100)

Château La Landotte 2019 Médoc

The nose is fruity and quite aromatic. It reveals notes of fleshy cherry, fleshy strawberry and small notes of cornflowers associated with a touch of blackberry, star anise as well as discreet almost vanilla hints. The palate is fruity and offers freshness, minerality, fine tension as well as a mineral/juicy structure. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of juicy/fresh blackberry, raspberry and small notes of cherry in kirsch associated with fine touches of violet as well as a hint of cardamom. Good length. Salinity and a fine chewiness on the finish.

Score : 14.5/20 (88/100)

Château La Reyse 2019 Médoc

The nose offers power and pepper. It reveals notes of cassis, pepper and small red fruits associated with touches of wild berries, white pepper and slight hints of violet. The palate is fruity and offers minerality, tension, a certain fluidity, freshness and straightness. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of cassis, juicy raspberry and small notes of violet associated with touches of nutmeg and pepper. Tannins are finely dry.

Score : 14.25/20 (87-88/100)

L'Escoupit 2019 Médoc

The nose is spicy, racy and tense. It reveals notes of cassis, morello cherry and small notes of violet associated with a few small spices as well as a subtle almost cinnamon hint. The palate is fruity and offers a mineral frame, juiciness, good definition, fine tension as well as acidity. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of acidulous blackberry, crunchy/acidulous small red fruits and small notes of lily/violet associated with fine hints of pepper. Tannins are finely marked. Suavity on the finish. Spices and juiciness of the fruit on the persistence.

Score : 14.5/20 (88/100)

Château Baignan 2019 Médoc Cru Bourgeois

The nose is fruity and offers juiciness and a certain freshness of fruit. There are notes of juicy/fresh strawberry, crunchy red berries and, more slightly, blackberry combined with hints of zan and fine spices. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, a certain gourmandise of fruit, freshness and crunch. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy raspberry, crunchy redcurrant and, more slightly, blackcurrant, combined with hints of blue berries, fresh lily, as well as fine points of liquorice and a discreet hint of cardamom. Good length.

Score : 15/20 (89-90/100)

Château Le Bourdieu 2019 Médoc Cru Bourgeois

The nose offers notes of pulpy blackcurrant, liquorice and, more slightly, lily, combined with fine touches of iris, nutmeg and a discreet hint of variety. The palate is fresh, mineral, balanced and offers good definition, juiciness and crunch. On the palate this wine expresses notes of fresh blackberry, juicy red berries and, more slightly, of fresh violet/varietal combined with fine points of fresh blond tobacco and a subtle hint of spice and liquorice. Good length.

Score : 14.5+20 (88/100)

Château Cangruey 2019 Médoc Cru Bourgeois

The wine benefits from decanting. The nose offers notes of violet, iris and, more slightly, blackcurrant combined with fine touches of crunchy strawberry and a hint of zan. The palate is fresh and reveals minerality and a fresh/mineral structure. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of fresh/crisp blackberry, pulpy red berries and, more slightly, chocolate combined with fine hints of fresh flowers and a subtle touch of toastiness.

Score : 14.5+20 (88/100)

Château Grivière 2019 Médoc Cru Bourgeois

The nose is fresh and a little tight. The wine benefits from decanting. There are notes of juicy/crunchy red berries, fresh raspberry and slightly crushed blackberry combined with fine touches of liquorice, chocolate and subtle hints of almost crushed red fruit, racy minerality and a subtle hint of fresh spice. The palate is fruity and reveals juiciness, freshness, minerality, good definition, a little tension and accuracy. On the palate this wine expresses juicy/pulpy blackberry, juicy/pulpy raspberry and, more slightly, crunchy red berry notes combined with a touch of fresh lilac, peony as well as fine liquorice and a discreet hint of toastiness. The tannins are finely chewy. A hint of varietal in the background.

Score : 14.5+20 (88/100)

Château Haut-Maurac 2019 Médoc Cru Bourgeois

The nose is fruity and offers crunchiness, freshness and coating quality. There are notes of fresh wild blackberry, fresh red berries and, more slightly, fresh violet combined with fine points of fresh cherry as well as a discreet hint of lily and a subtle almost black tea. The palate is fruity and reveals juiciness, a certain gourmandise and juicy/crunchy fruit while retaining a certain crunch of red berries. On the palate this wine expresses notes of fresh/juicy raspberry, juicy/fresh cherry and, more slightly, fresh lily combined with hints of fresh violet, blackberry as well as fine hints of liquorice, discreet toasty hints and a subtle hint of chocolate. The tannins are well-managed.

Score : 15+20 (89-90/100)

Château Labadie 2019 Médoc Cru Bourgeois

The nose is quite aromatic. There are notes of creamy blackberry, pulpy/fresh strawberry and, more slightly, of flowers combined with hints of nutmeg, toastiness and fine points of fleshy/crushed blackcurrant. The palate is mineral, fruity, very tightly wound and offers juiciness, stretch and a mineral backbone. On the palate this wine expresses juicy/fresh blackberry, fresh raspberry and, more slightly, red berry notes combined with hints of iris, fresh rose, fine points of racy minerality and a subtle hint of toast and almond. Good length.

Score : 15/20 (89-90/100)



Médoc area

Château Laujac 2019

Médoc Cru Bourgeois Supérieur

The nose is fruity, racy and offers good maturity. There are notes of fleshy blackberry, crushed strawberry and, more slightly, of fleshy blue fruits, fleshy blackcurrant combined with fine nuances of blueberry, liquorice as well as a discreet touch of vanilla. The palate is fruity and offers minerality, good definition, tension and a fresh structure. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/fresh blackberry, fleshy blackcurrant and, more slightly, fleshy raspberry combined with delicate touches of fresh blackberry, fresh/crisp blue berries and fine vanilla notes. The tannins are mellow. Good work on the bitter taste.

Score : 15+/20 (89-90/100)

Château Lousteauneuf 2019

Médoc Cru Bourgeois Supérieur

The wine should be decanted. The nose offers fruit, fleshiness and a fine concentration. There are notes of fleshy/ripe blackcurrant, crushed redcurrant and, more slightly, morello cherry combined with fine touches of violet, lily as well as discreet hints of liquorice and sweet tobacco. The palate is fresh, mineral, fruity, balanced and has a mineral structure as well as some fat. On the palate this wine expresses juicy/fresh blackberry, crisp raspberry and slightly fresh cherry notes combined with hints of fresh iris/fresh flowers as well as fine nuances of racy minerality, sweet blond tobacco, a subtle hint of cardamom and a discreet hint of almond. The tannins are racy and well-managed.

Score : 15.25+/20 (90-91/100)

Château Fontis 2019

Médoc Cru Bourgeois

The nose is aromatic and offers fine complexity and concentration. There are notes of boysenberry, crushed raspberry and, more slightly, pulpy black fruits combined with fine touches of violet, delicate hints of liquorice stick and a discreet hint of nutmeg and vanilla. The palate is fresh, mineral, balanced and offers some fat, a certain gourmandise, a nice freshness and a fine unctuousness. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of creamy blackberry, fresh/juicy raspberry and, more slightly, fresh cherry, combined with subtle touches of iris, fresh lily and fine points of racy minerality, liquorice, chocolate and a subtle hint of almond. Sapidity on the finish. Good work on the bitter taste, especially on the finish.

Score : 15.5/20 (90-91/100)

Château Mareil 2019

Médoc Cru Bourgeois

The nose is fruity, discreetly tight and offers a fine concentration. There are notes of ripe/fresh wild blackcurrant, berries and slightly crushed wild strawberry combined with hints of violet, nutmeg as well as fine varietal hints and a very discreet touch of pepper. The palate is fresh, mineral and offers fruit and a fine intensity. On the palate this wine expresses notes of fresh/pulpy raspberry, pulpy redcurrant and slightly crushed blackberry combined with fine touches of fresh violet, fine hints of liquorice and a discreet hint of cardamom and sweet spices.

Score : 14.75/20 (88-89/100)

Château Nouret 2019

Médoc Cru Bourgeois

The nose is fruity and offers a certain complexity as well as a spicy and floral side. There are notes of crunchy blackcurrant, ripe/pulp cherry and slightly ripe wild raspberry combined with fine touches of liquorice, Cuban pepper, nutmeg and a discreet hint of flowers. The palate is fruity and offers freshness, minerality, acidity, freshness, tension, a fine straightness and a very fine creaminess. On the palate this wine expresses notes of creamy cherry, juicy/ripe blackcurrant and, more slightly, berry fruits combined with hints of lily, violet as well as fine hints of liquorice, sweet blond tobacco and discreet vanilla. The tannins are smooth. Good length. Sweetness and fine sapidity in the background.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Château Pontet Barrail 2019

Médoc Cru Bourgeois

The nose is fruity and offers some depth, fine concentration and a fine darkness. There are notes of crushed blackcurrant, dense black berries and a hint of zan, combined with a touch of violet, ripe wild strawberry, fine cardamom and discreet hints of saltiness and Cuban pepper. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, smoothness, accuracy, freshness, minerality, good definition, a certain gourmandise and some concentration/intensity. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of Morello cherry, crushed blackcurrant and, more slightly, crushed raspberry, combined with hints of violet, liquorice, fine notes of fresh lily, as well as subtle hints of liquorice, caramelisation and a touch of toastiness.

Score : 15.25+/20 (90-91/100)

Château Pey de Pont 2019

Médoc Cru Bourgeois

The nose is aromatic. There are notes of blackberry, strawberry and slightly toasted bread combined with hints of toast, fresh blond tobacco and a subtle hint of sweet/warm spices. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, freshness, minerality and a fine creaminess/contained richness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of crushed cherry, crushed raspberry and, more slightly, juicy/pulpy blackberry combined with vanilla, toast and fine hints of toasted almond, toasted bread and nutmeg.

Score : 15.5/20 (90-91/100)

Château Pierre de Montignac 2019

Médoc Cru Bourgeois Supérieur

The nose is fruity and offers freshness, a fine crispness and a fine incisiveness. There are notes of wild blackberry, iris and, more slightly, fresh lily, combined with juicy wild blackcurrant and discreet hints of toast, hazelnut, nutmeg and an imperceptible hint of saltiness. The palate is fruity and reveals freshness, minerality, a juicy/acidic structure, energy and a certain tension. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy blackberry, crunchy cherry and, more slightly, crunchy blackberry combined with a hint of crisp red berries, fresh flowers/varietal hint and fine nuances of fresh hazelnut and fresh spice.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Château Plagnac 2019

Médoc Cru Bourgeois

The nose is fruity, racy and mineral. There are notes of fresh wild raspberry, fresh blackberry and a bit of racy minerality combined with hints of lily, berries and a discreet hint of liquorice. The palate is fruity and offers minerality, freshness, a chiselled edge, acidity and a fine crunch. On the palate this wine expresses juicy/fresh blackberry, juicy/fresh cherry and slightly crunchy redcurrant notes combined with hints of fresh lily as well as fine points of fresh liquorice, racy minerality and a subtle hint of almond. Good length. Subtle toasty edge on the finish.

Score : 15/20 (89-90/100)

Château Ramafort 2019

Médoc Cru Bourgeois

The nose is fruity and powerful. At present the nose is a bit rough (it needs time). There are notes of ripe/pulpy blackcurrant, wild blackberry and, more slightly, racy minerality combined with fine touches of camphor, wild strawberry and fine hints of fresh nutmeg. The palate is fruity and offers freshness, minerality, good definition, smoothness, a certain pulpiness of the fruit, a fine crispness and a mineral framework. On the palate this wine expresses notes of fresh/juicy cherry, fresh/juicy raspberry and, more slightly, fresh flowers combined with fine touches of crisp/fresh blackcurrant as well as fine almost purple plum, liquorice and a subtle almost bergamot edge.

Score : 14.75+/15 / 89-90/100)

Château Saint Bonnet 2019

Médoc Cru Bourgeois

The nose is fresh and offers some intensity and fine depth. There are notes of ripe/fresh wild blackcurrant, fresh lily and slightly fresh blackberry combined with hints of ripe red berries, hints of lily, violet and fine hints of cola, a discreet hint of camphor, a subtle hint of mocha and an imperceptible hint of clove (in the background). The palate is juicy, fruity, balanced and offers a mineral backbone, a fine unctuousness, a certain gourmandise, a good definition as well as a stretched/energy side. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy raspberry, crunchy red berries and, more slightly, fresh flowers/fresh violets combined with hints of crisp blackcurrant as well as fine toastiness, vanilla, sweet spice and a subtle hint of clove.

Score : 15.25+/20 (90-91/100)

Château De Tourteyron 2019

Médoc Cru Bourgeois

The nose is slightly buttery/lactic. There are hints of crushed blackberry, crushed strawberry and, more slightly, of lily. The palate is fruity, fresh, tightly wound and full-bodied, with a slight straightness. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of crème de cassis, crushed cherry and, more slightly, violet combined with touches of blackberry, nutmeg and fine vanilla. Good length.

Score : 14.5/20 (88/100)

Château La Valière 2019

Médoc Cru Bourgeois

The nose is intense. There are notes of pulpy/fresh blackcurrant, pulpy cherry and, more slightly, fresh/juicy strawberry combined with fine touches of liquorice, saffron (in its floral side), racy minerality as well as discreet spice and a subtle touch

Médoc area

of pepper. The palate is fresh, juicy and offers a certain crunchiness of fruit, a good definition/neatness of fruit, a fresh frame and roundness. On the palate this wine expresses pulpy cherry, fleshy strawberry and, more slightly, juicy/pulpy blackberry notes combined with hints of blueberry, fresh blueberry, lily as well as fine hints of liquorice, Bourbon vanilla and a subtle almost caramelised edge.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Château Vernous 2019 Médoc Cru Bourgeois

The nose is aromatic and offers fine power and complexity. The wine benefits from being decanted. There are notes of boysenberry, crunchy raspberry and, more slightly, pulpy red berries combined with hints of sweet spice, nutmeg, crunchy cherry, fine cardamom and a discreet hint of bergamot and vanilla. The palate is fruity and offers freshness, minerality and a fine tension. On the palate this wine expresses juicy/fresh cherry, juicy/fresh raspberry and slightly fresh/ crisp blackcurrant notes combined with subtle hints of fresh/crunchy red berries, racy minerality, lily, cardamine as well as discreet hints of fresh clove and bergamot. A subtle hint of toasted hazelnut in the background.

Score : 15.25+/20 (90-91/100)

Château Saint-Hilaire 2019 Médoc Cru Bourgeois Supérieur

The nose is fresh and offers ripe/fresh fruit, a very fine incisiveness and a very fine power. There are notes of cherry, blackcurrant and slightly ripe wild berry fruit, combined with hints of liquorice and a subtle touch of camphor, racy minerality and pepper. The palate is fruity with a juicy/acidic structure, good definition, fine gourmandise, minerality and fatness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy raspberry, juicy/pulpy blackcurrant and, more slightly, fresh red berries combined with hints of liquorice, racy minerality and a subtle hint of caramelisation and chocolate. The tannins are mellow.

Score : 14.75/20 (88-89/100)

Château de Panigon 2019 Médoc Cru Bourgeois

The nose is fresh and offers power as well as a fine bewitching side. There are notes of fresh lily, violet and slightly wild blackcurrant combined with hints of pepper and a subtle touch of cloves. The palate is fruity and offers freshness, minerality, tension, fatness and a linear side. On the palate this wine expresses notes of fresh blackberry, berries and slightly vanilla combined with hints of toast and a subtle hint of iris and lily (in the background/finish).

Score : 14.5+/20 (88/100)

Château Campillot 2019 Médoc Cru Bourgeois

The nose is fruity and offers concentration, a certain elegance and complexity. The wine needs to be decanted. There are notes of pulpy violet plum, pepper and, more slightly, ripe wild red berries combined with fine toasted notes, fresh nutmeg and an imperceptible almost saline touch. The palate is mineral and offers fruit, a certain tension, gourmandise, roundness, finesse and an acidic backbone. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy boysenberry, fleshy/juicy cherry and, more slightly, violet combined with hints of lily, Cuben pepper as well as fine nuances of nutmeg, sweet spices, a discreet hint of cinnamon and a subtle touch of vanilla. Good length. Sapidité on the finish. A wine that needs time to reveal itself. Currently it is discreetly tight/closed.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Château La Gorre 2019 Médoc Cru Bourgeois

The nose is aromatic and offers a nice finesse of grain, amplitude and harmony. There are notes of ripe wild blackberry, crunchy black berries and, more slightly, violet combined with hints of pulpy raspberry/blackberry as well as fine nuances of lily, fresh blond tobacco and a discreet hint of nutmeg. The palate is fruity, tightly wound and offers juiciness, freshness, minerality, good definition and an acidic structure. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy wild blackberry, crunchy raspberry and, more slightly, of fresh flowers/irises combined with touches of racy minerality, a fine touch of fresh black plum as well as fine cardamom and a subtle hint of clove. The tannins are well-managed. A subtle hint of positive bitterness in the background. A fine spicy/variety quality both on the nose and on the palate.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Château Escot 2019 Médoc Cru Bourgeois

The nose is fresh and offers a fine concentration and intensity of grain. There are notes of blackcurrant, wild blackberry and, more slightly, spiced, with hints of wild

strawberry, pepper and a discreet touch of nutmeg. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, acidity, good definition, fine tension and precision. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, tart red berries and, more slightly, fresh lily combined with fine varietal notes (blackberry leaf) and a subtle hint of pepper, toast and cocoa. A touch of clove in the background.

Score : 15/20 (89-90/100)

Château Tour Seran 2019 Médoc Cru Bourgeois Supérieur

The nose is racy and offers a fine grain and a stretched side. There are notes of fresh pepper, wild strawberry and, to a lesser extent, violet, combined with fine touches of juicy blackcurrant. The palate is fruity with juiciness, minerality, acidity and a fine salinity. On the palate, this wine expresses juicy blackberry, juicy raspberry and slightly red berry notes with hints of flowers/violet, racy minerality and hints of cardamom, mocha/roasted coffee and a subtle hint of blond tobacco. The tannins are fine and discreetly tight. Good length. Tension on the finish.

Score : 15.25+/20 (90-91/100)

Château La Clare 2019 Médoc Cru Bourgeois

The nose is peppery, discreetly tight and offers a fine powdery character. There are notes of blackberry, violet and, to a lesser extent, pepper, combined with delicate touches of blueberry, nutmeg and a very discreet hint of sweet spices and an imperceptible touch of cumin. The palate is mineral, tightly wound and offers freshness, roundness, a certain fatness, volume and a little spherical aspect. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy blackberry, ripe/juicy raspberry and, more slightly, lily combined with touches of racy/saline minerality, hints of fleshy/crushed blue berries, vanilla as well as a subtle hint of saffron (in its floral side) and pepper.

Score : 15/20 (89-90/100)

Château Greysac 2019 Médoc Cru Bourgeois Supérieur

The nose is spicy and powerful. There are notes of blackberry, ripe wild red berries and slightly morello cherry combined with fine touches of Madagascar pepper, chocolate and fine vanilla. The palate is juicy and offers minerality, acidity, good definition, a little tension and a fine straightness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of plump/juicy red berries, violets and, more slightly, crushed blackcurrants combined with hints of vanilla, violets and fine fresh tobacco and a subtle touch of pepper. Good length.

Score : 15/20 (89-90/100)

Château La Chandelliere 2019 Médoc Cru Bourgeois

The nose is fruity and offers tension, a little stretch and a fine peppery edge. There are notes of pulpy strawberry, pepper and, more slightly, crunchy boysenberry, combined with delicate touches of spice, nutmeg and a subtle hint of cumin in the background. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, a mineral/acid backbone, sapidity and a certain pulpiness of the fruit. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy redcurrant, fleshy strawberry and, more slightly, violet, combined with hints of pulpy blackberry, as well as fine hints of lily, nutmeg and a very discreet hint of vanilla in the background.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Château Bournac 2019 Médoc Cru Bourgeois

The nose is spicy, racy and offers some power and fine intensity. There are notes of pulpy wild red berries, fresh blackberry and, more slightly, spiced with hints of pepper, a fine touch of lily and an imperceptible almost varietal edge (in the background). The palate is mineral and offers freshness, fine tension, juiciness and a certain crunchiness of fruit. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy currants, crunchy cherry and, more slightly, violet, combined with hints of blackcurrant, hints of liquorice/star anise, as well as fine vanilla and a hint of toasted hazelnut in the background.

Score : 15.25+/20 (90-91/100)

Château Méric 2019 Médoc Cru Bourgeois

The nose is fruity and offers a fine minerality. There are notes of crushed blackberry and slightly more violet combined with hints of toast, nutmeg and fine chocolate. The palate is fruity and offers minerality / a mineral backbone. On the palate this wine expresses juicy blackberry/blackberry, crushed blackcurrant and, more slightly, fleshy raspberry with hints of chocolate and almond/toastiness.

Score : 15/20 (89-90/100)

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Château Moulin de Canhaut 2019 Médoc Cru Bourgeois

The nose is fruity and discreetly tight. There are notes of blackberry, ripe raspberry and, to a lesser extent, strawberry, combined with subtle touches of violet, tonka bean and a discreet hint of pepper. The palate is mineral, fresh and offers juiciness, a fine creaminess, roundness and smoothness. On the palate, this wine expresses pulpy/creamy blackcurrant, strawberry and, more slightly, red berry notes combined with hints of chocolate, toasted almond and fine cardamom. The tannins are sapid. Slightly short on the palate.

Score : 14.75/20 (88-89/100)

Château Poitevin 2019 Médoc Cru Bourgeois Supérieur

The nose offers good definition, concentration and power. There are notes of ripe/fleshy blackcurrant, crushed wild blackberry and, more slightly, cherry, combined with hints of fresh violet, nutmeg, meadow flowers and a discreet touch of torrefaction and pepper. The palate is mineral, fresh and offers juiciness, acidity, fatness, roundness, a good structure and a fine tension. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy wild blackberry, juicy/pulpy raspberry and, more slightly, violet, combined with touches of racy minerality and hints of toast, cardamom, tonka bean and a subtle hint of nutmeg. The tannins are racy, well-mannered and elegant.

Score : 15.5/20 (90-91/100)

Château Noaillac 2019 Médoc Cru Bourgeois Supérieur

The nose is racy and offers elegance, depth, good definition, precision, a nice grain and a certain purity of fruit. There are notes of fresh wild blackberry/blackberry, blackcurrant and, more slightly, red berry fruit combined with a touch of lily, cherry, fine hints of liquorice stick and discreet hints of nutmeg and grey pepper. The palate is fresh, mineral, balanced and offers a fresh/mineral framework, gourmandise, nice definition and elegance. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/ripe blackcurrant, pulpy/juicy raspberry and, more slightly, violet combined with hints of juicy/crunchy cherry and hints of liquorice stick, cinnamon and pepper. Good length. Lingers on chocolate.

Score : 15.75/20 (91-92/100)

Château Roquegrave 2019 Médoc Cru Bourgeois

The nose is mineral, fruity and racy. There are hints of pulpy strawberry, blackberry and a hint of racy minerality combined with touches of crunchy blackcurrant, hints of vanilla and a discreet hint of grey pepper and an imperceptible hint of saffron flowers. The palate is fruity, juicy and offers a certain tension as well as a fine acidic backbone. On the palate this wine expresses juicy/pulpy blackberry, pulpy/juicy raspberry and, more slightly, red berry notes combined with hints of violet, toast, chocolate and a hint of pepper and varietal in the background/on the back-palate.

Score : 14.75/20 (88-89/100)

Château Bellerive 2019 Médoc Cru Bourgeois

The nose is fruity and offers intensity, a floral edge and some power. There are notes of ripe wild blackcurrant, pulpy wild berries and, to a lesser extent, blueberry, combined with hints of pepper, crushed redcurrants and fine spices and cinnamon. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, sweetness, acidity, roundness and sphericity. On the palate this wine expresses juicy/pulpy blackberry, fresh violet and pulpy/fresh violet plum notes combined with hints of pulpy cherry, liquorice, tonka bean and discreet hints of cardamom and toast. The tannins are precise and finely mellow. Sapid. There is a hint of tonka bean and a hint of positive bitterness in the background.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Château La Branne 2019 Médoc Cru Bourgeois Supérieur

The nose offers some power/intensity, fine grain and depth. There are notes of wild blackcurrant, crushed blackberry and, more slightly, crushed wild strawberry combined with hints of tonka bean, toastiness and a discreet hint of roast. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, freshness, gourmandise, a certain purity of fruit as well as a pulpy/flavoured fruit. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy blackcurrant, violet and, more slightly, of crunchy black berries combined with hints

of cherry, a fine touch of plum, chocolate/tonka bean as well as hints of nutmeg and toasted hazelnut. The tannins are precise and finely firm. Good length.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Château Haut Barrail 2019 Médoc Cru Bourgeois

The nose is fruity. There are notes of blackcurrant, racy minerality and, more slightly, pulpy berry fruit combined with hints of raspberry as well as hints of fresh/crunchy berries and a touch of spice. The palate is fruity and offers minerality, freshness, a certain gourmandise and pulpiness of the fruit. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy blackberry, crunchy blackcurrant and, more slightly, red berries combined with touches of meadow flowers, hints of tonka bean and a subtle hint of nutmeg, racy minerality and spice/dark chocolate. An imperceptible hint of fresh blond tobacco in the background.

Score : 15/20 (89-90/100)

Château Plagnac 2019 Médoc Cru Bourgeois

The nose is mineral, a bit tight and offers concentration as well as a fine freshness. There are notes of wild blackcurrant, violet and, to a lesser extent, lily/pistil, combined with subtle hints of red berries, as well as hints of camphor, sweet spices and a touch of toast/caramel. The palate is mineral and offers freshness,

smoothness and a fresh backbone. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/fresh blackberry, crushed blackcurrant and, more slightly, pulpy raspberry combined with hints of violet, lily, fine points of saffron, cardamom, tonka bean and a fine touch of cinnamon and a very discreet hint of fresh blond tobacco. The tannins are sapid. Good length. Discreet salinity in the background.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Château La Roque de By 2019 Médoc Cru Bourgeois

The nose is fruity and offers elegance, deliciousness and a little concentration of fruit. There are notes of boysenberry, ripe blackcurrant and, more slightly, crushed raspberry, combined with hints of morello cherry, fine hints of liquorice, chocolate and a very discreet hint of fresh vanilla and a subtle touch of grey pepper. The palate is mineral, fruity, balanced and offers suavity, a little fat, gourmandise, elegance, a nice freshness, harmony and a fine creaminess. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/creamy blackcurrant, pulpy/creamy boysenberry and, more slightly, wild strawberry, combined with touches of violet, tonka

bean and a hint of cardamom. The tannins are precise and well conducted.

Score : 15.25+/20 (90-91/100)

Château Tour Castillon 2019 Médoc Cru Bourgeois

The nose offers concentration, complexity and depth. There are notes of boysenberry, creamy blackcurrant and slightly crushed raspberry combined with hints of violet, red berries, chocolate, sweet blond tobacco and a subtle hint of chocolate. The palate is fruity, balanced and offers juiciness, minerality and a fine freshness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy blackberry, juicy blueberry and, more slightly, crushed blackcurrant combined with hints of raspberry/red berry, fine nuances of lily, lilac and fine notes of cardamom and chocolate. The tannins are racy. A fine touch of positive bitterness on the finish.

Score : 15.25+/20 (90-91/100)

Château du Perier 2019 Médoc Cru Bourgeois

The nose is fruity and offers power and fine concentration. There are notes of pulpy wild blackcurrant, boysenberry and, more slightly, red berries combined with hints of nutmeg, fresh lily and fine spices. The palate is mineral and offers freshness and some fat. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy blackberry, fleshy/juicy blackcurrant and, more slightly, cherry, combined with hints of violet, lilac and hints of tonka bean, toast, toasted almond and a touch of vanilla/vanilla essence.

Score : 15+/20 (89-90/100)

Château Haut-Bana 2019 Médoc Cru Bourgeois

The nose is spicy. There are notes of crushed blackberry, pepper and, more slightly, spices combined with delicate touches of blackcurrant and a subtle hint



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of fresh violets. The palate is mineral and offers freshness, juiciness, an acidic structure and a fine tension. On the palate this wine expresses juicy/pulpy blackberry, crisp redcurrant and slightly fresh violet notes combined with a touch of crunchy berries and a hint of varietal. Good length.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Château Pontey 2019

Médoc Cru Bourgeois

The nose will benefit from decanting. There are notes of crushed blackberry, pulpy blackcurrant and, more slightly, violet combined with nuances of liquorice as well as fine camphor and a very discreet touch of pepper. The palate is fresh, mineral (racy minerality), balanced and offers a juicy/fresh frame, roundness, fat and fresh acidity. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/fresh blackcurrant, pulpy/fresh raspberry and, more slightly, of violet combined with hints of tonka bean, fresh hazelnut and a subtle hint of fresh flowers. Good length.

Score : 15+/20 (89-90/100)

Château des Granges d'Or 2019

Médoc Cru Bourgeois

The nose offers some power, intensity and a fine, tight grain. There are notes of wild blackberry, blackcurrant and, more slightly, violet combined with touches of grey pepper and a subtle hint of clove and nutmeg. The palate is fruity and offers freshness, minerality and good definition. On the palate this wine expresses notes of fresh blackberry, pulpy/fresh raspberry and, more slightly, blackcurrant combined with hints of violet, cocoa, fine toasted almond and a subtle hint of positive bitterness and salinity on the finish. The tannins are finely pronounced.

Score : 15+/20 (89-90/100)

Château La Gorce 2019

Médoc Cru Bourgeois

The nose is fruity, fresh and offers some crunch. There are hints of pulpy raspberry, crunchy cherry and, more slightly, violet combined with fine touches of toast, vanilla and a hint of chocolate. The palate is fresh, mineral, balanced, a little tight and offers a juicy/acidic structure, tension and a certain straightness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy cherry, crunchy redcurrant and, more slightly, violet combined with a touch of blackcurrant as well as fine hints of fresh flowers and a touch of liquorice. The tannins are well-managed and mellow. Good length.

Score : 15.25+/20 (90-91/100)

Château Beauvillage 2019

Médoc Cru Bourgeois

The nose is fruity and offers gourmandise and a certain purity of fruit. There are notes of crunchy blackcurrant, crushed blackberry and, more slightly, crushed blue berries combined with hints of fleshy currants and fine points of liquorice stick, graphite and a subtle hint of vanilla. The palate is fruity, balanced and offers minerality, a juicy/fresh structure, gourmandise, creaminess, fatness as well as smoothness. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/creamy blackcurrant, pulpy/creamy blackberry and, more slightly, fresh violet combined with touches of red berries, hints of vanilla, a subtle touch of toasted hazelnut and a very discreet hint of almost wild flowers and cocoa (in the background). Good length.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Château Les Anguilley 2019

Médoc Cru Bourgeois

The nose is fruity and offers a certain pulpiness. There are hints of crunchy cherry and, more slightly, of pulpy blackcurrant combined with hints of crunchy redcurrant and hints of blueberry and liquorice. The palate is fruity, balanced and offers a nice freshness, minerality, acidity, fine straightness and energy. On the palate this wine expresses notes of crushed currants, juicy/fresh cherry and, more slightly, violet combined with hints of vanilla and a subtle hint of sweet spice. A fine chewiness on the finish.

Score : 14.5+/20 (88/100)

Château d'Argan 2019

Médoc Cru Bourgeois

The nose is fruity and has a velvety quality. There are notes of boysenberry and slightly blueberry with hints of crushed wild strawberry, liquorice and fine hints of violet, Sichuan pepper and a subtle hint of incense. The palate is fresh, mineral, balanced and offers a fresh structure, good definition, juiciness and fine tension. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy boysenberry, ripe/crisp blueberry and slightly crushed strawberry combined with hints of liquorice, Bourbon vanilla as well as hints of toasted hazelnut and a discreet hint of almond. Good length. Fine chewiness on the finish. A very discreet hint of dark chocolate in the background.

Score : 15.25+/20 (90-91/100)



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les yeux
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Médoc area

Château Fleur la Mothe 2019 Médoc Cru Bourgeois Supérieur

The nose is fruity and offers elegance, freshness as well as concentration in control and elegance. There are notes of Morello cherry, blackcurrant and, more slightly, strawberry combined with touches of liquorice, sweet spices as well as a hint of cardamom and a discreet touch of graphite. The palate is fruity, balanced and offers juiciness, a tangy/pulpy structure, a gourmet side, a nice freshness and a good definition. On the palate this wine expresses notes of plump/juicy redcurrant, fleshy/juicy strawberry and, more slightly, crunchy blackcurrant combined with hints of fresh violet, fresh lilac as well as fine points of racy minerality, toastiness and a subtle almost graphite/incense edge. Good length.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Château Chantemerle 2019 Médoc Cru Bourgeois

The nose offers a certain power and a fine powdery side. There are notes of crushed raspberry, cherry and, more slightly, peppered with hints of blackberry, blackcurrant and fine spices. The palate is fruity and offers freshness, a fine restraint and a fine roundness. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy cherry, raspberry and, more slightly, pulpy/juicy blackcurrant combined with hints of violet/blueberry and fine vanilla and toasted hazelnut.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Château Vieux Robin 2019 Médoc Cru Bourgeois

The nose is flowery and offers a certain gourmandise, good definition and a very fine complexity. There are notes of violet, lily and, to a lesser extent, pulpy blueberry, combined with hints of wild strawberry, blackcurrant, as well as fine hints of nutmeg, chocolate and a very discreet touch of camphor. The palate is fruity and offers freshness, good definition, minerality, some fat and a certain gourmandise. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/fresh blackcurrant, fleshy wild blackberry and, more slightly, redcurrant combined with hints of crisp strawberry, violet/lilac as well as fine toasty, chocolate, a very discreet varietal touch and a subtle hint of toasted hazelnut.

Score : 15.5/20 (90-91/100)

AOC MARGAUX 2019

Château Marojallia 2019 Margaux

The nose is fruity and offers a nice little richness/concentration, elegance and a certain delicacy in its racy power. There are notes of crushed blackcurrant, fleshy/chunky raspberry and, more slightly, blueberry combined with hints of camphor, racy minerality, fine hints of crunchy cherry as well as discreet hints of chocolate, sweet spices and a subtle hint of Bourbon vanilla. The palate is fruity, balanced, elegant, focused, precise and offers freshness, minerality, delicacy in its power, a beautiful concentration, a certain subtlety in its richness, a nice substance as well as a fine airy side in the approach. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of crushed blackcurrant, crisp cherry and, more slightly, pulpy strawberry, combined with hints of tonka bean and fleshy/juicy black berries, as well as fine hints of fresh blueberry, a fine iodine touch and a discreet hint of toasted almond. Some chewiness on the finish. Nice persistence (12 caudalies). Positive bitterness. The tannins are discreetly dry/powdery.

Score : 16.5+/20 (93-94/100)

Clos Margalaine 2019 Margaux

The nose is racy and offers minerality, fullness, fine grain and intensity. There are notes of concentrated wild blackcurrant, wild strawberry and, more slightly, racy minerality combined with hints of blueberry, fresh pepper and a discreet touch of fresh nutmeg and sense of place (local biotope). The palate is fruity and offers a nice freshness, minerality, a nice terroir aspect (local gravel), straightness as well as some power. On the palate this wine expresses notes of fresh/juicy blackberry, fresh/juicy raspberry and, more slightly, red berry/currant combined with a fine touch of fresh plum, racy/gravelly minerality, a discreet hint of iodine and a subtle touch of fresh blond tobacco and pepper. Nice sapidity on the finish. Appetizing. A fine hint of good bitterness/toast on the finish.

Score : 15.5/20 (90-91/100)

Blason d'Issan 2019 Margaux

The nose is fruity and offers fleshiness, richness and elegance. There are notes of crushed strawberry, creamy blackcurrant and, to a lesser extent, blueberry, combined with hints of crushed red berries, fine vanilla and a subtle touch of

fresh pepper and liquorice. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, a nice acidic structure, good definition, precision, some tension, energy, a nice acidity of the fruit and finesse in its tannic structure. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/acidic blackcurrant, tart raspberry and, more slightly, juicy/acidic berry fruit combined with a touch of cherry and a hint of violet, vanilla and a subtle touch of toastiness. The tannins are soft and smooth. Subtle hints of cocoa on the finish.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Labastide Dauzac 2019 Margaux

The nose is fresh, floral and currently a little tight. The wine benefits from being decanted. There are notes of pulpy blackberry, creamy raspberry and, more slightly, crushed cherry combined with hints of tart violet candy as well as fine notes of lily and a discreet hint of pepper. The palate is fruity, tightly wound at present and offers freshness, minerality, good definition, juiciness, smoothness, roundness, tension, a little airiness in the approach and a nice purity/gourmandise of fruit. On the palate this wine expresses crunchy cherry, lily, lilac and slightly pulpy raspberry notes combined with a touch of crisp/pulpy red berries, fine hints of liquorice stick and a discreet hint of bergamot and toasted almond. Nice acidity and sweetness/appetence on the finish. A very discreet hint of chocolate in the background.

Score : 16.25+/20 (93/100)

Aurore de Dauzac 2019 Margaux

The nose is elegant, aromatic and offers a nice finesse of grain, pulpiness, power and stretch. There are notes of crisp cherry, crushed strawberry and, more slightly, juicy/pulpy blueberry combined with fine touches of lily, blackcurrant and a discreet hint of star anise, a subtle hint of sweet spice and an imperceptible hint of almost white flowers. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, roundness, a certain fatness, a little spherical side, a certain unctuousness, accuracy and purity. On the palate this wine expresses crunchy cherry, crushed raspberry and slightly crushed blackberry notes with a touch of plump blue plum, lilac, racy minerality and fine hints of sweet blond tobacco, crushed almond and a subtle hint of toastiness. Lovely gravelly minerality on the palate. A lot of finesse in its gourmandise.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Brio de Cantenac Brown 2019 Margaux

The nose is fruity and crisp. There are notes of crisp blueberry, fresh raspberry and, more slightly, pulpy/fleshy berries combined with hints of blackcurrant, fine floral/violet and a subtle hint of cedar, cocoa, pepper and a very discreet hint of citrus peel. The palate is nicely fresh, balanced, precise, straight and offers tension and a fine acidic backbone. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy blackberry, fresh raspberry and, more slightly, fresh/crisp red berries combined with hints of flowers, fresh cherry, a hint of fresh/juicy blackcurrant, fresh lily, fine hints of cardamom, cocoa, a subtle almost toasted edge as well as a fine hint of vanilla pod, bergamot and eucalyptus. The tannins are precise and finely mellow. Good length.

Score : 15.75/20 (91-92/100)

Charmes de Kirwan 2019 Margaux

The nose is fruity. It deserves to be decanted. We find notes of pulpy blackcurrant, pulpy/chunky strawberry and, more slightly, of violet combined with subtle touches of pulpy wild red fruits, fine nuances of nutmeg, racy minerality as well as a very discreet touch of gravel and smoke. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, smoothness, freshness and a nice acidic structure. On the palate this wine expresses crunchy redcurrant, juicy/pulpy cherry and slightly wild strawberry notes with hints of juicy blackcurrant as well as hints of violet, tonka bean, cardamom, fine chocolate, racy minerality and a subtle varietal edge, almost of rose petals. Lovely freshness, minerality and suppleness. A subtle hint of pepper in the background in the aftertaste.

Score : 15.5/20 (90-91/100)

Confidences de Prieuré-Lichine 2019 Margaux

The nose is fruity, racy and discreetly tight. It deserves to be decanted. There are notes of ripe boysenberry, ripe wild strawberry and, more slightly, of wild red berries combined with hints of vanilla, spice, nutmeg as well as fine peppery notes and a gravelly finish. The palate is fruity, balanced and offers juiciness, crunchiness, fruit, sapidity and a racy/gravelly minerality. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy raspberry, crushed currants and, more slightly, jui-

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cy/pulpy blackberry combined with touches of crunchy red berries, iodine minerality and fine points of cardamom, cinnamon and a subtle almost peppery edge. The tannins are well-managed. A certain suppleness on the finish. Fine salinity and a discreet, positive bitterness on the finish.

Score : 15.5/20 (90-91/100)

Château Charmant 2019

Margaux

The nose is racy. There are notes of mocha, graphite, pulpy berries and, more slightly, liquorice, crushed blackcurrant, combined with hints of crushed strawberry and fine points of lily, camphor and spices. The palate is mineral and offers freshness, tension, good definition and a touch of sweetness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of fresh/pulpy raspberry, red berries and, more slightly, of fleshy blackcurrant combined with hints of fresh violet, lilac, cardamom and fine points of racy minerality.

Score : 15.25+/20 (90-91/100)

Château Grand Tayac 2019

Margaux

The nose is fruity and offers a certain gourmandise and restraint. There are notes of pulpy cherry, pulpy raspberry and, more slightly, crushed blackcurrant combined with touches of vanilla, sweet blond tobacco and a subtle hint of toastiness. The palate is mineral and offers fruit, freshness and fluidity/dilution. On the palate this wine expresses notes of fresh blackberry, fresh raspberry and, more slightly, fresh red berries combined with delicate touches of liquorice, flowers and racy minerality.

Score : 14.5+/20 (88/100)

Château La Bessane 2019

Margaux

The nose is fruity and offers a sexy side of fruit. There are notes of Morello cherry, blackberry and slightly crushed currants combined with hints of fleshy strawberry as well as fine zan and a subtle hint of bergamot. The palate is fruity and offers freshness, minerality, good definition, a fine fatness and some tension. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy blackberry, pulpy blackcurrant and, more slightly, crushed raspberry combined with hints of fleshy cherry, hints of fresh flowers as well as fine points of zan, sweet blond tobacco and racy minerality. The tannins are well-handled. Sapidité and chewiness on the finish.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Château Confidence de Margaux 2019

Margaux

The nose is racy and offers a certain intensity. There are notes of wild blackcurrant, violet and, to a lesser extent, wild blackberry, combined with fine touches of pepper, liquorice stick and a discreet hint of clove. The palate is fruity and offers freshness, minerality, good definition, some tension and a fine juiciness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy blackcurrant, wild black berries and, more slightly, fresh lily combined with hints of wild berries as well as fine chocolate, liquorice and a discreet hint of clove. A hint of toast in the background.

Score : 15.5/20 (90-91/100)

Château La Galiane 2019

Margaux

The nose reveals notes of blackberry, racy minerality and, more slightly, violet combined with hints of wild strawberry as well as fine hints of liquorice, vanilla and a subtle hint of nutmeg/sweet spice. The palate is fresh, mineral, balanced and offers good definition, juiciness, a fresh frame and a certain gourmandise. On the palate this wine expresses notes of fresh/pulpy blackberry, pulpy/fresh raspberry and, more slightly, crunchy redcurrant combined with hints of liquorice, vanilla and hints of lily and sweet spices. The tannins are soft and gourmet.

Score : 15+/20 (89-90/100)

Gassies 2019

Margaux

The nose offers elegance, harmony, a certain gourmandise and a certain purity of fruit. There are notes of crushed cherry and, more slightly, crushed redcurrant combined with hints of violet plum, violet, racy/almost saline minerality and a subtle hint of sweet blond tobacco. The palate is mineral, balanced and offers freshness, juiciness/minerality, good definition, tension, good structure and a fine uprightness. On the palate this wine expresses crunchy black berries, pulpy blackberry and slightly morello cherry notes combined with hints of violet, sweet blond tobacco, roast and fine hints of ripe wild red berries and toast. Good work on the bitter taste. Roundness and precision in gourmandise.

Score : 15.75+/20 (91-92/100)

Château La Tour de Bessan 2019

Margaux

The nose offers a fine grain as well as power in finesse/mastery. The wine benefits from being decanted. There are notes of wild blackberry, grey pepper and slightly nutmeg combined with hints of ripe wild red berries, liquorice, a subtle hint of cardamom as well as a discreet hint of vanilla and an imperceptible touch of incense. The palate is mineral, fruity and offers some sweetness and precision. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/ripe blackberry, wild blackcurrant and, more slightly, lily combined with hints of grey pepper, ripe wild red berries, fine nuances of racy minerality, flowers, camphor and a subtle hint of clove and tonka bean. The tannins are supple. Good work on the bitter taste and a subtle hint of saltiness on the finish.

Score : 15.75/20 (91-92/100)

Château Mille Roses 2019

Margaux

The nose is fruity and offers elegance, generosity and harmony. There are notes of crunchy blackberry, ripe wild berries and a hint of blueberry combined with hints of zan, blue berries and fine points of racy minerality, toastiness and a discreet touch of caramelisation. The palate is fruity and offers gourmandise, elegance, good balance, an acidic framework, roundness and a little fatness in finesse. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/acidic blackcurrant, creamy blackberry and, more slightly, fleshy/crushed redcurrant combined with hints of pulpy/juicy cherry, Bourbon vanilla, chocolate, toastiness and a touch of toasted hazelnut. The tannins are tightly wound. Fine chewiness on the finish.

Score : 15+/20 (89-90/100)

Le Margaux du Château de Malleret 2019

Margaux

The nose is fruity, racy and offers freshness and intensity. There are notes of racy minerality, pulpy blackberry, fresh black berries and, more slightly, violet flowers combined with a fine touch of morello cherry, crushed wild strawberry, star anise and a subtle almost iodine and spice touch. The palate is fresh, mineral, balanced and offers good definition, some fat and a fresh frame. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/fresh blackberry, raspberry and, more slightly, pulpy/creamy cherry combined with hints of violet, racy minerality, fine hints of tonka bean, star anise, a subtle hint of graphite, sap and a subtle hint of toastiness and pepper. The tannins are well-managed and sapid. A fine hint of dark chocolate on the finish.

Score : 15.25+/20 (90-91/100)

Pavillon Rouge du Château Margaux 2019

Margaux

The nose is delicate, fresh, beautifully racy and offers a nice finesse of grain and depth. There are notes of fresh strawberry, ripe blackcurrant and slightly more violet combined with hints of graphite, racy minerality as well as fine hints of liquorice, a discreet hint of vanilla and delicate/discreet hints of grey pepper. The palate is fruity, delicate, elegant and offers freshness, a certain roundness, a nice aromatic palette, a certain mastered power, accuracy and mastered power. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of crunchy blackcurrant, crunchy red berries and, more slightly, crisp wild strawberry, combined with a subtle hint of vanilla, crisp blueberry, fine points of racy minerality, toastiness, caramelisation and sweet spices. Nice sapidity, acidity, freshness and gourmandise on the finish. The tannins are precise, fine, delicate, supple and racy at the same time. Nice persistence with a little chewiness on the finish.

Score : 17.5/20 (95/100)

Alter Ego 2019

Margaux

The nose is fruity and offers minerality, freshness, a nice dynamic and a nice concentration in finesse and depth. There are notes of ripe boysenberry, crushed wild blackcurrant and a hint of liquorice combined with hints of camphor, ripe red berries and a hint of spice, cardamom, a hint of star anise/almost eucalyptus and a subtle touch of pepper. The palate is elegant, balanced and offers nice definition, precision, freshness, guideline, minerality and dynamism. On the palate this wine expresses notes of black cherry/cherry, juicy blackcurrant and, more slightly, raspberry combined with hints of red plum, liquorice/zan, fine points of racy minerality/Margaux gravel, chocolate, almost caramelisation as well as a subtle hint of cardamom, tea, blueberry, Madagascar pepper and a very discreet hint of roast (in the background). The tannins already offer a certain mellowness and chewiness. A floral hint on the finish.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

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S de Siran 2019

Margaux

The nose is fruity and offers a fine power and racy minerality. There are notes of fresh strawberry, raspberry and, more slightly, black fruits combined with touches of liquorice, chocolate and fine toasted notes. The palate is fruity and offers freshness, a nice acidic structure, a certain delicacy and roundness. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/sour redcurrants, tart/crisp strawberries and, more slightly, juicy/sour blueberries, combined with a touch of fresh/crisp black berries, racy minerality, as well as fine hints of liquorice, cocoa, toastiness and a very discreet hint of tobacco (in the background). The tannins are supple.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Château Siran 2019

Margaux

The nose is racy and offers minerality, fine intensity and a relatively powerful grain. There are notes of fresh/pulpy wild blackcurrant, crushed wild red berries and a hint of zan, combined with hints of fresh flowers, fresh pepper and a discreet touch of cola and spice. The palate is fruity, balanced and offers minerality, juiciness, gourmandise, a certain unctuousness, an acidic frame, suppleness and some airiness in the approach. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of creamy blackcurrant, crunchy wild raspberry combined with hints of pulpy red berries, racy minerality as well as fine hints of chocolate, fresh flowers and toastiness. There is a subtle, almost inky finish and a hint of good bitterness. The tannins are racy and well-managed.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Château Deyrem Valentin 2019

Margaux

The nose is fruity and offers freshness. The wine benefits from decanting. The nose is fleshy and juicy, with notes of black fruits, pulpy raspberry and slightly ripe cherry, combined with fine hints of zan, racy minerality and discreet hints of fresh flowers and a subtle hint of cumin. The palate is fruity, balanced and offers juiciness, gourmandise, acidity, good definition, fleshiness, fatness and roundness. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of juicy raspberry, crisp redcurrant and, more slightly, of fresh flowers, combined with touches of creamy black berries and a hint of zan, pulpy violet plum, cocoa and a subtle almost vanilla/caramelised touch. The tannins are precise and racy. Good length.

Score : 15.75/20 (91-92/100)

Château Moutte Blanc 2019

Margaux

The nose is aromatic and offers concentration and good definition. There are notes of pulpy cherry, crushed wild strawberry and, more slightly, liquorice combined with delicate touches of Cuben pepper, lilac and a hint of cardamom and nutmeg. The palate is fresh, mineral and offers concentration, roundness, gourmandise, sapidity and a pulpy/acidic fruit. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/acidic raspberry, redcurrant and, more slightly, juicy blackberry combined with hints of violet, racy minerality, liquorice and a subtle touch of chocolate. Good length. A subtle hint of blond tobacco in the background.

Score : 15+/20 (89-90/100)

Château Haut-Breton Larigaudière 2019

Margaux

The nose offers elegance, fruit, some complexity and a fine fleshiness. There are notes of fleshy redcurrants, pulpy raspberries and, more slightly, pulpy blackcurrants, combined with hints of violet, vanilla, as well as discreet hints of Sichuan pepper and an imperceptible touch of incense. The palate is mineral, fruity, racy and offers good definition, fine iodine, a mineral framework and good work on the "positive" bitters. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/fresh blackcurrant, pulpy/fresh violet plum and, more slightly, violet combined with hints of fresh red berries, fresh flowers, gravelly/rooty minerality, toastiness, a hint of cardamom and a subtle touch of bergamot and vanilla. The tannins are tightly wound and discreetly marked. Good length.

Score : 15.5/20 (90-91/100)

Château Le Coteau 2019

Margaux

The nose is tightly wound and offers a fine concentration as well as a little power. The wine benefits from being decanted. There are notes of lily, blackcurrant and, more slightly, ripe wild berries, combined with hints of toast, chocolate, graphite and fine points of toasted almond. The palate is fruity and offers fat, racy minerality, precision, a certain tension and roundness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy blackberry, ripe/juicy wild berries and, more slightly, ripe raspberry combined with hints of chocolate and a subtle hint of graphite/camphor, grey pepper and fine toasted hints. Good length. A little sapidity on the finish.

Score : 15/20 (89-90/100)

AOC SAINT-JULIEN 2019

Connétable de Talbot 2019

Saint-Julien

The nose is fruity and offers power, precision, complexity and depth. There are notes of Morello cherry, blackberry and, more slightly, violet combined with hints of red berries, fine floral notes and a subtle hint of almost cola, spice and cocoa. The palate is nicely juicy, fresh and offers gourmandise, pulpy/crunchy fruit, tension and a fine acidic backbone. Nice control and power work. A beautiful freshness and a coating/charming side. On the palate this wine expresses crunchy cherry, pulpy/crunchy blueberry and slightly Quetsche plum notes combined with hints of red berries, racy minerality as well as fine hints of chocolate, toast/caramel and vanilla. Nice grain of tannins.

Score : 16+/20 (92-93/100)

Amiral de Beychevelle 2019

Saint-Julien

The nose is fruity and offers elegance and good definition. There are notes of pulpy/juicy blackcurrant, violet and, more slightly, crunchy blackberry combined with hints of crunchy blueberry, cherry as well as fine hints of liquorice/star anise, grey pepper, vanilla and a subtle almost tobacco/almost smoky edge. The palate is fruity, balanced and offers juiciness, crunchiness, sweetness, good definition, finesse, acidity, minerality, roundness, fleshiness and some power and roundness in elegance. A fine and powerful grain. On the palate this wine expresses crunchy blackberry, blueberry and slightly pulpy blackcurrant notes combined with hints of raspberry, toast, mocha, racy minerality and a discreet hint of coffee (in the background).

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Château La Bridane 2019

Saint-Julien

The nose is fruity and offers vibrancy as well as pulpiness. There are notes of pulpy blackcurrant, crunchy Morello cherry and slightly crushed blueberry combined with a touch of liquorice and sweet spices. The palate is fruity, balanced and offers juiciness, smoothness, pulpiness and finesse. On the palate this wine expresses juicy/pulpy blackberry, pulpy/juicy blackcurrant and slightly crunchy plum notes with hints of creamy raspberry, liquorice, vanilla and a subtle touch of nutmeg and toasted hazelnut. The tannins are precise and well-conducted. Good work on the bitter taste (in the background).

Score : 15.5/20 (90-91/100)

Sarget de Gruaud Larose 2019

Saint-Julien

The nose is fruity and gourmet. There are lovely notes of fleshy strawberry, red berries and, more slightly, grey pepper, combined with fine touches of crushed blackberry and delicate hints of vanilla and cardamom. The palate is fresh, mineral, balanced and offers elegance, a nice gourmandise, a finely unctuous matter, a fine straightness as well as a nice salinity/iodine. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy wild strawberry, crushed redcurrant and, more slightly, fresh meadow flowers combined with touches of crushed blackberry as well as hints of vanilla, cardamom and a subtle touch of pepper. The tannins are precise and racy. Good length. Nice sapidity. Good persistence.

Score : 16+/20 (92-93/100)

M de Moulin Riche 2019

Saint-Julien

The nose offers delicacy, fine richness and a racy, airy texture. There are notes of fleshy wild blackcurrant, salinity and a hint of fleshy wild strawberry combined with hints of crushed cherry, fine liquorice and a delicate touch of blueberry. The palate is fruity, balanced and offers delicacy, airiness and a mineral/salinity backbone. On the palate this wine expresses notes of fleshy cherry, crushed raspberry and, more slightly, blackcurrant combined with hints of dark berries, a subtle hint of roast, toasted hazelnut, salinity and a hint of positive bitterness. Lingers long with a touch of cola in the aftertaste.

Score : 15.25+/20 (90-91/100)

Château Moulin Riche 2019

Saint-Julien

The nose is elegant and offers a fine complexity. The wine benefits from being decanted. There are notes of crushed blackberry, fleshy strawberry and, more slightly, crushed berries combined with a subtle hint of chocolate, vanilla and an imperceptible hint of almost plum blossom. The palate is mineral, balanced, elegant and offers a nice sapidity/suavity, precision, energy and freshness. On the

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palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy blackberry, fleshy/juicy raspberry and, more slightly, saline notes combined with hints of vanilla and a subtle hint of good bitterness. Nice persistence on positive bitterness and salinity.

Score : 15.75/20 (91-92/100)

Pavillon de Léoville Poyferré 2019

Saint-Julien

The nose is fruity, elegant and offers finesse as well as a fine richness in control. There are notes of crushed blackcurrant, crushed strawberry and, more slightly, of pulpy wild berries combined with delicate touches of sage/eucalyptus and a subtle hint of Sichuan pepper. The palate is mineral, fresh, elegant and offers a nice acidic structure, some racy power and good definition. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy blackberry, fleshy/acidic redcurrant and, more slightly, violet combined with hints of salinity as well as hints of tonka bean, good bitterness and a subtle hint of almost sage in the background. Good length.

Score : 16+/20 (92-93/100)

La Réserve de Léoville Barton 2019

Saint-Julien

The nose is fruity and gourmet. There are notes of fleshy cherry, crushed wild strawberry and, more slightly, pulpy blackcurrant combined with fine touches of pepper, cardamom and a discreet hint of coriander. The palate is fruity, balanced, juicy and offers good definition, salinity and sweetness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy cherry, creamy currant and, more slightly, fleshy/fresh strawberry combined with a touch of blueberry, liquorice and toastiness. The tannins are precise and smooth. Good length.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Château Gloria 2019

Saint-Julien

The nose is fruity, racy and offers concentration and power. There are notes of blackberry, ripe wild strawberry, concentrated violet and a hint of lily, combined with fine touches of blue berries, a hint of Sichuan pepper, as well as a subtle touch of liquorice and a very discreet hint of tobacco. The palate is fruity, balanced and offers roundness, nobility, good structure, concentration and finesse as well as darkness (but all in control). On the palate this wine expresses notes of wild blackberry noise, dense black berries and, more slightly, liquorice, combined with hints of ripe red berries, star anise, bergamot and fine mocha and toasted notes. Good length. Sapidly. Fine mellowness and sweetness/gourmandise on the finish.

Score : 16+/20 (92-93/100)

Château La Fleur Lauga 2019

Saint-Julien Cru Artisan

The nose is fruity and offers some concentration. There are notes of violet, iris and, more slightly, concentrated blackberry combined with a touch of red berries as well as a hint of blue berries and a subtle touch of pepper. The palate is juicy, tangy and offers fat and roundness. On the palate this wine expresses juicy/pulpy raspberry, tart/pulpy redcurrant and, more slightly, violet/pink notes combined with hints of lily, a subtle hint of pepper and an imperceptible hint of almost citrus (in the background). Good work on the bitter taste. Fine hints of dark chocolate/mocha on the finish. The tannic structure is finely tight.

Score : 15/20 (89-90/100)

Château Moulin de la Rose 2019

Saint-Julien

The wine benefits from being decanted. The nose offers notes of boysenberry, lily and, more slightly, pepper combined with hints of iris, clove and a fine touch of spice. The palate is fruity, tightly wound and offers freshness, restraint and a fine powdery tannic structure. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of wild raspberry, pulpy red berries and a hint of mocha combined with clove, camphor and spice.

Score : 14.75/20 (88-89/100)

Château Les Ormes 2019

Saint-Julien

The nose is spicy and a little closed. The wine needs to be decanted. There are notes of nutmeg, blackberry and, more slightly, wild strawberry combined with delicate touches of spice and a fine hint of pepper. The palate is fruity, tightly wound and offers minerality, juiciness and a certain generosity of substance. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy blackberry, pulpy raspberry and, more slightly, ripe red berries, combined with a touch of mocha, tobacco, as well as fine spices and a very discreet hint of faded rose (in the background). Good length. A hint of bitterness from the cocoa on the finish.

Score : 15/20 (89-90/100)

Château Teynac 2019

Saint-Julien

The nose is racy and a little tight. There are notes of wild strawberry, blackcurrant and, to a lesser extent, blackberry, combined with hints of violet, spice, cardamom and a discreet touch of Cuban pepper and tobacco. The palate is mineral, fruity and offers fat/roundness, tension and a mineral frame. Nice freshness and roundness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, juicy/pulpy raspberry and slightly more pulpy cherry combined with hints of cardamom, tonka bean and hints of nutmeg, tobacco and a subtle hint of graphite/racy minerality. Good length. A very fine hint of roast in the background.

Score : 15.25+/20 (90-91/100)

AOC PAUILLAC 2019

Château Tour Sieujean 2019

Pauillac

The nose is fruity, with lovely fruit, purity and concentration. There are notes of crushed cherry, pulpy wild strawberry and, more slightly, crushed berries, combined with hints of blueberry, lilac and fine toasted hazelnut and liquorice stick. The palate is nicely fresh, juicy and offers crunchiness, gourmandise, good definition, concentration in rightness/mastery as well as a fine airiness in its creaminess/richness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of creamy/pulpy blackberry, fleshy/juicy redcurrant and, more slightly, crunchy cherry combined with hints of chocolate, toasted almond and a subtle hint of toasted hazelnut. Good length. A subtle hint of positive bitterness in the background.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Château La Fon du Berger 2019

Pauillac

The nose is mineral, racy and offers some power and intensity. There are notes of crunchy wild blackcurrant, balsamic and, more slightly, strawberry combined with hints of violet, nutmeg and a discreet touch of clove. The palate is mineral, fruity, balanced, stretched out, discreetly tight and offers a nice freshness and tension. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy blackcurrant, blackberry, crushed/concentrated fruit and, more slightly, raspberry combined with hints of racy minerality, flowers as well as fine hints of chocolate, toastiness and a fine touch of positive bitterness (in the background).

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Fleur de Pédesclaux 2019

Pauillac

The nose is spicy and offers a fine power as well as a small concentration. The wine needs to be decanted. It reveals notes of crushed blackberry, wild strawberry and small notes of lily associated with touches of pepper, nutmeg as well as slight toasted hints and spices. The palate is fruity and offers minerality, freshness, a fine chiseled side, an acidulous frame, precision as well as a certain purity of the fruit. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy cassis, bright small red fruits and small notes of lily/lilac associated with touches of saline minerality, graphite as well as fine hints of spices and toasted. Tannins are supple and well-built. Good length.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Alias de Croizet-Bages 2019

Pauillac

The nose is racy and offers subtlety as well as a fine and powerful grain. The wine benefits from being decanted. There are notes of wild blackberry, wild flowers and slightly more liquorice stick combined with hints of blueberry, morello cherry and fine toasted, roasted and toasted notes. The palate is nicely fresh with minerality/mineral structure, fine creaminess and a racy/fresh gravelly character. On the palate this wine expresses notes of black berries, pulpy blackberry and slightly racy/terroir gravel. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of black berries, pulpy blackberry and slightly racy/terroir gravel, combined with hints of graphite, incense, mocha, fine roasted notes and a subtle touch of blueberry and vanilla. The tannins are fresh and racy. Good length. Chewy and nicely bitter on the finish.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Prélude à Grand-Puy Ducasse 2019

Pauillac

The nose is racy and offers some intensity and freshness. There are notes of fresh wild blackcurrant, pulpy raspberry and, more slightly, of wild red berries combined with hints of fresh pepper and subtle varietal and fresh liquorice. The palate is fruity and reveals freshness/freshness, tension, good balance, fatness and a nice roundness. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy

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raspberry, fresh cherry and slightly pulpy blackcurrant combined with hints of blueberry, fresh lily/flowers and hints of liquorice, blond tobacco and fresh vanilla. Fine hints of positive bitterness/variatal touch (in the background).
Score : 15/20 (89-90/100)

Château La Fleur Peyrabon 2019

Pauillac

The nose is aromatic, elegant and offers power with finesse and concentration with precision. There are notes of wild blackberry, pulpy strawberry and, more slightly, violet, combined with hints of cardamom, tonka bean, as well as a touch of rose, graphite and a hint of Bourbon vanilla. The palate is juicy, mineral and offers freshness, concentration, good definition, precision, a certain controlled richness and a discreetly tight tannic structure. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy boysenberry, fleshy blackcurrant and, more slightly, ripe/acidulated wild berries combined with hints of violet, lily, tonka bean, fine cardamom and a subtle hint of toast and Bourbon vanilla. A very discreet hint of caramelisation in the background. Good length. A very discreet hint of roasting in the background.
Score : 16+/20 (92-93/100)

Château Pibran 2019

Pauillac

The nose is spicy and offers power, precision and clarity. There are notes of crème de cassis, fairly ripe black berries and, more slightly, morello cherry, combined with touches of creamy blueberry, crushed raspberry, chocolate, almond, violet, as well as fine spices, nutmeg and a discreet hint of sweet blond tobacco. The palate is fresh, fruity, balanced and offers good definition, tension, restraint, a nice minerality and freshness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/fresh violet plum, fresh/juicy blackberry and, more slightly, dark berry combined with hints of zan, nutmeg as well as hints of cardamom, mocha and a very discreet hint of roast. The tannins are fresh and racy. Dark chocolate in the aftertaste.
Score : 15.75/20 (91-92/100)

Les Tourelles de Longueville 2019

Pauillac

The nose is elegant, aromatic and has a nice spicy, masterful and airy quality. There are notes of boysenberry, green cardamom/spice and slightly morello cherry combined with touches of crunchy black berries, a hint of blueberry as well as fine hints of zan, fresh blond tobacco and a very discreet hint of pepper. The palate offers a nice freshness, minerality, roundness, generosity and a little airiness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of Morello cherry, juicy/fresh black plum and, more slightly, crunchy blue berries combined with a touch of violet, lily as well as fine nuances of black liquorice, a hint of Bourbon vanilla bean and a subtle touch of toastiness. Sapidity. Good length. A very fine touch of positive bitterness on the finish. Nice chewiness and good work on the bitter taste.
Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Les Griffons de Pichon Baron 2019

Pauillac

The nose is aromatic and flowery. There are notes of pulpy blackberry, lily and, more slightly, blueberry, combined with a touch of powder, saffron, fine hints of spice, as well as a discreet hint of liquorice and a very discreet hint of cola. The palate is fresh (a very nice freshness), fruity and offers minerality, a nice definition, roundness, a fine richness/unctuousness as well as some spherical side. On the palate this wine expresses notes of creamy blue berries, juicy/fresh boysenberry and slightly crunchy berries combined with a touch of saffron (on the floral side), spice and a discreet hint of hazelnut and incense. Good length. Some mellowness on the finish. A nice delicacy! A very discreet hint of iodine in the aftertaste.
Score : 16+/20 (92-93/100)

Le Pauillac de Château Latour 2019

Pauillac

The nose is aromatic and offers fruit, a nice floral/pistil quality and a fine peppery character. There are notes of iris, violet and, more slightly, blackberry, combined with attractive touches of blue berries, saffron, cherry and fine hints of liquorice. The palate is fruity and offers minerality, good definition, energy, dynamism, freshness, fine unctuousness and a nice acidic structure. Subtlety and freshness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy blackberry, juicy/fresh blackcurrant and, more slightly, blueberry, iris combined with hints of chocolate, toasted hazelnut, saffron as well as a hint of crunchy cherry, chocolate and toasted/caramelised. Subtle roast/coffee on the finish. Nice persistence. Good work on the bitter taste.
Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Les Forts de Latour 2019

Pauillac

The nose is fresh, aromatic and offers a nice power of freshness, fine grain and depth. There are notes of saffron, blueberry and, more slightly, racy minerality, nutmeg, combined with hints of graphite, fresh blackberry, fine hints of toasted almond and a very fine touch of caramelisation and pepper. The palate is fresh and offers minerality, a nice definition, precision, tension, a nice acidic backbone, a nice depth and dynamism. On the palate this wine expresses juicy/pulpy blackberry, crunchy/fresh black berry and slightly blueberry, liquorice with hints of chocolate, cardamom as well as fresh vanilla, racy minerality, a hint of fresh/juicy red berries and discreet hints of fresh tobacco. A discreet hint of saffron (in its flowery side) and almost black olive in the background. Good length and nice persistence. The tannins are soft, precise and smooth. A very nice work on the bitter taste.

Score : 17.75/20 (95-96/100)

Le Petit Mouton de Mouton Rothschild 2019

Pauillac

The nose is elegant, racy and offers power with delicacy, intensity and a fine, racy and elegant grain. There are notes of crunchy wild blackberry, black berries and, more slightly, Sichuan pepper combined with hints of crushed currants, racy/terroir gravel, fine violet, grey pepper, a subtle hint of lily, spice and a very discreet hint of cornflower, graphite, camphor and saffron (on the flowery side). A very discreet almost balsamic touch. The palate is fresh, mineral, fruity, balanced and offers good definition, juiciness, depth, gourmandise, an acidic frame, tension in finesse/delicacy, cleanliness, fleshiness as well as a nice fine and racy texture. On the palate this wine expresses crunchy/acidic black cherry, pulpy redcurrant and slightly tart/juicy blackcurrant notes combined with hints of blueberry, violet, blond tobacco, fine camphor, toasted almond and a subtle hint of spice, almost crushed blueberry and vanilla. A very discreet hint of fresh leather. The tannins are elegant. Nice bitterness and a hint of roast on the finish (brings sapidity and sweetness).

Score : 17.5+/20 (95-96/100)

Château Bellevue-Cardon 2019

Pauillac

The nose offers a fine freshness, a fine concentration and a vanilla character. There are notes of fresh vanilla, violets and, to a lesser extent, blackberry, combined with a touch of fresh strawberry and a discreet hint of pepper. The palate offers fruit, freshness, tension, verticality and a fine tannic structure. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of vanilla, fleshy raspberry and, more slightly, fleshy strawberry, combined with hints of violet/fresh flowers, toasted notes, a subtle hint of liquorice and a discreet hint of pepper and variatal (in the background). The tannins are tightly wound.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

L'Harmonie de Fonbadet 2019

Pauillac

The nose is mineral, racy and offers controlled power. We find notes of pulpy strawberry, ripe red berries and, more slightly, graphite combined with touches of balsamic, violet and fine points of pink pepper. The palate is mineral, racy (fresh gravel) and offers freshness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of red berries, violets and slightly juicy/fresh blackcurrant combined with hints of lily, nutmeg, cardamom and fine nuances of fresh/crunchy red berries as well as discreet toasted notes and a fine point of tonka bean/coffee. The tannins are sapid.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Château Fonbadet 2019

Pauillac

The nose is racy and offers power in control/elegance as well as some airiness in its grain. There are notes of wild blackberry, fresh wild red berries and a hint of racy minerality combined with hints of lily, pepper and a subtle hint of almost saffron (in its flowery side) and cardamom. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, smoothness, freshness, minerality and a tangy texture. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of crunchy red berries, violet and slightly blackberry combined with hints of lily, racy gravel/minerality, toasted almond as well as fine nuances of blond tobacco, cardamom, pulpy/juicy violet plum and sweet spices. Sweetness, volume and richness.

Score : 15.75/20 (91-92/100)

Château Pauillac 2019

Pauillac

The nose is peppery and racy. There are notes of wild blackberry and ripe wild berries combined with hints of Sichuan pepper, lily, cardamom and a subtle hint of

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sweet spice. The palate is fruity, discreetly tight and offers juiciness, acidity, good definition, a certain gourmandise and a little tension. On the palate this wine expresses tart/juicy blackberry, red berry and slightly fresh lily notes combined with hints of saline/gravelly minerality and hints of toast, cardamom and a fine mocha note. The tannins are supple.

Score : 15.25+/20 (90-91/100)

Le Pauillac de Château Latour 2018

Pauillac

(Organic) The nose is elegant, racy and offers a nice fine intensity, purity of fruit as well as crunchiness. There are notes of crunchy blackcurrant, raspberry and ripe wild red berries with hints of iodine, a discreet hint of zan, and a subtle hint of almost blueberry and pepper. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, acidity, minerality, good definition, tension, energy and a nice grain. On the palate this wine expresses juicy blackcurrant, morello cherry and slightly ripe wild berry notes with a touch of violet, camphor and a subtle hint of good bitterness and a discreet touch of roast. The tannins are supple and well-managed. Good length.

Score : 15.75+/20 (91-92/100)

Les Forts de Latour 2017

Pauillac

The nose is elegant, fruity, nicely defined and offers depth, energy and a lovely racy, finely powdered texture. There are notes of crunchy blackcurrant, black cherry and slightly liquorice with hints of crushed wild strawberry, crushed red currant and subtle hints of blueberry, lily, iodine and spice. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, gourmandise, a nice freshness/energy as well as a tangy frame. On the palate this wine expresses juicy/pulpy cherry, crunchy Morello cherry and, more slightly, lily, blueberry notes combined with hints of wild berries, crunchy berries as well as subtle hints of rose, iodine gravel and a hint of varietal/good bitterness. The tannins are supple, racy and saline/sappy. Good length. A very discreet, almost chocolatey quality on the finish.

Score : 16.25+/20 (93/100)

Domaine Les Sadons 2019

Pauillac

The nose is elegant, gourmet and offers delicacy, a little concentration as well as a certain power in control. There are notes of crushed redcurrant, crushed cherry and, more slightly, pulpy blackcurrant combined with fine touches of fresh lilac as well as fine caramelisation and a discreet hint of chocolate. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, concentration, a certain gourmandise as well as a juicy/acidic structure. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy blackberry, pulpy/juicy cherry and, more slightly, fleshy blackcurrant, combined with hints of liquorice, toasted almond, as well as fine points of toastiness, caramelisation and a touch of fresh hazelnut. The tannins are racy. Good length.

Score : 15.75/20 (91-92/100)

AOC SAINT-ESTEPHE 2019

Château Haut-Marbuzet 2019

Saint-Estèphe

The nose is aromatic and offers complexity, good definition, depth and a fine, relatively powerful grain. Fleshy wild blackcurrant, crunchy blackberry and slightly strawberry notes are combined with hints of liquorice, Sichuan pepper, nutmeg and fine graphite and liquorice. The palate is fresh, mineral, balanced, stretched, taut and offers a juicy/pulpy frame, good definition, a certain gourmandise as well as a good work on positive bitterness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/ripe blackcurrant, spice, pulpy/ripe black berry and, more slightly, violet combined with hints of toasted almond and a subtle hint of fresh cocoa and flower pistils. Good length.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Château Haut Baron 2019

Saint-Estèphe

The nose is fruity and offers a certain gourmandise. It reveals notes of pulpy blackberry, bright red berries and small notes of gravels/racy minerality asso-

ciated with fine touches of crushed blueberry as well as a hint of salinity and a very discreet hint of camphor. The palate is nicely fresh and offers minerality, an acidulous frame as well as juiciness. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy cassis, bright raspberry and small notes of acidulous/crunchy redcurrants associated with touches of fresh flowers, varietal hints as well as slight hints of salinity and liquorice. Tannins are well-built.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Château La Croix de Pez 2019

Saint-Estèphe

The nose offers notes of vanillin/cinnamon, spices, crushed strawberry and slightly blackcurrant with hints of star anise. The palate is fresh, balanced and offers juiciness, freshness, good definition and some tension. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of blackcurrant, blueberry and, to a lesser extent, pistil and lily, combined with touches of tart red berries and fine hints of star anise and cinnamon. Good length.

Score : 14.75/20 (88-89/100)

Château Tour Saint-Fort 2019

Saint-Estèphe

The nose is fruity and offers concentration as well as a fine power. There are notes of concentrated wild blackcurrant, pulpy blackberry and, more slightly, crushed red berries combined with touches of fresh lilac, violet and a fine touch of acidulous candy and a discreet hint of liquorice. The palate is mineral, balanced and offers freshness, juiciness, a fine creaminess, gourmandise and an acidic backbone. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy blackberry, violet and slightly tart candy, combined with touches of tart red berries, as well as fine varietal notes, salinity and a subtle hint of spice.

Score : 15.25+/20 (90-91/100)

Château Graves de Pez 2019

Saint-Estèphe

The nose offers notes of crushed strawberry, wild raspberry and, more slightly, vanilla essence combined with fine hints of liquorice and a very discreet hint of sweet blond tobacco. The palate offers freshness, juiciness, minerality and good definition. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy raspberry, pulpy/juicy red berries and, more slightly, of lily, combined with touches of racy minerality, nutmeg and a fine hint of vanilla essence.

Score : 14.75/20 (88-89/100)

Château La Croix St Estèphe 2019

Saint-Estèphe

The nose is fruity, precise and offers some stretch. There are notes of raspberry, fleshy cherry and, more slightly, racy minerality combined with fine, almost saline, hints of blackcurrant and a discreet hint of liquorice/colas. The palate is fresh, mineral, balanced and offers a mineral/rooty backbone, a nice salinity as well as a stretched side. On the palate this wine expresses notes of fresh raspberry, fresh cherry and, more slightly, fleshy blackcurrant combined with hints of violet, liquorice, fine cardamom and a fine touch of positive bitterness and cocoa (in the background). Good length.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Château Beau-Site Haut-Vignoble 2019

Saint-Estèphe

The nose is racy, with minerality, fine grain, some delicate power and a fine straightness of approach. There are notes of blackcurrant, blackberry, violet and, more slightly, racy minerality combined with hints of graphite, crunchy currants and hints of camphor, lily and vanilla. The palate is fresh, nicely conducted and offers gourmandise, roundness, fine unctuousness and good guidance. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of crunchy blackberry, pulpy redcurrant and, more slightly, morello cherry, combined with touches of racy minerality, graphite, hints of cocoa, roasting, a touch of vanilla and a very discreet touch of pepper and camphor. Some chewiness on the finish. The tannins are finely mellow. Fine sapidity and good work on the positive bitterness.

Score : 15.5/20 (90-91/100)



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Prieur de Meyney 2019 Saint-Estèphe

The nose reveals notes of spices and, more slightly, pulpy blackberry combined with fine varietal touches, fleshy strawberry as well as fine hints of liquorice, toast and caramelisation. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, minerality, tension, a hint of iodine and good work on the bitter taste. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy blackberry, fresh/crisp raspberry and, more slightly, of red berries combined with touches of fresh flowers, hints of tonka bean and a subtle touch of toastiness, fresh almond and nutmeg.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Château Meyney 2019 Saint-Estèphe

The nose is fruity, fresh and offers good definition, power, fine grain and intensity. There are notes of pulpy redcurrants, fresh/juicy wild strawberries and slightly crunchy black berries combined with fine hints of violets, saline/iodine gravel as well as fine points of blond tobacco and a subtle almost cumin-like edge. The palate is fruity and offers freshness, minerality/mineral structure, juiciness, a certain brilliance of fruit, pulpiness, gourmandise, precision and good definition. Powerful and fresh. On the palate this wine expresses juicy/pulpy blackberry, crunchy raspberry and slightly crunchy redcurrant notes combined with hints of violet, camphor, mocha as well as a subtle hint of vanilla, toastiness and a discreet touch of toasted hazelnut. Good length.

Score : 17+/20 (94-95/100)

Château Clauzet 2019 Saint-Estèphe

The nose is concentrated. There are notes of wild blackcurrant, violet and slightly camphor combined with subtle hints of clove, a discreet hint of raspberry, toast and a very discreet hint of roast. The palate is fruity and offers minerality, good definition, harmony and a certain juiciness of the fruit. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of juicy raspberry, juicy redcurrant and, more slightly, violet, combined with subtle touches of dark berries and a hint of blond tobacco, as well as a subtle saline and chocolate touch. The tannins are structured and discreetly marked. Good length. Hints of chocolate on the finish.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Dame de Montrose 2019 Saint-Estèphe

The nose is racy, tightly wound and offers concentration as well as depth. There are notes of wild blackcurrant, crunchy black berries and a hint of blueberry combined with touches of crunchy strawberry, lily, fine hints of blueberry and a discreet hint of spice, fresh liquorice and a subtle touch of sweet spice. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, delicacy, roundness, fatness, gourmandise, acidity, precision, concentration and a certain finesse in its racy power. On the palate this wine expresses notes of crunchy cherry, violet and, more slightly, juicy/fresh wild red berries combined with hints of crushed blackcurrant, black plum as well as hints of liquorice, blond tobacco, vanilla and a touch of chocolate. A nice wine where the "pressed wine" is evident. Good work on the bitter taste.

Score : 16.25+/20 (93/100)

Château Tronquoy-Lalande 2019 Saint-Estèphe

The nose is gourmet and offers intensity and a certain concentration of fruit. There are notes of crunchy cherry, violet, and purple plum combined with hints of crushed red berries, lily, fine hints of colas/ liquorice, and a discreet hint of nutmeg and a subtle pepper in the background. The palate is fresh, fruity, balanced and offers deliciousness, crunchiness and smoothness. Nice fleshiness and acidity of the fruit. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/acidic blueberry, pulpy/acidic violet plum and, more slightly, crushed strawberry combined with hints of chocolate, Bourbon vanilla as well as a subtle hint of saffron (on the floral side), sweet blond tobacco and a touch of cola. The tannins are well-managed. Good length. Nice work on the bitter taste. Softness and a very nice persistence.

Score : 17.5/20 (95/100)

Château Domeyne 2019 Saint-Estèphe

The nose is worth decanting. There are notes of fresh leather, spices and, to a lesser extent, strawberry, combined with delicate touches of lily and zan. The palate offers juiciness, freshness, minerality and an acidic structure. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of raspberry, violet and slightly rose, combined with a touch of red berries, fine zan and a hint of fresh leather and tobacco.

Score : 14.5+/20 (88/100)

Château Haut Coteau 2019 Saint-Estèphe

The nose is fine-grained and complex. There are notes of ripe blackcurrant, grey pepper and slightly crushed raspberry combined with delicate touches of flowers and a subtle hint of cola. The palate is tightly wound and offers freshness, fat and a fine acidic frame. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy raspberry, fleshy cherry and slightly crunchy blackberry combined with hints of lily, violet, fine points of racy minerality and a hint of graphite and grey pepper.

Score : 15/20 (89-90/100)

Château La Haye 2019 Saint-Estèphe

The nose is tightly wound, intense and powerful. There are notes of wild currants, rose and, more slightly, grey pepper combined with fine touches of red fruit, fresh blackberry and a hint of clove/spice. The palate offers minerality, juiciness and some fat. On the palate this wine expresses notes of boysenberry, pulpy wild raspberry and, more slightly, pulpy wild strawberry combined with hints of grey pepper, lily and fine clove. The finish is tightly wound. Fine chewiness on the finish. The tannins are finely mellow. Good length.

Score : 15+/20 (89-90/100)

Château Ségur de Cabanac 2019 Saint-Estèphe

The nose is spicy, a bit closed and a bit yeasty. The wine needs to be decanted. There are notes of toast, blackberry and, more slightly, of spices combined with touches of violet, incense and fine vanilla. The palate is mineral and offers fruit, a certain tension and a linear side. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy blackberry, lily, violet and, more slightly, of wild berries combined with a touch of liquorice, incense, mocha as well as a hint of clove and a discreet touch of chocolate.

Score : 14.5/20 (88/100)

Pagodes de Cos 2019 Saint-Estèphe

The nose is fruity, elegant and offers gourmandise, a certain power and a fine powdery side. There are notes of pulpy/juicy boysenberry, fleshy wild red berries and, more slightly, violet, graphite combined with hints of Bigarreau cherry, tonka bean and sweet spices. The palate is fruity, well-managed, racy and offers an acidic structure, minerality, good definition, juiciness, precision, fine freshness and a fine straightness. On the palate, this wine expresses juicy/pulpy blackberry, juicy/pulpy raspberry and, more slightly, fleshy strawberry notes combined with hints of violet, graphite, racy minerality as well as a subtle hint of saline gravel, tonka bean and a discreet touch of toastiness. A powdery finish. The tannins are elegant, precise and racy. Good persistence.

Score : 15.75+/20 (91-92/100)

Château Phélan Ségur 2019 Saint-Estèphe

The nose is fruity and offers a nice fleshiness and intensity of fruit. There are notes of fleshy red berries, crushed red berries and, more slightly, violet, combined with a hint of pulpy blackcurrant, fleshy plum, fine hints of violet, black tea, lily, as well as a fine hint of saffron, a very discreet, almost balsamic hint and an imperceptible hint of fresh vanilla. The palate is mineral, fresh, balanced, fruity and offers a nice definition, gourmandise, roundness, fleshiness/pulpiness of the fruit, brilliance, a finely tightened tannic structure as well as a fine airiness in the approach. Nice, crunchy (fruit) and a coating side. On the palate this wine expresses fleshy/juicy red berry, crushed raspberry and, more slightly, pulpy red plum notes combined with hints of fresh violet, rose, iodine salinity/graves as well as fine hints of liquorice stick, sweet blond tobacco, subtle graphite/camphor



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and mocha. The tannins are mellow. A subtle hint of toasted hazelnut in the background and an imperceptible hint of blueberry.

Score : 17.25/20 (94-95/100)

Château Andron Blanquet 2019

Saint-Estèphe

The nose is racy and offers some power, a little stretch and a fine tight grain. There are notes of wild blackcurrant, crushed wild strawberry and, more slightly, of fleshy/overripe cherry combined with a fine touch of zan, graphite, a fine touch of minerality and a discreet hint of violet/pink and toastiness. The palate is mineral with freshness, good definition, tension and precision. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of fresh/juicy blackberry, fresh strawberry and slightly juicy/pulpy redcurrant combined with hints of violet, rose, fine points of racy/saline minerality and a very discreet hint of toastiness and vanilla.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Château de Pez 2019

Saint-Estèphe

The nose is fruity and offers power, clarity, a fine spicy edge and a very fine grey pepper edge in the background. There are notes of wild blackcurrant, crunchy blackberry and slightly morello cherry combined with hints of liquorice/zan, a fine touch of crushed strawberry, discreet hints of racy minerality and a subtle hint of pepper, incense, nutmeg and toasted almond. The palate is nicely juicy, fresh, fruity and offers a nice delicacy, gourmandise, acidity, finesse in its tannic structure, finesse in its power, a little straightness and a good guideline. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of morello cherry, blackberries and, more slightly, wild blackcurrant, combined with hints of violet, lily, camphor, as well as fine points of grey pepper, a discreet hint of fresh blond tobacco and a subtle hint of toast/torrefaction.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

2nd de Pez 2019

Saint-Estèphe

The nose is fruity, elegant and offers a nice definition, gourmandise, fine complexity and a nice rich balance of fruit. There are notes of crunchy blackcurrant, graphite and, more slightly, black pepper combined with hints of morello cherry, camphor, crunchy raspberry and fine hints of liquorice and cardamom. The palate is nicely fruity and offers freshness, definition, precision, sweetness and a nice acidic backbone. On the palate this wine has crunchy sour cherry, boysenberry and slightly crunchy/juicy red berry notes with hints of vanilla, camphor, lily/lilac and a discreet hint of cardamom and fresh blond tobacco. Nice sapidity and a fine hint of roast in the background. Nice finish with fine graphite notes.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

AOC SAINT-ESTEPHE 2012

Château Tronquoy Lalande 2012

Saint-Estèphe

The nose is fruity and offers concentration. There are notes of crunchy redcurrant, crunchy strawberry and, more slightly, violet combined with hints of blackberry, Cuban pepper, fine camphor, tobacco, a subtle hint of sense of place and a discreet hint of saffron and clove. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, freshness, minerality, fatness, roundness, good definition, nice acidity, tension and straightness. On the palate this wine expresses crunchy sour cherry and wild strawberry notes with a touch of redcurrant, racy minerality, juicy/fresh blackberry, fine salinity, a discreet hint of tonka bean, cardamom and a subtle touch of nutmeg and pepper (in the background). The tannins are precise and offer smoothness. A subtle hint of mocha on the finish. The finish is finely powdered.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Château Phélan Ségur 2012

Saint-Estèphe

The nose is racy, well-managed and offers depth as well as a very fine and tightly wound grain. The wine benefits from being decanted. There are notes of crushed redcurrants, wild strawberries and a hint of salinity/iodine, combined with hints of red berries, balsamic, liquorice, tobacco and a very discreet hint of undergrowth. The palate is fresh, juicy and offers a nice racy minerality, suppleness, crunchiness, a nice gourmandise, freshness, a nice tannic frame, a fine concentration as well as a fine solar side. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of fairly ripe raspberry, wild strawberry and, to a lesser extent, crushed cherry, combined with hints of pulpy blackcurrant, violet, tonka bean and blond tobacco, as well as a subtle hint of camphor, racy minerality, iodine, salinity and vanilla. Good length. Fine firmness on the finish.

Score : 16.5+/20 (93-94/100)

AOC SAINT-ESTEPHE 2011

Château Tronquoy Lalande 2011

Saint-Estèphe

The nose is fruity, fresh and offers crunchiness, a nice fineness of grain (very discreetly tight by the way) as well as gourmandise. There are notes of black cherry, boysenberry and, to a lesser extent, violet, combined with hints of pepper, clove, a hint of Ceylon tea and a very discreet hint of undergrowth. The palate is fresh, fruity and offers a nice ripe/acidic fruit, tension, a fine straightness, sapidity and a discreetly tight side. On the palate this wine expresses juicy/acidic black cherry, fairly ripe wild blackberry and slightly ripe red berry fruit with hints of clove, fresh leather, purple plum and a subtle hint of racy minerality, salinity, a very discreet hint of undergrowth and a discreet hint of spice. The tannins are fine and powdery. A fine touch of mocha on the finish.

Score : 16.25/20 (92-93/100)

Château Phélan Ségur 2011

Saint-Estèphe

The nose is fruity, racy and offers a graphite side as well as a fine concentration. There are notes of ripe wild strawberry, graphite, blackberry and, to a lesser extent, clove, combined with subtle touches of undergrowth, a hint of rose and discreet hints of nutmeg and truffle/undergrowth. The palate is fruity and offers freshness, minerality, tension, precision, finesse in its fatness, a certain restraint, sapidity, gourmandise as well as a beautiful acidic backbone. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy black cherry, wild strawberry and, more slightly, crushed berries, combined with touches of undergrowth, clove, fine, almost saline notes, as well as a discreet hint of cardamom, mocha, undergrowth/truffle and tobacco. The tannins are mellow. Good length. The wine should be decanted.

Score : 16.25+/20 (93/100)

AOC MOULIS-EN-MEDOC 2019

Château La Garricq 2019

Moulis-en-Médoc

The nose is fruity, racy and offers a certain elegance. There are notes of Morello cherry, crushed blackberry and, to a lesser extent, violet, combined with hints of pulpy blackcurrant, as well as fine points of nutmeg and a discreet hint of vanilla. The palate is fruity, well-balanced, racy and well-structured, offering juiciness, freshness, minerality, precision and a certain tension. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy blackcurrant, boysenberry and slightly crushed morello cherry combined with hints of plum, plum blossom, chocolate as well as fine points of caramelisation, toastiness and a subtle hint of sweet spices. The tannins are mellow. A fine touch of graphite on the finish.

Score : 15.5/20 (90-91/100)

Château Lestage-Darquier Grand Poujeaux 2019

Moulis-en-Médoc

The nose is fruity, tightly wound and finely concentrated. There are hints of redcurrant, crushed cherry and, more slightly, violet/blueberry combined with hints of crushed blackberries as well as fine hints of liquorice and a subtle touch of green cardamom. The palate is fruity and offers fleshiness, freshness and a certain crunchiness of fruit. On the palate this wine expresses crunchy raspberry, pulpy red currant and slightly crushed blackcurrant notes with hints of liquorice, chocolate and fine points of racy minerality and a hint of green cardamom. The tannins are racy. A very discreet hint of sweet blond tobacco and vanilla essence in the background/finish.

Score : 15.25+/20 (90-91/100)

Château Branas Grand Poujeaux 2019

Moulis-en-Médoc

The wine benefits from decanting. The nose offers some power/intensity, precision, sharpness and a fine, discreetly tight grain. There are notes of ripe wild blackcurrant, fleshy strawberry and, more slightly, of fresh tobacco combined with touches of racy minerality, subtle hints of spice, a subtle hint of liquorice and a very discreet, almost sappy quality. The palate is fresh, mineral, well-balanced, well-constructed, racy and offers roundness, finesse, creaminess, gourmandise, a certain fullness, a nice body and a good guideline. On the palate this wine expresses notes of fleshy/creamy blackberry, fleshy/juicy blackcurrant and, more slightly, fleshy/fresh red berry fruit combined with a touch of liquorice, coffee, zan as well as fine points of camphor, minerality and a subtle hint of good cocoa bitterness on the finish. Lovely grain and soft tannins.

Score : 16.25/20 (92-93/100)

Médoc area

Château Maucaillou 2019 Moulis-en-Médoc

The nose is racy and deserves to be decanted. There are notes of crunchy blackcurrant, blueberry and, more slightly, violet combined with touches of violet plum as well as hints of liquorice, pepper, crushed cardamom and fine hints of vanilla bean. The palate is fruity and offers minerality, juiciness, freshness, a fine tension and a certain roundness. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy blackberry, crushed blackcurrant and, more slightly, blueberry, combined with hints of raspberry, crushed redcurrant, blueberry, chocolate, fine Bourbon vanilla and a subtle touch of caramelisation and pepper. The tannins are racy. Subtle hint of good cocoa bitterness on the finish.

Score : 15.75+/20 (91-92/100)

L'Impression de Mauvesin Barton 2019 Moulis-en-Médoc

The nose is fruity. There are notes of creamy raspberry, blackcurrant and slightly crushed redcurrant combined with fine touches of racy minerality and a hint of chocolate. The palate is fruity, balanced and offers juiciness, freshness, minerality, good definition, fatness and an acidic structure. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of creamy blackberry, pulpy blackcurrant and, more slightly, crushed redcurrant, combined with hints of tonka bean, sweet spices and a subtle touch of almond. Good length.

Score : 15+/20 (89-90/100)

Château Mauvesin Barton 2019 Moulis-en-Médoc

The nose is fresh and pulpy, it offers power and a fine richness of fruit. It has notes of crushed strawberry, fleshy blackcurrant, and, more slightly, racy minerality, as well as fine spicy hints. The palate is fresh, mineral, balanced and offers sweetness, some fat, a fine controlled richness as well as an acidic backbone. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of creamy blackcurrant, pulpy/juicy boysenberry and, more slightly, wild strawberry, combined with hints of violet, pepper and cardamom, as well as discreet hints of spice and toast. The tannins are racy. Good length. Presence of a fine hint of positive bitterness on the finish.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Château Bouqueyrans 2019 Moulis-en-Médoc

The nose is fresh, racy and mineral. There are notes of fresh wild red fruit, pepper and, to a lesser extent, violets, combined with fine touches of fresh blackcurrant, toasted almond, nutmeg and a discreet touch of vanilla. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, smoothness, freshness, fatness, a fine tension, roundness and gourmandise. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of fleshy/pulpy redcurrants and, more slightly, fresh strawberries combined with touches of racy minerality, fresh violet, fresh violet plum as well as fine points of nutmeg, cardamom, a discreet varietal touch and a subtle saline touch. The tannins are supple and racy.

Score : 15.5/20 (90-91/100)

Château Anthonic 2019 Moulis-en-Médoc

The nose is very discreetly tight and offers a fine grain, a little stretch and good definition. There are notes of blackcurrant, camphor and, to a lesser extent, ripe red berries, combined with hints of nutmeg, liquorice and a discreet touch of bergamot and tonka bean. The palate is mineral and offers a little stretch, a fine freshness and tension. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of wild raspberry, ripe/juicy blackcurrant and slightly nutmeg combined with touches of racy minerality, camphor, fine iodine, a discreet hint of tonka bean and a subtle hint of toasted almond and vanilla (in the background). The tannins are well-managed. Good length. Sapidly on the finish.

Score : 15.5/20 (90-91/100)

Château Brillette 2019 Moulis-en-Médoc

The nose is racy and offers power and fine grain. There are notes of nutmeg, grey pepper and, to a lesser extent, wild blackberry, combined with a touch of blackcurrant, lily and a discreet hint of spice. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, minerality, good definition, roundness, a little unctuousness (with an airy/light side) and a fine acidic frame. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy blackberry, unctuous blackcurrant and, more slightly, chocolate, combined with hints of caramelisation, strawberry, toasted almond, nutmeg and a subtle hint of bergamot. The tannins are precise, fine and powdery. Good length. A touch of positive cocoa bitterness on the finish.

Score : 15.5/20 (90-91/100)

Château de Malmaison 2019 Moulis-en-Médoc

The nose is aromatic, spicy, powerful and offers a racy grain. There are notes of strawberry, salinity and small notes of blue berries associated with touches of pepper as well as a fine almost sappy/fresh sap hint. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, a mineral/acidulous frame, a good definition, minerality, a nice salinity, sapidity, freshness, control as well as precision. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/acidulous cassis raspberry and small notes of salinity associated with touches of juicy blackberry as well as slight hints of lily, racy minerality, toasted and cardamom. Good length.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

AOC LISTRAC 2019

Château Rose Sainte-Croix 2019 Listrac-Médoc

The nose is fresh, fruity and offers a fine floral side. There are notes of fresh strawberry, violet and, more slightly, fresh red berries/raspberry combined with a hint of blackcurrant, pepper and a discreet touch of clove. The palate is fresh, fruity and offers minerality, freshness, good definition, tension and acidity. On the palate this wine expresses notes of fresh raspberry, fresh/juicy red berries and, more slightly, blueberry combined with hints of racy minerality, fresh violet and a fine touch of fresh violet plum, liquorice and a subtle hint of camphor. Good length. A very discreet hint of rose in the background. Nice salinity and pleasant bitterness on the finish.

Score : 15/20 (89-90/100)

Château Clarke 2019 Listrac-Médoc

The nose is elegant, nicely racy and offers a certain power with delicacy. There are notes of liquorice, morello cherry and slightly crushed blackcurrant combined with a hint of violet, blueberry and a hint of sweet blond tobacco and a touch of sweet spice. The palate is fruity, fresh, elegant and offers energy, a nice acidic frame and delicacy in its relative power and richness. On the palate this wine expresses morello cherry, crunchy/acidic raspberry and, more slightly, acidic/juicy red plum notes combined with a touch of juicy blackberry, hints of star anise, racy minerality, a subtle hint of graphite as well as fine hints of sweet spice and chocolate. The tannins are supple. Good work on the bitter taste. Juicy and fresh fruit.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Château Fourcas Dupré 2019 Listrac-Médoc

The nose is aromatic and offers a certain complexity as well as concentration and finesse. There are notes of cherry, crushed redcurrant and, to a lesser extent, blackberry, combined with a touch of nutmeg, grey pepper and a subtle hint of cinnamon and spice. The palate is fruity and offers freshness, minerality, good definition, juiciness, precision, a nice acidity of the fruit and mellowness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy raspberry, juicy/acidic redcurrant and, more slightly, fleshy/juicy purple plum combined with a touch of blackcurrant as well as fine hints of tonka bean, nutmeg and a subtle touch of roasted almond. A fine powdery finish and a nice sapidity/suavity. The tannins are mellow.

Score : 16.25/20 (92-93/100)

Château Fourcas Hosten 2019 Listrac-Médoc

The nose is flowery and offers elegance, concentration and accuracy. There are notes of rose, red berries and, to a lesser extent, cloves, combined with hints of iris, a touch of crunchy blackcurrant, as well as fine spices and a very discreet touch of tobacco. The palate is juicy, mineral, tightly wound, balanced and has a fine uprightness. On the palate this wine expresses juicy/fresh raspberry, wild red berry and, more slightly, rose notes combined with hints of fresh lily, crisp blackcurrant as well as a fine note of fresh blond tobacco and a subtle hint of mocha. Good length. A subtle hint of salinity in the background.

Score : 15.5/20 (90-91/100)

Château Martinho 2019 Listrac-Médoc

The nose offers notes of crushed strawberry, vanillin and, more slightly, blackcurrant combined with a touch of fresh hazelnut and a hint of balsamic. The palate is tight and offers minerality, tension and a fine, tight, slightly dry tannic structure. On the palate this wine expresses notes of raspberry, iris, peony and, more slightly, berry fruits combined with a touch of mocha, tobacco and clove.

Score : 14.25+/20 (87-88/100)

Médoc area

AOC HAUT-MÉDOC 2019

Château Lanessan 2019

Haut-Médoc

The nose offers fruit, a little depth and a controlled power. There are notes of fresh roasted berries, pulpy blackberry and, more slightly, fleshy/ripe cherry combined with subtle touches of violet, vanilla and a discreet hint of iodine, lily and an imperceptible hint of sweet blond tobacco (in the background). The palate is fruity and offers freshness, minerality, good definition, fine tension, acidity, suavity, fine sapidity and a fine straightness. On the palate this wine expresses juicy/pulpy blackberry, ripe/acidic red berry and slightly cherry notes combined with hints of violet, racy minerality and fine toasted and almond notes. The tannins are racy. Some salinity on the finish.

Score : 15.25+/20 (90-91/100)

Château Picourneau-Malvezin 2019

Haut-Médoc

The nose is fruity, floral and offers energy, freshness and concentration. There are notes of boysenberry, fleshy cherry and, more slightly, iris, fresh lily combined with hints of ripe currants, fine points of racy minerality and a discreet hint of varietal and pepper. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, straightness, tension, an acidic backbone and a nice juicy/fresh fruit. On the palate this wine expresses juicy/pulpy blueberry, blackcurrant and slightly fresh lily notes combined with hints of crushed strawberry, racy minerality as well as fine vanilla and a subtle hint of caramelised almond. The tannins are racy. Nice work on the bitter taste. Fine chewiness and a fine hint of mocha on the finish.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Château Vieux Gabarey 2019

Haut-Médoc Cru Artisan

The nose is tightly wound and offers some concentration, reduction and freshness. There are notes of crushed blackcurrant, fleshy strawberry and slightly crushed boysenberry combined with fine touches of fresh tobacco, sweet spices and a subtle hint of clove. The palate is fresh, fruity, a little tight and offers a fine concentration. On the palate this wine expresses notes of crushed blackberry, pulpy/fresh raspberry and, more slightly, racy minerality combined with hints of concentrated berries, minerality, camphor as well as a subtle hint of clove and a discreet hint of bitterness/old wood.

Score : 14.25/20 (87-88/100)

Le Grand Parioisien 2019

Haut-Médoc

The nose is fruity and offers gourmandise, a certain concentration as well as a small richness in its fruit. It reveals notes of crème de cassis, crushed strawberry and small notes of star anise associated with touches of morello cherry as well as a hint of vanilla and blond tobacco. The palate is fruity, slightly tight and offers an acid frame, minerality and a stretched side. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy cassis, crushed raspberry and small notes of acid redcurrants associated with fine touches of violet, liquorice and a hint of caramel. Sapidity/salinity on the finish/persistence. Good length.

Score : 14.5+/20 (88/100)

Château Haut Baron 2019

Haut-Médoc

The nose is spicy, mineral and offers a very discreet varietal hint in the background. The palate is mineral and offers a fine fatness, an acidulous frame, tension as well as a very discreetly tight structure. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of fresh blackberry, fresh raspberry and racy minerality associated with touches of spices. Tannins are discreetly tight.

Score : 14+/20 (87/100)

Château de Lamarque 2019

Haut-Médoc

The nose is spicy and offers a small power. It reveals notes of pepper, crushed raspberry and small notes of cassis combined with touches of cardamon, nutmeg, pepper and a fine hint of tobacco. The palate is mineral, fruity and offers juiciness, tension, a small deepness as well as a certain power. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/fresh cassis, pulpy purple plum and small notes of wild strawberry associated with touches of small wild berries, violet, fresh flowers/iris as well as slight hints of mocha, toasted, pepper and with a very discreet almost fresh leather hint. Tannins are supple and sapid.

Score : 15+/20 (89-90/100)

Le Benjamin de Marojallia

Haut-Médoc

The nose offers a racy minerality as well as spices. The wine benefits from being decanted. There are notes of crunchy blackberry, fresh crunchy raspberry and, more slightly, pepper combined with hints of violet, iris, fine liquorice and a touch of dark chocolate and toast. The palate is fruity and offers freshness, a nice racy minerality, gourmandise and crispness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of fresh/juicy blackberry, crisp raspberry and, more slightly, iris, fresh lily combined with a fine hint of rose, racy/almost saline minerality and a subtle hint of almond, spice and good bitterness. Good length. Nice bitterness on the finish.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Le Haut-Médoc de Dauzac 2019

Haut-Médoc

The nose is fresh, racy and offers freshness as well as a certain tension/stretch. There are notes of fresh cherry/crunchy cherry, violet and, more slightly, lilac combined with subtle touches of cardamon, crushed black berries as well as hints of grey pepper and a discreet hint of star anise. The palate is nicely gourmet, fresh and offers minerality, tension, a nice purity of fruit as well as airiness in the approach. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy raspberry, crunchy cherry and, more slightly, fresh/crisp blackberry combined with delicate touches of racy minerality, a subtle hint of bergamot/murberry leaf as well as fine hints of chocolate and toasted almond. Fine chewiness and sapidity on the finish.

Score : 15.75/20 (91-92/100)

Moulin de la Lagune 2019

Haut-Médoc

The nose is fruity and offers a certain juiciness, power and purity of fruit. There are notes of pulpy/crunchy blackcurrant, crunchy cherry and, more slightly, wild strawberry with hints of nutmeg, pepper, spice and a subtle touch of fresh tobacco. The palate is fruity, balanced and offers freshness, minerality and a fine smoothness. On the palate this wine expresses juicy/acidic blackberry, juicy/acidic Bigarreau cherry and slightly redcurrant notes combined with hints of lily, blueberry, nutmeg and discreet toasted and mocha notes. The tannins are sapid and racy. Good length.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Château Sénéjac 2019

Haut-Médoc

The nose is spicy, fresh and offers tension, a fine straightness and power. There are notes of wild blackcurrant, morello cherry and, to a lesser extent, pulpy redcurrant, combined with hints of violet, cherry blossom, pepper, nutmeg, spice and a very discreet hint of cinnamon. The palate is fruity and offers minerality, freshness, good definition, some fat, juiciness, sweetness, sapidity and a certain tension. On the palate this wine expresses juicy/fresh boysenberry, crunchy/fresh blackcurrant and slightly crunchy cherry notes combined with hints of raspberry as well as hints of tonka bean, cardamon, fine nutmeg and a hint of toastiness/grit. The tannins are racy. Good length. A fine hint of mocha in the background.

Score : 15.25+/20 (90-91/100)

Bruilières de Beychevelle 2019

Haut-Médoc

The nose is spicy and offers some power and purity of fruit. There are notes of crisp blackcurrant, crunchy blueberry and slightly crushed currant combined with hints of toast, roast, toast and fine pepper and a discreet almost violet/rosemary quality. The palate is fruity, balanced and offers juiciness, smoothness, roundness, good definition and a certain gourmandise. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of fleshy Morello cherry, pulpy blackcurrant and, more slightly, pulpy/juicy plum with hints of violet, crushed/pulpy red berries and hints of black pepper, roast, cocoa and fine blueberry and sweet spice. The tannins are supple. Sapid on the finish.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Château Caronne Ste Gemme 2019

Haut-Médoc

The nose reveals notes of toast, toasted bread and, more slightly, blackberry combined with fine touches of fresh blackcurrant as well as fine hints of fresh nutmeg. The palate is fresh, mineral, balanced and offers fresh acidity, tension and a fine straightness / linear side. On the palate this wine expresses notes of fresh/pulpy blackberry, fresh/pulpy blackcurrant and slightly fresh violet combined with hints of toast, toastiness as well as fine roasted notes and a subtle touch of tonka bean.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Médoc area

Château Haut-Bellevue 2019 Haut-Médoc

The nose is fruity with good concentration and fine depth. There are notes of Morello cherry, crushed redcurrant and slightly blackberry combined with hints of violet, cherry blossom, red berries and a hint of liquorice/zan. The palate is fresh, mineral, balanced and offers fruit and a juicy/fresh structure. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy raspberry, crushed blackcurrant and, more slightly, crunchy red berries combined with hints of crushed plum as well as hints of violet, vanilla and a subtle touch of zan.

Score : 15+/20 (89-90/100)

Château de Cassana 2019 Haut-Médoc

The nose is fruity and offers some concentration as well as power. There are notes of creamy blackcurrant, crushed blackberry and, more slightly, strawberry, combined with hints of vanilla bean and a touch of chocolate. The palate is fruity, balanced and offers freshness, minerality, fine tension and a mineral/fresh frame. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy blackberry, creamy blackcurrant and, more slightly, fleshy raspberry combined with hints of fresh almond and a subtle hint of toasted hazelnut and tonka bean (in the background). The tannins are well-managed. Good length. A fine chewiness in the background.

Score : 15.5/20 (90-91/100)

Château les Gravilles, Renaissance 2019 Haut-Médoc

The nose is fruity and offers concentration as well as a fine, well conducted power. There are notes of crunchy blackcurrant, crushed redcurrant and slightly morello cherry, combined with hints of crunchy black berries, as well as hints of liquorice, vanilla and a discreet touch of pepper. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, minerality, good definition, a certain gourmandise, a fine unctuousness, a fine acidic backbone as well as a discreet airy side in the approach. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of fresh/pulpy blackcurrant, creamy blackberry and, more slightly, violet, combined with hints of chocolate, hazelnut, toast, cardamom and a fine touch of camphor and roasting (in the background). Good length and persistence. Some power on the finish.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Château La Fon du Berger 2019 Haut-Médoc

The nose offers a fine hint of reduction. There are notes of blackcurrant, crushed raspberry and, to a lesser extent, ripe red berries, combined with hints of zan, violet and a touch of balsamic and spice. The palate is fresh, mineral, balanced and offers good definition, a certain juiciness as well as an acidic backbone. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy raspberry, crushed red berries and, more slightly, pulpy blackcurrant combined with hints of violet, lily and hints of tonka bean, fine vanilla and a subtle hint of toasted hazelnut. Good length.

Score : 15/20 (89-90/100)

Château Bernadotte 2019 Haut-Médoc

The nose is fruity and fine-grained. There are notes of pulpy blackberry, crushed strawberry and, more slightly, crushed berries combined with fine hints of violet as well as fine pepper, a discreet hint of liquorice and a subtle touch of cardamom. The palate is fruity, balanced and offers good freshness, minerality, good definition, roundness, some tension and a fresh/acidic structure. A fine compactness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/fresh blackberry, crushed blackcurrant and, more slightly, violet combined with hints of liquorice, cardamom as well as fine hints of racy honey, a subtle hint of tonka bean, graphite (in the background) and a very discreet touch of pepper. The tannins are well-managed. A discreet hint of bitterness from the cocoa in the background.

Score : 15.75/20 (91-92/100)

L'Orme de Rauzan-Gassies 2019 Haut-Médoc

The nose is fruity, creamy and has a fine power. There are notes of crushed blackberry, wild blue berries, strawberry, pepper, incense and a subtle hint of spice. The palate is fresh, mineral, balanced and offers a tangy structure, a certain creaminess, depth and a fine blackness. On the palate this wine has creamy blackberry, dark berries and slightly tonka bean/cocoa notes combined with hints of ripe red berries and hints of vanilla bean, toast and fine roasted hazelnut. Smooth tannins. Good length.

Score : 15.75/20 (91-92/100)

Château Bel Orme Tronquoy de Lalande 2019 Haut-Médoc

The nose offers power as well as a certain concentration. There are notes of ripe wild blackcurrant, liquorice and a hint of mocha combined with hints of violets/flowers, as well as fine pepper and a subtle hint of camphor. The palate offers minerality, freshness, good definition and a fresh/mineral structure. On the palate this wine expresses pulpy/juicy blackberry, dense dark berry and, more slightly, mocha notes with hints of violet, roast/grit and fine cardamom and bergamot.

Score : 15.5/20 (90-91/100)

Nuance de Dillon de 2019 Haut-Médoc

The nose is fruity and offers a very fine power. Juicy/fresh redcurrant, juicy/fresh cherry and slightly tart blackcurrant notes are combined with hints of blueberry and fine liquorice and a very discreet hint of bergamot. The palate is fresh, fruity, balanced and offers a tangy structure, a certain minerality and a fine intensity. On the palate, this wine expresses juicy/fresh cherry, pulpy/acidic currant and slightly dark berry notes combined with hints of fresh lily, fresh violet, as well as fine hints of liquorice, discreet toasted notes and a subtle touch of chocolate. The tannins are precise and offer a fine mellowness.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

La Demoiselle d'Haut-Peyrat 2019 Haut-Médoc

The wine needs to be decanted. The nose is finely closed (at present) and powerful. There are notes of wild blackcurrant, sage and, more slightly, violet combined with fine touches of pepper, fresh nutmeg as well as fine toasted notes and a discreet hint of crushed cherry. The palate is fruity, balanced and offers juiciness, freshness, good definition, minerality / mineral structure and some acidity. Good freshness and juicy/fresh fruit. On the palate this wine expresses juicy/fresh blackberry, crunchy cherry and, more slightly, violet notes combined with hints of cream of plum, fine liquorice notes and a discreet hint of cardamom and chocolate powder. The tannins are smooth and precise. Good length.

Score : 15+/20 (89-90/100)

Château Ségur 2019 Haut-Médoc

The nose is fruity and offers freshness, crunchiness, fine grain and power. There are notes of ripe/fresh blackcurrant, ripe/fresh cherry and, more slightly, crunchy berry fruit, combined with hints of iris, lily and discreet pepper. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, a fine creaminess, fatness and a good freshness. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of crushed raspberry, redcurrant cream and, more slightly, black berries, combined with touches of liquorice, vanilla cream and a discreet hint of toastiness.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Château d'Osmond 2019 Haut-Médoc Cru Artisan

The nose offers gourmandise, very fine power, fine unctuousity and fine concentration. We find notes of pulpy blackcurrant, crushed Morello cherry and, more slightly, liquorice combined with fine touches of zan, nutmeg, sweet spices and a discreet touch of pepper. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, a nice acidic structure, good definition, gourmandise, fine concentration as well as crunchiness on the red fruits. On the palate, this wine expresses crunchy redcurrant, pulpy raspberry and slightly pulpy/juicy blackcurrant notes combined with hints of chocolate, fresh vanilla and a discreet touch of sweet spices. Good length.

Score : 15+/20 (89-90/100)

Château La Peyreire 2019 Haut-Médoc

The nose offers some power and intensity. There are notes of wild blackcurrant, black liquorice and, more slightly, crunchy dark berries combined with hints of grey pepper, fresh violet/iris, as well as a subtle varietal and a very discreet coffee note. The palate is fresh, mineral, balanced and offers a fresh frame, minerality, good definition and a fine fatness. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of fresh blackberry, morello cherry and, more slightly, black berry, combined with hints of liquorice, camphor, as well as fine cardamom, a discreet hint of iris and a subtle, almost varietal touch. Good length.

Score : 14.5/20 (88/100)

Médoc area

Héritage de Château Gunes 2019 Haut-Médoc

The nose offers power and intensity. There are hints of ripe/chunky wild blackcurrant, wild blackberry and, more slightly, blueberry, rose combined with hints of crushed raspberry as well as fine Bourbon vanilla and a hint of spice. The palate is fruity and reveals freshness, minerality, fatness, some fluidity and a mineral framework. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy blackberry, crushed blackcurrant and, more slightly, pulpy raspberry, combined with touches of creamy red berries, hints of Bourbon vanilla and a subtle hint of liquorice and sweet blond tobacco. The tannins are relatively soft. Fine salinity in the background.

Score : 14.5+/20 (88/100)

Château Mille Roses 2019 Haut-Médoc

The nose is fresh, fruity and offers a very fine richness. There are notes of pulpy blackcurrant, morello cherry and slightly fresh raspberry combined with hints of violet, liquorice/licuorice stick and a subtle touch of nutmeg. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, a certain crunchiness of fruit and freshness. On the palate, this wine expresses pulpy blackberry, crunchy cherry and slightly violet notes combined with touches of crunchy blackcurrant and subtle hints of liquorice, bourbon vanilla and a hint of toasted hazelnut. Good length. Nice persistence and gourmandise.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Château Coufran 2019 Haut-Médoc

The nose offers finesse, good definition, nobility and power. There are notes of ripe black berries, wild strawberries and, more slightly, Cuben pepper, combined with subtle touches of cardamom and a subtle hint of mocha, lily and a delicate hint of star anise. The palate offers minerality, precision, tension, some fat, freshness, roundness, a nice precision/definition and a nice, tightly packed body. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy blackberry, fairly ripe black berries and, more slightly, crushed raspberry, combined with hints of cardamom, camphor, nutmeg, as well as fine hints of sweet spices, a hint of tobacco and a subtle toasted almond skins (in the background). Good length.

Score : 15.5/20 (90-91/100)

Château Verdignan 2019 Haut-Médoc

The nose is fruity and offers elegance, complexity and a fine spiciness. There are notes of wild blackberry, pepper and, to a lesser extent, violet, combined with hints of morello cherry, star anise, delicate hints of blueberry and a subtle hint of Madagascar pepper and cinnamon. The palate is fat and round, offering freshness, minerality, good definition, tension, accuracy and a tangy structure. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy blackberry, tart wild raspberry and, more slightly, blueberry/lys combined with hints of cardamom, bergamot, toastiness and a subtle hint of almost star anise and toasted almond. The tannins are precise, racy and structured.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Château Larrivaux 2019 Haut-Médoc

The nose is fruity and offers elegance, power and straightness. The wine benefits from being decanted. There are notes of blackberry, ripe red berries and, more slightly, racy minerality combined with fine touches of grey pepper, bergamot and discreet hints of fresh cherry, fresh lily, vanilla/muscade and an imperceptible almost sappy edge (in the background). The palate is mineral and offers fruit, juiciness, freshness and roundness. On the palate this wine expresses juicy/pulpy blackberry, raspberry and slightly fleshy cherry notes combined with hints of fresh lily, fresh violet, racy minerality as well as fine hints of liquorice, sweet blond tobacco, vanilla, sap (in the background) and an imperceptible hint of almost chocolate. The tannins are well-managed and smooth.

Score : 15.5/20 (90-91/100)

Château Julia 2019 Haut-Médoc

The nose is fruity, racy and offers a certain gourmandise. There are notes of fresh/juicy strawberry, juicy/acidic redcurrant and slightly fresh blackcurrant combined with hints of racy minerality as well as hints of fresh blond tobacco and fresh rose/violet. The palate is fruity and offers freshness, minerality, acidity, energy and tension. On the palate this wine expresses juicy/fresh cherry, plump redcurrant and slightly fresh strawberry notes combined with hints of fresh flowers/fresh lilies as well as fine hints of liquorice, sweet blond tobacco, fresh blond tobacco and a hint of racy minerality and a subtle vanilla edge. Tartness, sapidity and a subtle firmness on the finish. The tannins are well-managed, elegant and very discreetly firm.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Château Soudars 2019 Haut-Médoc

The nose is elegant, spicy and offers power with delicacy, depth and intensity. There are notes of concentrated boysenberry, ripe wild strawberry and, more slightly, blackcurrant combined with hints of zan, Sichuan pepper, a hint of violet and discreet hints of almost blueberry (in the background) and vanilla. The palate is fruity with minerality/mineral structure, freshness, good definition, crispness/purity, roundness and generosity. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy boysenberry, fleshy wild strawberry and slightly ripe red berry fruit, combined with hints of violet, star anise, and fine nuances of sweet blond tobacco and a subtle hint of vanilla. The tannins are precise and mellow. Good length. Good tannic structure.

Score : 15.75/20 (91-92/100)

Château Holden 2019 Haut-Médoc

The nose is aromatic and offers a certain aromatic purity. There are notes of vanilla/vanillin, crunchy redcurrant and slightly fresh cherry combined with hints of juicy black berries, violet and a discreet hint of Madagascar pepper. The palate is juicy, fresh and offers minerality / a mineral frame. On the palate this wine expresses notes of fresh/pulpy raspberry, tart/chunky red berries and, more slightly, vanilla/vanillin, violet combined with fine points of blond tobacco and a very discreet hint of liquorice (in the background). The tannins offer a fine mellowness.

Score : 14.75/20 (88-89/100)

Château Colombe Peylande 2019 Haut-Médoc

The nose is fruity and offers a certain gourmandise. There are notes of pulpy cherry, blueberry and, more slightly, crushed red berries combined with a touch of blackberry, liquorice and a subtle hint of fresh nutmeg. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, acidity, energy and good definition. On the palate this wine expresses tart/juicy currant, fresh/juicy cherry and, more slightly, floral notes with a touch of fresh berries and a subtle hint of racy minerality, zan, vanilla and a discreet hint of crushed nutmeg in the background. The tannins are well-managed.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Domaine de la Garenne 2019 Haut-Médoc

The wine benefits from being decanted. There are notes of blackberry, violet and, more slightly, crunchy wild red berries combined with a touch of balsamic and fine spice. The palate is fruity and offers freshness, fatness, energy and an acidic backbone. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy cherry, fresh/juicy red berries and, more slightly, fresh lily, combined with fine touches of sweet blond tobacco, vanillin and a hint of fresh hazelnut.

Score : 14.5+/20 (88/100)

Château de Lauga 2019 Haut-Médoc Cru Artisan

The wine benefits from being decanted. The nose is fruity, fleshy and powerful. There are notes of crushed blackberry, pulpy/crushed raspberry and, more slightly, nutmeg combined with a subtle hint of fleshy/crushed red berries, fresh flowers/irises and fine minerality and pepper. The palate offers minerality, freshness, fine tension, fatness, a nice pulpy/fresh fruit, a fine spherical side as well as energy. On the palate this wine expresses juicy/fresh blackberry, juicy/fresh redcurrant and, more slightly, violet notes combined with hints of fresh/cherry berries, nutmeg, spice and a subtle hint of vanilla and a discreet hint of tobacco. A fine touch of positive bitterness in the background.

Score : 15+/20 (89-90/100)

Château Les Vimières 2019 Haut-Médoc

The nose is elegant and offers depth, fine grain and controlled intensity. There are notes of ripe wild blackcurrant, morello cherry and slightly ripe red berry fruits combined with fine touches of almost saline minerality, liquorice, a hint of violet, sap and fine chocolate/vanilla. The palate is fruity and offers freshness, juiciness, good definition, a certain gourmandise, straightforwardness, a nice body, a nice grain as well as a finely tightened tannic structure. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of crushed raspberry, pulpy/juicy cherry and, more slightly, blackberry, combined with hints of fairly ripe berries (a subtle hint of over-ripeness while retaining its freshness), fresh vanilla, toastiness, as well as a subtle hint of toasted almonds, chocolate and sweet blond tobacco. The tannins are elegant, racy and structured. Some mellowness on the finish. Good work on the bitter taste.

Score : 15.75+/20 (91-92/100)

Médoc area

Château de Villegorge 2019 Haut-Médoc

The nose offers power, a fine concentration as well as a certain depth in finesse. There are notes of wild blackcurrant, blackberry and, more slightly, of fresh blond tobacco combined with a touch of violet, ripe red berries, as well as fine hints of lilac, racy minerality and a discreet hint of fresh nutmeg. The palate is mineral, racy and offers freshness, fruit, good definition and fine concentration. On the palate this wine expresses notes of boysenberry, juicy/fresh black berries and, more slightly, redcurrant combined with touches of racy minerality, rose, fresh violet and a subtle hint of spice, chocolate and a very discreet hint of mulberry in the background. Good length. An imperceptible hint of coffee in the background. Nice acidity of the fruit. The tannins are discreetly firm.

Score : 15.25+/20 (90-91/100)

AOC MEDOC 2019

Château La Cardonne 2019 Médoc

The nose is fresh, fruity and relatively aromatic. There are notes of crushed blackberry, liquorice and, to a lesser extent, warm spices combined with subtle touches of crushed red fruit. The palate is fresh, mineral and offers fruit, tension, roundness and a certain gourmandise. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of raspberry, fresh/crushed red berries and, more slightly, of chocolate, combined with delicate touches of fresh violet, fresh lily, as well as fine notes of toastiness and a touch of toasted hazelnut. Very fine chewiness and a certain gourmandise on the finish.

Score : 14.75/20 (88-89/100)

Château Livran 2019 Médoc

The nose offers a certain intensity, a nice finesse of grain as well as some power and a certain straightness in finesse. There are notes of wild blackcurrant, boysenberry and, more slightly, crushed wild strawberry, combined with hints of zan, fine blue berries, violet and a touch of fresh blond tobacco and pepper. The palate is mineral, balanced, fresh and offers good definition, a certain tension, crispness, energy, juiciness and a nice finesse in its straightness. On the palate this wine expresses crunchy boysenberry, crunchy blackcurrant and, more slightly, pulpy/fresh cherry notes combined with hints of fresh red berries, violets as well as fine hints of liquorice, chocolate, a subtle almost caramelised edge and a discreet hint of fresh vanilla (in the background). Fine sapidity/salinity on the finish.

Score : 15.75/20 (91-92/100)

Château Tour Haut-Caussan 2019 Médoc

The nose is a little tight and offers a bit of reduction at the moment. The wine needs to be decanted. There are notes of ripe raspberry, crunchy red berries and, more slightly, of lily combined with a touch of boysenberry, blueberry as well as fine hints of star anise and a discreet touch of vanilla. The palate is fruity, tightly wound and offers juiciness, minerality, fine tension, crispness and a nice acidic structure. On the palate this wine expresses juicy/pulpy blackberry, tart/crisp cherry and slightly blueberry notes combined with hints of lily, racy minerality, tart/fresh red berries and fine hints of star anise.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Château L'Ecrin de Couleys 2019 Médoc

The nose is a little tight and offers a fine intensity. The wine needs to be decanted. Spice, pepper and slightly toasted notes are combined with hints of fleshy strawberry, blackberry and a subtle mocha and toastiness. The palate offers minerality, freshness and juiciness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of fresh/pulpy blackberry, fresh/pulpy raspberry and, more slightly, violet combined with touches of racy minerality, lily as well as fine, almost saline notes and a discreet hint of vanilla. Good length.

Score : 14.5/20 (88/100)

Château Bois de Roc 2019 Médoc

The nose is relatively aromatic and offers precision, fine intensity, fruit and sweetness. There are notes of fleshy/fresh strawberry, fresh/chunky blackcurrant and, more slightly, of violet combined with fine touches of sweet spice and toasted oak. The palate is fruity with minerality, good definition, some juiciness, acidity and a slight linear edge. On the palate this wine expresses notes of fresh blackberry, fresh blackcurrant and, more slightly, fresh raspberry combined with hints of chocolate and tobacco. The tannins are fine and tight. A hint of toast in the background.

Score : 14.75/20 (88-89/100)

Château Les Ormes Sorbet 2019 Médoc

The nose is racy, tightly wound and concentrated. The wine benefits from being decanted. There are notes of wild blackcurrant, crushed wild red berries and, more slightly, of iris, violet, spices combined with touches of tobacco, cloves and a fine touch of fresh vanilla. The palate is mineral and offers freshness, fat, energy, suppleness, an acidic backbone and a fine tension. On the palate this wine expresses notes of crushed cherry, pulpy/acidic blackberry and, more slightly, ripe wild red berries combined with hints of violet, nutmeg, chocolate and a touch of blond tobacco and clove. Good length. The tannins are racy.

Score : 15/20 (89-90/100)

Château Taffard de Blaignan 2019 Médoc

The nose is fruity with a fine concentration and floral character, some reduction. Notes of cloves, ripe strawberry and slightly pulpy blackcurrant notes are combined with hints of violet, sweet blond tobacco and a fine hint of clove, varietal character and a very discreet hint of racy / almost saline minerality (in the background). The palate is mineral and offers freshness, a fine fat as well as an acidic backbone. On the palate this wine expresses notes of fresh blackberry, fresh raspberry and, more slightly, violet, fresh lily combined with hints of clove, toast and a subtle hint of fresh blond tobacco. A subtle chewiness on the finish.

Score : 14.5+/20 (88/100)

Château Haut Condissas 2019 Médoc

The nose is fruity and juicy. There are notes of juicy strawberry, juicy raspberry and, more slightly, of violet combined with fine touches of fleshy/juicy blackcurrant. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, fine concentration and a tangy frame. Round and dynamic in the middle. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of raspberry, fleshy/juicy strawberry and a hint of racy minerality combined with hints of toast, toasted almond and fine vanilla, blueberry and a subtle varietal hint (in the background). Good length. Fine chewiness and good work on the bitter taste.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Château Rollan de By 2019 Médoc

The nose is peppery and offers minerality as well as spiciness. There are notes of pulpy wild strawberry, violet and, more slightly, blackberry combined with fine touches of camphor, sweet spices and a very discreet hint of toasted almond and salinity/ minerality. The palate is fruity and offers freshness, volume, juiciness of fruit and minerality. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, juicy/pulpy raspberry and, more slightly, violet combined with a touch of rose, juicy/fresh red berry fruit as well as hints of lilac, racy minerality, sweet blond tobacco and chocolate. The tannins are precise, fine and mellow. Good length.

Score : 15.5/20 (90-91/100)

Noaillac – Prestige 2019 Médoc

The nose is elegant and offers delicacy with richness, minerality, precision, a nice finesse of grain as well as a certain controlled power. There are notes of pulpy boysenberry, crushed blackcurrant and, more slightly, purple plum combined with hints of liquorice, cardamom and fine hints of strawberry, blueberry and Cuben pepper. The palate is mineral, fruity, elegant and offers gourmandise, nice definition, a certain purity and richness in control/gourmandise. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy blackcurrant, crushed raspberry and, more slightly, jammy blackberry combined with touches of blueberry, lily, fine hints of liquorice/zan as well as a discreet hint of almost star anise and spice. The tannins are precise and well conducted. Good length. Discreet chewiness. Sapidity and sweetness on the finish. Nice freshness and control. Nice balance in its richness and vintage.

Score : 16+/20 (92-93/100)

Vieux Château Landon 2019 Médoc

The nose is spicy and offers a delicate floral/wildflower character. There are floral notes (violet, lily, wild flowers..) and, more slightly, spicy notes combined with touches of blackcurrant and fine varietal hints. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, smoothness, a fine fatness as well as a juicy/pulpy structure. On the palate this wine expresses juicy/pulpy blackcurrant, pulpy boysenberry and slightly raspberry notes with hints of wild flowers, tonka bean and a hint of toastiness and a subtle almost fresh floral background.

Score : 14.25+/20 (87-88/100)

Médoc area

Château le Pey 2019

Médoc

The nose is spicy and tightly wound. There are notes of blackcurrant, spice and a hint of varietal combined with spice, blackberry and a hint of cardamom and flowers. The palate is mineral and offers freshness / a fresh frame. On the palate this wine expresses notes of fresh blackberry, raspberry and, more slightly, spice combined with fine floral/varietal notes and a subtle hint of cardamom. Some dilution. A subtle hint of pepper in the background.

Score : 14.5/20 (88/100)

Château la Tour de By – Cuvée Héritage Marc Pagès 2019

Médoc

The nose is elegant and offers controlled power, complexity, fine creaminess and a nice fine, racy texture. There are notes of creamy blackcurrant, creamy blackberry and, to a lesser extent, star anise, combined with hints of morello cherry, strawberry and violet, as well as fine hints of lilac, chocolate and toasted hazelnut. The palate is mineral, fruity and offers freshness, good definition, a certain gourmandise, an acidic backbone, a fine grain, an airy approach as well as a mastered creaminess / finesse. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of creamy blackberry, pulpy blackcurrant and, more slightly, crushed raspberry, combined with hints of star anise, liquorice, vanilla, chocolate and a subtle hint of sweet blond tobacco and toasted hazelnut. The tannins are well-handled and offer mellow.

Score : 16+/20 (92-93/100)

Château la Tour de By 2019

Médoc

The nose is elegant and offers power with delicacy, intensity and a fine, taut grain. There are notes of fairly ripe boysenberry, wild strawberry and, more slightly, crushed blackcurrant combined with subtle hints of liquorice/zan, morello cherry as well as fine points of cardamom and chocolate. The palate is fruity, balanced and offers gourmandise, freshness, a nice burst of fruit, good definition and fat. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy blackcurrant, crushed blackberry and, more slightly, raspberry combined with hints of nutmeg, cardamom as well as fine points of fresh flowers and a discreet hint of chocolate in the background. The tannins are well-managed. A fine chewiness and a very discreet hint of roasting in the background.

Score : 15.5/20 (90-91/100)

Clos Manou 2019

Médoc

The nose is lactic, fruity and offers power and fine concentration. There are notes of creamy blackcurrant, crushed redcurrant and, more slightly, crushed berries combined with hints of blueberry, toast, caramelisation and a subtle hint of fresh pepper. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, gourmandise, acidity and a fine creaminess. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy blackberry, pulpy/acidic blackcurrant and, more slightly, of violet combined with hints of fresh/crushed raspberry as well as hints of tonka bean, vanilla and a subtle hint of cardamom. Good length.

Score : 15.75+/20 (91-92/100)

Villa Carmin 2019

Médoc

The nose is fruity and offers gourmandise as well as a fine freshness. There are notes of pulpy/fresh raspberry, pulpy redcurrant and, more slightly, blackcurrant, combined with delicate touches of crunchy blue berries, fine hints of liquorice and a very discreet touch of graphite and vanilla. The palate is fruity and offers a fleshy/juicy fruit and a nice juiciness. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy raspberry, crunchy redcurrant and, more slightly, blueberry combined with touches of crunchy blackcurrant, fine nuances of lily and a subtle hint of nutmeg and a very discreet vanilla note. Good length.

Score : 15+/20 (89-90/100)

Château Sainte Marguerite 2019

Médoc

The nose is fruity and offers some concentration and creaminess. There are notes of creamy blackcurrant, creamy boysenberry and, more slightly, fleshy/ripe wild strawberry combined with hints of toastiness, caramelisation and a hint of sweet blond tobacco. The palate is mineral, fresh, balanced and offers a fresh frame as well as acidity. On the palate this wine expresses notes of creme de cassis, crushed boysenberry and, more slightly, creamy wild berries combined with hints of fresh raspberry, dark chocolate, toast, sweet blond tobacco and a hint of clove. The tannins are precise, smooth and offer a fine suavity.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Château Saint-Saturnin 2019

Médoc

The nose is fruity and offers pulpiness as well as a certain freshness. There are notes of pulpy strawberry, creamy blackcurrant and, more slightly, crushed black berries, combined with touches of black pepper, graphite and fine points of nutmeg. The palate is fruity, fresh and offers minerality, good definition, a certain juiciness, a fine straightness, gourmandise and fatness. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy blackberry, crisp strawberry and, more slightly, crushed redcurrant, combined with hints of vanilla essence and a fine touch of toasted hazelnut. The tannins are finely mellow. A very discreet hint of clove in the background.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Château Hauterive 2019

Médoc

The nose is fruity and offers a fine power and intensity. There are notes of wild blackcurrant, liquorice and, more slightly, sweet tobacco as well as discrete hints of pepper. The palate is fresh, fruity and offers minerality, a fine fatness as well as a mineral/fresh framework. On the palate this wine expresses juicy/pulpy blackberry, juicy/pulpy blackcurrant and slightly crushed redcurrant notes combined with touches of crunchy cherry, fine hints of sweet blond tobacco, vanillin and a subtle hint of toastiness.

Score : 14.5+/20 (88/100)

Domaine de la Pigotte 2019

Médoc

The nose is fruity and offers some complexity, fine grain and breadth of palette. There are hints of rose, red berries and slightly blackcurrant, combined with hints of fresh/crunchy red berries, fine hints of fresh lily, liquorice stick and discreet hints of camphor, saffron and a discreet touch of vanilla. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, freshness, a certain minerality, a good guideline, a mineral framework, good definition and a certain delicacy. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy blackberry, pulpy/juicy redcurrant and, more slightly, fleshy/juicy cherry combined with hints of blueberry, fine vanilla, liquorice stick and a discreet hint of bergamot, camphor and a subtle touch of toasted hazelnut. The tannins are precise and finely mellow. Good length. Sapidity and chewiness on the finish. A wine with freshness and control.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

AOC BORDEAUX 2019

Pavillon Blanc du Château Margaux 2019 Bordeaux

The nose offers a nice crunchy fruit, a very nice elegance, depth and subtlety despite a certain power. There are notes of quenette, fresh vine peach and, more slightly, of crunchy white berries combined with fine nuances of lychee, discrete/delicate floral touches, fresh citrus (lemon and a discrete hint of fresh kumquat), subtle racy minerality, vanilla blossom and a subtle almost toasty edge. A lovely coating of fruit. The palate is fruity, fresh and offers a nice crunch, a stretch, a very nice freshness/minerality and richness. Nice delicacy and aromatic palette. On the palate this wine expresses notes of fleshy/pulpy vine peach, fresh lychee and, more slightly, juicy citrus (grapefruit, kumquat) combined with hints of juicy/pulpy nectarine, fine points of salinity, racy minerality as well as very discreet toasty touches. Nice acidity, sapidity and a fine crunch on the finish. The wine needs to be decanted. Nice persistence. A very discreet tannic touch on the finish. A favorite wine of the Vertdevin team due to the ripe aromas of Sauvignon Blanc!

Score : 19.75/20 (99-100/100)

VIN DE FRANCE 2019

Le Retout Blanc 2019

Vin de France

The nose is mineral and offers freshness and a fine richness. The wine benefits from being decanted. There are notes of juicy/fresh nectarine, crunchy pear and, more slightly, exotic fruits combined with a touch of lychee and a discreet hint of lemon and a very discreet hint of kumquat. The palate is fruity and offers gourmandise, fatness, a fine unctuousness as well as a fine straightness. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy lychee, crushed peach and, more slightly, tart/juicy apple, combined with fine touches of exotic fruit and a discreet hint of sweet lemon, pink grapefruit, honeysuckle, saltiness and an imperceptible hint of verbena. Good length. Subtle tannic finish, both in structure and aroma.

Score : 15.5/20 (90-91/100)



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Bordeaux Supérieur

Utopie de Château Saincrit 2019 Bordeaux Supérieur

The nose is fruity and offers some power. There are notes of warm blackcurrant, black berries and, more slightly, Cuben pepper, combined with hints of violet plum and a fine touch of violet, red berries and spices. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, acidity, gourmandise, a very fine creaminess, precision and a certain purity of fruit. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of fairly ripe blackcurrant, morello cherry and, more slightly, ripe blueberry, combined with a touch of crushed/cooked strawberry, as well as fine hints of liquorice, vanilla and a subtle hint of cinnamon. The tannins are sapid. Good length.

Score : 15.25+/20 (90-91/100)

Work in Progress by Château Saincrit 2019 Bordeaux Supérieur

The nose is fruity, fresh, racy and offers power as well as a fine restraint. There are notes of wild black berries, wild strawberries and a hint of violets combined with a touch of balsamic and a fine touch of graphite and black pepper. The palate is fruity, relatively tight at present and offers minerality, freshness, fine richness and concentration. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy blackcurrant, pulpy raspberry and, more slightly, violet combined with hints of balsamic, crushed violet plum as well as fine cinnamon, sweet spice and a touch of dark chocolate. The tannins are mellow.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Château Roquefort – Roca Forte 2019 Bordeaux Supérieur

The nose is tightly wound and offers power as well as intensity. There are notes of wild blackberry, ripe wild berry and, more slightly, black pepper with hints of crushed wild berries, a fine touch of liquorice, iris and a subtle hint of bergamot and a very discreet almost sappy edge. The palate is fruity and offers freshness, energy and tension. On the palate this wine expresses juicy/pulpy blackberry, crunchy/fresh blackcurrant and, more slightly, fresh/juicy black plum notes combined with hints of crushed raspberry, fairly ripe berries (even a hint of over-ripeness) as well as fine hints of star anise, chocolate and a subtle tea note. The tannins are fine, tightly wound and mellow.

Score : 15.25+/20 (90-91/100)

Château Roquefort 2019 Bordeaux

The nose is fruity with fine power and fine grain. There are notes of black cherry, boysenberry and, more slightly, of violet combined with delicate touches of cardamom, camphor, racy minerality as well as fine graphite, sense of place and a discreet hint of pepper. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, minerality, good definition, a certain amount of tension, gourmandise, some fatness, suavity and an acidic backbone. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of black cherry/cherry, pulpy blackberry and, to a lesser extent, violet, combined with hints of red berries, graphite, racy minerality, as well as fine hints of dark chocolate, pulpy raspberry, caramelisation and toastiness. The tannins are precise, racy and supple. A fine chewiness on the finish.

Score : 15.25+/20 (90-91/100)

Château Saincrit – Fougue 2019 Bordeaux Supérieur

The wine benefits from being decanted. There are notes of boysenberry, cooked blackcurrant and, more slightly, ripe red berries combined with fine touches of liquorice and a discreet hint of blond tobacco and a subtle touch of clove. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, a certain gourmandise, crunchiness, richness of fruit, a certain straightness as well as a finely tightened tannic structure. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of crisp Morello cherry, bright blackcurrant and, to a lesser extent, fairly ripe raspberry, combined with fine touches of lily, nutmeg, fine hints of star anise and a subtle hint of chocolate and toasted/caramelised flavours. The tannins are discreetly marked. Good length.

Score : 15/20 (89-90/100)

Domaine du Bouscat – Cuvée La Gargone 2019 Bordeaux Supérieur

The nose is elegant, fruity and offers delicacy in its fruit as well as a nice maturity of the fruit. There are notes of crushed blackberry, pulpy blackcurrant and, more slightly, morello cherry, combined with fine touches of violet, red berries confiture, hints of star anise, cardamom and a subtle touch of camphor, black tea and grey pepper. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, minerality, freshness, good definition, gourmandise, unctuousness, a melodious side, harmony, a nice tannic structure, some tension, brilliance (of the fruit) as well as a nice ripeness (which

Bordeaux Supérieur

sometimes flirts with a touch of over-ripeness, but while keeping its freshness). On the palate, this wine expresses notes of crushed blackcurrant, blackberry confiture and, more slightly, bright blueberry, combined with delicate touches of crushed strawberry, lily, as well as fine hints of liquorice, tonka bean, a subtle touch of black tea and vanilla. The tannins are elegant and finely firm.

Score : 16.25+20 (93/100)

Domaine du Bouscat – Cuvée Caduce 2019 Bordeaux Supérieur

The nose is aromatic, fresh, racy, spicy and offers intensity and breadth. There are notes of spice, herbs and, more slightly, bright boysenberry, combined with hints of morello cherry, fresh violet/lys, as well as fine hints of liquorice stick, saffron (in its flowery side), cardamom, a touch of nutmeg and toasted almond. The palate is fresh, mineral, fruity and offers a nice definition, a certain gourmandise, juiciness as well as tension. A wine that is carried by the freshness and brightness of the fruit. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy blackberry, crisp raspberry and, more slightly, violet plum combined with hints of morello cherry, violet/lys as well as hints of toastiness, toasted hazelnut, cardamom, a subtle hint of spice and an imperceptible hint of almost clove.

Score : 15.75/20 (91-92/100)

Château Féret-Lambert 2019 Bordeaux Supérieur

The nose is fruity and offers some concentration as well as a fine, tight grain. The wine benefits from being decanted. There are notes of black cherry, violet and slightly ripe blackcurrant combined with hints of crushed red berries, as well as fine zan, spice and a very discreet hint of varietal/sense of place (in the background). The palate is fruity and offers a certain suavity, fatness and minerality. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy black cherry, violet and, more slightly, crunchy blueberry combined with touches of rose, crushed berries as well as fine notes of racy minerality, liquorice, fresh blond tobacco and a subtle hint of cardamom. The tannins are well-managed, racy and offer a fine straightness. The finish is tight and fresh.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Château Haut Sorillon 2019 Bordeaux Supérieur

The nose is spicy and intense. The wine benefits from being decanted. There are notes of fresh tobacco, nutmeg and slightly wild blackberry combined with hints of crunchy cherry, fresh violet and a hint of fresh red berries and fine spice. The palate is fresh, mineral, balanced and offers good definition, juiciness, tension and verticality. On the palate this wine expresses notes of ripe black cherry, fresh wild raspberry and, more slightly, of fresh flowers combined with delicate varietal notes, fresh black berries as well as hints of nutmeg, blond tobacco and a touch of spice. Good length.

Score : 14.75+20 (89/100)

Château La Verrière – La Vigne et l'Oiseau 2019 Bordeaux Supérieur

The nose is fruity and offers concentration, richness, some depth and elegance. There are notes of creamy blackcurrant, boysenberry and, to a lesser extent, ripe wild strawberry, combined with hints of Bourbon vanilla, toasted hazelnut and a fine touch of crushed blueberry and nutmeg. The palate is fruity, gourmand and offers roundness, delicacy in its richness, accuracy, freshness, good definition as well as a fine acidic backbone. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy black cherry, crushed strawberry and, more slightly, blueberry cream combined with delicate touches of Bourbon vanilla, chocolate, a subtle hint of toastiness and an imperceptible hint of saffron (in its flowery side).

Score : 15.75/20 (91-92/100)

Les Hauts de Naudon 2019 Bordeaux Supérieur

The nose is quite aromatic and offers good definition, fruit and a fine spicy edge. There are notes of crushed wild blackberry, violet and, to a lesser extent, nutmeg, combined with hints of morello cherry, lilac and a fine touch of Sichuan pepper, tea, liquorice and a very discreet mineral/almost saline touch. The palate is mineral, balanced and offers fruit, juiciness, a nice freshness, straightness, gourmandise, tension and a discreetly tight grain. On the palate this wine expresses notes of morello cherry, crunchy boysenberry and, more slightly, violet, lilac combined with hints of crushed red berries, blackcurrant as well as hints of Sichuan pepper, camphor, toast/caramel and a touch of chocolate. The tannins are finely mellow. Juicy, fresh, round and delicious.


Score : 15/20 (89-90/100)



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Bordeaux Supérieur

Château Recougne 2019 Bordeaux Supérieur

The nose is tightly wound and offers power, concentration, gourmandise and intensity of grain. The wine benefits from being decanted. There are notes of crunchy wild blackcurrant, flowers and, more slightly, spices combined with hints of crushed wild strawberry, bright wild black berries, nutmeg, black tea and a very discreet hint of sap and pepper. The palate is fruity, mineral, discreetly tight and offers freshness, tension, energy, fatness, roundness and a certain gourmandise. On the palate this wine expresses bright Morello cherry, pulpy/very ripe blackberry and, more slightly, crushed wild red berry notes combined with hints of liquorice/zan, camphor, spice, discreet hints of iris/lily, vanilla and a subtle hint of black tea and sweet blond tobacco. Good length. Good (and discreet) work on the bitter taste, especially on the finish.

Score : 15.25+/20 (90-91/100)

Grand Vin de Reignac 2019 Bordeaux Supérieur

The nose is aromatic and offers a nice fine grain, intensity, accuracy and an elegant and pretty aromatic palette. There are notes of fleshy blackberry, ripe wild strawberry and, more slightly, ripe blackcurrant combined with fine touches of morello cherry, violet, lily, delicate hints of liquorice, black tea, very fine saline notes and a hint of pepper and fresh cloves. The palate is fresh, mineral and offers fatness, roundness, pulpy/mouth-watering fruit, a fine acidic backbone, a nice tannic structure, elegance, roundness as well as a nice definition and gourmand texture. On the palate this wine expresses crunchy boysenberry, pulpy blueberry and slightly violet notes combined with hints of morello cherry, liquorice, chocolate, Bourbon vanilla bean as well as hints of black tea, nutmeg and a touch of roasted hazelnut. The tannins are elegant, structuring, racy and well-managed. Good length. Nice freshness, definition and complexity.

Score : 16.5+/20 (93-94/100)

Balthus 2019 Bordeaux Supérieur

The nose is elegant and offers concentration with elegance, depth, complexity and a certain power but with delicacy. There are notes of Morello cherry, blackberry and, more slightly, violet combined with hints of ripe wild red berries, Sichuan pepper, fine camphor, black tea and a discreet hint of spice and star anise. The palate is fruity and offers freshness, minerality, good definition, a certain gourmandise, a nice tannic structure, tension, richness and balance, controlled power, roundness, energy and an acidic structure. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of morello cherry, fairly ripe blackcurrant and, more slightly, chocolate, combined with hints of star anise, blue berries, violet and lily, as well as fine hints of Bourbon vanilla, sweet spices, toasted hazelnut and a fine hint of roasting. The tannins are fine, racy and elegant. They need time to be soft. Very good persistence (16 caudalies).

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Château de Reignac 2019 Bordeaux Supérieur

The nose offers elegance, a nice fine grain and good definition. The wine benefits from being decanted. There are notes of ripe wild blackberry, morello cherry and slightly grey pepper, combined with delicate touches of ripe wild red fruit, violet, fine nutmeg and discreet hints of vanilla and cinnamon. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, fatness, generosity in its fruit and a nice minerality/freshness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of morello cherry, pulpy blackberry and, more slightly, fresh/pulpy red berries combined with touches of racy minerality, violet, fresh blond tobacco as well as fine points of nutmeg and chocolate. The tannins are racy, well-managed and offer a fine chewiness.

Score : 15.5/20 (90-91/100)

Château Haut-Tellas - Le fruit 2019 Bordeaux Supérieur

The nose is relatively tight and offers power as well as freshness. The wine benefits from being decanted. There are notes of blackcurrant, blackcurrant leaf and, more slightly, fresh raspberry combined with hints of pepper and fresh flowers. The palate is fruity, tightly wound and offers freshness, minerality, juiciness and a good structure. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy cherry, fresh/crunchy blackberry and, more slightly, violet combined with bright/pulpy

red berries as well as fine hints of rose, liquorice/zan, chocolate and a discreet touch of black tea. The tannins are tightly wound. A subtle hint of cola in the background. A very discreet hint of fresh coffee on the finish.

Score : 14.75/20 (88-89/100)

Château Haut-Tellas 2019 Bordeaux Supérieur

The nose is fruity and offers a certain elegance, gourmandise and power. There are notes of crushed cherry, liquorice and, more slightly, bright strawberry, combined with fine notes of blackcurrant, violet and hints of cherry blossom and black tea. The palate is mineral, discreetly tight at present and offers fruit, freshness, a certain tension as well as fat. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy raspberry, juicy cherry and, more slightly, juicy blackberry combined with hints of violet, fresh lily and a fine touch of plum blossom, liquorice and chocolate. The tannins are tightly wound and mellow.

Score : 15.25+/20 (90-91/100)

Château Haut-Tellas 2019 Côtes de Bordeaux

The nose offers notes of fresh/cold tobacco, spices and, more slightly, ripe wild berries combined with fine varietal and discrete pepper notes. The palate is fruity and offers minerality, a little linear and pulpy fruit. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy blackberry, pulpy/juicy raspberry and, more slightly, violet, combined with hints of fresh lily, iris and fine points of racy minerality (terroir), blond tobacco, chocolate, green pepper and a subtle hint of mocha in the background. The tannins are finely sticky.

Score : 14.5+/20 (88/100)

Château Reignac de Tizac 2019 Bordeaux Supérieur

The nose is currently a little tight. The wine benefits from being decanted. There are hints of grey pepper, cinnamon and, more slightly, wild blackberry combined with hints of wild berries, lily and a touch of liquorice and a very discreet almost herbal touch. The palate is fruity and offers some concentration, a discreetly tight tannic structure and minerality/mineral streak. On the palate this wine expresses notes of liquorice/star anise, bright blackcurrant and, more slightly, blueberry combined with hints of juicy/pulpy black cherry as well as fine clove, black tea and a touch of vanilla/sweet spice. The tannins are well-managed. A wine that in some ways flirts with over-ripeness.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Château La Verrière 2019 Bordeaux Supérieur

The nose offers elegance, power, concentration and good definition. There are notes of Morello cherry, Sichuan pepper, crushed blue berries and, more slightly, violet, lily combined with hints of crushed strawberry, delicate touches of pepper, a sense of place and discreet graphite hints. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, minerality, pulpiness, roundness and a hint of over-ripeness in the fruit (but still retaining freshness). On the palate, this wine expresses notes of morello cherry, pulpy/juicy black plum and, more slightly, crushed raspberry combined with touches of liquorice, blond tobacco as well as fine chocolate, a hint of vanilla, toasted almond, toasted hazelnut and a subtle touch of saffron (in its floral side). The tannins are well-managed and structured. Sapid/gourmandise on the finish.

Les Portes de l'Am 2019 Bordeaux Supérieur

The nose is aromatic, fruity and offers complexity, a fine creaminess, a nice finesse of grain as well as airiness. There are notes of crème de cassis, violet and, more slightly, violet plum, combined with touches of graphite, racy minerality and fine hints of crushed currants, cardamom, tonka bean and a subtle hint of nutmeg. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, acidity, good definition, a certain gourmandise, a fine richness/creaminess as well as airiness in the approach. On the palate this wine expresses notes of creamy blackcurrant, creamy blue plum and, more slightly, fleshy strawberry combined with touches of blueberry, hints of tonka bean, star anise as well as fine hints of pulpy/fresh raspberry, racy minerality, graphite and a discreet hint of incense. Good length. A very discreet, almost saline/sapid finish.

Score : 16.25+/20 (93/100)



Bordeaux Supérieur

Château Pierrail 2019 Bordeaux Supérieur

The nose offers power in balance, some stretch and a fine, intense grain. There are notes of wild blackcurrant, grey pepper and, more slightly, crunchy boysenberry combined with hints of morello cherry, crushed raspberry as well as hints of violet, racy minerality, a hint of incense and a very discreet hint of sense of place (local biotop). The palate is fruity and offers freshness, minerality, tension, a spherical side and a fine acidic backbone. On the palate this wine expresses notes of black cherry, blackberry and, more slightly, crushed raspberry combined with hints of star anise, graphite, chocolate as well as hints of blueberry, toast and a subtle hint of vanilla bean. The tannins are precise and mellow. A fine hint of crushed almond on the finish. Good persistence.

Score : 15.25+/20 (90-91/100)

Les Solistes – Malbec 2019 Bordeaux Supérieur

The nose is spicy and tense. The wine benefits from being decanted. There are notes of blackcurrant, blackcurrant leaf and, more slightly, of spices combined with subtle touches of crunchy red berries, a hint of varietal/blackberry as well as discreet hints of pepper and clove. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, minerality, freshness, good definition, tension and energy. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy blackcurrant, crunchy blackberry and, more slightly, blackcurrant leaf combined with hints of fresh flowers/buds/blackberry, fine notes of fresh blond tobacco, liquorice and a hint of dark chocolate and black tea. Good length.

Score : 14.75/20 (88-89/100)

Les Solistes – Petit Verdot 2019 Bordeaux Supérieur

The nose is peppery, spicy and offers elegance and harmony. There are notes of wild blackcurrant, fresh wild blackberry and, more slightly, tobacco leaf combined with hints of clove, Sichuan pepper as well as fine spice and discreet hints of liquorice/zan. The palate is mineral with fruit, roundness, some fatness, a mineral backbone, a very fine creamy feel and tension. A bit tightly grained. The wine should be decanted. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy blackberry, pulpy wild blackcurrant and, more slightly, fresh violet combined with hints of liquorice, pepper/berries, fine hints of fresh tobacco, clove and a subtle hint of cinnamon and varietal notes. The tannins are discreetly marked.

Score : 14.75/20 (88-89/100)

Domaine de Bouscat - Belle Annie 2019

Bordeaux Supérieur

The nose offers intensity, a nice fine grain and a stretched side. The wine should be decanted. There are notes of blackcurrant leaf, blackcurrant and, more slightly, of pepper combined with delicate touches of grey pepper as well as a subtle hint of tobacco, sense of place (local biotop) and a discreet touch of zan. The palate is fruity, tightly wound and offers juiciness, minerality, good definition, fatness, a fresh/acidic backbone, some stretch, roundness and a certain delicacy in its power. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of morello cherry, pulpy blackcurrant and, more slightly, violet, combined with a touch of iris, blackcurrant leaf, fresh tobacco, as well as a hint of racy minerality, camphor, a subtle varietal hint and discreet hints of nutmeg.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Château Lafont-Fourcat 2019 Bordeaux

The nose offers concentration and good definition. The wine benefits from being decanted. There are notes of ripe wild blackcurrant, fresh lily and, more slightly, Cuben pepper combined with delicate hints of crushed berries, zan and a subtle hint of nutmeg and almost incense. The palate is mineral and offers freshness, some fat and a mineral backbone. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy blackberry, fleshy/juicy red berries and, more slightly, violet combined with hints of lily, Cuben pepper, fine hints of liquorice stick and a discreet varietal hint, nuances of rose, chocolate and vanilla. The tannins are precise and mellow. Good length. Good work on the bitter taste, especially on the finish.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Château Le Tros – Cuvée Spéciale 2019 Bordeaux

The nose is spicy and warm. There are notes of pepper, wild black berries and slightly fresh violets combined with a touch of lily, red berries and a subtle hint of cherry. The palate is mineral, with a tangy, fat and a certain minerality. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy blackberry, crunchy red berries and a hint of cherry, combined with hints of violet, blueberry, liquorice, chocolate, crushed red berries and a hint of bourbon vanilla. A subtle hint of saltiness on the finish.

Score : 14.75/20 (88-89/100)

Château le Tros - Perles Noires 2019 Bordeaux

The nose offers gourmandise, a very fine power as well as generosity. We find notes of chocolate, pulpy raspberry and, more slightly, vanilla combined with touches of pulpy blackcurrant, hints of caramelisation as well as a discreet hint of saffron (in its flowery side) and hazelnut). The palate is fruity and offers minerality, freshness, tension, a good guideline, a fine creaminess as well as a mineral framework. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of cherry liqueur, crushed blackcurrant and, to a lesser extent, pulpy raspberry, combined with hints of liquorice, chocolate, cardamom and a fine touch of toasted hazelnut. The tannins are finely mellow.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Château Thieuley – Réserve Francis Courselle 2019

Bordeaux

The nose offers concentration, spice and fine grain as well as some intensity. There are notes of wild blackcurrant, pepper and slightly creamy wild blackberry with hints of iris, spice and a discreet hint of tea in the background. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, minerality, freshness, a certain amount of tension, a fine delicacy and roundness. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy blackberry, crushed blackcurrant and, more slightly, pulpy raspberry, combined with touches of creamy red berries, as well as fine hints of liquorice, vanilla, toastiness and a very discreet hint of tea in the background. Good length.

Score : 15.25+/20 (90-91/100)

Château Thieuley 2019 Bordeaux

The nose is spicy and tightly wound. The wine benefits from being decanted. There are notes of crushed blackberry, wild strawberry and slightly grey pepper combined with hints of creamy red berries and fine varietal hints. The palate offers freshness, minerality, juicy/generous fruit, richness and a good guideline. On the palate this wine expresses notes of

creamy blackberry, pulpy raspberry and, more slightly, crushed red berries combined with hints of vanilla, fleshy cherry as well as fine hints of chocolate and a subtle hint of almond in the background. The tannins are mellow and sapid.

Score : 15+/20 (89-90/100)

Château La Communion 2019 Bordeaux Supérieur

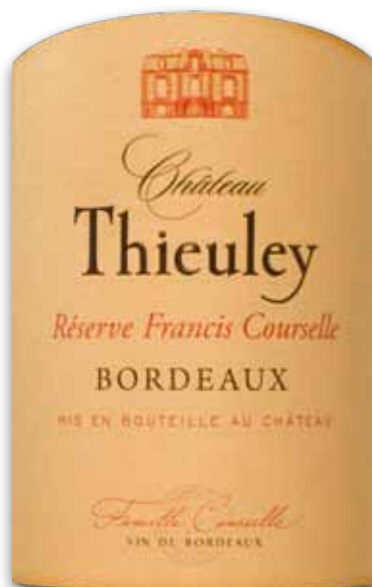
The nose is fruity and offers freshness as well as a certain gourmandise. There are notes of pulpy cassis, blackberry and small notes of raspberry, combined with delicate touches of liquorice and fine hints of chocolate/sweet spices. The palate is fruity and offers gourmandise, a nice acidic structure and a fleshy/juicy/acidic fruit. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy cassis, crushed blackberry and, more slightly, acidulous/juicy strawberry combined with hints of creamy black fruits as well as hints of cornflowers, violet, chocolate and fine caramelisation. Gourmand. A wine that is fruity and easy to drink.

Score : 15/20 (89-90/100)

Château Pey La Tour 2019 Bordeaux Supérieur

The nose is fruity and marked by red fruits. There are notes of fresh strawberry, crushed redcurrant and small notes of cassis combined with fine touches of liquorice, nutmeg and a hint of pepper. The palate is fruity and offers minerality, juiciness, acidity, a good definition, a certain suavity and tension. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy redcurrant, wild strawberry and small notes of crunchy cassis combined with hints of saline/gravelly minerality and fine toasted hints and cocoa. An easy-drinking wine.

Score : 15/20 (89-90/100)



Bordeaux Supérieur

Ad Vitam Aeternam 2019 Bordeaux

The nose is elegant, aromatic and offers concentration as well as a hint of perfume. There are notes of concentrated blackcurrant, crushed strawberry and, more slightly, concentrated blackberry, combined with hints of crushed violet plum, graphite, racy minerality, as well as fine hints of a sense of place and a very discreet saline touch. The palate is fruity and offers minerality, good definition, a certain gourmandise, tension, accuracy, finesse, dynamism and a nice acidity of the fruit. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy blueberry, concentrated blackcurrant and, more slightly, violet, lily combined with hints of crushed blue plum, hints of strawberry, vanilla, fine hints of chocolate as well as a discreet hint of camphor, toasted almond and a very discreet hint of roast. Sapidité and energy on the finish. The finish becomes tighter, but without lacking dynamism and deliciousness.

Score : 16.25/20 (92-93/100)

Château Pabus 2019 Bordeaux Supérieur

The nose is fruity, racy and offers a fine straightness as well as a certain fine power. There are notes of crunchy cassis, bright/ripe strawberry and small notes of kirsch cherry, combined with fine touches of quite ripe (even cooked) blueberry and a very discreet, almost roasted hint. The palate is fruity and offers tension, fruit, juiciness, a certain power, a quite ripe fruit, a spicy/peppery side as well as a fine acidic frame. On the palate this wine expresses notes of ripe cassis, ripe cherry and small notes of ripe wild berry fruit with a touch of cooked blueberry, chocolate and a subtle roasted hint. Tannins are sapid. Fine hint of saltiness and cocoa on the finish.

Score : 14.75/20 (88-89/100)

Dame de Cœur du Château Peyfaures 2019 Bordeaux Supérieur

The nose is fruity and offers a certain racy power as well as minerality. There are notes of fresh/crunchy red berries, cassis and small notes of fresh strawberry combined with fine hints of star anise and a discreet touch of cardamom and grey pepper. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, freshness, a mineral frame as well as a good definition. On the palate this wine expresses notes of fresh/juicy cassis, fresh/juicy raspberry and small notes of fresh violet combined with hints of red berries as well as hints of rose petal/varietal notes, tonka bean and a subtle hint of pepper in the background. Tannins are racy. Powerful, finely toasted and varietal notes on the finish.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Château Peyfaures 2019 Bordeaux Supérieur

The nose is spicy, relatively powerful and offers a small alcoholic side. It reveals notes of blackberry, crushed small red fruits and small notes of liquorice associated with touches of kirsch cherry as well as slight hints of camphor and a discreet hint of pepper. The palate is fruity, slightly tight and offers minerality, an acidulous frame as well as tension. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of raspberry/fresh small red fruits, blackberry and small notes of racy minerality associated with slight touches of violet/varietal, cocoa and slight hints of tobacco. Tannins are fine and supple. Good length.

Score : 14.5/20 (88/100)

Château Suau 2019 Côtes de Bordeaux

The nose is fruity and offers pulpiness as well as a chocolate side. There are notes of bright cherry, bright boysenberry and small notes of bright cassis com-

ined with hints of liquorice, cardamom and fine hints of crushed small fruits and chocolate. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, minerality, precision, purity of the fruit as well as crispness. On the palate this wine expresses juicy/pulpy blackberry, bright plum and small notes of bright small red fruits combined with touches of violet, racy salinity/minerality as well as fine hints of chocolate, tonka bean and a very discreet hint of fresh flowers in the background.

Score : 14.75/20 (88-89/100)

Château Madran 2019 Bordeaux

The nose is fruity with juiciness, a good definition of fruit and a fine concentration. There are notes of ripe/juicy wild cassis, zan and small notes of juicy small red fruit combined with fine hints of cardamom, a discreet hint of violet and an imperceptible hint of pepper. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, minerality, freshness as well as an acidulous frame. On the palate this wine expresses juicy/acidulous blackberry, juicy/acidulous cherry and small notes acidulous small red fruits combined with touches of violet, mocha, cardamom as well as discreet hints of sweet spice and toasted on the finish. A quite concentrated and fruity wine.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Château Madran – Cuvée Prestige 2019 Bordeaux Supérieur

The nose is fruity, marked by red fruits and offers a certain concentration. It reveals notes of ripe cherry, crushed raspberry and small notes of crushed redcurrants associated with fine hints of cassis and spices. The palate is fruity and offers minerality, juiciness, an acid frame, a certain tension as well as intensity. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of red cherry, redcurrants and small notes of juicy blackberry associated with touches of small flowers, racy minerality as well as fine hints of cocoa and a discreet hint of roasting/grilled. Good length. A subtle hint of cocoa on the finish.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Château Chenu-Lamont 2019 Bordeaux Supérieur

The nose is fruity and offers freshness as well as a very fine unctuousity. There are notes of bright cassis, liquorice and small notes of morello cherry, combined with touches of quite ripe strawberry, as well as slight hints of zan and a very discreet hint of sweet blond tobacco. The palate is fresh, fruity and offers a certain gourmandise, salinity and minerality. On the palate this wine expresses juicy/pulpy blackberry, acidulous plum and small notes of creamy redcurrant combined with hints of acidulous small red fruits as well as liquorice, blond tobacco, a hint of camphor and a subtle hint of cocoa. Tannins are very discreetly dry. A slight drying effect on the finish.

Score : 14.75/20 (88-89/100)

Château Tayet – Cuvée Prestige 2019 Bordeaux Supérieur

The nose is fresh, fruity and offers some concentration as well as a fine power. There are notes of cassis, cardamom and small notes of fresh blond tobacco, combined with hints of vanilla and fine toasted hazelnut. The palate is fresh, mineral, well-balanced and offers a fresh frame, a certain gourmandise as well as suavity. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy blackberry, crunchy cassis and small notes of fresh/pulpy small red fruits combined with hints of liquorice, cornflowers, vanilla, sweet blond tobacco and a subtle hint of nutmeg. Good length. The finish offers hints of tobacco and vanilla. The finish is a bit tight.

Score : 15/20 (89-90/100)



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Loire

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SAINT NICOLAS DE BOURGUEIL

Estelle et Rodolphe Cognard - Cuvée Les Malgagnes 2019

Saint Nicolas de Bourgueil

The wine shows an intense ruby purple colour, slightly opaque. The nose is restrained, needs air to open up, later revealing nuances of dark cherries, blackberries, a touch of pungent spices, black pepper, cloves and a hint of balsamic. The palate is fresh and juicy with elevated acidity, grippy, slightly chalky tannins and nice fruit concentration. It offers notes of crisp black cherries, a touch of thorn, a certain darkness and a grippy, drying character. Astringent finish.

Score : 14+/20 (87/100)

Estelle et Rodolphe Cognard – Cuvée Les Malgagnes 2018

Saint Nicolas de Bourgueil

The wine shows a medium ruby colour with a brightening rim. The nose is intensely earthy, revealing nuances of roots, a touch of wet leaves, a hint of leather with red and black cherries in the background. The palate is juicy, more fruity than the nose, offering nuances of forest strawberries and bramble, complicated by nuances of pungent spices and a hint of pencil shavings. Elevated acidity leaves a refreshing, juicy sensation, while bold and assertive tannins completely coat the palate. Astringent finish.

Score : 14+/20 (87/100)

David et Nathalie Drussé – Nature de la Loire 2020

Saint Nicolas de Bourgueil

(Organic, without added sulfites) The wine shows a bright, vibrant ruby purple colour. The nose reveals gourmet notes of ripe black cherries, a touch of forest raspberries and bramble, a delicate hint of sweet spices. The palate is vivid and juicy, with fresh crunchy acidity, light body and grippy but very well-managed tannins. The wine offers notes of crunchy red and black cherries, cranberry and cowberry, a hint of red plum, some pungent spices on the finish. Excellent freshness, very approachable and easy-drinking.

Score : 14.25/20 (87-88/100)

Nathalie et David Drussé – Vieilles Vignes 2020

Saint Nicolas de Bourgueil

(Organic) The wine shows a medium ruby colour. The nose is delicate and floral, revealing nuances of cornflowers and violets, a touch of crisp red cherries and raspberries, a subtle hint of pungent spices. The palate is crunchy and fresh, with very high acidity, linear, vertical texture and light body. The tannins are chalky but delicate. On the palate the notes of red, caramelized cherries interlace with nuances of red apples and green pepper. Refreshing, crunchy style. Juicy and succulent finish.

Score : 14.25/20 (87-88/100)

Marie Dupin 2021

Saint Nicolas de Bourgueil

The wine shows a pale ruby purple colour, vivid and youthful. The nose is intense and fruity, revealing nuances of crunchy red cherries, raspberries and blackcurrant leaf. The palate demonstrates vibrant acidity, grippy, a bit sticky tannins, a touch of bitterness, good freshness. The wine bursts with crunchy red fruits complicated by herbaceous nuances of bell pepper and tobacco leaf. Easy-drinking and light. Slightly bitter in the aftertaste.

Score : 14.25/20 (87-88/100)

Sylvain Bruneau – L'Élosion Vieilles Vignes 2021

Saint Nicolas de Bourgueil

(Organic) The wine shows a pale ruby purple colour. The nose is initially restrained, needs some air to open up, later offering nuances of red and black cherries, cherry compote, notes of black pepper, a touch of earthy minerality. The palate is fresh, juicy, very vivid, revealing notes of crunchy red cherries, cranberries and forest raspberries, a touch of iron and a hint of vanilla and balsamic. The tannins are assertive, slightly drying, need time to smoothen. The finish is succulent with an intense fruitiness and spiciness in the aftertaste.

Score : 15.5/20 (90-91/100)

Sylvain Bruneau – Cuvée Réserve 2020

Saint Nicolas de Bourgueil

(Organic) The wine shows a bright ruby purple colour. The nose is slightly muted, the wine will benefit from being decanted. It opens up with nuances of ripe black cherries, blackberry confiture, a touch of almond and sweet baking spices. The palate is juicy and intense, offering opulent fruit concentration, a certain darkness of fruit,

balanced acidity and bold but well-managed, velvety tannins. Notes of ripe black cherries and bramble interlace with nuances of fresh tobacco, tar and a hint of thorn. Slightly astringent on the finish. Good length and pleasant fruitiness in the aftertaste.

Score : 14.75/20 (88-89/100)

Domaine du Mortier – Les Sables 2021

Saint Nicolas de Bourgueil

(Organic) The wine shows a pale ruby colour with a purple hue. The nose is intense and floral, very vivid and juicy, revealing nuances of violets, red cherries, a touch of blueberries and black raspberries, a hint of liquorice. The palate is juicy and succulent, with elevated, crunchy acidity, good freshness, delicate tannins and nice sapidity. The wine is light on its feet, aerial and accessible. Notes of juicy red and black berries interlace harmoniously with nuances of pungent spices, black pepper and cloves. Vibrant finish and good length. Glou-glou!

Score : 14.75/20 (88-89/100)

Domaine du Mortier – Dionysos 2020

Saint Nicolas de Bourgueil

(Organic) The wine shows a deep purple colour. The nose is very youthful and intense, revealing notes of crunchy black cherries, juicy blackberries, a hint of pungent spices like black pepper and an animalistic touch in the echo. The palate is vibrant and juicy, with tangy acidity, fluid tannins and light body. The wine is packed with notes of juicy dark berries, supported by a touch of tobacco leaf and a hint of cloves and leather. A rustic style. Easy-drinking.

Score : 14+/20 (87/100)

Domaine de la Chopinière du Roy – Cuvée Coquelicot 2020

Saint Nicolas de Bourgueil

The wine shows a medium ruby colour with a purple hue. The nose is restrained initially, later opening up with nuances of red cherries, a touch of cranberries and forest raspberries, delicate notes of bell pepper and blackcurrant leaf, an earthy touch. The palate is juicy and vivid, with crisp acidity, elegant body and chalky, slightly grippy tannins. Notes of sour red cherries combine with herbaceous nuances of tomato leaf, black pepper and pungent spices. Nice freshness and sapidity.

Score : 14.5/20 (88/100)

Richard Réthoré – Cuvée Élégance 2021

Saint Nicolas de Bourgueil

The wine shows a bright ruby purple colour. The nose initially is very reductive, smoky, sulphurous, needs air to open up. After aeration it opens up with nuances of black cherries, bramble, a touch of pungent spices, a hint of pencil lead. The palate is juicy and elegant, with delicate structure, refreshing acidity and slightly chalky but suave tannins. The wine is very aerial, light, does not last long. It leaves a pleasant sensation of crunchy red and black cherries with a touch of balsamic and gravelly minerality. Easy-drinking and approachable style.

Score : 14+/20 (87/100)

Domaine Olivier – Cuvée Le Mont des Olivier 2020

Saint Nicolas de Bourgueil

The wine shows a bright ruby purple colour. The nose is slightly smoky and reductive, will benefit from decanting, with aeration revealing nuances of black cherries, forest raspberries, complicated by earthy notes and hints of tomato leaf and bell pepper. The palate is dense and round, with elevated acidity, bold, sticky tannins, round and creamy texture. The palate is laid with notes of red sour and black cherries, a hint of pencil shavings and dark minerality. Moderate length. A touch of pleasant bitterness on the finish.

Score : 14.25/20 (87-88/100)

Domaine Olivier – Cuvée Domaine 2021

Saint Nicolas de Bourgueil

The wine shows a bright ruby purple colour. The nose is very youthful and intense, offering notes of green bell pepper, a hint of tobacco leaf with nuances of crunchy red cherries and forest raspberries in the background. The palate is juicy, vibrant and fresh, with crunchy, tangy acidity, grippy, slightly drying tannins and elegant structure. Herbaceous notes dominate the palate, complicated by nuances of crunchy red berries and pungent spices. Refreshing finish with a tannic grip.

Score : 14.25/20 (87-88/100)

Damien Bruneau – Iceberg 2021

Saint Nicolas de Bourgueil

(Without added sulfites) The wine shows a vivid purple colour. The nose is youthful and juicy, offering notes of crunchy raspberries and red cherries, nuances of cinna-

Loire

The red wines of the Loire Valley

mon and a touch of banana. The palate is fresh and vibrant with elevated acidity, lightness and elegance, very easy-drinking and succulent. The notes of red fruits on the palate mirror the nose, adding more flesh and intensity. The tannins are grippy but smooth and polished. Very gourmet, juicy finish. A perfect glou-glou wine!

Score : 14.5/20 (88/100)

Domaine Damien Bruneau – Les Clos Vieilles Vignes 2021

Saint Nicolas de Bourgueil

The wine shows a pale ruby purple colour. The nose is slightly restrained, needs aeration. It opens up with notes of crunchy red and black cherries, a hint of cranberries and pomegranate, nuances of blackcurrant leaf and green bell pepper. The palate is juicy and intense, offering refreshing acidity, a certain greenness, very sticky, drying tannins and delicate, light texture. The wine is slightly muted on the palate as well, not offering a lot of flavours. What persists is the astringency of the tannins and overall herbaceous character. A touch of sour cherries in the aftertaste.

Score : 14+/20 (87/100)

Hervé Morin - LeVent 2020

Saint Nicolas de Bourgueil

The wine shows a medium ruby colour. The nose is intense, revealing nuances of red cherries and raspberries, complicated by nuances of bell pepper, a touch of pungent spices and pencil shavings. The palate offers freshness, crunchy acidity, powerful but elegant body and grippy but ripe and juicy tannins. Notes of red currants, red cherries and kirsch intertwine with herbaceous nuances of pepper and tomato leaf. A touch of bitterness on the finish. Good length.

Score : 14.5/20 (88/100)

Hervé Morin – Elegance 2021

Saint Nicolas de Bourgueil

The wine shows a bright and youthful ruby purple colour. The nose is very open, fresh and herbaceous, notes of green pepper, nettle and red currants are soaring from the glass, supported by nuances of red cherries and cranberries. The palate offers intense juiciness and elevated, crisp acidity, fine, aerial structure and slightly assertive, drying tannins. Nuances of red fruits are brighter on the palate, still complicated by green nuances of fresh tobacco and blackcurrant leaf. The finish is fresh but grippy. Still very young, needs time.

Score : 14.5+/20 (88/100)

Le Clos du Vigneau – Le Clos 2020

Saint Nicolas de Bourgueil

The wine shows a medium ruby colour. The nose is slightly muted, needs a bit of air to open up, with aeration revealing notes of forest raspberries and crunchy red cherries, supported by hints of fresh green pepper and nuances of black pepper. The palate is light, elegant and juicy, delivering a lot of freshness, minerality and sapidity. The tannins are slightly chalky and stick to the gums. The palate reveals nuances of red cherries and cranberries with a green, herbaceous touch in the background. The finish is slightly drying and has moderate length.

Score : 14+/20 (87/100)

Le Clos du Vigneau – Vieilles Vignes 2020

Saint Nicolas de Bourgueil

The wine shows a pale ruby colour with a brightening rim. The nose is delicately perfumed, revealing notes of crunchy red cherries, a touch of peonies, a hint of earthiness and dark minerality, complicated by nuances of pencil shavings and ground black pepper. The palate offers bright, crunchy acidity, elegance and finesse, chalky and grippy tannins. Notes of red berries interlace with herbaceous nuances of blackcurrant leaf and savoury notes of tomatoes.

Score : 14.25/20 (87-88/100)

Le Clos du Vigneau – Daurange 2017

Saint Nicolas de Bourgueil

The wine shows a pale ruby colour with a garnet hint and a brightening rim. The nose is dense and smoky, slightly animalistic, revealing nuances of ripe red and black cherries, cooked raspberries, a touch of forest floor and balsamic. The palate is juicy, showing a nice fruit concentration, crunchy acidity and grippy, slightly drying tannins. Notes of sweet red fruits interlace gracefully with spicy nuances of oak and earthy mineral notes. Good length.

Score : 14.5/20 (88/100)

Domaine des Vallettes – Événement 2015

Saint Nicolas de Bourgueil

The wine shows a pale ruby colour with a touch of garnet and brightening rim.

The nose is restrained, mineral and spicy, revealing notes of pencil shavings, earthy nuances, a touch of peonies and forest floor. The palate is juicy and vivid, offering a lot of freshness, elegance and delicatessen. Notes of crunchy sour cherries and cranberries are combined with nuances of green pepper, a mint of mint and blackcurrant leaf, a touch of balsamic. The tannins are drying but polished. Succulent finish, good length.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Domaine des Vallettes – Origine 2021

Saint Nicolas de Bourgueil

The wine shows a pale ruby colour. The nose is intensely spicy and herbaceous, revealing nuances of sour red cherries and wild raspberries against the background of black and green pepper, hints of blackcurrant leaf and jalapeños. The palate is fresh and juicy, revealing crunchy, crisp acidity, light and aerial body, juicy, delicate tannins. The wine bursts with notes of crunchy, sour red berries combined with nuances of pomegranate and bell peppers. The finish is juicy with a light bitterness adding to the freshness. Easy-drinking and accessible.

Score : 14.25/20 (87-88/100)

CHINON

Serge et Bruno Sourdais - Le Logis de la Bouchardière - Les Clos 2020

Chinon

The wine shows a bright ruby colour, translucent and vivid. The nose is rather discreet and muted, with aeration offering nuances of sour red cherries, cranberries, a touch of forest raspberries and an earthy hint. The palate is juicy and spicy, with crisp acidity, light structure and delicate tannins. The notes of red fruits on the palate mirror the nose, backed up by nuances of tomato leaf and bell pepper. The wine is very delicate and aerial. Very savoury finish, good length.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Serge et Bruno Sourdais – Les Cornuelles Vieille Vigne 2020

Chinon

The wine shows a bright ruby purple colour. The nose is restrained, needs air to open up, later revealing floral nuances of violets and peonies, notes of pulpy red and black cherries, a hint of black pepper and a touch of fresh tobacco in the echo. The palate offers a lot of juiciness, elevated, crisp acidity, bold, drying tannins and a certain ferrous minerality. Notes of crunchy red and black fruits interlace with earthy nuances, notes of roots and thorn. Grippy finish. Very tight and austere at the moment. Needs time.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Domaine de L'R – Les Mains 2020

Chinon

(Organic) The wine shows a vibrant ruby purple colour with a brightening rim. The nose is a bit restrained, will benefit from aeration, later revealing notes of cloves and cinnamon, an animalistic touch, nuances of crunchy red cherries and raspberries, a hint of blueberry. The palate is juicy and offers a touch of vanilla sweetness, elevated acidity and grippy, but polished tannins. The wine demonstrates vibrant notes of forest raspberries and wild strawberries with sweet spices in the echo. Easy-drinking and approachable.

Score : 14+/20 (87/100)

Domaine Fabrice Gasnier – Vieilles Vignes 2020

Chinon

(Biodynamic) The wine shows intense ruby colour with a purple hue. The nose is dense and profound, offering nuances of black cherries, bramble, a touch of black and green pepper, sweet spices. The palate offers a nice concentration, fresh acidity, powerful structure and grippy, drying tannins. It demonstrates nuances of red and black cherries, thorn and blackberry, supported by earthy notes of pencil shavings and roots. Persistent, spicy finish.

Score : 14.25/20 (87-88/100)

Clothilde Pain Clo' – Secrets d'Alcôve 2020

Chinon

The wine shows a vivid ruby purple colour. The nose is attractive floral, revealing nuances of violets and cornflowers, notes of red and black cherries, a touch of blackcurrant leaf. The palate is juicy and suave, with elevated acidity and well-managed, polished tannins. Notes of red and black cherries interlace with nuances of green and black pepper, a touch of balsamic and cloves. Light and refreshing. Moderate length.

Score : 14.25/20 (87-88/100)

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Clothilde Pain Clo' – Sans Dessus 2020 Chinon

The wine shows an intense ruby colour, slightly opaque. The nose is dense but slightly restrained, with aeration opening up with nuances of ripe dark cherries, cloves and cinnamon, a touch of tobacco leaf and a hint of balsamic. The palate is juicy and concentrated, offering elevated acidity, grippy, chalky tannins and moderate weight. The wine reveals notes of dark berries, a hint of forest blackberries, a certain darkness, a touch of balsamic and pungent spices. Good concentration and length. Needs time.

Score : 15/20 (89-90/100)

Alexandre Moreau – Manoir de la Bellonnière - Soleau 2020 Chinon

(Organic) The wine shows a vivid, bright ruby purple colour. The nose is restrained, with aeration revealing nuances of cornflowers, crisp red cherries, cherry drupe and sweet spices. The palate is juicy and vibrant, revealing nuances of cocoa, ripe black cherries and plums, a touch of cinnamon, a hint of vanilla. The tannins are powerful and muscular, balanced by refreshing acidity and bright fruitiness. Spicy finish.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Alexandre Moreau – Manoir de la Bellonnière – Les Battereaux 2020 Chinon

(Organic) The wine shows a deep ruby purple colour, vivid and youthful. The nose is profound, a bit muted, with aeration revealing nuances of black currants, a touch of bramble, herbaceous note of tomato and tobacco leaves, a hint of black olive tapenade. The palate is juicy, bursting with crunchy black cherries, blackberries, a hint of blackcurrant and blackcurrant leaf. Elevated acidity holds the whole structure together, supported by intense fruitiness and fine-grained, polished tannins. Vibrant, succulent finish. A very pure expression of Cabernet Franc.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Domaine de la Commanderie – Médiévale 2020 Chinon

The wine shows a pale ruby colour with a watery rim. The nose is delicate, slightly restrained, with aeration revealing notes of crunchy red cherries, forest raspberries, delicate floral nuances, a hint of earthiness. The palate is fresh and juicy, offering bright fruitiness and finesse, crisp acidity and smooth, delicate tannins. On the palate notes of crunchy red berries interlace with nuances of bell pepper, a touch of pungent spices and blackcurrant leaf. Fresh, delicate and easy-drinking.

Score : 14.25/20 (87-88/100)

Couly-Dutheil - Clos de l'Echo 2018 Chinon

The wine shows a deep ruby colour. The nose is dense and heady, revealing nuances of cooked red and black cherries, a touch of sweet spices, black pepper and balsamic in the background. The palate is savoury, almost saline, showing a lot of ripeness and concentration, balanced by refreshing acidity. Alcohol is slightly warming on the back-palate but well-balanced by intense fruitiness. Notes of ripe black cherries and black currants are supported by savoury nuances of sun-dried tomatoes, black olives and almost soya sauce. Bold, massive, well-managed tannins. Good length.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Couly-Dutheil - Clos de l'Echo 2021 Chinon

The wine shows an intense ruby colour with a garnet tinge. The nose is shy, needs some air to open up. With aeration it opens up with nuances of ripe black cherries, black olive tapenade, a hint of sun-dried tomatoes and sweet spices. The palate offers a powerful concentration, earthy, mineral character, bold and assertive tannins which stick to the gums. The wine is more savoury than fruity, notes of red berries are reverberating in the background but do not dominate. Slight bitterness on the finish.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Couly-Dutheil - Clos de l'Olive 2019 Chinon

The wine shows a deep ruby colour with a touch of garnet. The nose is restrained, the wine will benefit from decanting. With aeration it reveals nuances of black cherries in liqueur, a touch of dark chocolate, kirsch and a balsamic note. The palate is dense, concentrated and juicy, demonstrating bold, grippy, chalky tannins, elevated acidity and good complexity. Notes of sweet spices and earthy notes support the fruit character. A savoury finish with nuances of green tomatoes and black olives, almost saline.

Score : 16.25/20 (92-93/100)

Couly-Dutheil – Les Gravières d'Amador Abbé de Turpenay 2021 Chinon

The wine shows a bright ruby colour. The nose is restrained, slightly shy, requires some aeration. Later it reveals nuances of cornflowers and violets, a hint of cherry blossom, delicate notes of sour red fruits. The palate is juicy, offering a nice fruit concentration, a solid structure and grippy tannins, all balanced by the typical Cabernet Franc acidity. Notes of black cherries and bramble dominate the palate, complicated by nuances of pungent spices and a distinct herbaceous note. A serious wine that is already accessible. Juicy, lingering finish.

Score : 14.75/20 (88-89/100)

Couly-Dutheil – Domaine René Couly 2018 Chinon

The wine shows a bright ruby colour with a purple hue. The nose is heady and intense, very multi-layered and deep, offering nuances of ripe black cherries, cherry compote, a touch of cocoa and chocolate, a hint of pungent spices and balsamic. The palate is juicy, concentrated and gourmet, revealing powerful fruit concentration, suavity and roundness, good freshness and bold, muscular but polished tannins. The wine is well-balanced between elevated, warming alcohol and juicy notes of black cherries, jammy blackberries and sweet spices. Spicy, warming finish.

Score : 15+/20 (89-90/100)

Couly-Dutheil 2018 Chinon

The wine shows a deep ruby colour, slightly opaque. The nose is dense and heady, warming, offering spicy notes of cloves, cinnamon, a touch of earthy minerality, balsamic nuances, supported by notes of liqueur cherries and kirsch. The palate is juicy, concentrated, slightly jammy, opening up with notes of blueberry pie, blackberry jam, a hint of tobacco leaf, nuances of black pepper and chocolate. Very intense, ripe and powerful style. High alcohol is well-balanced by exuberant fruitiness and volume. Long, juicy finish.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Domaine de Bel-Air – Jean-Louis Loup – La Fosse aux Loups 2020 Chinon

The wine shows a medium ruby colour. The nose is intense and perfumed, revealing nuances of crunchy red cherries, a hint of green pepper, notes of pencil shavings and earthiness. The palate is fresh and juicy, offering nuances of sweet, caramelized cherries, a hint of wild strawberries and cranberries, a touch of blackcurrant leaf and bell pepper. The tannins are smooth, fluid and well-managed, slightly chalky. An easy-drinking, approachable style.

Score : 14.5/20 (88/100)

Domaine Eric Hérault – Vieilles Vignes 2020 Chinon

The wine shows an intense ruby purple colour, vivid and youthful. The nose is dense and profound, revealing nuances of ripe black cherries, a touch of blackberries and bramble, a hint of thorn. The palate offers juicy, elevated acidity, ripe fruit concentration, still very elegant structure and bold, grippy, slightly drying tannins. The notes of dark berries dominate the palate, supported by nuances of tobacco and currant leaf, pencil shavings and tar. A "dark" style of Chinon. The tannins need time to smoothen. Very drying finish.

Score : 14.5+/20 (88/100)

Domaine de la Roche Honneur – Diamant Prestige 2020 Chinon

(Organic) The wine shows a deep ruby purple colour. The nose is intense and dense, offering concentrated notes of black cherries, bramble, forest blackberries, a hint of violet, a touch of olive tapenade and sun-dried tomatoes. The palate is juicy, dense, multi-layered with refreshing, crunchy acidity, bold, grippy but polished tannins, nice fruit concentration. The wine is packed with notes of ripe dark berries, supported by savoury hints of black tea, umami, soya sauce and dark minerality. A lot of ripeness and power but all in finesse. Long, fruity finish. A nice grip.

Score : 15.5/20 (90-91/100)

Domaine de la Roche Honneur – Cuvée Rubis 2020 Chinon

(Organic) The wine shows a vivid ruby purple colour. The nose is intense, fruity and youthful, revealing nuances of wild raspberries, red crushed cherries, a touch of blackcurrant and blackcurrant leaf, a hint of tobacco leaf and black olives. The

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palate is juicy, with nice fruit concentration, bright acidity and grippy, a bit rustic, drying tannins. Intense notes of red cherries and blackcurrant on the palate are combined with herbaceous nuances of green pepper and a touch of thorn. Juicy and intense, needs time to smoothen the tannins.

Score : 14.25/20 (87-88/100)

Domaine de la Noblaie – Pierre de Tuf 2020

Chinon

(Organic) The wine shows a medium ruby colour. The nose is intense, offering nuances of sweet spices, leather, an animalistic touch, with notes of ripe red and black cherries in the background, a hint of forest raspberries and bramble. The palate is fresh and juicy, revealing crisp acidity, bold, slightly drying tannins and full body. The wine covers the palate with juicy nuances of red and black fruits, complicated by nuances of tobacco, pungent spices, a hint of leather and cloves. A rustic wine with a light bitter note on the finish.

Score : 14+/20 (87/100)

François Reverdy – Cabernet Franc 2021

Chinon

(Biodynamic) The wine shows a bright ruby colour, intense and vivid. The nose is vibrant and juicy, revealing nuances of crunchy red cherries, cranberries and forest raspberries, supported by nuances of blackcurrant leaf, fresh tobacco and green pepper. The palate is delicate and aerial, with refreshing, crisp acidity, fine-grained, smooth tannins and light body. Notes of red forest berries and blackcurrant are supported by notes of pencil shavings, herbaceous and earthy nuances. Vibrant, fresh and juicy finish. Glou-glou!

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

François Reverdy – Cravant 2020

Chinon

(Biodynamic) The wine shows a medium ruby colour. The nose is a bit restrained, with aeration revealing nuances of red and black cherries, forest raspberries, nuances of fresh tobacco and pencil shavings. The palate is juicy and full-bodied, offering refreshing acidity, grainy and grippy tannins and bold structure. Notes of pulpy black berries intertwine with nuances of sweet and pungent spices, hint of thorn and black currant, a touch of black olive and fresh tobacco. Light astringence on the finish.

Score : 14.5/20 (88/100)

SAUMUR-CHAMPIGNY

Domaine des Coutures – L'Epanouie 2020

Saumur-Champigny

The wine shows intense ruby purple colour with a brightening rim. The nose is juicy and intense, offering nuances of forest raspberries, wild strawberries, wild blackberries with a touch of black cherries and blackcurrant. The palate is succulent and youthful with crunchy and fresh acidity, polished, delicate tannins and intense fruit concentration and gourmandise. Notes of crushed raspberries and red cherries on the palate intertwine with nuances of kirsch, red cherry compote and sweet spices. Gourmet, succulent, youthful finish. Very approachable.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Domaine des Coutures - La Sélection 2020

Saumur-Champigny

The wine shows a bright ruby colour with a purple hue. The nose is youthful and juicy, revealing nuances of red and black cherries, wild blackberries, a hint of black pepper and fresh tobacco, a touch of thorn. The palate is fresh and vibrant, with balanced acidity, nice pulpiness and volume, bold, ripe and polished tannins. The palate is bursting with juicy nuances of red and black cherries, forest raspberries, bramble, complemented by nuances sweet and pungent spices, a hint of currant leaf in the background. Long, juicy finish with a light bitter note in the aftertaste.

Score : 15+/20 (89-90/100)

Château de Parnay 2016

Saumur-Champigny

(Organic) The wine shows an intense ruby colour with a brightening rim. The nose is intense and opulent, revealing nuances of cooked red and black cherries, cherry compote, a touch of roasted raspberries and balsamic in the echo. The palate is juicy and concentrated, offering volume and power, bold, chalky, very grippy tannins, elevated, but creamy acidity, intense fruit concentration. The tannins cover completely the palate. Notes of ripe (even overripe) forest berries interlace with nuances of green pepper, fresh tobacco and pencil shavings. Astringent finish with a light bitter note. Still very young.

Score : 15+/20 (89-90/100)

Domaine de Roche Ville – Le Prince 2019

Saumur-Champigny

(Organic) The wine shows a medium ruby colour. The nose is intense and spicy, revealing nuances of ripe red and black cherries, hint of cinnamon, a touch of balsamic and cloves. The palate is fresh and juicy, very attractively fruity, offering a lot of gourmandise and elegance. Notes of crunchy cherries and cranberries interlace with nuances of pungent spices and a touch of bell pepper. The tannins are smooth and fluid. Fresh, succulent finish.

Score : 14.5/20 (88/100)

Le Blason de Parnay 2020

Saumur-Champigny

(Organic) The wine shows a bright ruby colour. The nose is slightly restrained, the wine will benefit from being decanted. It opens up with notes of black cherries and bramble, a touch of blackcurrant and forest blueberries, a hint of black pepper in the echo. The palate is dense and concentrated, offering an opulent body, bold, ripe and polished tannins, balanced acidity. It mirrors the nose with flavours of ripe black berries, complicated by nuances of pungent spices, blackcurrant leaf and fresh tobacco. Good length and a light bitter note on the finish.

Score : 14.5/20 (88/100)

Le Clos du Château de Parnay 2018

Saumur-Champigny

(Organic) The wine shows a deep ruby purple colour. The nose is dense and ripe (even slightly overripe), offering nuances of blackcurrant and blackberries, a touch of kirsch and crème de cassis, complicated by notes of fresh tobacco and dark chocolate. The palate is juicy, concentrated and opulent, with a nice, refreshing acidity, powerful volume, exuberant juiciness of fruit and dense, grippy tannins. The wine is packed with ripe black berries, supported by notes of black pepper, a touch of balsamic and thorn. Astringent and powerful finish. Good ageing potential.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Thierry Germain - Domaine des Roches Neuves – Franc de Pieds 2020

Saumur-Champigny

The wine shows a vivid ruby purple colour. The nose is slightly smoky and reductive, the wine will benefit from being aerated. It opens up with nuances of crunchy sour red cherries, nuances of cornflowers and violets, some smoky, dark minerality. The palate is fresh and vibrant, very juicy and gourmet, offering attractive fruit sweetness, gourmandise, refreshing, crisp acidity and polished, chalky tannins. The wine is delicate and light, delivering fine flavours of forest red berries, complicated by nuances of pomegranate, bramble and pungent spices. Aerial and delicate.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Clos des Cordeliers – Cuvée Tradition 2019

Saumur-Champigny

The wine shows a deep ruby purple colour. The nose is dense and concentrated, offering nuances of black cherries, a touch of blackberries, supported by notes of fresh tobacco and bell pepper in the echo. The palate is juicy and vibrant, offering intense fruit concentration, bold and powerful tannins, elevated acidity, a light coffee light bitterness in the background. The wine is packed with dark berries, nuances of tar and thorn, a certain black minerality, a hint of pencil shavings. A lot of astringency on the finish.

Score : 14.25+/20 (87-88/100)

Clos des Cordeliers – Cuvée Tradition 2020

Saumur-Champigny

The wine shows a bright ruby purple colour. The nose is slightly lactic, revealing nuances of cherry yogurt, a hint of red cherries and raspberries, delicate nuances of spices. The palate offers bright acidity, light, slightly diluted body and ephemeral, slightly drying tannins. It opens up with light notes of red cherries, cranberries, a touch of wild strawberries, all muted and almost unperceivable. Lacks volume and concentration.

Score : 13.75/20 (86/100)

Domaine Filliatreau - Vieilles Vignes 2018

Saumur-Champigny

The wine shows a ruby colour with a garnet tinge. The nose is slightly restrained, need aeration, later opening up with notes of pungent spices, a touch of balsamic, hints of black cherry compote and nuances of dried tomatoes. The palate is powerful and warming, revealing drying, bold tannins that stick to the gums, moderate fruit intensity and elevated acidity. The wine offers notes of black cherries and bramble, a touch of black pepper, a discreet green note in the echo adding to the freshness. Very dry finish.

Score : 14.25/20 (87-88/100)

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Domaine Filliatreau - L'Affutée 2015 Saumur-Champigny

The wine shows a medium ruby colour with a garnet hue. The nose is intensely earthy, revealing nuances of beetroots, a hint of cherry compote, a touch of iron and balsamic note. The palate is fresh and savoury with grippy, bold, rather drying tannins, some elegance and finesse, refreshing acidity. The palate is more fruity than the nose, offering nuances of red and black cherries, a touch of roasted raspberries, orange zest, all framed by this distinctive earthiness. Juicy, fruity finish.
Score : 14.5/20 (88/100)

Domaine Filliatreau - La Grande Vignolle 2020 Saumur-Champigny

The wine shows intense ruby purple colour. The nose is dense and heady, warming, offering nuances of ripe black cherries, a touch of bramble jam, kirsch, blackcurrant and a hint of cocoa and black pepper. The palate is ripe, concentrated and powerful, with elevated acidity, intense fruitiness and juicy, velvety, very ripe tannins. The notes on the palate mirror the nose with a touch of jammy black berries and chocolate, supported by hints of pungent spices and balsamic. Nice freshness despite a certain weight. Long, juicy finish.
Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Domaine Filliatreau 2020 Saumur-Champigny

(Organic) The wine shows a vivid ruby purple colour. The nose is a bit restrained, needs time to open up. It reveals notes of red cherries, wild raspberries, a hint of green pepper, fresh tobacco and pungent spices. The palate is juicy and vibrant, very intense and gourmet, offering creamy, fluid texture, polished tannins and elevated, crunchy acidity. Notes of pulpy red cherries and wild strawberries are combined with nuances of currant leaf and green pepper. Fruity, juicy finish. Very classic and already accessible.
Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Lena Filliatreau 2019 Saumur-Champigny

The wine shows a pure ruby colour. The nose is rather restrained, needs aeration. It opens up with nuances of red and black cherries, forest raspberries, a floral touch of violets and peonies, a hint of pungent spices. The palate is juicy and vibrant, very gourmet, offering crisp, tangy acidity, elegant structure, supported by bold but polished and well-managed tannins. The wine is filling the palate with notes of juicy, pulpy red cherries, wild strawberries and black raspberries with a delicate herbaceous notes of green pepper and fresh tobacco leaf in the background. Succulent, lingering finish.
Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Domaine La Bonnelière - L'Excellence 2018 Saumur-Champigny

The wine shows an intense ruby colour with a garnet rim. The nose is delicately restrained, the wine will benefit from decanting. With aeration it reveals notes of ripe red and black cherries, baked raspberries, complicated by nuances of sweet baking spices and a touch of earthy minerality. The palate is round and smooth with juicy, well-managed tannins, crunchy acidity and suave texture. The wine offers notes of ripe red and black berries, nuances of sweet spices and black olives. Good complexity and persistence.
Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Domaine La Bonnelière - Tradition 2021 Saumur-Champigny

The wine shows intense ruby purple colour with a brightening rim. The nose is gourmet and floral, revealing nuances of violets and peonies, red and black cherries, a touch of blueberries and bramble, a hint of tobacco leaf in the echo. The palate is youthful, juicy and vibrant, with refreshing, crisp acidity and grippy, young and assertive tannins. The wine offers notes of crunchy black cherries and thorn, a hint of currant leaf and bell pepper, a touch of bitterness on the finish. Herbaceous aftertaste.
Score : 14+/20 (87/100)

Domaine La Bonnelière – Les Poyeux 2018 Saumur-Champigny

The wine shows a deep ruby colour with a garnet tinge. The nose is dense, ripe and heady, revealing notes of ripe (even overripe black cherries), a hint of bramble

and black raspberries, a delicate touch of tobacco leaf and blackcurrant. The palate is juicy and warming but well-balanced, offering bright fruit concentration, refreshing acidity, powerful body and opulent and rich tannins. The wine offers gourmet notes of cherries in chocolate, kirsch, a touch of cocoa and sweet spices. An exuberant and powerful style with a long, fruity finish and a nice grip.
Score : 15/20 (89-90/100)

Domaine Annivy – Oeillade 2020 Saumur-Champigny

The wine shows a bright ruby purple colour. The nose is restrained and reductive initially, later opening up with subtle notes of red cherries, a touch of radish and pungent spices, a hint of wet stones and leather. The palate is more open, juicy, offering a nice fruit concentration, elegance, elevated acidity and chalky tannins. Notes of sour red cherries are supported by herbaceous nuances of bell pepper and pencil shavings. Succulent and persistent finish.
Score : 14+/20 (87/100)

Domaine Annivy – Noir Absolu Vieilles Vignes 2020 Saumur-Champigny

The wine shows a bright ruby purple colour. The nose is a bit restrained, will benefit from aeration. It opens up with notes of bramble, blackberries and blackcurrant, a hint of pungent spices and tar. The palate is grippy and tight, with elevated acidity, drying, grippy tannins and a nice freshness. The wine reveals a dark minerality and black berries profile, combined with herbaceous notes of currant leaf and fresh tobacco. Juicy but extremely grippy on the finish.
Score : 14+/20 (87/100)

Domaine Annivy – Segreto 2020 Saumur-Champigny



The wine shows a bright ruby colour with a brightening rim. The nose is intense and multi-layered, opening up with nuances of ripe forest raspberries and blackberries, a touch of blueberries and blackcurrant, complicated by delicate notes of sweet spices like cinnamon, cloves and vanilla. The palate is vibrant and gourmet, full and juicy, offering a creamy texture, polished, fine-grained tannins and well-balanced acidity. Notes of juicy red cherries and wild strawberries interlace gracefully with nuances of cocoa and chocolate, a hint of cherry liqueur, a touch of tobacco and pencil shavings. Aerial structure and juicy and fruity finish.
Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Domaine des Sanzay - Vieilles Vignes 2020 Saumur-Champigny

(Organic) The wine shows an intense ruby colour with a purple hue. The nose is dense and heady, offering nuances of cooked black cherries, kirsch, blackberry jam and sweet spices. The palate is intense, powerful and concentrated, with good freshness, grippy but juicy tannins and nice elegance. Notes of sour black cherries balance nicely nuances of oak and pungent spices. The finish lingers long with a slightly drying note of thorn.
Score : 14.75/20 (88-89/100)

Château de Villeneuve 2020 Saumur-Champigny

(Organic) The wine shows a bright ruby-purple colour with a brightening rim. The nose is intense and perfumed, revealing nuances of forest raspberries and blackberries, a touch of bramble, combined with notes of fresh tobacco and green bell pepper in the echo. The palate is juicy and dense with elevated, crisp acidity, a lot of concentration of fruit, chalky, slightly drying tannins, a light bitterness. The wine bursts with bright notes of juicy red and black cherries, cranberries and wild strawberries, complicated by notes of blackcurrant leaf and a hint of jalapeño. Vibrant, juicy, spicy finish with a delicate bitterness in the aftertaste.
Score : 14.75/20 (88-89/100)

Château de Villeneuve – Vieilles Vignes 2019 Saumur-Champigny

The wine shows a bright, deep ruby purple colour. The nose is dense and concentrated revealing nuances of black currants and blackberries, a touch of crème de cassis and bramble, delicate notes of black pepper and fresh tobacco. The palate is juicy and ripe, offering intense fruit concentration, vibrancy and finesse, a

Loire

The red wines of the Loire Valley

lot of gourmandise, elevated, crisp acidity and silky, very polished tannins. The wine is packed with vivid nuances of ripe black berries, cherries and currants, supported by notes of sweet and pungent spices and light leafiness. Long, juicy, slightly drying finish with a light pleasant bitterness.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Couly-Dutheil - Les Moulins de Turquant 2021

Saumur-Champigny

The wine shows a bright ruby purple colour. The nose is initially restrained, needs air to open up, later revealing nuances of crunchy red and sour black cherries, a touch of cranberries, savoury notes of balsamic, black olives and black pepper. The palate is juicy and intense, offering crunchy, vivid acidity, well-balanced, ripe and grippy tannins, nice freshness and sapidity. The wine shows a bright fruitiness of red and black cherries, a touch of blackcurrant and blackcurrant leaf, a hint of bell pepper. Juicy, savoury finish. Good length.

Score : 14.5+/20 (88/100)

Château de Brézé – Cuvée La Girardrie 2019

Saumur-Champigny

The wine shows an intense ruby colour with a brightening rim. The nose is discreet and restrained. With aeration it opens up with nuances of crunchy red cherries, forest raspberries and strawberries, sweet spices, a hint of red currant in the echo. The palate is juicy and very fruity, with refreshing, succulent acidity and well-mannered, ripe tannins. Notes of red fruits on the palate interlace with nuances of blackcurrant leaf and blackcurrant. Fresh and elegant finish. Good persistence.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Clotilde Legrand – Les Terrages 2017

Saumur-Champigny

The wine shows a medium ruby colour. The nose is delicately restrained, with aeration revealing nuances of ripe red and black cherries, a touch of raspberries and blackcurrant, a hint of tobacco leaf in the background. The palate is delicate and juicy, with crisp, elevated acidity and grippy, drying, sticky tannins. Notes of red cherries and red plums intertwine with herbaceous hints of blackcurrant leaf and tobacco. Juicy and refreshing on the finish with still very assertive tannins.

Score : 14+/20 (87/100)

Clotilde Legrand – Les Lizières 2020

Saumur-Champigny

The wine shows an intense ruby purple colour. The nose is dense, heady and concentrated, revealing nuances of crushed forest raspberries, even some roasted raspberries, a hint of red cherries and currant leaf. The palate is juicy, offering intense fruit concentration, juicy, vibrant acidity and ripe, opulent tannins. The wine demonstrates nuances of ripe black and red cherries, a hint of red plum and blackcurrant, a touch of currant leaf and pungent spices. Good length and grippy finish.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Château de Chaintres – Les Sables 2020

Saumur-Champigny

(Biodynamic) The wine shows a deep, intense ruby purple colour. The nose is slightly discreet, needs aeration, later revealing nuances of wild black raspberries, bramble, a touch of blackcurrant and juicy black cherries, a light hint of tobacco on the finish. The palate is intensely juicy and vibrant, offering crisp, succulent acidity, amazing fruit concentration and grippy but polished and well-mannered tannins. The juicy notes of red and black cherries are complicated by nuances of sweet and pungent spices, hint of currant leaf and delicate dark minerality. Long, fruity finish and good persistence.

Score : 15.5/20 (90-91/100)

Château de Chaintres – Vieilles Vignes 2020

Saumur-Champigny

(Biodynamic) The wine shows a deep, youthful purple colour. The nose is intense, fruity and floral, revealing nuances of fresh, crushed raspberries, a touch of raspberry leaf, a hint of bramble and wild strawberries, a delicate note of blueberry in the background. The palate is intensely juicy, very fresh and succulent, revealing extraordinary brightness and clarity of fruit, elevated, crunchy acidity and grippy, ripe and bold tannins. The wine bursts with nuances of forest red and black berries, a hint of sweet spices, a touch of peonies and hibiscus, a subtle notes of black tea in the aftertaste. Slightly drying finish, concentrated and long, promising a long life.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Domaine des Roches Neuves – Thierry Germain – Les Memoires 2020

Saumur-Champigny

(Biodynamic) The wine shows a deep, intense and youthful purple colour. The nose is concentrated, slightly restrained, needs aeration. It opens up with notes of black cherries, bramble and black raspberries, a hint of thorn, a lot of minerality. The palate is a bit tight still with chalky, quite assertive tannins and good freshness. The wine is very young and needs more time to open up. On the palate it reveals a nice tension and bright fruitiness of black forest berries and nice savoury nuances. A nice grip on the finish and brilliant ageing potential.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Robert & Marcel – Les Poyeux 2019

Saumur-Champigny

The wine shows a vibrant and vivid ruby purple colour with a brightening rim. The nose is slightly restrained and shy, needs aeration to open up. It reveals nuances of crunchy red and black cherries, some red plum, a touch of iron and dark minerality. The palate is tight, offering refreshing acidity, nice juiciness, grippy but well-managed tannins. The palate mirrors the nose with notes of crunchy red and black and pungent spices like black pepper and a hint of tobacco. Earthy finish.

Score : 14.25+/20 (87-88/100)

Domaine de la Paleine 2019

Saumur-Champigny

(Biodynamic) The wine shows a bright and vivid ruby purple colour. The nose is floral and fruity, offering notes of violets, nuances of black cherry compote, a touch of almond, a hint of black pepper in the background. The palate is vibrant, juicy and intense, revealing elevated acidity, crisp texture, chalky, slightly drying tannins and moderate weight. Notes of red and black cherries interlace with nuances of blackberries, a touch of cloves and green pepper, a hint of tobacco leaf, some dark minerality. Juicy and spicy finish with a delicate bitter note. Very elegant.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

SAUMUR

Domaine La Bonnelière – La Gourmandine 2021

Saumur

The wine shows a medium ruby purple colour with a brightening rim. The nose is dense and perfumed, revealing notes of ripe black raspberries, forest blackberries and bramble, complicated by nuances of sweet spices, liquorice and tobacco. The palate is juicy and gourmet, offering moderate acidity, a lot of fruitiness and gourmandise, slightly grippy but ripe tannins. The wine opens up with sweet and sour black fruit flavours, kirsch and crème de cassis, as well as a hint of green pepper and tomato leaf. The finish is fruity and pleasant.

Score : 14+/20 (87/100)

Domaine Filliatreau - Château Fouquet – Le Clos 2019

Saumur

(Biodynamic) The wine shows a bright ruby purple colour. The nose is intense and spicy, revealing nuances of cloves, cinnamon, a touch of nutmeg and balsamic, supported by notes of ripe black cherries, cherry compote, a touch of forest raspberry and blackcurrant. The palate is juicy and vivid, offering crispy acidity, vibrant juiciness and fruit concentration, sweet, grippy but well-mannered tannins. Notes of sweet and pungent spices on the palate intertwine with hints of juicy berries, savoury nuances of cloves, balsamic and black olive tapenade. A complex, very sapid wine with long and intense spicy finish.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Domaine Filliatreau - Château Fouquet 2020

Saumur

(Biodynamic) The wine shows a vivid ruby colour with a brightening rim. The nose is intense, fruity and floral, revealing notes of forest raspberries, bramble, a hint of black cherries and blackcurrant. The palate is juicy and ripe, with good fruit concentration, fresh acidity and suave, fine-grained tannins. It offers juicy nuances of red and black cherries, crushed raspberries, wild strawberries with a delicate herbaceous hint of currant leaf in the background. Balanced, delicate and approachable.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Château de Brézé 2019

Saumur

The wine shows a medium ruby colour. The nose is slightly discreet and restrained, needs more air to open up. It opens up with nuances of red and black

Loire

The red wines of the Loire Valley

cherries, hint of raspberries and orange peel, a touch of forest bramble in the echo. The palate is juicy and concentrated, revealing intense nuances of cherry compote, red and black tea, a touch of crushed raspberries and a hint of pungent spices. The tannins are bold and sticky, balanced by refreshing acidity and intense fruit concentration. A genuine forest character. Long finish.

Score : 14.75/20 (88-89/100)

Robert & Marcel - La Mourade 2019 Saumur

The wine shows a deep ruby colour with a purple hue. The nose is slightly restrained, will benefit from decanting. It reveals nuances of ripe red cherries, a hint of beetroot, some earthiness combined with nuances of currant leaf and tobacco. The palate is juicy and straightforward with elevated acidity, slightly grippy but rather dispersed tannins, moderate fruit concentration. The wine demonstrates nuances of red berries, complicated by a touch of spices and leafy character. A bit short.

Score : 13.75+/20 (86-87/100)

SAUMUR-PUY-NOTRE-DAME

Domaine de la Paleine 2019 Saumur-Puy-Notre-Dame

(Biodynamic) The wine shows a deep ruby colour with a purple hint. The nose is a bit restrained, needs some aeration. It opens up with nuances of ripe black cherries and blackberries, a touch of black raspberries, chocolate and cocoa notes. The palate is dense and concentrated, offering a lot of ripeness and density, refreshing, crunchy acidity and bold, grippy, well-managed tannins. On the palate the notes of black fruits interlace gracefully with nuances of pungent spices, cloves and balsamic notes. Long, juicy, slightly drying finish.

Score : 15+/20 (89-90/100)



DRINK RESPONSIBLY / À CONSOMMER AVEC MODÉRATION

Sauternes

Château Haut-Bergeron 2020 Sauternes

(200-year-old collector bottle, 9th generation) Nice fresh, elegant, precise, gourmand and fine nose. It reveals notes of peach in syrup, mango, and, more slightly, - hints of dried apricot associated with slight touches of crunchy nectarine, fine hints of hibiscus flowers as well as discreet hints of spices and an imperceptible hint of fresh verberna (in the background). The palate is fruity and offers freshness, minerality, a juicy/fresh frame, a slight suavity, and good definition. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of peach in syrup, dried apricot, and, more slightly, - notes of candied kumquat combined with touches of lychee, crunchy apple and fine hints of honey. Nice persistence. A superb freshness. Crunchy in the finish.

Score: 16.25/20 (92-93/100)

Château Cantegril 2020 Barsac

The nose is nicely fresh and offers a certain intensity as well as floral aromas. It reveals notes of candied vine peach, candied lemon, and, more slightly, - notes of small white fruits associated with a touch of fresh pineapple, honeysuckle, minerality as well as subtle hints of fresh verberna and a very discreet roasted tips (in the background). The palate is nicely mineral, racy and offers freshness, some fatness and a fresh frame. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of candied peach, small crunchy white fruits, and, more slightly, - notes of fresh white flowers associated with a touch of roasted pineapple as well as a fine hint of dried apricot and toasted almond. Good length. A good job on the good bitterness (in the background).

Score: 15.25+/20 (90-91/100)

Château Doisy-Daëne 2020 Barsac, Grand Cru Classé de Sauternes

Nice elegant nose, precise and offers a nice freshness, deepness as well as a certain purity and delicacy. A very nice nose! It reveals notes of candied kumquat, pear in syrup and slight hints of fresh iris associated with slight floral touches, green apple as well as fine hints of fresh rose and discreet hints of fresh nutmeg. The mouth is fruity and offers freshness, minerality, a nice definition, stretchiness, a certain energy, fatness, a nice guideline as well as a slight suavity. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of candied lychee, candied apple, and, more slightly, - notes of crushed vine peach associated with slight touches of roasted pineapple as well as slight hints of nutmeg and a very discreet hint of fresh vanilla. Good length. A good job on the good bitterness (in the background). A fresh wine with finesse/delicacy.

Score: 16.5+/20 (93-94/100)

Château Climens 2012 Sauternes, 1er Grand Cru Classé in Barsac

Nice fresh nose, aromatic and offers intensity, aromatic purity as well as certain deepness. It reveals notes of quince paste, candied tangerine and, more slightly, notes of candied orange zest associated with touches of sweet lemon, candied nectarine as well as discreet hints of flowers and a very discreet varietal hint (background). The palate is nicely fruity, juicy, fresh, elegant and offers a nice racy minerality, a nice crystalline touch and purity on the palate as well as some nice balanced richness. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of candied lemon, jammy mandarin and slight hints of fruit paste (but without heaviness) associated with touches of roasted pineapple, pulpy/juicy apple, discreet hints of white flowers, white lily as well as a subtle hint of lemon blossom, lychee in syrup, a discreet hint of almond and biscuit. Good length. A subtle chewiness on the finish/persistence. Nice persistence.

Score: 17.5/20 (95/100)

Château d'Arche 2020 Sauternes, Grand Cru Classé

The nose is fruity, finely tight and offers fine power/concentration as well as deepness. It reveals notes of candied quince, small fruits, and, more slightly, - notes of nutmeg associated with slight touches of apricot as well as fine hints of almost honey / beeswax. The palate is fruity, a bit aerial, and offers juiciness, minerality, certain fatness, a good balance as well as some stretchiness and a good guideline. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of fruit paste (but without heaviness) and slight notes of candied mandarin associated with small notes of candied peach, slight hints of nutmeg as well as discreet hints of sweet spices and a subtle hint of almost brioche (in the background). Good length. Juiciness and fine freshness.

Score: 16/20 (92/100)

Château d'Arche 2011 Sauternes, Grand Cru Classé

aromatic, spicy nose, a certain intensity, and some power, notes of quince, dried zest and, more slightly, - ripe almond associated with slight touches of dried

Sauternes

lime, jammy yellow plum with fine hints of fresh spices and a subtle hint of white flowers in the background. A fruity palate, juiciness, minerality, good balance and acidity, notes of mandarin marmalade, pineapple in syrup and, more slightly, - of candied/crushed peach associated with touches of small yellow fruit, acidic/sweet as well as a slight hint of toast, spices/spiced bread. Good length. Good tangy peristnace. Nice freshness and acidity/energy.

Score: 16.25/20 (92-93/100)

Petit Guiraud 2020

Sauternes

(organic) The nose offers a nice freshness, a some complexity as well as some intensity. It reveals notes of fresh marmalade, fresh apricot and, more slightly, - hints of crunchy peach associated with fine hints of fresh lychee as well as a discreet hint of peach blossom. The mouth is nicely fresh, mineral, balanced and offers a nice fresh frame, tension, fullness, and some fatness with finesse, gourmandise as well as purity of the fruit. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of peach in syrup, candied pear and slight hints of pineapple in syrup associated with a slight hint of fresh lychee, fresh flowers and a discreet hint of sweet spices. Good length. A very discreet hint of candied lime in the background.

Score: 15.25+/20 (90-91/100)

Château Guiraud 2020

Sauternes, 1er Grand Cru Classé in Barsac

(organic) The nose is fresh, racy, frank and offers a fine grain. It reveals notes of fresh kumquat, fresh candied berries, and, more slightly, hints of dried apricot associated with fine touches of spices. The palate is fruity and crunchy and offers freshness, minerality, a nice fineness/delicacy of the grain, a certain tension, accuracy, a fine crunch, good definition, complexity, precision, accuracy as well as a nice racy minerality. The wine is a bit aerial, with nice finesse and some fatness. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of candied peach, candied mandarin, and, more slightly, - notes of peach in syrup associated with touches of pineapple in syrup, candied/fresh berries, hints of fresh verbena, peach blossoms, with discreet hints of fresh almond as well as an imperceptible hint almost of candied orange zest (in the background) and an imperceptible hint of spices. Good length. Nice aromatic persistence. A subtle hint of almost fresh acacia in the background.

Score: 17+/20 (94-95/100)

Château Rabaud-Promis 2020

Sauternes, 1er Grand Cru Classé

Nice fresh, precise, mineral and a bit aerial nose which offers crystalline touches. It reveals notes of pulpy yellow plum, apricot in syrup, and, more slightly, - notes of juicy/fresh yellow berries associated with slight touches of yellow peach in syrup, slight hints of lily/acacia as well as discreet hints of beeswax and a discreet hint of nutmeg. The mouth is fruity and offers freshness, a nice definition, fatness, and fullness. It is a bit aerial in its fatness and refined in its richness. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of small jammy yellow plum, crystallized mandarin, and, more slightly, - hints of dried apricot associated with slight touches of yellow peach, a hint of lychee in syrup, slight hints of white flowers, a racy minerality, honey as well as a subtle hint of pastries (in the background) and a discreet hint of fresh acacia. Good length.

Score: 17/20 (94/100)

Château Cantegril 2012

Sauternes

The nose is a bit tight and offers spiciness, a certain power as well as fine intensity. There are notes of lychee, spices, and small notes of roasted berries associated with hints of peach and a hint of nutmeg. The mouth is well-built, fresh and enveloping and offers delicacy, fullness, gourmandise, a certain tension as well as a fine tangy frame. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of candied apricot, peach in syrup and small notes of lychee associated with touches of roasted pineapple, crystallized lemon as well as hints of spices and dried almond. Good length.

Score: 15.75/20 (91-92/100)

Château Haut-Bergeron 2012

Sauternes

The nose is aromatic and offers concentration, a certain power as well as deepness. It reveals notes of sweet quince, candied berries and small notes of marmalade associated with slight touches of apple in syrup, with a discreet hint of white flowers/acacia, verbena as well as very discreet hints of spices and almond. The palate is nicely fresh, juicy, fruity, balanced and offers a tangy frame, good definition, fullness, fatness, tension, and nice energy. The wine is luminous and bright in the mouth. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of jammy yellow plum, candied lemon and small notes of roasted pineapple associated with slight touches of mango, small yellow fruits in syrup, slight hints of verbena, toasted almond, and a subtle hint of toast and almost vanilla (in the background).

Good persistence. Congratulations! A great success in a difficult vintage.

Score: 16.25/20 (92-93/100)

Château Doisy-Daëne 2012

Sauternes, 2eme Grand Cru Classé

The nose is aromatic, delicate, complex and offers spiciness, a fine intensity, a nice grain as well as a voluptuousness in its aroma. It reveals notes of mirabelle plum, jammy quince and small notes of raisin associated with touches of fresh marmalade, candied apple, hints of pastries, almond as well as an imperceptible almost malty hint with a touch of fresh date (in the background). The mouth is well-built, elegant, delicate and offers juiciness, a nice energy, a very nice "dynamic / sharp" acidity, tension as well as accuracy. On the palate this wine expresses notes of jammy quince, crystallized orange and small notes of roasted berries associated with touches of roasted pineapple, tarte tatin as well as fine hints of almond, mango, racy minerality as well as delicate hints of brioche/pastries, of honey and a subtle hint of fresh hazelnut. Sapidty at the end of the mouth. Good length.

Score: 17.25+/20 (95/100)

Château Lamothe 2012

Sauternes, Grand Cru Classé

Nice mineral, aromatic nose that offers a fine power. It reveals notes of candied kumquat, candied quince and small notes of pear associated with slight hints of dried apricot, spices and a very discreet hint of verbena. The palate is fruity, very discreetly tight and offers juiciness, minerality, a tangy frame, tension, a nice controlled fatness/fullness as well as a certain straightness. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of candied pear, candied peach and small notes of candied lemon associated with touches of lychee in syrup, hints of dried apricot as well as a subtle hint of verbena and almond blossom. Good length.

Score: 15.5/20 (90-91/100)

Château Lamothe 2020

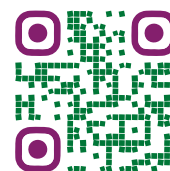
Sauternes, Grand Cru Classé

The nose is fresh, balanced, a bit aerial and offers fine richness. It reveals notes of marmalade, candied apricot and small notes of small white fruits in syrup associated with a discreet hint of candied yuzu and lemon blossom. The mouth is well-built, balanced, vibrant, tense and offers a tangy frame. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of marmalade, apricot in syrup and small notes of candied peach associated with a touch of crystallized lemon, roasted pineapple as well as a discreet hint of honey and minerality. Good length. A very discreet hint of toasted almond in the background.

Score: 15.25+/20 (90-91/100)



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Languedoc

Le grand pan (est vivant!) 2021 Organic Corbières

The wine has a bright ruby color, of medium intensity. The nose is discreet, a bit reserved and expresses aromas of ripe red fruits (red currant, red cherry, strawberry) and a slight hint of wild blackberry. There are also notes of dried herbs (thyme, bay leaf) and a spicy touch of white pepper. On the palate, the attack is open and expressive. The flavours open with notes of tangy red fruits (tangy red cherry, raspberry, red currant) with a hint of blueberry. Tannins have a medium level (-) and are slightly tight. The wine is medium-bodied, with medium (+) level acidity, refreshing and pleasant, and medium length, on tart red fruits. A pleasant and easy-drinking wine.

Score: 14+/20 (87/100)

La Croix Gratiot, Le Chant des Dolia 2020

Languedoc

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity, with very slight garnet reflections. The nose is aromatic, of medium intensity (+). The bouquet expresses notes of ripe black fruits (black cherry, black plum, blackberry), some touches of cocoa, and dark chocolate with a hint of sweetness, enhanced by notes of mint and liquorice. The palate is round, with flavours of ripe, a bit jammy red fruits (strawberry, red cherry). But it also expresses freshness and a tangy frame of black fruits (blueberry, black cherry, black plum), with a hint of spice, dried mint, rosemary, and a slight bitterness in the finish. The body of the wine is medium, with structured and integrated tannins. The acidity is quite fresh and the finish is fruity and pleasant, with a hint of bitterness and tannins that remain in the mouth. A wine with concentration, tension, and good structure.

Score: 14.75/20 (88-89/100)

La Jass-Castel La Pimpanela 2021

Languedoc

The wine has a bright ruby color of medium intensity. The first nose expresses black fruits, fresh and in jam (blackberry jam, black cherry) as well as juicy red fruits (strawberry, raspberry). The second nose reveals fresh notes of dried herbs (thyme, rosemary, mint) and flowers (violet), with a touch of spices (white pepper, clove) and smoke. On the palate, the wine is round and coating, with a medium (+) body and expressive flavours of black fruits and fresh red fruits (black plum, red cherry, strawberry, raspberry), with hints of mint, spice (black pepper, liquorice), smoke, with a very light touch of smoked meat. The tannins have a firm structure and a fine grain. The finish is long and juicy, and the acidity of the wine has a medium level and fresh enough to balance the rich and ripe bouquet. Well-balanced power and good definition.

Score: 15+/20 (89-90/100)

Domaine Le Conte des Floris, 6 Rah Noirs 2019

Languedoc Pézenas

The wine has a ruby color with slight garnet hints. The nose has a medium (+) intensity, with notes of juicy fruits (wild blackberry, black cherry, wild strawberry), flowers (violet, peony, and a slight hint of dried rose), a hint of smoked meat as well as spices (cloves, nutmeg) and a very slight saline touch on the second nose. On the palate, the wine expresses red fruits (red currant, raspberry, wild strawberry) with slight meaty and spicy notes (cloves, black pepper). The body of the wine has a medium level, the tannins are tight. The finish is quite long, with notes of fresh red berries (currant) and tart red cherry, medium acidity (+), and a very slight chalky and mineral note. Beautiful complexity, precision, and freshness on the palate.

Score: 15.25 /20 (90/100)

Mas Combarèla, Ode aux Ignorants 2020

Terrasses de Larzac

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose expresses pronounced aromas of ripe red and black fruits (blueberry, black plum, morello cherry, bigarreau), with herbaceous notes of garrigue and aromatic herbs (rosemary, bay leaf) and a mineral note of wet stone and limestone. On the palate, the wine is fleshy and full-bodied, with rich flavours of ripe red and black fruits (plum, Morello cherry, fresh black fig), notes of bitter cocoa, Sarawak pepper, black olives, and dried bouquet garni (thyme, bay leaf, and rosemary). The tannins are powerful, velvety, and enveloping. The finish is long, on fresh and dried black fruits (dried blackcurrant, fresh plum, Morello cherry), sweet spices (cloves, liquorice, cinnamon), and bitter cocoa. The acidity is lively, of a medium (+) level. A solar wine, rich, but fresh and balanced. Good aging potential.

Score: 16.75/20 (93-94/100)

Château Puech-Haut, Tête de Bélièr 2019

Languedoc

The wine has a deep ruby color, with slight purple hints. The nose has a medium (+) intensity and aromas of ripe and juicy black fruits, with a hint of acidity. The first nose, expresses black cherry, black plum, and a touch of blackcurrant jam. The second nose expresses notes of fresh blackberry, and blueberry, as well as hints of mint, thyme, cumin, and a slight note of violet. On the palate, the attack expresses black fruits (blackcurrant, blackberry, blueberry) and red fruits (tangy red cherry, red currant). Then, there are hints of aromatic herbs and spices. The wine is fleshy, with a medium (+) body, enveloping tannins, medium (+) level, and a tight texture. Medium (+) length in the mouth. On the finish, there are smoky and meaty notes, with a hint of bitterness that refreshes the whole with high acidity. At the end of the mouth, a high alcohol level gives a heating sensation. Overall it is a rich and full-bodied wine, but not heavy, with some freshness brought by the acidity and a firm tannic structure.

Score: 15+ /20 (89-90/100)

Calmel Joseph, Les Sept Puits 2017

Saint-Chinian

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity with slight garnet reflections. The nose is delicate and of medium intensity. There are notes of red cherry, chocolate morello cherry, red plum, raspberry, and garnet. On the second nose, the wine expresses herbaceous notes (thyme, wild mint, peppermint, rosemary, and bay leaf), as well as touches of sweet spices (cloves, liquorice, nutmeg). On the palate, the attack is expressive, with notes of small red fruits (currant, cranberries, tart red cherry), spices (white pepper, clove), herbs, and dried flowers (bay leaf, thyme, dried rose, dried mint). At the end of the mouth, meaty and smoky notes appear. The wine has a medium body, medium (+) acidity, and a long finish with flavours of red fruits, smoke and pepper. The tannins are slightly tight, of a medium (+) level and remain on the finish. A wine with complexity, concentration and a firm structure.

Score: 15+/20 (89-90/100)

Les Cocalières d'Aupilhac 2020

Languedoc Montpeyroux

The wine has a ruby color with slight purple reflections. The nose is pronounced and expresses notes of juicy red fruits (red cherry, crushed strawberry, wild strawberry, raspberry), fresh touches of aromatic herbs, and bouquet garni (thyme, rosemary, bay leaf), as well as a hint of rose, a slight minerality, and smoke. On the palate, the wine expresses ripe red fruits, slightly chalky mineral notes, and a hint of graphite. Then it expresses the herbaceous notes of thyme and rosemary, a floral touch of violet, and a slight minerality. The body of the wine has a medium (+) level, and tannins of a medium (+) level, but with a slightly firm texture. The finish is long



Languedoc

and reflects mineral notes and fresh black fruits. The acidity is medium (+) and softens the tannic structure of the wine. Overall, the wine has good structure, complexity, and concentration.

Score: 15/20 (89-90/100)

Mas Granier Camp de l'Oste 2018 Languedoc Sommières

The wine has a deep ruby color with slight garnet reflections. The nose is expressive and complex, with notes of juicy, fresh, and jammy red and black fruits (black cherry, blackberry jam, black plum jam, dried raspberry, crushed strawberry, and fresh fig). There are also fine spicy woody touches (smoked, slightly toasted) and sweet spices (liquorice, cloves, cinnamon, cumin) with a hint of dried rosemary. The palate is silky and ample, on very ripe black fruits, spicy and woody notes (cinnamon, clove), completed by a mineral and herbaceous hint (bouquet garni).

The wine is precise and fleshy, with a high acidity, which balances the heat of the alcohol of this wine. The medium (+) tannins are silky and fine. The finish is long and develops firstly on the fruits, then – on spices and a slight minerality.

Score: 15.5/20 (90-91/100)

Domaine de La Réserve d'O 2020

Terrasses de Larzac

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose has a medium (+) intensity and a nice complexity. It expresses the aromas of tangy black berries (wild blackberry, blueberry, Morello cherry) and sweet red berries (red cherry, crushed strawberry, raspberry coulis). There are also sweet spices (cinnamon, liquorice, a hint of anise,

and a slight touch of vanilla), white pepper, and fresh herbs (peppermint, rosemary) with a very fine note of pine sap and blackcurrant bud. On the palate, there are precision and tension. The flavours are expressive and complex, with a bouquet of fresh red and black fruit (cherry bigarreau, cranberries, redcurrant, raspberry, blueberry), herbaceous (rosemary sprig, thyme), smoky and spicy touches (liquorice, clove), white pepper. The tannins are enveloping, a little tight, of a medium (+) level. The wine is full-bodied but refreshed by the high, lively acidity. A beautiful concentration, richness, and energy, with a good balance between a tight structure and roundness.

Score: 17+/20 (94-95/100)

Domaine La Madura Classic 2020

Saint-Chinian

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity with slight purple reflections. The aromas of medium (+) intensity are open and fruity, with a touch of sweetness. It reveals notes of jammy strawberries, cherry in chocolate and sour cherry macerated in kirsch, as well as a slight hint of grenadine and elderberry syrup. On the second nose, fine touches of chocolate mint and smoke appear. On the palate, the flavours of the wine are fresh and fruity. In particular, there are notes of tart red cherry, red plum, and raspberry. The fruit on the palate is complemented by a note of smoked meat and dried aromatic herbs (mint, thyme). The wine has a medium body and high acidity, which balances its tight tannins. The wine has a good firm tannic structure, which needs time to soften.

Score: 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Domaine La Bosque, Patte de Loup 2018 Saint-Chinian

The wine has a deep ruby color. The nose has a medium (+) intensity and expresses notes of sweet spices (cloves, nutmeg, liquorice), a hint of bitter cocoa, and ripe and dried black and red fruits (black plum, prunes, red cherry fresh and dried, fresh raspberry). On the second nose, herbaceous notes appear – fresh rosemary, dried thyme, and peppermint – as well as a very slight hint of fresh almond and pine nut. On the palate, the attack is supple and open, with candied and macerated red fruits (morello cherries, prunes in Armagnac, crushed strawber-

ries), underlined by a note of fresh Morello cherries. On the finish, there are notes of dried flowers (rose petals, violet) and dried herbs (mint, thyme). The tannins have a medium (+) level and a fine grain. The body has a medium (+) level with a refreshing acidity of a medium (+) level. The finish is long and complex, with notes of tangy fresh fruit, complemented by the freshness of various dried herbs (mint, thyme, rosemary), and ends with a hint of minerality. A straightforward wine, with a varied bouquet, tight structure, and complexity.

Score: 15.5/20 (90-91/100)

Le Clos Rouge, Alerte Rouge 2020 Terrasses de Larzac

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity with purple reflections. The nose is discreet, of medium intensity, and expresses notes of tangy but ripe red fruits (raspberry, bigarreau cherry, red currant, cranberries). There are also very light

hints of spices (white pepper, ground cumin), a mineral touch, and herbaceous notes present on the second nose (dried bay leaf, dried rosemary). In the mouth, the attack is expressive, slightly peppery, but fruity and fresh, with flavours of tart red cherry, white cherry, and raspberry. The body of the wine has a medium level and a high and lively acidity. The finish has a medium (+) level, with notes of fresh red and black fruits (raspberry, blueberry, blackberry) and aromatic herbs (mint, rosemary) with a touch of white pepper. The tannins have a medium level and a fine texture. Wine on the fruits and freshness, with tension, pleasant to drink.

Score: 15.25/20 (90/100)

Domaine Mas Conscience, La

Conscience 2020 Terrasses de Larzac

The wine has a bright ruby color of medium intensity. The aromas are pronounced, with a hint of jam. The nose expresses notes of dried strawberry and raspberry, morello cherry jam, and red currant, as well as the freshness of ripe fruit (red cherry, morello cherry, wild strawberry). There are also minty and spicy (eucalyptus, liquorice), and slightly herbaceous (sage, rosemary) touches, with a hint of minerality, as well as a touch of bitter cocoa. On the palate, the attack is expressive, ample, and very fruity, with notes of Morello cherry, strawberry, fresh red plum, crushed strawberry, and black plum with a hint of chocolate prunes and a hint of Sarawak pepper. The body of the wine has a medium (+) level, with roundness and a certain warmth on the finish, balanced by the lively acidity of a medium (+) level. The tannins have a medium (+) level, good definition, and tension, with a refined structure. The finish is long, fruity, and slightly spicy, with a hint of bitterness. A wine with concentration, energy, complexity, and good balance.

Score: 16+/20 (92-93/100)

Jean-Baptiste Granier, Les Vignes Oubliées 2020

Terrasses de Larzac

The wine has a bright ruby color of medium intensity. The nose has a medium (+) intensity and a nice complexity, with fruity, spicy, very slightly woody, herbaceous and mineral notes. It expresses in particular the sweetness of red cherries, raspberries, ripe and sweet Charlotte strawberries, as well as in coulis, underlined by the liveliness and acidity

of blueberry and blackcurrant. On the second nose, mineral notes appear (wet stone), sweet spices (very slight hint of nutmeg), dried herbs (rosemary branch), and a hint of forest flour. On the palate, the wine is round, but tense, with a medium body, a well-defined tannic structure, and a chewy tannin texture. The finish is long, a little tight at the beginning, but open and complex at the end, with a nice freshness thanks to the medium (+) acidity. The wine expresses a bouquet of red and black fruits (wild blackberry, morello cherry, wild strawberry, raspberry coulis), herbaceous notes (peppermint, bay leaf, thyme), and very slight notes of forest leaves. A wine with good concentration, complexity and precision.

Score: 16.25/20 (92-93/100)



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Mas des Chimères, Nuit Grave 2020 Terrasses de Larzac

The wine has a pale ruby color. The nose has a medium intensity and expresses the aromas of small red berries (red cherry, red currant, cranberries) with a sweet hint of crushed strawberry and plum jam. There are also herbaceous notes of cherry leaf, fresh bay leaf, and wild mint and a very slight note of cut hay and minerality. On the palate, the wine is tense, with medium (+) level tannins and high acidity. The flavours are pronounced, with notes of tangy red fruits (red cherry, raspberry, cranberries) and more expressive minerality, than on the nose. There are also notes of white pepper and hay. The body has a medium level, and the tannins have a medium level and are a bit tight. The finish has a medium length (+), on the vivacity of red fruits, completed by mineral and peppery touches. Fresh, precise wine with a well-defined structure.

Score: 14.75+20 (89/100)

Le Clos du Serres, Les Maros 2021 Terrasses de Larzac

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose has a medium (+) intensity and expresses aromas of fresh red berries and jam (red cherry, cherry jam, gariguettes strawberry, strawberry jam, raspberry coulis). There are also slight notes of black fruits in the chocolate (black plum, chocolate morello cherry), as well as very fine notes of eucalyptus, bouquet garni, and cloves. On the palate, the wine is supple, with a medium (-) body and medium-level tannins with velvety texture. The flavours are warm, on ripe red berries (wild strawberries, raspberries, bigarreau cherries), but also express the freshness of spices and herbs (white pepper, dried thyme, and rosemary) with a mineral touch. Acidity has a medium (+) level and gives the wine energy on the fruity and quite long finish. Beautiful maturity and fruity substance with a lively and fresh acid frame.

Score: 15.5/20 (90-91/100)

Domaine d'Archimbaud, L'Enfant Terrible 2020 Terrasses de Larzac

The wine has a pale ruby color. The nose is expressive, with notes of ripe black fruit (black plum, morello cherry, blueberry, blackberry), fresh and in jam, as well as a hint of cherries with kirsch and chocolate prunes. There are also discreet floral (peony, rose) and spicy (black pepper, star anise, nutmeg, liquorice) notes. In the mouth, the attack is supple and fruity (red cherry, red currant, strawberry), completed by the herbaceous flavours of hay, dried thyme, a floral touch of rose petals, as well as a slight hint of spices (liquorice, black pepper). On the mid-palate the wine is tight, with defined medium (+) tannins, medium body, and high and lively acidity. The finish is long, with herbaceous notes of wild mint and tangy notes of red cherry. A tight, but pleasant wine, aerial on the palate.

Score: 15.25/20 (90/100)

Domaine d'Aigues Belles, L'Épique 2020

Pic Saint Loup

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity with purple reflections. The nose has a medium (+) intensity, nice notes of juicy, fresh, and jammy red berries (red cherry, red currant coulis, raspberry jam, fresh raspberry, strawberry), mint, liquorice, as well as slight peppery (Sichuan pepper, white pepper) and toast (roasted coffee, grilled almond, toasted) notes, with a marine hint of salinity. black plum, morello cherry), complemented by notes of roasting, toasted, mocha, cocoa, chocolate morello cherry, dark chocolate, and redcurrant jam. The structure is well-defined and precise, the tannins have a medium level (+) and a fine and velvety grain. The body is medium (+), the acidity is high and the finish is long and complex, on fresh black fruits, as well as with a subtle bitterness, touches of dried herbs, and a hint of iodine. Beautiful substance and tension with good persistence and complexity.

Score: 16+20 (92-93/100)

Mas Bruguiere, La Grenadière 2020 Pic Saint-Loup

The wine has a deep ruby color with purple reflections. The nose opens with pronounced aromas of cherry in chocolate, prunes in chocolate, and cocoa. There are

also juicy red fruits (morello cherry, red cherry, crushed strawberry, raspberry), a hint of liquorice, white pepper, garrigue, and a very slight saline hint. On the palate, the attack is open and supple with tangy fresh black fruits (blackcurrant, blueberry) and small red fruits, completed by a minty, peppery, floral (peony) and a very light note of toast. The mid-palate and the finish are rather tight, structured and tannic (with firm tannins, of a medium (+) level) with mineral notes. The body of the wine has a medium level, acidity is high. The finish has a medium (+) length. Good structure, tension and freshness.

Score: 15.5/20 (90-91/100)

Domaine du Pas de L'Escalette, Les Clapas 2021 Terrasses du Larzac

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is expressive, with notes of ripe fruit (red cherry, morello cherry, blackcurrant, red plum), a hint of peppermint, liquorice, and slight notes of smoked meat. On the palate, the flavours are fresh and tangy (red cherry, raspberry, red currant, blueberry), slightly herbaceous (fresh thyme, savoury), with very fine spicy and smoky notes. The tannins are firm, a little tight, of a medium (+) level. On the palate, the wine has a medium body, a nice acidity, and a medium length, with flavours of acidulous red fruits and fresh minty and peppery notes. A wine with a defined structure, on the fruits, pleasant to drink.

Score: 14.75/20 (88-89/100)

Château Pech Redon, L'Épervier 2019 La Clape

The wine has a deep ruby color. The nose is expressive, with pronounced notes of juicy red cherry, raspberry coulis, and crushed strawberry, complemented by menthol (liquorice, eucalyptus, peppermint) and slightly animal touches. On the palate, the flavours are pronounced and express fresh red fruits (tart red cherry, cranberries, raspberry) and a slight touch of grape juice, liquorice, and aromatic herbs (rosemary, thyme), the tannins are a bit tight, and slightly dry, balanced by high acidity. The finish is of medium (+) length and essentially fruity, with a nice freshness and acidity, and a saline hint. A wine with a firm structure, but open, very fruity and aerial.

Score: 15.25/20 (90/100)

Château Ollieux Romanis, Cuvée Or 2019

Corbières Boutenac

The wine has a deep ruby color. The nose is expressive, with pronounced fruity and herbaceous aromas. There is a nice balance of notes of fresh, dried, and jammed red and black fruits (fresh red cherry and morello cherry, dried blackcurrant, fresh red plum, blueberry, Crème de cassis). The bouquet also expresses beautiful notes of various aromatic herbs (basil, fresh thyme, wild mint, peppermint), minty touches of green anise, liquorice and eucalyptus with very slight toasted and vanilla notes. On the palate, the wine has concentration, body, and roundness. It is enveloping and warming, balanced by high acidity. The finish is long, at first very juicy and fruity, then it develops on notes of dried Mediterranean herbs (thyme, rosemary, bay leaf) and dried flowers, a hint of minerality, and spices (black pepper, liquorice) with a subtle hint of plum and cherry jam sweetness. A nice balance between the power of the tannic structure, a bouquet, ripe fruit, and refreshing notes of spices

and herbs. Great aging potential.

Score: 17.5/20 (95/100)

Château Rouquette sur Mer, L'Esprit Terroir 2020 La Clape

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose has expressive aromas of small red fruits (tangy red cherry, red currant, raspberry, cranberries) with a hint of salinity. There are also very slight toasted and smoky notes, with subtle hints of spices (white pepper, liquorice, nutmeg) and garrigue. On the palate, the attack is on the sweetness of cherries in jam, and cranberry syrup. In the mid-palate, the wine expresses notes of ripe black fruit (morello cherry, blackberry) and crème de cassis, refreshed by hints of salinity and aromatic herbs (bay leaf, thyme, and rosemary) as well as very slight notes of smoke, and liquorice. The tannins are supple, melted at a medium (+) level, enveloped by the concentration



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in the mouth and the flesh of the wine. The acidity is energetic, of a medium (+) level. The finish is long and fresh: first with notes of tangy black fruits (blueberry, blackcurrant) and crème de cassis, then – with notes of spices (liquorice, white pepper), herbs (dried mint, rosemary), and a very pleasant hint of salinity. A complex, precise, well-balanced, and generous wine.

Score: 17.5/20 (95/100)

Château de Lascaux, Carra 2020 Pic Saint-Loup

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity with purple reflections. The nose opens with notes of ripe red and black fruits (wild blackberry, tangy red cherry, black cherry, crème de cassis, blueberry). Then the nose expresses slightly peppery, floral (violet), dried herb (thyme, rosemary, oregano), smoky, and tobacco notes, with fine touches of coffee and cocoa. On the palate, the wine expresses freshness and tension. The flavours are pronounced, and fruity (cranberries, redcurrant, strawberry). The tannins are tight, of a medium (+) level, balanced by a fairly ample body, of a medium (+) level. The finish is persistent and spicy (black pepper, dried mint, liquorice, smoke), with juicy notes of red fruits in jam. A nice roundness and complexity, supported by a firm but refined structure.

Score: 16+/20 (92-93/100)

Calmel Joseph, Le Roc 2017 Corbières

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity with slight garnet reflections. On the nose, the aromas have a medium (+) level, the bouquet is on ripe red fruits (red cherry, morello cherry, red plum, strawberry), completed by fresh hints of menthol, liquorice, and thyme. There are also lightly toasted, vanilla, and chocolate aromas. On the palate, the flavours have a nice freshness and express notes of juicy red fruits (red cherry, currant, raspberry) with a hint of spice (black pepper, liquorice), with a slight smoky note. The body and the tannins have a medium level, and the tannic structure is refined. The acidity is quite high. The finish is long, and delicate, on the freshness of red fruits, notes of rosemary, and a hint of smoke. A wine with a beautiful substance, balanced by acidity and tension.

Score: 15.25/20 (90/100)

Domaine Fourtanier Cabernet Sauvignon 2021 Vin de France

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity with purple reflections. The nose is aromatic, expressive, and very fruity. It expresses notes of juicy red and black fruits (morello cherry, wild blackberry, black plum, blackcurrant), as well as slight notes of blue plum. There are also sweet notes of red jammy fruits, crème de cassis and fresh touches of blackcurrant bud and menthol with a very discreet hint of rosemary. On the palate the wine is juicy and fruity, fresh, medium-bodied, with a rather persistent and tangy finish (medium (+) length). The acidity is quite present (medium (+) level) and corresponds to the bouquet of the wine's flavors, on acidulous fresh red and black fruits (red cherries, cranberries, blackcurrants, blueberries). A hint of bitterness on the finish, the tannins are delicate, only slightly perceptible. Nice freshness, energy and good acid structure.

Score: 14.75/20 (88-89/100)

Domaine Fourtanier Alicante 2021 Vin de France

The wine is opaque, with a deep ruby color. The nose is bright and expresses a beautiful bouquet of ripe, fleshy fruits. It reveals notes of fresh black fruits (blackberry, morello cherry, black plum, blackcurrant, fresh black fig), with a delicate hint of prunes in chocolate and dried aromatic herbs. The mouth is enveloping, fruity. The wine expresses notes of sour cherry, fresh black plum, fresh blackcurrant, with a herbaceous hint of blackcurrant leaf and rosemary. There are also subtle floral notes of violet and rose. Acidity is crisp, medium(+) level. Tannins have a fine grain and tension, they are a little tight on the finish. The finish is rather persistent (medium (+) length), with a tangy frame of fresh black fruits and

a hint of juniper berry. A wine with concentration and a nice freshness.

Score: 15.25+/20 (90-91/100)

Domaine de Baronarques 2019 - Vignoble Baron Philippe de Rothschild Limoux

The wine has a ruby colour of medium intensity. The nose is aromatic, of medium (+) intensity, fruity and spicy. It reveals juicy notes of ripe red fruits (red cherry, raspberry, crushed strawberry) as well as tangy notes of black fruits (blackcurrant, blueberry). The spicy notes are expressive but integrated, there are peppery touches (green pepper), hints of liquorice, and clove as well as more discreet notes of cinnamon and vanilla. The nose also expresses fresh notes of aromatic herbs (rosemary, bay leaf) and a very light touch of leather and minerality. On

the palate, the attack is juicy, the tannic structure is precise, the tannins have a medium (+) level and a fine grain. The flavours are expressive and ripe. The wine reveals notes of red cherry, red currant, and strawberry, as well as the freshness of blackcurrant, mint, and aromatic herbs (rosemary), as well as a pleasant bitterness of cocoa and dark chocolate. There is also some spiciness of black pepper and liquorice. Nice acidity (medium (+) level), which refreshes the concentration and fullness of the wine and its body from a medium (+) level. Nice length and persistence on the palate, on fruits and sweet spices. A complex, ample but balanced wine.

Score: 16.25/20 (92-93/100)

La Grande Sieste - Aniane - Blanc de Rêve 2021

Vin de France

The wine has a pale lemon colour, with very light golden reflections. Aromas are moderately pronounced, with a hint of sweetness. The nose reveals notes of stone fruits (juicy yellow peach, ripe apricot), golden apple, and pear, as well as floral touches (acacia, orange blossom, apple blossom). There are also slight notes of honey and vanilla. On the palate, the flavours reflect the aromas of the nose - the attack is moderately expressive, and round, with notes of yellow apple, green pear, ripe apricots, and yellow plums. The wine has a body of medium (-) level and quite fresh acidity, of a medium (+) level. Medium length on the palate, with a fresh tangy frame and with a slight bitterness of grapefruit. The wine is quite fresh and easy-to-drink.

Score: 14.25/20 (87-88/100)

La Grande Sieste - Aniane - Rouge de Rêve 2021

Vin de France

The wine has a ruby colour with very slight purple reflections. The aromas are mainly fruity and moderately pronounced. The nose expresses notes of wild strawberry, red cherry, red currant, raspberry, and black plum with a delicate touch of black pepper and peony. There are also slight hints of chocolate and cinnamon. On the palate, the wine is fruity and a bit aerial – it expresses flavours of wild strawberries, red cherries, black plums, and a hint of black pepper and cocoa. The wine has a medium body, and the tannins are a bit tight, of a medium level. The finish on the palate is moderately long, of a medium (+) level, tangy, with a slight bitterness. A fruity and accessible wine.

Score: 14/20 (86-87/100)

Maison Cassagne et Vitailles, "Les Chausmes" 2020 Montpeyroux-Languedoc

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is aromatic (medium (+) intensity) and complex. It reveals spicy and warm notes of dark chocolate, cocoa, sweet spices (cinnamon, liquorice, nutmeg, a slight touch of vanilla) as well as flowers (lavender, lily, lotus). The notes of red fruits complete the sophisticated bouquet of this wine. The wine expresses touches of fresh strawberry, wild strawberry, bigarreau cherry, morello cherry, red currant, blackcurrant. A hint of menthol and blackcurrant leaf brings a touch of freshness to the bouquet. The palate is powerful and elegant: the attack is expressive and ripe, with fresh juicy black fruits and jam (blackberry and blackberry jam, Morello cherry, tangy red fruit jam, crushed strawberry, wild strawberry, raspberry sauce). The tannic structure is refined and velvety: the tannins have a medium (+) level and a fine grain. The wine is long on the palate, with medium (+) acidity that is persistent and lively.



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Nice complexity on the finish: sweet spices (cinnamon, clove), black pepper, a slight bitterness of cocoa and coffee develop into juicy notes of morello cherry and chocolate plum, fresh black plum and redcurrant coulis. A beautiful structure, concentration and suppleness, good aging potential.

Score: 17.25+/20 (95/100)

Maison Cassagne et Vitailles, "Nimalaya", Vieux Carignan 2020

Vin de France

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is bright, pronounced and juicy. The bouquet expresses richness, maturity and complexity. It reveals notes of small fresh fleshy red fruits

(cranberries, raspberry, red currant, bigarreau cherry), acidulous black fruits (fresh blackcurrant, blueberry), cranberry syrup, as well as floral touches (elderflower, cherry flower, peony, rose petals, lily) and subtle herbaceous touches (fresh tea leaf, bay leaf, thyme-lemon, liquorice) and a slight smoky note and a hint toasted almond. On the palate, the attack is enveloping and silky. The wine expresses pronounced rich flavours of juicy red fruits (bigarreau cherry, morello cherry, red plum, black plum, quetche, red currant jam), underlined by subtle floral notes, very slightly smoky, as well as leafy notes of fresh tea and dried flowers. The body of the wine is fleshy (medium (+) level), but refined. The tannins are chewy and velvety, with a fine grain and an elegant but powerful structure. Crunchy acidity (medium (+) level) in a very long and juicy finish. A nice balance, elegance, roundness and power.

Score: 17.5+/20 (95-96/100)

Maison Cassagne et Vitailles, "Les Chaumes" 2019

Montpeyroux-Languedoc

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is aromatic (medium (+) intensity) and varied. We first find spicy notes, chocolate, and bitter cocoa, with very subtle hints of minerality (wet stone) and undergrowth. Then, the notes of caramel, vanilla, coffee, and roasting appear, with rich and ripe notes of morello cherry, wild blackberry, black fig, blackcurrant, and wild strawberry.

On the palate, the wine expresses notes of blackcurrant, morello cherry, blackberry, and red plum, with fresh hints of bay leaf, thyme, and liquorice. The finish is quite persistent (medium (+) length) and juicy, with notes of fresh red and black fruits (red cherry, morello cherry, blackberry, raspberry). The tannic structure is firm, the tannins are tight and persistent on the finish. High and lively acidity, the body is both structured and refined. Tension, juiciness, power, and freshness.

Score: 16.5/20 (93/100)

Maison Cassagne et Vitailles, "Clas Mani" 2018

Terrasses du Larzac

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is expressive and aromatic. It reveals notes of dried aromatic herbs (thyme, rosemary, laurel), dried rose and fresh flowers (lily, cherry blossom, peony), ripe red and black fruits (red cherry, Morello cherry, currant, blackberry, black plum). On the palate, the wine



has firm, slightly tight, but straight and well-defined tannins. The flavours are expressive, juicy and spicy: there are notes of red cherry, cherry juice, red currant, blackberry, raspberry, blackcurrant, with hints of dried mint, black pepper, very slight notes of coffee and smoke. The wine has a high acidity, which refreshes the long finish, but with persistent and tight tannins. Energy and precision with a well-defined structure.

Score: 16.75/20 (93-94/100)

Maison Cassagne et Vitailles, "Combarels... De l'Ombre" 2020

Terrasses du Larzac

The wine has a pale ruby color. The nose is aromatic and expressive, very fresh, with a beautiful

fruity bouquet. It reveals notes of small juicy red fruits (cranberries, red cherry, lingonberry), tangy black fruits (blackberry, Morello cherry, blackcurrant), a refined and complex spiciness of peppery notes completed by delicate hints of liquorice, cinnamon, cloves and nutmeg. The freshness of wine is bright, floral and herbal: there are elegant notes of dried herbs (mint, bay leaf, thyme) and pleasant hint of fresh herbs and flowers (rosemary, violet). On the palate, the flavours are fruity and juicy, with lots of red fruit: blackberries, lingonberry, red cherries, Morello cherries, strawberries, raspberries and tart redcurrant. There is a delicate hint of minerality and smoke (flint), as well as expressive and persistent, but

well integrated notes of liquorice, eucalyptus and dried herbs (mint, oregano, thyme). Exceptional persistence, a juicy and fresh finish, with a crisp acidity, of a high level. The tannins are elegant and well-structured, with a supple and velvety texture. Very long finish with a slight spiciness and a good bitterness of cocoa. A very complex wine, concentrated, but refined and elegant.

Score: 17/20 (94/100)

Maison Cassagne et Vitailles, "Combarels... À la Lumière" 2020

Terrasses du Larzac

The wine has a pale ruby color. The nose is aromatic, of medium intensity (+). Many floral notes in the bouquet: there are notes of fresh and dried

roses, lilies, and cherry blossom, as well as subtle spices (white pepper, liquorice, cumin, fresh nutmeg) and a very slight saline hint and minerality. The fruits on the nose are juicy, fresh, and tangy: there are notes of red cherries, redcurrants, lingonberry, cranberries, and red plums, as well as blackcurrants and blackberries. A very delicate smoky and cocoa note on the second nose. The palate is juicy and elegant, on ripe red fruits (red cherry, red currant, cranberries) and tangy black fruits (blackcurrant, quetche), with subtle herbaceous notes of blackcurrant leaf, mint, thyme, and juniper. The tannins are fine, and velvety, with a good structure and of a medium (+) level. The finish is long fruity and round, with fine notes of pepper and liquorice as well as a touch of coffee. Acidity is high and very fresh, with good persistence on the finish. A warm peppery side on the finish (black pepper and peppermint). Beautiful complexity, precise and elegant structure, ample and concentrated wine.

Score: 17.25+/20 (94-95/100)



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Okanagan Valley

Quail's Gate, Stewart Family Vineyard Chardonnay 2019

West Kelowna, Okanagan Valley

Composed of clone 95 exclusively this is the estate's flagship white, grapes are grown on the volcanic slopes of Boucherie Mountain just above the winery. The Stewart Family Reserve Chardonnay is whole-cluster pressed and 100% barrel fermented in new and neutral French oak. Full malolactic fermentation was carried out to enhance the mid-palate, with aging on lees and regular battonage. It shows a rich creaminess that relates to its new world style. It's fragrant and opulent with a mature orchard fruit aromatic profile. Deliciously rounded.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Quail's Gate, Rosemary's Block Chardonnay 2019

West Kelowna, Okanagan Valley

Situated on the north side of Boucherie Road at Quails' Gate's Estate in West Kelowna, Rosemary's Block has a pristine view of Okanagan Lake and is recognised for the quality of its grapes. Part of the founder's reserve series, these are limited releases. Clones 76, 809 and 277 are planted in 1996, the whole cluster pressed and 100% barrel fermented in a mix of new and old French oak. It's a very elegant, graceful expression, showing a perfumed style, delicate finesse as well as some phenolic bitterness that gives it length. It's a gorgeous wine with tension and freshness.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Quail's Gate, Clone 220 Chenin Blanc 2020

West Kelowna, Okanagan Valley

Clone 220 originates from Loire valley and is characterised by its thicker skin. Mostly fermented in concrete eggs for 9 months, this is a top-tier expression of this variety. Fully concentrated, it shows classic quince, honeydew, elderflower and candle wax aromas with also some savoury notes of sage. It's definitely one of the most complex and flavoursome Chenin in the valley.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Quail's Gate Chenin Blanc 2019

West Kelowna, Okanagan Valley

A fresh, lively and stony Chenin Blanc. It shows floral notes, as well as crisp acidity and a mellow volume on the palate. Very recognisable as it is varietal accurate and simply pleasant. Honeysuckle and citrus are shining as main aromas, but also pear and saltiness.

Score : 14.75+20 (89/100)

Quail's Gate Estate Pinot Noir 2019

West Kelowna, Okanagan Valley

Quail's Gate estate Pinot Noir profile shows very mature fruits, plum, and figs as well as an empyreumatic style with tar and coffee aromas. The lively acidity brings all the freshness and character to the juicy palate. It's aged 9 months in neutral oak, giving it some welcomed volume.

Score : 14.75+20 (89/100)

Quail's Gate Stewart Family Reserve Pinot Noir 2019

West Kelowna, Okanagan Valley

Sourced from our finest blocks on the Boucherie slopes just across from the winery with some vines dating back to 1970. This wine is made in limited quantities and shows great elegance and finesse. Opens very delicately to black cherry, truffle, plum, liquorice, with vanilla oak presence. The palate is firmly structured with rich, concentrated volume and a slight bitterness to the finish.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Quail's Gate Dijon Clone Pinot Noir 2019

West Kelowna, Okanagan Valley

This wine is an exclusive blend of the best and oldest Dijon Clones in the estate. Blended from 16-year-old Dijon clones 115 and 667, aged in gross lees in French oak for 10 months of which 60% are new and 40% are 1 year old. Only 55 cases of this wine were produced. It is very Burgundian in style with earthy tones, forest floor, mushroom, and beautiful violet aromas. It's a very aromatic and fragrant wine. The palate is rich and supple, very elegantly soft.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Mission Hill Jagged Rock Sauvignon Semillon 2020

West Kelowna, Okanagan Valley

Jagged Rock Vineyard, surrounded by steep rocky cliffs at 1,400 feet elevation, is a remarkable spot. This Sauvignon, Semillon blend offers great freshness as well as a delightful mix of white stone fruits, lemon confit, and passionfruit on the palate.

Score : 14.5+20 (88/100)

Mission Hill Perpetua 2019

West Kelowna, Okanagan Valley

Harvested from their eastern Osoyoos vineyard estate, this Chardonnay comes from historic French Burgundian Dijon clones. This is a rich, powerful and toasty wine. Aromas include ripe orchard fruit, zest, brioche, and crackers. On the palate, French oak is highlighted with also a malolactic influence but the boldness is well-integrated thanks to the striking acidity.

Score : 15.5+20 (91/100)

Mission Hill Jagged Rock Syrah 2019

West Kelowna, Okanagan Valley

Dark and deep Syrah, this wine was aged 14 months in French oak barriques (20% new). Generous in style with bountiful spices and pepper notes. It has a rich and concentrated style with great elegance, a voluminous palate, and drying tannins.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Mission Hill Quatrain 2016

West Kelowna, Okanagan Valley

A quatrain is a poetic stanza of four lines, especially one having alternate rhymes.

It represents the four varieties of the blend, Syrah, Merlot, Cabernet Franc, Cabernet Sauvignon. The nose opens on fragrant notes and has a very opulent intensity. This is a wine with dimension and plushness. Very mature, jammy black fruits rub shoulders with cedarwood, liquorice, and oak spices. The palate is lengthy and fleshy with density and volume.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Mt. Boucherie Original Vines Sémillon 2020

West Kelowna, Okanagan Valley

Intense nose of honey and lemon with a rounded body. This wine is crisp and fresh with flavours of peach, citrus, honey and lemon. The texture of the palate brings a good

complexity and mouthfeel.

Score : 14.75+20 (89/100)

Mt. Boucherie Modest Wines - By Jove, Sangiovese 2019

West Kelowna, Okanagan Valley

With quirky names and funky labels to go with them, the collection of Modest wines has been made in the "spirit of experimentation and risk taking while also paying homage to some of the classic regions of the wine world. Self-proclaimed as a "super-Okanagan", this Sangiovese is one of the very few made in the region. The vines come from the black sage vineyard and the result is quite pleasing. It shows fresh crushed plums, black cherries, herbs, savoury notes, subtle cassia, and spice. It's bright and fun.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Summerhill Pyramid, Cipes Ariel 2000

East Kelowna, Okanagan Valley

Made of 60% Pinot Noir, 38% Chardonnay, 2% Pinot Meunier, this aged vintage sparkling is showing great maturity. Creamy, zesty, and opulent with a very fulfilling mouthful. It's fully developed with aromas of biscuits, brioche, Meyer lemon, lees, and toasted hazelnuts. The effervescence is smooth and delicate with bright acidity and a lifting finish. From their certified organic and biodynamic Kelowna estate vineyard, this Chardonnay was taken off blocks 10 and 19, naturally fermented in a mix of stainless (75%) and new 500L oak. This creamy Chardonnay offers a great balance between volume, texture, and freshness. Ripe orchard fruits, peach skin, spices, and zest are melting together with a mellow palate and pleasant acidity.

Score : 17.5/20 (95/100)



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Okanagan Valley

Summerhill Pyramid Spadefoot Toad Sangiovese 2017 East Kelowna, Okanagan Valley

Made in partnership with grape grower Ron Firman at his Spadefoot Toad Vineyard in Oliver, BC, along with the legendary Canadian artist and activist Robert Bateman, who has drafted an original illustration especially for the labels, this Sangiovese really follows Summerhill's vision. With concentrated flavours of fresh cherries and blueberries with aromatic herbs, this wine shows character and a great concentrated flavour profile.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Summerhill Pyramid, Spadefoot Toad Syrah 2016 East Kelowna, Okanagan Valley

Firm and grippy Syrah from the same Oliver Vineyard and aged 35 months in mostly neutral oak barrels. Aromas include ripe blackberry, cedar, and minimal pepper presence. The palate is muscular and bold with full-body and scabrous tannins. Very concentrated and dark Syrah but still feels quite balanced.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Summerhill Pyramid, Organic Cabernet Franc 2019 East Kelowna, Okanagan Valley

85% organic Cabernet Franc, 15% organic Cabernet Sauvignon grown in southern Okanagan vineyards. The Cabernet Sauvignon portion was fermented in oak foudre before joining the Cabernet Franc for 12-18 months in oak barrels. Notes of cherry, cassis, cocoa, cedar, and a hint of smoke. This is a rich and smooth expression of this variety with brightness and a final cinnamon taste.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Cedar Creek Aspect Block 3 Riesling 2020

Block 3 is an aged planting dating back to 1991. This wine was kept on the skins for 12 hours and aged half in stainless, half in German oak. Ripe and deeply aromatic Riesling this wine is definitely characterised by its intensity. Bright lime dominates with floral and candied citrus to follow. The palate has a bit of grip and a perfectly balanced sugar-to-acidity ratio.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Cedar Creek Aspect Block 5 Chardonnay 2019

Block 5 is at the top of the Kelowna-based Home Block Vineyard. This Chardonnay is built on a ripe foundation with bright and clean acids as well as a creamy texture. Notes of apricot, starfruit, mango, with a persistent flint hint and moderate oak presence. The palate is light and pure with moderate volume and fresh acidity.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Cedar Creek, Aspect Block 2 Pinot Noir 2018 East Kelowna, Okanagan Valley

The fruit is clone 115, fermented in concrete tanks, aged 14 months in French oak (18% new). This is a seductive wine, beginning with floral and strawberry aromas. On the palate, there's a silky touch with fruit-forward flavours and a savoury finish. A classic Pinot Noir layered with elegance.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Cedar Creek, Aspect Block 4 Pinot Noir 2018 East Kelowna, Okanagan Valley

This wine is a tribute to the unique blend of clones planted on clay, silt, and stone. Fermented with wild yeasts and aged in French oak for a year to allow the different expressions of Pinot Noir from three different clones (115, 667 and 777) to marry into this intricate wine. The style is very savoury with forest floor, dark, rich black fruits, game and mushroom flavour. The palate brings texture and soft spices. Overall a bold and voluminous Pinot Noir.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Martin's Lane' Simes Vineyard Riesling 2017 East Kelowna, Okanagan Valley

This wine comes from the North-facing, Granite-based Simes Vineyard located in East Kelowna. This is quite the cool, northern location, and it shows in the charac-

ter of the wine. This Riesling made of clone 49 is vibrant and bone-dry with a very bright chiseled energy. It's lemon focused with very integrated minerality and an acidity that leads & lingers for days.

Score : 17.5/20 (95/100)

Martin's Lane, Dehart Vineyard Pinot Noir 2017 East Kelowna, Okanagan Valley

From the Dehart Vineyard in East Kelowna not far from the Simes Vineyard but planted to just two Pinot clones, 777 and 667, this site is west-facing, high elevation and warmer in comparison to Simes. Precise expression with stern & tart fruit character and subtle oak spices. The palate is chewy and plush with softly grained tannins but an overall gentle mouthfeel.

Score : 18/20 (96/100)

Martin's Lane' Simes Vineyard Pinot Noir 2017 East Kelowna, Okanagan Valley

The cool Simes site is actually Pinot Noir dominant using clones. Fresh and appealing, this wine has finely-detailed aromas of cherry-fruit, underbrush and cedar, along with plum, savoury herbs and baking spice. The palate is medium bodied, rich and firm in an effortless way.

Score : 18/20 (96/100)

Martin's Lane Naramata Ranch Vineyard Pinot Noir 2017

East Kelowna, Okanagan Valley

When talking with Shane Munn, he mentioned "Pinot likes to grow in beautiful places." Naramata bench graceful landscape and parceled land surely applies to

this. This is a textured, bold and pure expression with a velvet-like mouthfeel. Sowing earthy tones and very mature fruit, and clove, this wine shows its true strength in its memorably soft and laced palate.

Score : 19/20 (98/100)

Poplar Grove Pinot Gris 2020

Naramata Bench, Okanagan Valley

Zesty and quirky Pinot Gris with aromas of ripe pear, pink grapefruit, clementine, freshly-pressed lime, and ginger spice. It's a very easy-going wine, perfect to enjoy as an aperitif or sitting in the sunshine. The palate is light and effortlessly fresh.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Poplar Grove, Viognier 2020 Naramata Bench, Okanagan Valley

Pristine grapes are sourced in Osoyoos, Skaha Bench, and Penticton. Very aromatic, yet lean Viognier with notes of honeysuckle, ripe peach, candied apricot, and ginger. It's a light and balanced expression that shows volume and freshness.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Poplar Grove, Cabernet Franc 2018 Naramata Bench, Okanagan Valley

Dark and robust-looking, Poplar grove's Cabernet Franc is quite fragrant with complex fresh red fruits aromas as well as a decadent dark chocolate presence and dried herbs. It's elegant and docile with very integrated tannins and a soft, supple mouthfeel.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Poplar Grove, Syrah 2018 Naramata Bench, Okanagan Valley

15% of the 2017 Syrah was kept in new French oak barrels, while the remaining 85% was kept in one and two-year-old French oak barrels for 15 months. This is a prime example of this variety capacity in the valley. Tarragon, crushed red berries, forest floor, tobacco. It's just so complex and seamless. It's bold and full-bodied, yet silky at the same time.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Poplar Grove Legacy 2016 Naramata Bench, Okanagan Valley

For this vintage, the composition of the blend has been altered to give the lead



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Okanagan Valley

to Cabernet Franc. It's a very savoury wine showing tobacco, dried herbs, pencil shavings and dark cherries. On the palate, it's full-bodied yet with gentle tannins, and a generous concentration & intensity.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Le Vieux Pin, AVA 2020 South Okanagan, Okanagan Valley

With deep white Rhône roots, this blend of Viognier, Roussanne, and Marsanne couldn't represent the estate style better. Its very aromatic nature and rich structure gives it lots of personality. Apricot, fresh peach juice, fennels, and exuberant floral tones show the distinctive Viognier's majority. The firm and dense volume is flattering.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Le Vieux Pin, Syrah Cuvée Violette 2019 South Okanagan, Okanagan Valley

Cuvée Violette's aim is to showcase the elegance potential of Syrah in the Valley, and has succeeded this goal tremendously. All aspects of this wine are intricately laced, from the very accurate & complex cherry, cracked peppercorn, plum, sage, and violet notes to the masterly polished tannins and structure. This is a truly elegant and refined Syrah.

Score : 19/20 (98/100)

Le Vieux Pin, Equinoxe Syrah 2018 South Okanagan, Okanagan Valley

Equinoxe is the flagship Syrah of Le Vieux Pin. The 2018 Équinoxe Syrah is a fruit grown in various sub-appellations in the South Okanagan Valley. This cuvée is meant to combine elements of both old world and new world styles. It's a bold and ripe expression of Syrah, with powerful, intense aromas of red & black fruits, petals, aniseed, spices, new leather, and olive tapenade aromas. It is full-bodied with soft, integrated tannins. Bold, but with restraint.

Score : 18/20 (96/100)

Le Vieux Pin, Equinoxe Merlot 2018 South Okanagan, Okanagan Valley

Équinoxe Merlot is a single vineyard wine sourced from La Feuille d'Or vineyard on the Golden Mile Bench from about 20 years old vines. This wine boasts of ripeness, with mature plums, blackberries, cedar, dark chocolate, and li-

quorice. The palate is structured and voluminous, with firm tannins and outstanding intensity of flavours.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

La Stella, Fortissimo 2019 South Okanagan, Okanagan Valley

Merlot-dominant tuscan blend with supporting Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc & Sangiovese Grosso. This wine is a stunning tribute to the super-tuscan movement that changed the Tuscan heritage forever. Flavorful and rich, the blend is complex and savoury with overripe cherries and earthy tones, tobacco and oak presence. The palate is silky smooth, yet full-bodied and concentrated. Overall, an effortlessly pleasant wine.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

La Stella, Allegretto Pie Franco Merlot 2017

Single vineyard Merlot expression, from vines that are franc de Pied (Pie Franco) on the east bench of Osoyoos' Le Faucon vineyard and its distinct sandy, white silica soils. This 2017 is quite expressive with a deeply aromatic nose and a firm structure. Dark-fruited aromas are joined with aromatic herbs. The tannins are granulous, and the wine can seem tight at first. It will benefit from decanting to soften & open up.

Score : 17.5/20 (95/100)

La Stella' Maestoso Solo Merlot 2018 South Okanagan, Okanagan Valley

Flagship wine of LaStella, Maestoso is epitome of the orchestra, the highest peak of the Crescendo. Sourced from Lumeno Vineyard in Osoyoos Lake District & La Feuille d'Or on the Golden Mile, this wine is very dense-colored, almost pitch-black. It's generous and powerful in style. It's opulent, with complex notes of brambleberry, forest floor, dark plums, coffee and cigar box. The palate shows boldness, firm tannins and good length.

Score : 18.5/20 (97/100)



California freshness

The regions and varieties of California wine

Oak Farm Vineyards Albarino 2021

Lodi

The nose is full of ripe fruits, some apricots, green and yellow apples, juicy pear, a touch of herbal and floral nuances. The palate reveals high, zesty, citrusy acidity, an absolutely dry profile, with a pleasant saline touch on the finish.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Twomey Sauvignon 2020

North Coast (Napa County: 52% / Sonoma County: 48%)

The nose is opulent and tropical, very aromatic, full of ripe fruits like pineapple, passion fruit, yellow apple and a hint of ripe yellow mango. The palate is round, creamy and weighty with elevated acidity which tries to balance well the massive structure and warming alcohol. Powerful, rich, a bit too showy, this wine slides into juicy finish with a refreshing bitter note in the echo.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Klinker Blick Grenache Blanc 2021

Lodi

The nose is herbal and smoky, revealing notes of melons, green apples and dried herbs. The body is very light, unusual for Grenache, the palate is in general very elegant, dry, with crisp, citrusy plus acidity, good balance, delicate orchard fruit profile with a savoury touch on the finish.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Truchard Vineyards Roussanne 2020

Los Carneros, Napa Valley

The nose is smoky, with notes of fresh wood, herbal and herbaceous at the same time, revealing savoury nuances, almost charcuterie tone. The palate is dry, with a lot of volume and texture, mirroring the nose with herbal aromas of garrigue and a touch of honeysuckle. Moderate acidity and a typical Roussanne bitterness on the finish adding to freshness.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Long Meadow Ranch Pinot Noir Blanc 2019

Anderson Valley

This Blanc de Noirs on the nose reveals slightly oxidative notes of nuts, as well as nutmeg, vanilla and yellow apple. The palate is dry with a creamy, round texture, moderate acidity, some roundness and fat, low intensity of yellow orchard fruits. The finish is dominated by nutty bitterness. An unusual style of wine.

Score : 14+/20 (87/100)

J Lohr Wildflower Valdiguie 2021

Arroyo Seco AVA, Monterey

The nose is intense and flattering with notes of strawberry, raspberry, juicy red cherries and a touch of bubble gum. The palate is juicy with a lot of dried cranberries, goji berries, juicy cherries and wild strawberries. The tannins are soft and mellow. A glou-glou style of wine with refreshing, crunchy, juicy acidity.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Ridge Geyserville 2020

Alexander Valley AVA

The nose is oaky, offering a lot of density and concentration, notes of red cherries, strawberries and bramble. The palate is dry, with drying, bold, very young tannins that need time to smoothen. Despite the moderate acidity, the wine shows fresh and vivid with a fine elegance and a long, juicy finish.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Staglin Family Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon 2018

Rutherford AVA, Napa Valley

The nose is dense, heady, revealing a lot of black fruit aromas, notes of cedar wood, tobacco and coffee. The palate is opulent, rich and bold with powerful, grippy tannins. The massive structure is well-balanced by the moderate but framing acidity. A powerful wine with a long, smoky and spicy finish.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

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Hungary

Hungary

A wine Odyssey across the Pannonian plain

Once Hungarian wines were the most expensive and sought-after in Europe. Louis XV called the famous sweet wine from Tokaj “the king of wines and the wines of kings”. But Hungarian wine culture goes far beyond Tokaj. The diversity of the country’s terroirs allows producing all styles of wines. Fifty years of communist rule took their toll but today we see more and more modern, ambitious and knowledgeable winemakers in all parts of the country.

TOKAJ

Tokaj, the most respected and well-known wine region of Hungary, the UNESCO World Heritage since 2002, used to be the benchmark for all the sweet wines of the world. It is considered to be one of the first established world wine appellations, dating back to 1757 when a royal decree established a delimited production district. Though, its oldest known vineyard, Hétszölő, was first mentioned already in 1502. Tokaj is a relatively small region in the northeast of Hungary and an adjusting tiny piece of Slovakia with around 5500 ha of vineyards planted.

The conditions of Tokaj are ideal for the development of *Botrytis cinerea*. The Tisza and Bodrog rivers create a favourable humid environment for the noble rot to appear and the warm, south-facing slopes at the foothills of the Zemplén mountains accumulate enough heat to promote desiccation. The dominant grapes, such as Furmint and Hárslevelű, growing on the volcanic soils, add to the freshness and structure of the wines, while the complementary ones like Sárgamuskotály (Yellow Muscat), Kabar, Kővérszölő and Zéta bring aromatic complexity. The sweetness of Tokaj botrytized wines is measured in “puttonyos” which are baskets used for the grape harvest. The number stands for the number of baskets added to the traditional 136-liter gönci barrel. The more “puttonyos” added, the sweeter the wine. Eszencia is the sweetest style of Tokaj wine. With more than 500 g/l of sugar and around 5% alcohol it can hardly be classified as wine, it is a precious nectar that some prefer drinking with a teaspoon. Nowadays, dry styles become increasingly popular among international consumers. There are now around 600 wineries in the region, most of them producing both classic Aszú and modern dry wines.



the palate luscious and viscous, with a syrupy texture, it offers spicy notes of baked apple with cinnamon, brown sugar, and gingerbread. Endless finish!

Score : 18/20 (96/100)

Disznókő Tokaji Dry Furmint 2021

The wine shows a very pale lemon colour with a silver hue. The nose is very delicate, floral, with notes of fresh green and yellow apples, some quince, a touch of vanilla, honeysuckle, pollen and elderflower, kind of a powdery sensation. The palate is crisp and lean with piercing but creamy acidity, notes of pear drops, Duchesse pears, mineral underpinnings. The finish is slightly candied, with a pleasant sweetness of fresh pears.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Disznókő Tokaji Late Harvest 2019

The wine has an attractive bright straw colour with a golden sheen. The nose is opulent and exuberant with flattering notes of pineapple, kumquat, a touch of ripe yellow mango, orange rind and a typical Furmint smoky note in the echo. The palate is luscious, rich with refreshing acidity, creamy, still very elegant texture, notes of candied mandarins and dried apricots, a nice bitter touch of lemon zest on the finish.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Disznókő Tokaji Aszú 5 puttonyos 2013

The wine shows a bright, vivid golden colour. The nose is rich and honeyed, with notes of quince, honeysuckle, fresh and raisined grapes, dried apricots and candied mango. The palate is very elegant and ethereal, despite the level of sweetness, with crisp, piercing acidity and delicate notes of ginger and orange peel. The lingering finish shows a light smokiness and bitterness, adding to the overall freshness and finesse.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Tokaj-Hétszölő Dry Furmint 2020

(Organic) The wine shows a pale lemon colour. The nose is delicate, slightly herbal with very subtle notes of green apple, fresh cut grass, a touch of lime and quince. The palate is tight, very linear, with piercing, almost painful acidity, elegant, lean body, grippy texture and delicate floral notes of elderflower, apple blossom, a touch of lime and nettle. A very elegant, mineral style of Furmint with a long ageing potential.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Tokaj-Hétszölő Dry Furmint 2018

(Organic) The wine shows a pale lemon-green colour. The nose is slightly oxidative, revealing nuances of almond paste, a touch of herbal notes, nuances of white flowers and a hint of nuttiness. The palate is creamy and smooth with elevated acidity, lean body and attractive notes of pastry, vanilla, a touch of marzipan and white pear. The texture is slightly waxy and grippy. Nice freshness on the finish. Lingers long.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Tokaj-Hétszölő Late Harvest 2020

(Organic) The wine shows a pale lemon colour, very light. The nose is delicate and floral with nuances of pollen, flower honey, a touch of almond and quince. The palate is sweet, very elegant, well-balanced by the refreshing, zesty, lemony acidity. It reveals notes of ripe lemons, yellow and green apples, quince, subtle floral nuances. An easy-drinking sweet wine that is already accessible and balanced.

Score : 14.5+/20 (88/100)

Tokaj-Hétszölő Szamorodni 2017

(Organic) The wine shows a pale golden colour, very vivid and attractive. The nose is bursting with notes of flower honey, ripe yellow apples, candied pears, a touch of ginger and dried apricots, with a light kerosene note in the background. The palate is luscious, opulent, rich, with sweetness perfectly balanced by the crisp, citrusy acidity. We find notes of candied lemon peel, confit ginger, bitter orange marmalade and sweet spices. All in balance! The finish is long, succulent and refreshing with a light almond bitterness in the echo. Good grip.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Béres Tokaji Lőcse Furmint 2017

The wine reveals typical smoky notes of Furmint on the nose. The palate is linear and tight, with a strong mineral backbone, notes of dried herbs, fresh walnuts, kitchen spices, and a pleasant, refreshing salinity. The powerful structure of Furmint and some residual sugar are perfectly balanced by the piercing, zesty acidity.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Béres Tokaji Aszú 6 puttonyos 2016

The nose is spicy, full of flattering notes of orange marmalade, candied ginger, and dried apricots. The palate is mind-blowing with piercing, almost painful acidity that holds the whole powerful sugar load upright. The wine offers amazing freshness, linearity, and balanced. Lingering finish with seductive nuances of tangerine zest and lemon confiture.

Score : 18.5/20 (97/100)

Béres Tokaji Eszencia 2008

Made exclusively from botrytized grapes, this nectar is only 2.5% alcohol! It reveals decadent aromas of strong black tea, raisins, molasses, and toffee. On

Hungary

A wine Odyssey across the Pannonian plain

Tokaj-Hétszölő Tokaji Aszú 6 Puttonyos Nagyszőlő-Dűlő 1er Cru 2013

The wine shows an attractive golden colour. The nose shows a touch of varnish, nuances of dried apricots, candied lemons, orange marmalade, ginger and flower honey. The palate is luscious and rich, balanced by refreshing acidity. There is a touch of kumquat bitterness that adds to the complexity and freshness. The palate is extremely multi-layered, revealing notes of medicinal herbs, a touch of chemical, ripe tropical flavours, very precise, iodine and saline minerality. Very long finish. Good aging potential.

Score : 17.5/20 (95/100)

Tokaj-Hétszölő Tokaji Aszú 5 Puttonyos 2010

The wine shows a deep amber colour. On the nose there are complex notes of buckwheat honey, dried apricots, a touch of varnish, old wood, a touch of black tea, candied orange, ginger and spices. The palate is dense and concentrated, with very well-integrated sweetness balanced by the piercing, stimulating acidity. A very vertical and linear wine which feels almost off-dry despite the high sugar content. The flavours open up in layers and stay long. A very strong saline, mineral, iodine note on the finish. Excellent balance, gorgeous wine.

Score : 18.5/20 (97/100)

MATRA

Matra wine region is unknown to most wine lovers despite being the second largest wine area in Hungary, where wine-growing has existed for around 1000 years. The vineyards lay on the slopes of the Mátra range, part of the North Hungarian Mountains, but also extend to the lowlands almost reaching Budapest. Mátra is a cool climate region, though it is well protected from the northern winds by the mountains allowing the cultivation of quality red grapes. Nevertheless, whites occupy 70% of the region's area. Olaszrizling, Irsai Olivér, Hárslevel, Traminer, Pinot Gris, Muskat Ottonel and Sauvignon Blanc are the most common. They give wines with intense aromatics and refreshing acidity. Kekfrancos, Pinot Noir, Kadarka, and Cabernet Franc are gaining popularity for the fresh, light reds.



Dubicz Irsai Oliver 1014 2021

The nose is very intensely floral with notes of elderflower, and a touch of geranium, rose, and tulip. The palate is dry, quite light, and aerial, with good intensity of floral flavours, a touch of white apple and yellow pear, with a delicate minerality in the background. Simple and refreshing.

Score : 14+/20 (87/100)

Dubicz Sárhegy Olaszrizling 2019

The nose is smoky, with spicy notes of cloves and cinnamon, nuances of vanilla, and yellow apples, and a touch of flinty minerality in the echo. The palate is round and creamy with a perceivable oak influence, well-balanced by the refreshing acidity and bright fruitiness of garden pears and white apples. Long, spicy, woody finish. The wine needs more time to integrate the oak.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Dubicz Kekfrancos Rosé 2021

The nose is attractive and flattering with notes of wild raspberries and floral nuances of violets. The palate is juicy, slightly lactic, creamy, and well-balanced. It reveals notes of potpourri, barberry, strawberry yogurt, and red tea. An easy-drinking, refreshing rosé.

Score : 14.5+/20 (88/100)

HAJOS-BAJA

Hajos-Baja is a wine region in the southern part of Hungary, on the left bank of the Danube river. It takes its name from the two small towns between which it is squeezed. Most of the

vineyards are planted on the fertile, loess soils of the Great Hungarian Plain. The climate here is harsh, and extremely continental, with hot, dry summers and severe winters.

The history of the region is linked closely to the Swabian (German) settlers who came here in the XVII and XVIII centuries bringing the wine culture and expertise. Kékfrancos is the local star giving round, velvety wines with moderate acidity and ripe fruits. Other common varieties include aromatic Cserszegi Fűszeres and spicy Kadarka.

Koch Chardonnay Extra-Brut Unfiltered

Very attractive, fine bubbles, good persistence. On the nose floral and fruity with delicate notes of yellow apples, juicy white pears, a touch of peach blossom, and honeysuckle. The palate is slightly yeasty because of the natural sediment, with zesty, citrusy acidity, wonderfully refreshing, and creamy. A perfect aperitif wine!

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Koch Cabernet Franc Classicus Villany 2018

The wine shows an attractive ruby colour with a purple hue. The nose is slightly leafy and herbaceous, typical of Cabernet Franc, with notes of black currants and blackberries in the background. The palate reveals a good amount of oak used for ageing, pleasant, fresh acidity, a touch of savoury and earthy notes, a generous fruit load, and a touch of dark minerality on the finish.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Koch Csanád Cuvee Villany 2011

A classic Bordeaux-style blend of Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc, and Merlot, Csanád shows itself an elegant and polished wine with notes of prunes, black plums, blackberries, and a touch of eucalyptus and earthy minerality. The acidity is still very vivid and refreshing, promising this wine a long life. Smooth, velvety tannins and a long finish with a hint of blonde tobacco.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

PANNONHALMA

Pannonhalma is a small wine region located in the northwestern part of Hungary on the left bank of the Danube river. The area has a long history of winemaking connected to its most famous attraction – the Pannonhalma Archabbey, the so-called cradle of Hungarian wine, which dates back to 996.

Continental climate with harsh winters and warm summers favours the production of aromatic white wines made with Olaszrizling, Traminer, Rhine Riesling, and Királyleányka, though the Bordeaux varieties and Pinot Noir are also popular and give interesting wines.

Babarcei Kékfrancos 2020

The nose shows an evident oak influence, with notes of sweet spices, nutmeg, and vanilla. The palate is juicy and fruity, with refreshing, crisp acidity, velvety, well-managed tannins, and a lot of cherries and red berries. Juicy, crunchy finish.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Babarcei Merlot 2019

The nose is slightly restrained, more earthy than fruity, and will benefit from decanting. The palate reveals refreshing acidity which balances well with the powerful body and high alcohol. The tannins are silky but bold. Despite being opulent the wine remains elegant and full of finesse with notes of dark chocolate, prunes, violets, and a spicy touch on the finish.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Babarcei Marianum 2019

This 100% Cabernet Franc reveals notes of red currents, raspberries, and wild strawberries supported by notes of paprika and sweet spices. The tannins are bold and grainy balanced by refreshing acidity and creamy, fluid texture. Very fruity on the finish with nuances of strawberry yogurt, this wine needs more time to develop.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Austria

ÖTW HISTORICAL TASTING

ÖTW (Österreichische Traditionsweingüter) association was founded in 1992. It started with ten producers from Kamptal and Kremstal discussing the process of vineyard classification and potential of their single vineyard sites. Over the years, the number of members was growing as well the regional representation. Today the association includes 68 wine estates from 6 wine regions along the Danube. To celebrate the 20th anniversary, the ÖTW organised a unique tasting of its members' mature vintages up to 1991.

Fritsch Ried Mordthal 1ÖTW Riesling Magnum 2010

Wagram

The nose is intensely floral, revealing notes of ripe Amalfi lemons, apricots, jasmine and pollen. The palate is juicy and succulent, with still very fresh acidity, very elegant, ethereal texture, light and aerial, offering notes of citrus fruits, lemons and grapefruits, zesty, clear and precise. Nice grip on the long finish.

Score : 17.5/20 (95/100)

Topf Ried Wechselberg-Spiegel 1ÖTW Riesling 2010

Kamptal

The nose is a bit restrained, powdery, with nuances of pollen, very finely flowery, with a touch of ripe lemon zest. The palate shows tremendous freshness and zesty acidity, lemony, mineral notes, a touch of bitter grapefruit in the aftertaste. A restrained style with nice freshness and longevity.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Proidl Ried Ehrenfels 1ÖTW Riesling 2007

Kremstal

The nose is attractively floral and citrusy with notes of pollen, white flowers and yellow fruits. The palate is ripe and rich with nuances of ripe yellow apples, pears, a touch of quince and grapefruit, balanced acidity, long, slightly petrol finish. Very ripe character, even slightly overripe.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Huber Ried Berg 1ÖTW Grüner Veltliner 2006

Traisental

The nose is smoky, flinty, slightly reductive, a bit shy, needs some time to open up. The palate is dense, savoury, with a lot of herbal notes, nuances of spices and delicate salinity. The wine demonstrates moderate acidity and ample body. Long, salty finish. Powerful style.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Sepp Moser Ried Schnabel 1ÖTW Grüner Veltliner 2005

Kremstal

The nose is herbal, restrained and saline. The palate is already quite developed, nutty, almondy with a touch of roasted herbs. Moderate but still fresh acidity, saline and savoury nuances, good length with smoky reverberations.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Stift Göttweig Ried Silberbichl 1ÖTW Riesling 2006

Kremstal

The nose is citrusy, revealing nuances of dill, fennel and dried herbs, a touch of pollen and vanilla. The palate is full a lot of refreshing acidity and freshness, opening up with notes of lemons and limes, a touch of white flowers and spice, mineral backbone. Nice grip on the finish. Delicious!

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Hiedler Ried Heiligenstein 1ÖTW Riesling 2009

Kamptal

The nose is fruity, revealing notes of lemon zest, grapefruit pith, a very attractive aroma. The palate is fresh, with balanced acidity, still a lot of freshness, notes of

citrus fruits, some petrol nuances, ripe and smoky. Long, fruity and mineral finish.
Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Bründlmayer Ried Heiligenstein 1ÖTW Riesling 'Alte Reben' Magnum 2002

Kamptal

The nose is restrained, powdery nose, opening up with notes of pollen and flower honey, some balsamic notes. The palate is fresh, saline, savoury, very ethereal, light and lean, with zesty acidity, notes of salted lemons, pickles and soaked apples. The finish is refreshingly saline, long and lingering.

Score : 17.5/20 (95/100)

Hirsch Ried Gaisberg 1ÖTW Riesling 2002

Kamptal

The nose is smoky, slightly reduced, showing nuances of ripe lemons and grapefruits. The palate is dense, revealing nuances of ripe citrus and yellow fruits, moderate but still fresh acidity, nice minerality, a touch of kerosene. Bold, powerful, massive style. Nice phenolic grip on the finish.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Ott Ried Rosenberg 1ÖTW Grüner Veltliner 2001

Wagram

The nose is full of roasted herbs as well as some creamy nuances, hints of vanilla, ripe and dense. The palate is dense, ripe, saline and savoury, powerful body with moderate acidity, not too persistent through. Still holds on, saline, powerful finish. Massive.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Malat Ried Steinbühel 1ÖTW Riesling 1999

Kremstal

The nose is fruity, intense, floral, slightly petrolic, with a pleasant note of balsamic, marinade, pickled cucumbers and dill. The palate is opulent, luscious, juicy, with high, refreshing acidity, lean, elegant body, savoury, saline, mineral character, a very discreet nutty touch, notes of kumquat, grapefruit zest, a herbal hint. Long, salty, citrusy finish.

Score : 18/20 (96/100)

Geyerhof Ried Goldberg 1ÖTW Riesling 1999

Kremstal

The nose is floral, flattering, very attractive, revealing notes of vanilla and spices, very opulent. The palate is rich and opulent, a ripe style, with moderate acidity, a touch of nuts and almonds but very pleasant. A hedonist wine with a touch of residual sugar. Long,

citrusy finish.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Schloss Gobelsburg Ried Gaisberg 1ÖTW Riesling 'Alte Reben' 1997

Kamptal

The nose is smoky and savoury, with nuances of roasted herbs and petrol notes. The palate is saline, with zesty, crisp acidity, elegant, some residual sugar to balance the acid, not a fruity wine, rather herbal and restrained, deliciously balanced between citrusy and savoury notes. Long, saline, mineral finish. Stony minerality.

Score : 18/20 (96/100)

Salomon Undhof Ried Pfaffenberg | 1ÖTW Riesling 1996

Kremstal

The nose is a bit oxidative, nutty, revealing notes of marzipan and almonds. The palate mirrors the nose in terms of flavours but keeps still a good freshness and juiciness combined with nice salinity and distinct savoury notes of dried herbs, roasted and smoky hints. Moderate acidity, light body, elegant, ethereal, long, savoury finish of dill and balsamic.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)



Austria

Ehn Ried Obere-Panzuan Grüner Veltliner 1993 Kamptal

The wine shows a deep amber colour. The nose is full of linden honey notes, even buckwheat honey, dense and deep aromas, some iodine and smoky hints, band aid-like, reminiscent of an Islay whisky. The palate is dense and powerful, not fruity, rather savoury, saline, with notes of grapefruit zest and roasted herbs, revealing a lot of concentration, nice phenolic grip on the finish.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Loimer Ried Käferberg IÖTW Grüner Veltliner 1992 Kamptal

The nose is slightly muted, restrained, a bit dusty, revealing notes of mushrooms and hay, a touch of almonds. The palate is still very fresh and vibrant, with zesty, citrusy acidity, revealing a touch of bitterness, lean, vertical structure. A fragile wine.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Nigl Ried Hochäcker IÖTW Riesling 1992 Kremstal

The nose reveals notes of balsamic, pickles, a bit of citrus fruits and yellow apples. The palate shows some residual sugar balanced by zesty, very refreshing acidity. The wine is very vibrant and vivid. Nicely grippy on the finish, will last for a few more years.

Score : 18/20 (96/100)

M. Moser Ried Gebling IÖTW Grüner Veltliner 1991 Kremstal

The nose shows some oxidation, notes of honey, floral nuances, a touch of nuttiness and bruised apples. The palate is a bit muted, revealing a touch of nutty bitterness, but still some freshness, not completely faded, offering cognac-like and sherry-like notes. Long, dry finish with a mushroom hint.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Jurtschitsch Ried Loiserberg IÖTW Riesling 1991 Kamptal

The nose is intense, smoky, revealing notes of dill and herbs, a touch of laurel, very savoury and appetizing character. The palate is incredibly vivid, juicy, youthful, showing a lot of citrus fruits, zesty, crisp acidity, lean body, verticality and salinity. A mind-blowing wine for its age, very fresh. Long, citrusy, zesty finish.

Score : 18.5/20 (97/100)

Dolle Ried Gaisberg | IÖTW Riesling 1991 Kamptal

The nose is intense, a bit chemical, revealing floral notes of geranium, lily and pollen. The palate is rather light, ethereal, a bit muted, showing delicate nuances of yellow fruits, still fresh and vibrant acidity, but very soft and suave. Passed its peak.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Wieninger Ried Ulm IÖTW Nussberg Wiener Gemischter Satz Double Magnum 1999 Wien/Vienna

The nose is floral, revealing some notes of honey, a touch of candied apple, marzipan and almond. The palate shows refreshing acidity, rich and ample body, massive structure, grippy, tannic, still quite austere character. Long, citrusy and herbal finish.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Christ Ried Falkenberg IÖTW Weissburgunder 2009 Wien/Vienna

The nose reveals nuances of cheese, a bit mouldy, hints of nuts, vanilla, a pungent note. The palate is very soft, velvety, suave, showing moderate, creamy acidity, nuances of vanilla, white apples and pears, nice freshness still, very elegant and ethereal texture. Creamy, lemony finish.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Gerhard Markowitsch Ried Rosenberg IÖTW Cuvée Magnum 2004 Carnuntum

The wine shows a deep ruby with a garnet tinge. The nose is very herbal and earthy, revealing nuances of root vegetables and ferrous notes. The palate is spicy, vivid, revealing nice acidity and freshness, nuances of red fruits, red cherries and raspberries. The tannins are grippy and bold. Good length, quite youthful and fruity.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Dorli Muhr Ried Spitzerberg IÖTW Blaufränkisch 2011 Carnuntum

The wine shows a pale ruby colour with a brightening rim. The nose is very floral, perfumed, flattering and attractive, with nuances of rose petals. Very fresh on the palate, juicy, a bit smoky, with well-balanced oak, nuances of red cherries, strawberries and raspberries. The tannins are polished, grippy but well-managed. Juicy, fruity, slightly earthy finish.

Score : 17.5/20 (95/100)

Netzl Ried Bärnreiser IÖTW Cuvée 'Anna-Christina' 2012 Carnuntum

The wine shows an intense ruby colour with a brightening rim. The nose is dense, powerful and spicy, revealing a lot of dark fruits like plums and blackberries, a touch of wood. The palate is dense, showing refreshing, crisp acidity, a lot of fruitiness, dark cherries, blackberries, blue plums and ripe bramble. Grippy but very polished tannins. Juicy, long and fruity finish.

Score : 17.5/20 (95/100)

STYRIAN PEARLS

The 10 best STK wines at Austrian Single Vineyard Summit 2022

Steiermark (Styrian) is the southernmost wine region of Austria. The terroir here differs significantly from the area around the Danube. The Mediterranean influence is important, but contrarily to the wine regions of Southern Europe, this is a humid area where disease pressure might be tough. Due to the generous precipitation, Steiermark is a beautifully green land where steep hills embellish the scenery but complicate the work of the growers.

Sauvignon Blanc is a star here but other grapes like Welschriesling, Rhein Riesling, Traminer, Muskateller, Weissburgunder and Morillon (Chardonnay) play an important role as well. The reds are much less common, except for Blauer Wildbacher, a local variety, used for producing an emblematic local rosé – Schilcher.

STK (Steirische Terroir- und Klassikweingüter) is an association of 12 producers from the area that have united to work together to express the local traditions and terroir through their wines and the classifications system highlighting the best vineyard sites.

Frauwallner Ried Buch GSTK Morillon 2020

The nose is creamy and floral, with notes of pollen, honeysuckle and acacia, a touch of pungent cheese rim. The palate is dense, revealing notes of cinnamon and cloves, powerful body, crisp, zesty acidity to support the massive structure, nice tension. Spicy, lingering finish. The wine is very youthful, will age beautifully.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Gross Ried Nussberg "FR" Sauvignon Blanc GSTK 2017

The nose is citrusy, opening up with a touch of greenness, nuances of fresh herbs, limes and a touch of gooseberry. The palate is juicy, offering crisp, stimulating



Austria

acidity, nuances of tropical fruits, ripe lemons, candied pineapple, a touch of white currant. A very fresh style with good fruit concentration. Long ageing potential.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Lackner Tinnacher Ried Steinbach Morillon 1STK 2020

The nose is oaky and spicy, revealing nuances of vanilla and cloves, a touch of nutmeg, yellow apples and pears in the background. The palate is rich and round, offering a lot of spicy incisiveness, roaring with notes of white apples, ripe lemons, a touch of white flowers in the echo. The lively, vibrant acidity balances perfectly the creamy texture. The wine finishes with a spicy, phenolic grip.

Score : 17.5/20 (95/100)

Lackner Tinnacher Ried Flamborg Morillon GSTK 2020

The nose is flattering and attractive, revealing notes of brioche, vanilla, a touch of coconut, delicate spicy notes, nuances of ripe yellow fruits. The palate is soft and creamy, with balanced, suave acidity, very fluid, offering a beautiful orchard fruit character with a mineral grip on the finish.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Maitz Ried Hochstermetzberg Sauvignon blanc GSTK 2019

The nose is slightly restrained, revealing notes of ripe lemons, a touch of fresh herbs, nuances of pineapple and gooseberry. The palate is juicy and lemony, offering piercing, refreshing acidity, ethereal structure, very elegant and vertical, bright notes of grapefruits and pomelos. Long succulent finish.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Erwin Sabathi Ried Pössnitzberg Alte Reben Chardonnay GSTK 2020

The nose is spicy, revealing notes of cloves, cinnamon, noble wood, a touch of tobacco and cigar box, delicate nuances of yellow pears and apples in the background. The palate is dense, offering crisp, zesty acidity, bright citrus notes layered with hints of nutmeg and cloves. Grippy texture and pungent, linear, vertical character. Crisp, cleansing finish. Exceptional.

Score : 18/20 (96/100)

Erwin Sabathi Ried Pössnitzberger Kapelle Chardonnay GSTK 2019

The nose is very smoky and reductive, needs air to open up. With aeration the wine reveals nuances of roasted sesame, cloves and nutmeg, a touch of vanilla. The palate is creamy and spicy, offering stimulating acidity, notes of ripe lemons, white apples, pears, a hint of honeysuckle. Long, spicy finish. Good ageing potential.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Sattlerhof Ried Kapellenweingarten Morillon 2020

The nose is restrained, slightly muted, needs air to open up. The palate is rich and creamy, very juicy and fruity, offering notes of ripe lemons, yellow apples, pears and a touch of crisp pineapple, zesty, vivid acidity, some pungency and still very youthful character. Good ageing potential. Long, citrusy finish.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Sattlerhof Ried Kranachberg Sauvignon Blanc GSTK 2020

The nose is delicately herbaceous, revealing notes of fresh cut grass, nettle, a touch of white currant and gooseberry, subtle mineral reverberations. The palate offers crisp, linear acidity, a very steely, pungent and piercing character. A linear, tight, vertical style that needs time to soften. A touch of some greenness and smokiness on the finish. Good ageing potential.

Score : 17.5/20 (95/100)

Sattlerhof Ried Pfarrweingarten Morillon GSTK 2020

The nose is smoky and reductive, with air revealing nuances of yellow apples, a touch of quince, ripe lemons and honeysuckle in the echo. The palate is smoky

as well, herbal and mineral, rather than fruity, very savoury. It offers refreshing, linear acidity, a lot of complexity. A multi-layered wine that needs time. Savoury finish that makes you salivate.

Score : 17.5/20 (95/100)

THERMENREGION

Between the Roman heritage and indigenous varieties

Thermenregion is one of the oldest but less known wine-producing areas of Austria. It lies south of Vienna and fell into the wider Niederösterreich region. Historical evidence proves that it was the Celts who started producing wine here. Later the techniques were improved by the Romans who established several military camps here and also build the thermal site of Aquae (the modern town of Baden) from where the region received its name. Middle Ages were quite a prosperous time for the area with Cistercian monks from the Cîteaux Abbey in Bourgogne bringing their expertise to the local winemaking as well as some French varieties like Pinot Noir and St. Laurent. From that period and later the luscious white wines from the village of Gumpoldskirchen were appreciated all over Europe.



Today the region accounts for around 1900 ha of vineyards planted predominantly on loamy and gravelly soils. The warm Pannonian climate ensures that the grapes receive enough sunlight and heat during the ripening and the long, dry autumns allow to plant varieties with a long ripening period. In contrast with other areas of Lower Austria, Grüner Veltliner is not the king here. In Thermenregion we find two white varieties that are typical for the region and hardly found anywhere else. They are Rotgipfler and Zierfandler, both progenies of Traminer and Roter Veltliner. Both are late-ripening and have distinctive tropical notes in their rich aromatic profile. Rotgipfler is slightly fuller and rounder while Zierfandler boasts higher acidity and freshness. The varieties were almost always blended in the past to obtain an opulent, flavourful wine, while today many producers prefer to make monovarietal wines. At the moment the region counts 113 ha of Rotgipfler and 72 ha of Zierfandler.

It seems that the signature red varieties, Pinot Noir and St. Laurent, were chosen by the local winemakers, to pay the tribute to the heritage of the Burgundian monks. Portugieser and Zweigelt are also well-established but are less popular, or at least less promoted. The legend says Pinot Noir was introduced to the region in 1141 and now occupies 110 ha. The typical Pinot Noirs from the area are fragrant and elegant with nuances of red currants, cranberries, and wild strawberries. Very susceptible to fungal diseases, St. Laurent feels well in the dry climate of Thermenregion. A Pinot Noir progeny, it occupies 147 ha of the vineyard area. With its ethereal structure, delicate tannins, and floral and red berries character it might be easily confused with the more famous relative. Though as some winemakers say, "it loves flirting with brett", which sometimes adds a delicate earthy, almost floral note to the local wines.

In May 2022 nine producers from Thermenregion joined the ÖTW association and can call themselves the Traditional wine estates of Austria. Membership in the association requires a wine producer to be certified organic or sustainable and ensures that neither herbicides nor insecticides are used in the vineyards.

Austria

Weingut Landauer-Gisperm Ried Bückfuß Rotgipfler 2021

The nose is spicy, a bit herbal, revealing nuances of yellow orchard fruits and ripe lemons. On the palate slightly smoky with intense notes of iodine, still slightly yeasty, nuances of rose and peony, fresh acidity, some grip, nice minerality, well-balanced alcohol. Good length and a touch of bitterness on the finish. A lighter style of Rotgipfler.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Weingut Stadlmann Ried Tagelsteiner Rotgipfler 2020

The nose is oaky, revealing nuances of cinnamon, cloves, intense notes of all-spice, dried herbs and wormwood. A lot of concentration on the palate, creamy texture, complicated by notes of iodine and floral nuances, crisp, refreshing acidity, nice spiciness. A touch of vanilla on the finish.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Weingut Johanneshof Reinisch Ried Satzing Rotgipfler 2019

The nose is very smoky and reductive, needs air to open up. The palate is creamy, offering zesty, citrusy acidity, pungent character, spiciness, a good load of oak, the wine needs time to integrate it, nice juiciness of ripe yellow apples and pears, pineapples and lychee, almost a tannic grip on the finish.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Weingut Gebeshuber Ried Student Rotgipfler 2019

The nose is very aromatic and floral with nuances of roses, jasmine and acacia as well as mineral, marine underpinnings. On the palate perfumed and intense as well, revealing nuances of iodine, refreshing salinity, moderate acidity, the texture is a bit loose, a broad wine, with notes of vanilla and cloves in the background.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Weingut Alphart Ried Rodauner Rotgipfler 2017

The nose is oaky and reductive, revealing notes of noble wood, nuances of cinnamon and cloves, a touch of nutmeg. The palate offers crisp, refreshing acidity, almost tannic texture, spiciness, some volume but nice freshness as well. The wine seems quite dry and lean for a Rotgipfler, nice elegance, notes of ripe tropical fruits and spices are well-balanced by the acidity and the mineral grip.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Weingut Hartl Ried Kreuzweingarten Rotgipfler 2017

The nose is slightly lactic, revealing nuances of yogurt and vanilla, ripe yellow tropical fruits in the echo. The palate is mineral, offering a creamy texture, a touch of bitterness, some oak influence, nuances of cloves and nutmeg, medicinal notes. The wine is powerful and luscious but well-balanced by zesty, citrusy acidity. A lot of character, intensity and concentration. Long finish with tropical fruits in the aftertaste.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Weingut Aumann Ried Wiege Rotgipfler 2016

The nose is creamy with nuances of vanilla, some autolytic notes, hints of crème brûlée and iodine. The palate is rich and weighty, not quite balanced by the moderate acidity. The oak still dominates the palate with nuances of smoke and sweet spices.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Weingut Alphart Ried Rodauner Rotgipfler 2013

The nose is charming, very attractive and confectionary, revealing nuances of vanilla, sweet species, cedar wood, complicated by salty hints and touches of iodine. The palate reveals good freshness and crisp acidity uplifting the tropical flavours of wine (pineapple, mango and lychee). Mineral, succulent finish. Good length.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Weingut Aumann Ried Hofbreite Zierfandler 2021

The nose is slightly green, revealing herbal notes, nuances of nettle and fresh cut grass, a touch of yeastiness. The palate is powerful and heady with elevated, crisp acidity, spicy and savoury profile, phenolic grip, a very textured wine with a lot of herbal undertones.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Weingut Auer Ried Preisen Zierfandler 2020

The nose is creamy and smoky at the same time, very attractive, revealing notes of sweet spices, iodine, a touch of radish and wasabi, very unusual and fresh. The palate is nutty slightly oxidative, offering notes of marzipan and baked yellow apples, fresh, citrusy acidity, powerful texture, long nutty finish.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Weingut Stadlmann Traiskirchen Ried Mandel-Höh Zierfandler 2020

The nose is powdery and appealing, revealing nuances of pollen, apple and pear blossom, a touch of almond. The palate offers crisp, refreshing acidity, a relatively light structure, spiciness and verticality. A leaner, more elegant, mineral style of Zierfandler.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Weingut Aumann Ried Hofbreite Zierfandler 2019

The nose is oaky, spicy and smoky, needs some air to open up completely. The palate is creamy, offering crisp, zesty acidity, a lot of ripeness, high alcohol, powerful and muscular structure, a touch of residual sugar. The wine reveals nuances of dried herbs, hay, garrigue and ripe tropical fruits. Massive!

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Weingut Gebeshuber Ried Modler Zierfandler 2019

The nose is intensely mineral and saline, revealing nuances of yellow fruits, apples and pears after aeration. The palate is quite lean, juicy, offering very fresh, citrusy acidity, loads of pineapples and a touch of mango, nice salinity, iodine notes in the echo. Very intense and juicy wine that makes you salivate.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Weingut Gebeshuber Ried Wiege Zierfandler 2019

The nose is restrained, closed, needs time and air to open up. Initially not fruity at all, the wine expands with delicate notes of yellow

orchard fruits, nutty nuances, salinity and smokiness. A touch of bitterness on the finish. Quite austere at the moment, needs time to develop.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Weingut Stadlmann Ried Mandel-Höh Zierfandler 2018

The nose is very ripe, revealing notes of yellow fruits, tangerines and ripe lemons. The palate offers moderate acidity, tropical and lush profile, a bit oxidative with nuances of baked and bruised apple, iodine when developing. Opulent, succulent finish.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Weingut Johanneshof Reinisch Ried Spiegel Monopöl Zierfandler 2016

Inviting nose of vanilla, yellow apples, with a touch of balsamic notes and a hint of marzipan. The palate is tense, tannic, not revealing much fruit initially, a lot of structure and character, powerful but still keeps freshness. The wine opens up with notes of nuts and marzipan, some dried herbs, medicinal nuances, hints of camomile. Very dry, linear, cleansing finish.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Weingut Alphart Ried Rosenberg Pinot Noir 2020

The wine has a pale ruby colour with a purple hue. The nose reveals notes of pickles, a touch of balsamic, very appealing and delicious. The palate offers crisp, crunchy acidity, savoury notes, nuances of red fruits, slightly herbaceous character, a hint of dill and fennel, fine touches of cranberries and forest red berries. The tannins are a bit astringent and stemmy. A fresh, slightly green style with crunchy and juicy finish.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)



Austria

Weingut Schneider Ried Tagelsteiner Pinot Noir 2019

The wine shows a very pale ruby colour with a garnet tinge. The nose is fruity and exuberant with soaring aromas of raspberries, crunchy red cherries and a touch of blossom. The palate reveals dense texture and dark minerality, salinity, still a lot of elegance. The wine that makes you salivate.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Weingut Auer Pinot Noir 2017

The wine shows a pale ruby with a garnet hue. The nose is oaky, quite classic, revealing nuances of red cherries, raspberries and strawberries. The palate is oaky and smoky as well, though demonstrating nice freshness. The tannins are well-managed, round and sweet. A very classic style, slightly bitter on the finish.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Weingut Familie Reinisch Ried Kästenbaum Pinot Noir 2016

The wine shows a very pale ruby colour with a garnet hue. The nose is restrained initially, later very flattering and fruity, with air revealing nuances of forest berries and crunchy cranberries. The palate is juicy and powerful, revealing a lot of fruitiness and juiciness, crunchy, refreshing acidity, soft and round tannins. Long, succulent finish.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Weingut Landauer-Gisberg Pinot Noir Handzeichen 2014

The wine shows a pale ruby colour with a youthful purple tinge. The nose is herbaceous, revealing notes of dried and fresh herbs, green and black pepper. The palate is fresh with elevated, crisp acidity, nuances of some black pepper, a touch of lovage. Very atypical style with a lean, vertical structure.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Weingut Hartl Ried Graf Weingartl Pinot Noir 2012

The wine shows a pale ruby colour with a garnet rim. The nose is intensely peppery, balsamic, herbal, opening up with notes of bay leaf, parsley, a meaty touch. The palate reveals crisp, zesty acidity, lean texture, light bitterness. The palate is a bit stripped out, too lean and lacks flesh. The tannins are grippy and drying on the finish.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Weingut Landauer-Gisberg St. Laurent 2021

The wine shows a bright purple colour, vivid and youthful. The nose is very fruity, bright and intense, revealing notes of blueberries, crunchy red cherries, a touch of cinnamon. The tannins are grippy, supported by crisp, crunchy acidity. On the palate, the wine is slightly green but very floral, fruity and accessible. A glou-glou style.

Score : 14.5/20 (88/100)

Weingut Schneider Ried Frauenfeld St. Laurent 2019

The wine shows a clear ruby colour with a purple tinge. The nose is smoky, revealing notes of sweet spices and cedar wood, herbaceous notes of leaves and green pepper. The elevated acidity and rough, slightly bitter tannins confirm a greener, fresher style of wine with notes of laurel and black pepper on the finish.

Score : 14.5+/20 (88/100)

Weingut Landauer-Gisberg St. Laurent 2020

The wine shows a pale purple colour. The nose is a bit restrained, revealing nuances of ripe blueberries, wild strawberries and raspberries, a hint of sweet spices. The wine is a bit oaky on the palate, showing through pleasant freshness, nice juiciness, a lot of floral notes, nuances of violets and peonies, slightly reductive. Grippy but ripe and juicy tannins.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Weingut Aumann Ried Ronald St. Laurent 2017

The wine shows a deep purple colour. The nose is restrained and tight, with air opening up with notes of blueberries, blueberry pie, tar, a touch of roasted meat, slightly flirting with brett when developing. The palate reveals nice acidity, smooth, fluid tannins, quite a light, ethereal texture, long, fruity and smoky finish.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Weingut Auer St. Laurent Reserve 2016

The wine shows a bright and vivid ruby colour with a purple tinge. The nose is attractive and open with notes of balsamic, dill and cinnamon, a touch of roasted meat. The palate is juicy, revealing high acidity, delicious nuances of pickles, red currant, crunchy red cherries and ripe strawberries, well-balanced oakiness. The tannins are a bit drying, positively bitter. Long, herbaceous finish.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Weingut Schneider St. Laurent 2008

The wine shows a bright ruby colour with a garnet tinge. The nose is very savoury, revealing nuances of black olive tapenade, a touch of sweet spices, some salinity, a hint of grilled bacon and roasted meat. The palate is nicely saline with round but still grippy tannins. Long, juicy and savoury finish.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Weingut Alphart Ried Rodauner Rotgipfler Pur 2013

The nose is saline, very sexy and attractive, revealing notes of iodine, nuances of tropical fruits, like pineapple and mango, a touch of ginger. The palate reveals moderate, creamy acidity, nice minerality, a touch of bitterness, the sugar is well-balanced, not cloying. The wine is very ripe without being heavy, offering notes of some apricots, kumquat, grapefruit zest, a hint of cinnamon and nutmeg in the background. Good length.

Score : 16.25+/20 (93/100)

Weingut Stadlmann Zierfandler Auslese 2017

The nose is flirty, very attractive and open, revealing notes of dried mango, candied tangerine and orange marmalade. The palate is balancing between zesty, crisp, citrusy acidity, delicate bitterness and well-integrated sweetness. The wine is saline, fresh, not cloying, brimming with citrus fruits, apricots, kumquat and ginger. A nice bitter touch on the finish.

Score : 17.5/20 (95/100)

Weingut Schneider Rotgipfler Beerenauslese 2020

The wine shows a very interesting, pale copper colour. The nose is very floral, even too perfumed, revealing nuances of pear drops, apple blossom, white flowers and honeysuckle. The palate is young, slightly cloying sugar, still a bit yeasty. Needs time to integrate its baby fat.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Weingut Auer Zierfandler Rotgipfler Beerenauslese 2017

The wine shows an intense golden colour. The nose is exuberant, notes of orange marmalade, dried apricots and candied pineapple are roaring from the glass. The palate reveals balanced, creamy acidity, nice freshness, moderate weight, perfect balance. A touch of bitterness on the finish, a lingering ginger aftertaste.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)



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Germany

GG Releases 2022

The VDP (Verband Deutscher Prädikatsweingüter) is the oldest association of wineries in the world. Founded in 1910, it now groups together 200 of the best German wine producers and represents the *crème de la crème* of German viticulture.

The Grosses Gewächs, also called GG for simplicity, are the top of the VDP quality pyramid equivalent to the Grand Cru in other well-known European wine regions. Unique vineyards, almost always with vertiginous slopes, are managed with what is called 'heroic viticulture' because of the enormous amount of manual labour it requires that make great wines, each with its own distinct personality. VDP wineries may only represent 3% of the German market by volume, but their 10% of value makes them very significant.

The 2021 Rieslings released in September 2022 differ significantly from the great 2019 and 2020 vintages. The common refrain of the growers was that 2021 was one of the most challenging growing seasons in recent memory. After the last four very warm years, this vintage is again a "classic German year" – accompanied by many challenges, but with a satisfying result. The 2021 vintage showed very clear, filigree Rieslings with an extraordinary density, a wonderful acidity and definite ageability. Both 2019 and 2020 were excellent years for Spätburgunders, with 2020 in general showing fruitier and a bit less complex, while 2019 reveals a lot of grippy texture and minerality.



VDP. DIE PRÄDIKATSWEINGÜTER

FRANKEN

Paul Weltner Hoheleite Silvaner GG 2021

The nose is still a bit yeasty and mineral, revealing floral notes of elderflower as well as some saline nuances. The wine is bone dry and steely, showing zesty acidity, an elegant structure, quite lean and ethereal. The palate opens up with a touch of herbals, yeasty notes, slightly fermentative and briny. The finish is refreshing, crispy with a subtle bitter note. Good ageing potential. Needs time to open up.
Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Hans Wirsching Julius-Echter-Berg Silvaner GG 2021

The nose is a bit discreet, with aeration opening up with some mineral and herbal notes. The palate is completely dry, quite tight and austere for the moment, the structure is rich and voluptuous, a subtle yeasty sensation in the echo, good length. The finish is malty, resembling of a good IPA beer. Good complexity and ageing potential.
Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Johann Ruck Julius-Echter-Berg Silvaner GG 2021

Very shy on the nose, needs aeration. With some air revealing notes of citrus fruits (lemons and limes), bitter herbs like wormwood, a bit of lemon drops. Austerly dry on the palate, light-footed with zesty, piercing acidity, ethereal character, mineral backbone, very elegant style, slightly bitter and yeasty on the finish.
Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Bürgerspital zum Hl. Geist Stein-Harfe Silvaner GG 2021

The nose is concentrated and complex, multi-layered, opening up with some spicy notes, herbal nuances, a touch of ripe lemon. The palate is dry with moderate acidity, round and creamy body. The wine reveals certain roundness and volume, already very accessible and balanced. The finish shows a subtle, typical bitterness.
Score : 14.5+/20 (88/100)

Staatlicher Hofkeller Würzburg Stein-Berg Silvaner GG 2021

The nose is smoky and tight with some gunflint notes, needs aeration. The palate

is expressive, with notes of sweet apples and pears, as well as some salty and malty nuances, a lot of structure and richness, hops bitterness, completely dry character, balanced, creamy acidity, rich body. The finish is pleasantly fruity, aromatic, reminding of a creamy stout.
Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Fürst Löwenstein Fürstlicher Kallmuth® Silvaner GG 2021

The nose is closed, restrained, reductive, opening up with notes of roasted sunflower seeds, gunpowder and sesame. The palate is dry, showing balanced acidity, powerful structure, muscular body. Notes of rye bread, fresh dough, nuances of sweet yellow apple and melon dominate the palate. A pleasant bitter-sweet finish.
Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Max Müller I Ratsherr Silvaner GG 2021

The nose is quite intense, floral, revealing notes of honeysuckle and camomille. The palate is dry, with tight texture, high acidity, light and elegant body, notes of lemons and limes, saline nuances in the echo, a pleasant fruitiness, already open and approachable.
Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Max Müller I Am Lumpen 1655® Silvaner GG 2021

The nose is a bit smoky, restrained, tight, with malty and floral notes. The palate is dry, tight, showing high acidity, moderate weight. The wine offers a light bitterness, pronounced minerality, herbal nuances. It needs time to open up, the finish is very persistent, slightly phenolic and grippy.
Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Horst Sauer Am Lumpen 1655® Silvaner GG 2021

The nose is open and intense with notes of Cantaloupe melon, ripe yellow pear, floral nuances. The palate is dry, revealing high acidity, balanced structure, some fruitiness of melon, citrus nuances, very concentrated flavour, some dark minerality, needs time to get rounder, pleasant fruity and floral finish.
Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Rainer Sauer Am Lumpen 1655® Silvaner GG 2021

The nose is discreet, shy, with aeration opening up with floral notes of sweet honeysuckle and meadow flowers. The palate is slightly austere, dry with notes of yeast, moderate acidity and weight, beer-like bitterness in the aftertaste, mineral finish.
Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Juliusspital Würzburg Julius-Echter-Berg Silvaner GG 2021

The nose is smoky, reductive, flinty, needs a lot of air. The palate is smoky as well, dry, mineral, does not show a lot of fruitiness, but rather some savoury and saline notes, delicate nuances of green apple and melon. The wine demonstrates balanced structure and persistent, spicy finish.
Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Hans Wirsching Kammer Silvaner GG 2021

The nose is quite intense, floral, a bit smoky, offering some yellow melon and ripe pear notes. On the palate it is dry with equilibrated acidity, moderate weight, with a lot savoury and herbal notes, some liquorice, a touch of smoky minerality. The finish is savoury with medium length.
Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Bickel-Stumpf Mönchshof Silvaner GG 2021

The nose is smoky, reductive, pleasantly fruity in the echo, with notes of limes and green pears. The palate is tense, dry, showing high acidity, a nice mineral backbone, notes of unripe lemon, green apple and green plum. The texture is painfully tight. The wine needs time, it has a long ageing potential and a very good, persistent, saline finish.
Score : 17.25+/20 (95/100)

Zehnthof Theo Luckert Maustal Silvaner GG 2021

The nose is briny, herbal, with notes of dill and bruised apples, relatively pen for its age. On the palate the wine is dry, with elevated acidity, rich body, round and voluptuous, fruity, showing notes of ripe apples, a touch of melon and pear, slate minerality. A very opulent style, endless finish.
Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Germany

GG Releases 2022

Störrlein Krenig Hohenroth Silvaner GG 2021

The nose is discreet, closed, steely, finely floral with notes of honeysuckle, meadow flowers and apple blossom. The palate is quite austere, dry and spicy, a bit yeasty, not on a fruity, but rather on a savoury side, offering elevated acidity, balanced structure, slightly bitter on the finish, needs time.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Schmitt's Kinder Pfülben Silvaner GG 2021

The nose is pleasantly floral with some pollen and flower honey notes, a bit of smoke in the echo. The palate is dry, nicely creamy, with zesty acidity and rich body, opulent, juicy, citrusy, with a touch of lemon zest, slightly bitter but very refreshing on the finish, like a good IPA.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Juliussspital Würzburg Stein-Berg Silvaner GG 2021

Peculiar notes of roasted coffee on the nose, smoky, reductive, with some lactic nuances, in general, despite this unusual character, very attractive and flattering. The palate is rich and voluptuous, completely dry, revealing creamy acidity, opulent body, smoky, mineral, savoury notes, some umami hints. The finish is persistent and saline.

Score : 17.5/20 (95/100)

Am Stein - Ludwig Knoll Stein Silvaner GG 2021

The nose is a bit oaky, with some cloves and cinnamon, then some orchard fruits come through, the palate is dry, tight, tense, revealing high acidity, solid mineral backbone, saline nuances, stony character, some yellow fruits in the background, nicely balanced between salinity and sweetness, rich, opulent body, voluptuous but balanced style, delicious, savoury finish.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Bickel-Stumpf Rothlauf Silvaner GG 2021

The nose is floral, delicate, with some notes of pollen and flower honey. The palate is creamy, dry, with moderate acidity and weight, notes of lemon and lime, well-balanced, already accessible, easy-going, modern style, a sweet touch on the finish.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Rudolf May Rothlauf Silvaner GG 2021

The nose is saline, mineral, showing hints of umami, a touch of floral and smoky notes. The palate is dense, a bit yeasty but with ripe yellow fruits in the background, even some apricot, balanced acidity, elegant body, some smokiness on the finish.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Rudolf May Himmelspfad Silvaner GG 2021

The nose is reductive and smoky, with delicate notes of yellow apples and green melon in the echo. The palate is smoky as well, dry, with equilibrated acidity and weight, quite elegant and ethereal, mineral in the background, not fruity, but stony and savoury, needs more time to develop but already accessible, quite a round style, saline finish.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Juliussspital Würzburg Karthäuser Weisser Burgunder GG 2020

The nose is slightly oxidative with notes of ripe yellow apples, a bit bruised. The palate is dry and round, some acetic notes as well, along with nuances of vanilla and yogurt. The creamy texture and high acidity are in a perfect balance. The finish is lactic, creamy and suave. The wine needs time to settle.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Steintal Schlossberg Spätburgunder GG 2020

The nose is reductive, mineral, smoky, needs a lot of air to open up. The palate is fresh and juicy, revealing notes of cranberries and red forest berries. The tannins are soft, supported by the moderate acidity. Juicy aftertaste with nuances of crunchy sweet berries.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Steintal Hundsrück Spätburgunder GG 2020

The nose is very reductive initially, needs air to open up, after aeration revealing notes of strawberries, ripe raspberries, a touch of red cherries. Very soft and round on the palate, the wine offers juicy tannins, moderate acidity and a certain gourmandise. Very approachable style. Juicy finish with a bunch of crunchy, sweet berries in the lingering echo.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Rudolf Fürst Schlossberg Spätburgunder GG 2020

The nose is smoky initially, with aeration revealing nuances of blackcurrant leaf, a touch of cassis and black pepper, delicate balsamic hints. The palate is elegant, with moderate concentration, elevated, crunchy acidity, some tightness, bold, chalky tannins and fruity finish.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Rudolf Fürst Centgrafenberg Spätburgunder GG 2020

The nose is pleasantly balsamic, offering notes of red and black cherries, wild raspberries and a touch of sweet spices. The palate is dense, spicy, revealing elevated, crisp acidity, nuances of crunchy red berries, sticky, but well-managed tannins. Spicy, balsamic finish.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Rudolf Fürst Hundsrück Spätburgunder GG 2020

The nose is a bit lactic, revealing notes of bay leaf, vanilla, nutmeg and underbrush. On the palate there is a nice freshness, crisp acidity, sticky, slightly green tannins, nuances of dried herbs and balsamic. Very fresh, herbaceous, minty finish.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Staatlicher Hofkeller Würzburg Bischofsberg Spätburgunder GG 2020

The nose is oaky, revealing notes of cloves, cedar wood and nutmeg, a touch of mint in the echo. The palate is tight, slightly smoky, offering elevated, juicy acidity, a considerable load of oak, woody, bold tannins. Definitely in its closed stage. Needs time to integrate oak.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Steintal Bischofsberg Spätburgunder GG 2020

The nose is completely closed, reductive, tight. Needs aeration to open up. The palate is dense and fresh, with a nice crunchy red and black fruit. The tannins are sticky and powerful. The wine demonstrates crisp, juicy acidity, moderate weight and attractive fruity finish with a nice grip.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Zehnthof Theo Luckert Maustal Spätburgunder GG 2019

Attractive nose of rose petals, strawberries and hibiscus, some spices in the background. The palate is juicy and dense, slightly oaky, revealing balanced, creamy acidity and round, velvety tannins. The body is plush and juicy with nuances of ripe red cherries and black raspberries. An opulent style with a fruity, pleasantly woody finish.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

MOSEL-SAAR-RUWER

Van Volxem Schonfels Riesling GG 2021

The nose is open, flattering, citrusy, revealing some floral notes and nuances of ripe apricots and yellow peaches. The palate is quite light and elegant, completely dry, showing zesty acidity, intense fruity flavours, yellow apples and pears, a touch of jasmine, strong mineral backbone and persistent fruity finish.

Score : 16.25+/20 (93/100)

Peter Lauer Schonfels Riesling GG 2021

The nose is dense, a bit smoky and yeasty, with delicate floral and linden honey notes. The palate is juicy, citrusy, completely dry, revealing crispy acidity, elegant body, high intensity of yellow orchard fruits, ripe lemons and a touch of honeysuckle. Long, vibrant finish.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Peter Lauer Lambertkirch Riesling GG 2021

The nose is vivid and bright, intensely floral, with some pollen and honeyed notes. The palate is dense, tight, revealing zesty, pungent acidity. The wine is textured and powerful while remaining quite vertical and slender. Intense notes of yellow lemons, ripe apricots and Duchesse pears in the background. Mineral, saline finish.

Score : 16.25+/20 (93/100)

Peter Lauer Kupp Riesling GG 2021

The nose is a bit dusty, with plenty of floral notes, hints of pollen, a touch of remover, uplifting the yellow fruits. The palate is intense, with a touch of slight bitterness in the echo, revealing tangy acidity, elegant structure, notes of ripe yellow apples, a hint of pineapple and mango, ripe profile. The finish is still a bit yeasty, needs time to settle.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Germany

GG Releases 2022

Van Volxem Bockstein Riesling GG 2021

The nose is a bit restrained and shy, with aeration revealing notes of citrus fruits and meadow flowers. The palate is dense, with zesty, crisp acidity, light, elegant, ethereal body, mineral, saline notes, nuances of yellow lemons and limes, long refreshing finish. A lot of potential in this delicate, lean wine. A compressed spring!
Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Nik Weis - St. Urbans-Hof Bockstein Riesling GG 2021

The nose is muted, reductive, needs a lot of air to open up. The palate is still unsettled, very yeasty, a lot of fermentative notes. Completely dry on the palate, the wine reveals piercing acidity, lean, tight structure and a herbal, slightly bitter finish. To watch!
Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Vereinigte Hospitien Scharzhofberger Riesling GG 2021

The nose is floral, citrusy, with notes of ripe apricots and orange blossom. The palate is bone-dry, revealing high intensity of yellow orchard and stone fruits, ripe lemons and a touch of elderflower. Zesty acidity dominates the elegant, ethereal structure. Persistent, fruity finish.
Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Van Volxem Scharzhofberger Riesling GG 2021

The nose is floral and perfumed, a bit musky, showing notes of peonies and rose petals. The palate is dry, with refreshing acidity balancing the slightly overripe character of fruits. The wine seems a bit weighty and clumsy with notes of ripe peaches, pineapples, mango chutney. The finish is pleasantly fruity.
Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Van Volxem Gottesfuss Riesling GG 2021

The nose is muted a bit, needs some air, later revealing notes of pollen and flower honey. The palate is completely dry, with piercing acidity, balanced weight and structure, elevated intensity of citrus fruits (pomelos and ripe lemons), some elderflower, a touch of ginger and spices. Long, succulent finish.
Score : 16.25+/20 (93/100)

Van Volxem Volz Riesling GG 2021

The nose is delicately floral, revealing notes of pollen, white flowers, honeysuckle and apple blossom. The palate is bone-dry, sharp and tense, with a lot of minerality, piercing acidity, a sharp, austere style, not delivering yet but with a great potential.
Score : 16.75+/20 (94/100)

Forstmeister Geltz-Zilliken Rausch Riesling GG 2021

The nose is intense, fruity and floral, revealing notes of crushed apricots, peach puree, ripe lemons and pomelos. The palate is a bit muted, mirroring the nose with nuances of stone and citrus fruits but much more restrained. Refreshing acidity and slightly almondly on the finish.
Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Nik Weis - St. Urbans-Hof Layet Riesling GG 2021

The nose is still intensely yeasty, fermentative, needs time to settle. The palate reveals crisp acidity, elegant, light body, crystalline structure and finesse. The wine is still dominated by the fermentative notes. To watch!
Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Maximin Grünhaus Familie von Schubert Abtsberg Riesling GG 2021

The nose is a bit reductive, smoky, showing some dark, slate minerality, nuances of ripe lemons and limes, a touch of green apple. The palate is fresh and linear, offering very clean, citrusy profile, piercing acidity, light, elegant structure and lemony, refreshing finish.
Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Maximin Grünhaus Familie von Schubert Bruderberg Riesling GG 2021

Slightly reductive, muted nose, needs a lot of air to open up. The palate is juicy, intense, spicy, revealing crisp, vibrant acidity, notes of ripe stone fruits, crushed apricots, white peaches and juicy lemons. The finish is succulent and juicy with subtle spicy undertones.
Score : 16.25+/20 (93/100)

Maximin Grünhaus Familie von Schubert Herrenberg Riesling GG 2021

The nose is intense and flattering with nuances of lemon, pomelos, a touch of ripe yellow peach. The palate is juicy and exuberant, open in its fruitiness, offering lively, crisp acidity and juicy but elegant body. Very fruity, long finish. Already accessible but shows a good potential of ageing.
Score : 16.75+/20 (94/100)

Karthäuserhof Karthäuserhofberg Riesling GG 2021

The nose is smoky, intense, very deep, with a light touch of volatiles which enhances the fruitiness of ripe yellow peaches and a touch of pineapple. The palate is juicy and dense with powerful, tense acidity, dense structure and notes of tropical fruits like pineapples and mangos, a hint of kumquat. A very ripe example of a Mosel Riesling with a good length and potential for ageing.
Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Grans-Fassian Hofberg Riesling GG 2021

The nose is still a bit yeasty, fermentative, needs time to settle and come to balance. The palate is tense, offering zesty, piercing acidity, high intensity of citrus fruits, ripe Amalfi lemons, pomelos, limes, a bit of elderflower. Nice juiciness on the finish, good length.
Score : 16.25+/20 (93/100)

Grans-Fassian Apotheke Riesling GG 2021

The nose is spicy, yeasty, still closed and restrained. The palate on the contrary is intense and juicy, revealing crisp acidity, bright fruitiness, nice concentration, as well as elegant, balanced structure and long fruity finish. Classic!
Score : 16.75+/20 (94/100)

Nik Weis - St. Urbans-Hof Laurentiuslay Riesling GG 2021

Floral, yeasty nose with notes of hops and pungent spices. The palate is spicy, still slightly fermentative, offering zesty acidity, intense notes of yellow apples, pears, as well as white peaches and yellow plums. The finish is dense and juicy. The wine needs time to develop.
Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Grans-Fassian Laurentiuslay Riesling GG 2021

Citrusy nose with subtle mineral nuances of slate and delicate yellow fruit notes. The palate is bone-dry, with opulent notes of citrus and orchard fruits, piercing acidity, very lean, elegant, ethereal structure, light-footed but complex. Juicy, zesty finish. Good ageing potential.
Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Grans-Fassian Goldtröpfchen Riesling GG 2021

The nose is intense and ripe, slightly smoky, revealing notes of ripe lemons, grapefruits, a touch of fresh apricot. The palate is juicy and attractive, with high intensity of tropical fruits, ripe peaches, pomelos, a touch of jasmine. The wine is completely dry, showing crispy acidity, elegant, balanced texture and a juicy, succulent, citrusy finish. A Classic Mosel Riesling!
Score : 16.75+/20 (94/100)

Nik Weis - St. Urbans-Hof Goldtröpfchen Riesling GG 2021

The nose is floral, delicate, revealing notes of white flowers, elderflower and apple blossom. The palate is bone-dry, showing a lot of ripeness, zesty acidity, balanced structure and nuances of yellow orchard fruits, a touch of pineapple and mango, a hint of ginger. The finish is long and fruity.
Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Reichsgraf von Kesselstatt Domherr Riesling GG 2021

(Barrel sample) The nose is intensely floral with a panoply of white flowers, apple blossom, honeysuckle and elderflower. The palate is dry, still a bit austere, showing a lot of ripeness, even a bit of overripe apricots and peaches, yellow apples and juicy conference pears. The acidity though is refreshing and citrusy and the body is elegant and linear. Moderate length.
Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)



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Fritz Haag Paulinshofberg Riesling GG 2021

The nose is bursting with vivid notes of white flowers, ripe apricots, juicy lemons and limes. The elegant, lean body is supported by juicy, crisp acidity. The wine displays a lot of precision and tightness. The palate is animated by notes of fresh lemons, peaches and honeysuckle, a touch of jasmine. Good length.

Score : 16.75+/20 (94/100)

Fritz Haag Juffer Riesling GG 2021

The nose offers a lot of ripeness and warm site sensation. It is full of yellow peaches, apricots, some pomelo and fresh lemon, a touch of kerosene in the echo. The palate is intense, showing ripe fruity notes, some smokiness, piercing, mouth-watering acidity and poised structure. An opulent, rich style of a Mosel Riesling with a great balance, length and potential.

Score : 16.25+/20 (93/100)

Fritz Haag Juffer Sonnenuhr Riesling GG 2021

Attractive, flattering nose of white flowers and ripe citrus fruits, a bit smoky, dense and precise. The palate is powerful, displaying a lot of ripeness, zesty acidity, nuances of apricots and crushed yellow peaches, some ginger, a bit of petrol. Good length and amazing ageing potential.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Schloss-Lieser - Thomas Haag Juffer Sonnenuhr Riesling GG 2021

The nose is floral, revealing notes of pollen, white flowers and flower honey. The palate is dry, very zesty and linear, vertical with a bunch of citrus fruits, floral notes, hints of slate minerality and a touch of ginger. An ethereal style that is light on its feet but complex and multi-layered. Long, juicy finish.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Geheimrat J.Wegeler Doctor Riesling GG 2021

The nose is intense, citrusy, ripe, revealing notes of yellow apples, fresh apricots, a touch of honeysuckle, some slate minerality, a hint of pungent spices. The palate is dense, very concentrated, opulent and intense. The piercing acidity lifts up the juiciness and minerality. Grippy, zesty, saline finish. An amazing wine!

Score : 17.5/20 (95/100)

Dr. Loosen Johannisbrünnchen Riesling GG 2021

(Barrel sample) The nose is a bit reductive, slightly spicy, needs some air and time to open up. Creamy on the palate, the wine is still a bit yeasty, pungent. It shows good concentration, piercing acidity, notes of ripe peaches and apricots, a touch of chamomile and honeysuckle. Good length and ageing potential.

Score : 16.25+/20 (93/100)

Dr. Loosen Lay Riesling GG 2021

(Barrel sample) The nose is floral, delicate, very flattering and ethereal. The palate is bone-dry, zesty and precise. The crisp acidity highlights the citrusy-floral character. A very aerial, lean, light-footed wine with a delicately floral finish.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Dr. Loosen Himmelreich Riesling GG 2021

(Barrel sample) The nose is slightly muted, opening up with a delicate spicy note. On the palate the wine is dense, ripe, showing refreshing acidity and high fruit concentration, a powerful style with nuances of ripe yellow apples, ripe peaches, a touch of juicy pineapple. Long fruity finish.

Score : 16.25+/20 (93/100)

Dr. Loosen Domprobst Riesling GG 2021

(Barrel sample) The nose is citrusy and floral, very flattering and attractive. The palate is tight, revealing high acidity, slate minerality, a lot of precision, elegance and linearity. The citrus notes dominate on the palate supported by hints of tropical and orchard fruits, a touch of kerosene. Long, succulent finish. An amazing, classic Riesling.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Reichsgraf von Kesselstatt Josephshöfer Riesling GG 2021

The nose is slightly oxidative, combining a touch of bruised apples with attractive notes of meadow flowers and dark, slate minerality. The palate is tense and dry with piercing, zesty acidity, relatively light, elegant texture but powerful fruit concentration. A touch of volatile acidity lifts up the fruitiness and extends the citrusy, juicy finish.

Score : 17.5/20 (95/100)

Clemens Busch Marienburg Rothenpfad Riesling GG 2021

Spicy, pungent nose shows notes of ripe yellow apples, apricots and a touch of tropical fruits. The palate is concentrated but bone-dry, with elevated, crisp acidity. The wine shows a perfect balance between the opulence of ripe orchard fruits and the freshness coming from the acidity and the mineral backbone. Intense, long finish.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Clemens Busch Marienburg Fahrley Riesling GG 2021

The nose is very delicate, powdery, floral with notes of apple blossom and pollen. The palate mirrors the nose in its delicacy, revealing mouth-watering acidity, dense minerality, elegant body and long, floral, aerial finish. Very sublime for the moment, this wine shows a great ageing potential.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Clemens Busch Marienburg Falkenmay Riesling GG 2021

The nose is floral, needs some air to open up, still a bit tight and restrained. The palate on the contrary is opulent, slightly, attractively pungent, the piercing acidity uplifts the fruits. There is a hint of bruised apple, a touch of ripe yellow peach and a solid mineral backbone. The texture is round and creamy. Very good length.

Score : 17.5/20 (95/100)

Heymann-Löwenstein Kirchberg Riesling GG 2021

The nose is intense and opulent with notes of yellow apple, slightly oxidative and pungent. The palate reveals elevated acidity supporting the structure. The wine is creamy and round, slightly bitter in the aftertaste. Very particular style, not a traditional but an attractive Riesling.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Heymann-Löwenstein Stolzenberg Riesling GG 2021

A fresh, flattering nose, revealing notes of yellow apples and pears, lemons, pomelos and a touch of flower honey. The palate shows a lot of tension, piercing, brisk acidity, round and creamy texture, slightly oxidative character with notes of meadow flowers, honey, pleasant nuances of ripe yellow fruits. Good length.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

RHEINGAU

Diefenhardt Schlenzenberg Riesling GG 2020

The nose is intense, revealing notes of citrus fruits and floral nuances, a touch of orange blossom. The palate is opulent and rich, tense, mineral and powerful. The texture is almost waxy, balanced by zesty acidity and bright citrus fruitiness. Good length.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

August Eser Wisselbrunnen Riesling GG 2020

The nose is bright and fruity with notes of fresh lemonade and lime pie. The palate is dry, very refreshing, the acidity is piercing, very pronounced. A very elegant wine with a nice mineral backbone, fresh and vibrant almost a spritzer. Good length.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Kaufmann Wisselbrunnen Riesling GG 2020

The nose is ripe with a light kerosene note and ripe yellow fruits in the background. The palate is dense, zesty with prominent acidity, a lot of concentration and power. A very ripe, opulent style with a touch of bitterness and nuttiness on the finish.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Josef Spreitzer Wisselbrunnen Riesling GG 2021

The nose is flattering, very attractive, revealing notes of orange water, rose petals and mandarin zest. The palate is intense and precise, showing zesty, crisp acidity, a certain straightness and linearity. A classic!

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Robert Weil Gräfenberg Riesling GG 2021

The nose is slightly discreet, with aeration revealing notes of white flowers, honeysuckle and pollen. The palate is intense, dominated by the mouth-watering acidity and citrusy notes of fresh lemons and limes. The wine is straightforward and direct.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

August Eser Doosberg Riesling GG 2020

The nose is floral, citrusy, a bit reductive, needs some air to open up. The palate is dense, juicy, very attractive, revealing splendid acidity, some opulence and exuberance, very

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ripe fruits notes of yellow apples, peaches and pineapples. The richness is perfectly balanced by the fresh acidity. Lingers long with reverberating fruity notes.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Peter Jakob Kühn Doosberg Riesling GG 2020

The nose is reductive and smoky, needs aeration to open up. On the palate the wine is powerful, still smoky, but with ripe citrus fruits in the echo. Crisp acidity holds the massive structure well together. A Burgundian style. Long, smoky finish.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Schloss Johannisberg Schloss Johannisberg Riesling GG 2020

The nose is intensely citrusy, with notes of lime pie and lemonade. The palate is ethereal and light-footed, dominated by the prominent acidity, which lifts up all the elements. Long, refreshing, mineral finish.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Prinz von Hessen Klaus Riesling GG 2020

The nose is citrusy and floral with notes of orange zest, meadow flowers and peach blossom. A very classic linear, citrusy and mineral Riesling with elevated acidity and long, fruity finish.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Johannishof Hölle Riesling GG 2020

The nose is slightly reductive, smoky, with aeration opening up with floral notes of geranium, honeysuckle and apple blossom. The palate is dense and rich, elevated acidity supports well the opulent structure. Notes of ripe yellow apples and pears are interlaced with nuances of pineapple and a touch of mango. An exuberant, baroque style of Riesling with juicy, fruity finish.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Geheimrat J.Wegeler - Gutshaus Rheingau Rotheberg Riesling GG 2020

The nose starts with reduction, a touch of rubber, later opening up with pleasant citrusy notes with a mineral touch in the echo. Juicy, crisp acidity dominates the palate, framing the wine. The palate mirrors the nose with delicate saline nuances and notes of ripe lemons and pomelos. Succulent, long finish. Delicious!

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

August Kessler Seligmacher Riesling GG 2020

The nose is slightly oxidative, with a touch of bruised apple and ripe pineapples. The palate has similar direction with a touch of positive oxidation which makes the wine more accessible and open. The fruity notes of the palate are uplifted by this slightly volatile character. A particular style which has its charm.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Leitz Rosengarten Riesling GG 2020

The nose is very perfumed, floral, revealing notes of geranium and peonies supported by nuances of ripe lemons and fresh peaches. Slightly bitter on the palate, the wine shows elevated acidity, elegance and finesse. Good length and persistence.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Künstler Berg Rottland Riesling GG 2021

The nose is floral and delicate with nuances of pollen and elderflower. The palate demonstrates a lot of precision, piercing acidity, elegant structure and finesse. A classic citrusy profile, light-footed but with a good ageing potential.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Leitz Berg Rottland Riesling GG 2020

The nose is tight and restrained, needs air and time to show its best. The palate is extremely mineral and taut, with zesty, piercing acidity, a textural chalkiness, not much fruity at the moment and promising a long development.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Johannishof Berg Rottland Riesling GG 2020

The nose is extremely perfumed, floral, almost excessive, showing notes of geranium, peonies and elderflower. The palate mirrors the nose with the same floral character, supported by mouth-watering acidity, elegant texture and attractive mineral underpinnings. Good length.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Leitz Berg Kaisersteinfels Riesling GG 2020

The citrus nose is very classic and flattering. The palate demonstrates zesty, crisp, almost tight acidity, notes of ripe lemons, limes and pomelos, a touch of yellow apples and a powerful mineral backbone. Good length and solid ageing potential.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Künstler Berg Schlossberg Riesling GG 2021

The floral nose is attractive in its pure notes of apple blossom and honeysuckle. The palate reveals piercing, crisp acidity, intense minerality, notes of white meadow flowers, citrus fruits and a touch of salinity in the background. Good complexity. A multi-layered wine which develops in the glass. Good length.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Künstler Reichstal Spätburgunder GG 2019

The nose shows a lot of oak influence, some density and spiciness. The palate reveals moderate acidity, a certain roundness, dusty tannins, nuances of bay leaf, expressive notes of cinnamon and cloves. The wine for the moment is dominated by the oak, needs time to integrate it.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Kaufmann Hassel Spätburgunder GG 2020

The nose is pleasantly volatile, revealing nuances of balsamic, bright notes of ripe red cherries, bay leaf, sweet spices. The palate is powerful and juicy, with a lot of volume and concentration, showing round, plush tannins, nice volume, uplifted by high acidity. An opulent style. Long, spicy finish.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Kloster Eberbach Berg Schlossberg Spätburgunder GG 2020

The nose is opulent and flattering, revealing nuances of strawberry cream, a bit lactic, very attractive. The palate mirrors the nose with a load of strawberries, a touch of strawberry jam, moderate acidity, elegant, tight body, nice roundness, smooth, silky tannins. Fresh finish, full of crunchy berries.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

August Kessler Höllenberg Spätburgunder GG 2019

Smoky and spicy on the nose with obvious oak influence. The palate is dense, revealing elevated acidity, some tightness of grain, a light bitterness, moderate weight, sticky, bold tannins. The wine is packed with nuances of red cherries, cranberries and wild strawberries complemented by a serious oak support.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Kloster Eberbach Höllenberg Spätburgunder GG 2019

The nose is slightly lactic, revealing notes of strawberry yogurt and crème brûlée, then some oak and spices come through with aeration. The palate is dry, with moderate weight, balanced, refreshing acidity, roundness, a touch of balsamic notes, nice freshness. Juicy and fruity finish.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Künstler Höllenberg Spätburgunder GG 2019

The nose is slightly oaky, spicy, with notes of ripe black cherries and black raspberries in the echo. The palate is dense, showing ripe sweet cherries, nuances of cinnamon, cloves and nutmeg, some roundness, moderate acidity, chalky, grainy tannins, some mineral backbone, a touch of bitterness on the finish.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)



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NAHE

H. Dönnhoff Hermannshöhle Riesling GG 2021

The nose is floral and perfumed with a nice, dense, spiciness and pungency. The palate is completely dry, showing high acidity, moderate weight, intense and profound minerality, notes of yellow fruits and citrus nuances, good length and potential. Still a bit yeasty on the finish.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Gut Hermannsberg Steinberg Riesling GG 2021

Intense and powdery nose of vanilla and pollen, floral, very flattering. The palate reveals zesty acidity, weighty structure, powerful and round texture with notes of tropical fruits, mango, pineapple. A very ripe style.

Score : 16.25+/20 (93/100)

Gut Hermannsberg Hermannsberg Riesling GG 2017

A pleasant nose, revealing notes of kerosene, very ripe tropical fruits as well as peaches and a hint of jasmine. The palate is packed with crisp, juicy acidity. The wine is very elegant and thin with a touch of bitterness slightly nutty on the finish. Seems quite developed already.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Dr. Crusius Kupfergrube Riesling GG 2021

The nose is still a bit yeasty and fermentative, needs time to settle. The palate is tight, spicy, pungent, showing piercing acidity and notes of juicy citrus fruits like lemons and pomelos. The wine will age beautifully.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Gut Hermannsberg Bastei Riesling GG 2020

The nose is reductive, smoky, needs air to open up. The tight palate needs time to settle, zesty acidity frames this Riesling well, highlighting this elegant, light-footed character with a strong mineral backbone. Good length and great ageing potential.

Score : 16.25+/20 (93/100)

Dr. Crusius Bastei Riesling GG 2021

The nose is intense, floral, revealing notes of orange blossom, white flowers and jasmine. The palate shows crisp, mouth-watering acidity and light, elegant structure. A very classic, perfumed style with a pleasant and refreshing citrusy finish. Good potential.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Dr. Crusius Mühlberg Riesling GG 2021

The nose is very open and attractive with floral notes and a touch of nuts. High acidity supports the round structure and creamy texture. Citrusy and floral, this wine shows a good length.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Dr. Crusius Steinberg Riesling GG 2021

The nose is a bit restrained, tight, it needs time to open. The wine is creamy and textured with crisp, zesty acidity, notes of ripe lemons, floral nuances, good length and long ageing potential.

Score : 16.25+/20 (93/100)

H. Dönnhoff Krötenpfuhl Riesling GG 2021

The nose is still yeasty, very young, needs time to settle. The wine reveals typical Nahe acidity, crisp and cleansing, citrusy and floral profile with still a touch of fermentative notes, tense texture, good length and excellent ageing potential.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

H. Dönnhoff Höllenspfad in Mühlberg Riesling GG 2021

The nose is yeasty, very young, not yet quite on its place. The palate reveals mouth-watering acidity, spicy and pungent character, elegant structure supported by pronounced minerality. Long, citrusy finish. The wine to watch!

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

RHEINHESSEN

Prinz Salm Kirchberg Riesling GG 2020

The nose is pleasantly citrusy, with notes of orange blossom, ripe lemons and pomelos. The palate offers a touch of bitterness, zesty but quite soft acidity, notes of ripe yellow apples, pears, a touch of honeysuckle on the finish. Moderate length.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Prinz Salm Scharlachberg Riesling GG 2019

The nose is full of floral notes, like pollen and elderflower, very attractive and flattering, with a bit of vanilla in the echo. The palate shows a light bitterness, elevated, crisp acidity, very ripe yellow fruits profile, tropical notes of mango and pineapple. A rich, opulent style.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Kruger-Rumpf Scharlachberg Riesling GG 2021

The nose is a bit smoky and reductive, needs some air to open up. The palate reveals zesty, citrusy acidity, a lot of fruitiness and juiciness, an elegant body, roundness and gourmandise. A classic style with a attractive, succulent finish.

Score : 16.5+/20 (93-94/100)

Bischel Scharlachberg Riesling GG 2021

The nose is very reductive and smoky initially, with notes of gunflint and roasted seeds. The palate offers a citrusy, refreshing acidity, mineral, smoky nuances. The wine is still very young, a bit fermentative, needs time to show all its beauty. Good length and chalky texture, long ageing potential.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Wagner-Stempel Scharlachberg Riesling GG 2021

The nose is not yet on its place, is slightly lactic and pungent, needs time to settle. The palate reveals mouth-watering acidity, a light, elegant structure, citrus notes of grapefruits and pomelos, floral nuances of jasmine, honeysuckle and chamomile, good length and long ageing potential.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

St. Antony Pettenthal Riesling GG 2021

The nose is intense, floral with notes of flower honey, beeswax, nuances of apple blossom and honeysuckle. Crisp acidity holds the powerful structure together, the wine shows a lot of concentration and ripeness, notes of tropical fruits, juicy yellow apples and quince. Long, vibrant, succulent finish.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Gunderloch Pettenthal Riesling GG 2021

The nose is slightly reductive and smoky initially, needs time to open up. The palate is round and creamy, with balanced acidity, citrusy profile with a touch of bitterness. Some yeasty nuances on the finish. Needs time.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Kühling-Gillot Pettenthal Riesling GG 2021

The nose is a bit shy, needs more air to open up. The palate reveals roundness and creamy texture, very soft acidity, though quite present and pronounced, notes of citrus fruits, floral nuances. Long finish and good persistence.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Kühling-Gillot Ölberg Riesling GG 2021

The nose is a bit smoky and pungent, still very young. The palate reveals crisp, slightly acetic acidity, notes of ripe, juicy lemons, nuances of tropical fruits, a very ripe profile. Long, open, opulent finish.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Brüder Dr. Becker Falkenberg Riesling GG 2021

The nose is full of floral nuances, notes of honey and meadow flowers. The palate reveals piercing acidity, a delicate, very slim body. In general a very light style, that lacks concentration a bit. Moderate length.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Brüder Dr. Becker Tafelstein Riesling GG 2021

The nose is floral and delicate, revealing notes of white flowers, honeysuckle and pollen. The palate offers zesty, refreshing acidity, elegant texture, some tension and tightness, a strong mineral backbone supporting the overall citrusy flavour profile, spicy and pungent finish, good ageing potential.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

K. F. Groebe Kirchspiel Riesling GG 2021

The nose is smoky with a light reduction, tight and restrained. The palate reveals zesty, crisp acidity, notes of ripe, citrus fruits, very juicy yellow apples and white peaches. A very classic Riesling with a lot of intensity and power, succulent finish and long ageing potential.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

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Wittmann Kirchspiel Riesling GG 2021

The nose is floral, with notes of pollen, flower honey, honeysuckle and apple blossom, very attractive and flattering. The palate is delicate and elegant, very aerial, with well-present but rather soft and creamy acidity, nuances of yellow fruits, orange blossom, yellow apples and meadow flowers. Amazing length and complexity!

Score : 17.5/20 (95/100)

Wittmann Aulerde Riesling GG 2021

The nose is slightly muted, reductive, needs air to open up. The palate is juicy, dense and tight, revealing piercing, taut acidity, notes of ripe lemons, a touch of citrus zest, a lot of power and concentration. Still very young and closed. Long ageing potential.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Battenfeld Spanier Kirchenstück Riesling GG 2021

The nose is restrained, spicy, needs time to develop. Piercing acidity dominates the palate, supported by intense notes of citrus fruits, ripe lemons and limes. The wine is still very tight, needs time. Good ageing potential.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Battenfeld Spanier Frauenberg Riesling GG 2021

The nose is flattering with floral notes, nuances of flower honey and pear blossom. The palate is powerful and round, balanced by a zesty acidity and bright fruitiness with notes of juicy lemons and pomelos and a touch of meadow flowers in the background. Good length.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Battenfeld Spanier Zellerweg am Schwarzen Herrgott Riesling GG 2021

The nose is shy and restrained, while the palate is concentrated, ripe and powerful, with spicy and pungent notes, powerful slate minerality, saline underpinnings in the background and crisp, citrusy acidity. Long finish.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Bischel Heerkretz Riesling GG 2021

The nose is slightly herbaceous with notes of dill and meadow herbs. The palate reveals mouth-watering acidity, nice tightness and elegance with nuances of citrus fruits and green apples. Long, refreshing finish.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Wagner-Stempel Höllberg Riesling GG 2021

The nose is floral, attractive with nuances of meadow flowers and honeysuckle. The palate is linear and vertical with piercing, skyrocketing acidity, crisp lemony profile, elegant, slim body and very fresh, long citrusy and juicy finish.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

J. Neus Horn Spätburgunder GG 2020

Attractive nose of fresh red cherries, wild strawberries and ripe forest raspberries. Juicy on the palate, revealing notes of ripe red and black cherries, strawberry compote, crunchy raspberries, with elevated, crisp acidity, soft, velvety tannins and juicy, fruity finish.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

J. Neus Pares Spätburgunder GG 2020

The nose is a bit restrained, somewhat smoky, with nuances of sweet spices and mineral underpinnings. The palate is juicy and fresh, revealing crisp, vibrant acidity, bold but round and silky tannins, moderate weight, nice juiciness of red cherries and cranberries on the finish.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Kühling-Gillot Kreuz Spätburgunder GG 2020

The nose is dense, oaky, deep and open, revealing nuances of red and black cherries, strawberry jam and ripe wild strawberries. The palate is juicy and tight, with a high concentration, crisp, vivid acidity, soft, round tannins, moderate weight, a certain roundness and creaminess, vibrant and juicy red and black

berries. Succulent, fruity, delicious finish.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Wagner-Stempel Heerkretz Spätburgunder GG 2020

The nose is deep and open, revealing nuances of black cherries, blackberries and black raspberries, some sweet oak and coffee. The palate offers nice roundness, moderate acidity, soft, velvety tannins, refreshing, juicy finish. A very accessible style.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Gutzler Morstein Spätburgunder GG 2019

The nose is reductive and smoky, needs a lot of air to open up. Very juicy on the palate, revealing crisp, crunchy acidity of red cherries, well-integrated oak, sweet, round and soft tannins. The finish is pleasantly fruity and oaky.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Gutzler Brunnenhäuschen Spätburgunder GG 2019

The nose is smoky and reductive, after aeration revealing notes of sweet spices, black cherries and a touch of liquorice. The palate is a bit tight, with dense, powerful acidity, sticky, slightly green tannins, needs time to open up. Slightly bitter on the finish, herbaceous notes in the aftertaste.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Keller Frauenberg Spätburgunder GG 2020

Attractive, floral nose of rose petals, hibiscus and perfumed red tea. Very fresh and elegant on the palate, ethereal, with elevated, uplifted acidity, elegant body, very lean, but floral and complex, airy, satin tannins. Juicy, long finish.

Score : 17.5/20 (95/100)



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Battenfeld Spanier Kirchenstück Spätburgunder GG 2020

Very pale ruby colour. The nose is intensely floral with delicate notes on strawberries, raspberries, red cherries and cherry blossom. The palate reveals crunchy, crisp acidity, slightly acetic, very well-balanced volatile, uplifted, intense fruitiness, soft and silky tannins. Fruity finish with some black tea and floral notes. Exceptional.

Score : 17.5/20 (95/100)

PFALZ

Philipp Kuhn Saumagen Riesling GG 2021

The nose is floral, flattering, revealing notes of pollen and honeysuckle. The palate demonstrates searing acidity, lean and athletic body, some spiciness and tightness with delicate notes of lemons and green orchard fruits. A very elegant, ethereal style that needs time to open. A citrusy, pungent finish.

Score : 16.25+/20 (93/100)

Rings Saumagen Riesling GG 2021

The nose is initially very reductive and tight, dominated by notes of smoke and sesame seeds. On the palate the wine shows crisp, citrusy acidity, moderate weight combined with slate minerality and nice creaminess. Pungent and spicy on the finish. Good length.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Rings Annaberg Riesling GG 2021

The nose is slightly muted, needs air to open up and deliver. The palate reveals zesty acidity, round and ripe character with notes of ripe lemons and pomelos with a lot of mineral tension. The opulent profile is well-framed by the acidity and mineral backbone. The wine needs more time to show its best.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Pfeffingen Herrenberg Riesling GG 2021

The nose is attractive and full of ripe and juicy yellow apples, pears and quinces. The palate is ripe and juicy with nuances of tropical fruits, apricots and yellow peaches. The elevated acidity holds the whole structure well together framing the wine. A light sweetness of yellow fruits on the finish. Good length.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

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Georg Mosbacher Freundstück Riesling GG 2021

On the nose floral, delicate and elegant, the wine continues with a spicy palate, revealing pungent notes with some citrusy and floral nuances in the echo. The body is slender and tight framed by searing acidity. A touch of bitterness on the finish.
Score : 15.5/20 (90-91/100)

Reichsrat von Buhl Freundstück Riesling GG 2020

The nose is floral and fruity, offering notes of vanilla and fresh pastry, very attractive. The texture is creamy and smooth, slightly powdery, supported by a zesty acidity. The wine is juicy and pleasant, with gourmet notes of apricot coulis and peach blossom. Good length.
Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Reichsrat von Buhl Kirchenstück Riesling GG 2020

The wine is delicate on the nose, not showy but dense and linear with attractive notes of brioche, a touch of marzipan and apricot pastry. The palate offers a lot of tension and minerality, vertical, searing acidity and high concentration of ripe orchard fruits. Mineral and tight finish. Needs more time.
Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Acham-Magin Kirchenstück Riesling GG 2021

The nose is still a bit pungent and yeasty, very youthful and vivid. On the palate the wine shows zesty, citrusy acidity, moderate weight and nice concentration of citrus fruit aromas with a delicate touch of white flowers in the background. Good length and solid ageing potential.
Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Geheimer Rat Dr. von Bassermann-Jordan Kirchenstück Riesling GG 2021

The nose is exuberantly floral, perfumed with notes of geranium and peony. On the palate the wine shows crisp acidity, pungent notes of spices and ginger, a lot of floral nuances. A very perfumed, opulent style with a moderate, fruity finish.
Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Dr. Bürklin-Wolf Langenmorgen Riesling GG 2021

The nose is restrained and closed, needs air to open up. The palate reveals searing, vertical, citrusy acidity, smoky and pungent nuances of roasted seeds and spices, a very elegant, aerial structure, sliding to a delicately floral finish.
Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Geheimer Rat Dr. von Bassermann-Jordan Grainhübel Riesling GG 2021

The nose is very unusual, slightly lactic, revealing pungent cheese notes. The palate is very elegant and aerial with piercing acidity, floral and citrusy, with notes of honeysuckle, limes and lemons, a touch of pollen in the echo. Long, powdery finish.
Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Müller-Catoir Bürgergarten im Breumel Riesling GG 2021

The nose is floral, revealing notes of ripe yellow apples, quinces, a touch of pineapple and honeysuckle. The palate is round and creamy, opulent and full of nuances of ripe lemons, acacia, elderflower, yellow pear and apple blossom. The wine is already open and accessible, showing good length and persistence.
Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Geheimer Rat Dr. von Bassermann-Jordan Hohenmorgen Riesling GG 2021

The nose offers a lot of ripeness and concentration, notes of pineapples and ripe mangos. The palate is powerful, full of ripe citrus fruits like pomelos and a touch of kumquats, stony minerality. Long finish and solid ageing potential.
Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Geheimer Rat Dr. von Bassermann-Jordan Kalkofen Riesling GG 2021

The nose reveals a plethora of floral notes – pollen, honeysuckle, acacia and flower honey. The palate is powdery and powerful with nuances of tropical fruits, a lot of ripeness and concentration, a touch of bitterness in the background. Mineral and savoury finish, good persistence.
Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Reichsrat von Buhl Reiterpfad Hofstück Riesling GG 2020

The nose is bursting with tropical fruits, ripe peaches and apricots, a touch of

kerosene in the echo. The palate reveals zesty, citrusy acidity, powdery texture, some creaminess and fluidity, notes of baked apple on the finish. Slightly overripe style.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Dr. Bürklin-Wolf Reiterpfad in der Hohl Riesling GG 2021

The nose is spicy and pungent nose, with a touch of fresh grass and nettle in the echo. The palate is quite herbaceous, grassy as well, with notes of green apples, limes, a hint of underripe pineapple. In general very elegant and lean, with piercing acidity, a lighter, greener style of Riesling.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Dr. Bürklin-Wolf Gaisböhl Riesling GG 2021

The nose is ripe with a lot of spiciness and power. The palate shows searing acidity, balanced by the creaminess and roundness of the body and ripe notes of pineapple and mango, with a touch of kumquat in the background. Long, succulent finish. Delicious!

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

A. Christmann Idig Riesling GG 2021

The nose is pungent, very young, still a bit fermentative. The palate mirrors the nose with its yeastiness and pungency. It reveals high, searing acidity, moderate weight, a light bitterness on the finish and a lot of stone minerality. The wine needs time to settle.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

A. Christmann Ölberg-Hart Riesling GG 2021

The nose is restrained and closed, needs time to open up. The palate reveals zesty, citrusy acidity, a lot of saline notes, solid mineral backbone. A touch of bitterness in the background adds to the overall complexity of the wine. Long ageing potential.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

A. Christmann Meerspinne Riesling GG 2021

The nose is pungent, youthful, still fermentative. The palate is dominated by the searing, vertical acidity, almost painful at the moment. The structure is lean and aerial, the wine shows a lot of minerality, delicate citrus notes and a good length. Long ageing potential.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

A. Christmann Vogelsang Riesling GG 2021

The nose is very youthful, still slightly yeasty and fermentative. The palate is pungent and spicy, with piercing acidity, slightly bitter in the background, bit notes of limes, green and yellow apples, a touch of apple blossom, all framed by stony minerality. Good length.

Score : 16.25+/20 (93/100)

Ökonomierat Rebholz Ganz Horn Riesling GG 2021

The nose is slightly medicinal with notes of iodine and oyster shells, very unusual. The palate reveals a zesty, citrusy acidity, a delicate, green profile of the fruit, moderate weight, overall an elegant, ethereal style. Good persistence and solid ageing potential.

Score : 16.25+/20 (93/100)

Ökonomierat Rebholz im Sonnenschein Riesling GG 2021

The nose is delicately floral, powdery with notes of pollen and honeysuckle. The palate is relatively soft and fruity with elevated, citrusy acidity, lean structure, very vertical and aerial, elegant style that is already accessible now.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Philipp Kuhn Kirschgarten Weisser Burgunder GG 2020

The nose is reductive, revealing nuances of gunflint, smoke and a touch of yellow fruits in the background. The palate is creamy and smooth, balanced by the piercing, pungent acidity. The wine shows attractive notes of yellow apple, a fine mineral backbone and delicate salinity. The finish is creamy and fluid.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Pfeffingen Herrenberg Weisser Burgunder GG 2021

The nose is fruity, offering nuances of yellow and white apples, a touch of floral and pollen. The palate is dry, with a tight, zesty acidity, moderate weight, a very tense, mineral structure, with yellow fruits in the background. A lean, mineral, slightly austere style.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Germany

GG Releases 2022

Geheimer Rat Dr. von Bassermann-Jordan Langenmorgen Weisser Burgunder GG 2021

The nose is fruity and flattering, revealing notes of ripe lemons and tangerines, some floral nuances, a delicate touch of orange water. Completely dry on the palate, this wine demonstrates balanced acidity, very lean, elegant body, ethereal character. Already pleasant and accessible with an attractive, zesty finish.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Bergdolt - Kloostergut St.Lamprecht Mandelberg am Speyrer Weg Weisser Burgunder GG 2020

The nose is reductive, revealing nuances of smoke and sesame seeds. The palate is dry and dense, with intense fruity notes of yellow apples, pears and apricots. The wine is voluptuous and opulent with creamy, suave acidity, a delicate saline touch, already approachable, a pleasant and easy-drinking style.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Theo Minges Rosenkranz im Untern Kreuz Weisser Burgunder GG 2021

The nose is citrusy and floral with nuances white flowers, some white apples and quince in the echo. The palate is dry and slightly austere, revealing moderate acidity and weight, a lot of minerality and salinity, a touch of citrus fruits. Medium finish.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Ökonomierat Rebholz Im Sonnenschein Weisser Burgunder GG 2021

The nose is citrusy, fresh, very attractive, revealing nuances of ripe lemon and tangerine zest, notes of white flowers. The palate is dry with zesty, crisp acidity, moderate weight, nice tension, saline and fruity character. A very elegant, precise style with a tense, scintillating finish.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Ökonomierat Rebholz Mandelberg Weisser Burgunder GG 2021

The nose is discreet, delicate with subtle floral nuances. The palate is dry, with zesty, piercing acidity, very elegant and mineral, offering an ethereal quality, nice salinity, light body but very persistent finish, with saline, citrusy and chalky reverberations.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Kranz Kalmit Weisser Burgunder GG 2021

The nose is a bit restrained and smoky, needs aeration and time. The palate is dry, creamy and oaky, revealing nuances of cinnamon and cloves, yellow orchard and citrus fruits. The zesty, crisp acidity balances well the oaky character, the wine does not seem heavy or overloaded. It needs more time to integrate the wood and develop a coherent flow.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Bernhart Sonnenberg Weisser Burgunder GG 2021

The nose is fruity and creamy, with attractive notes of vanilla, white apples and meadow flowers. The palate is dry, with elevated, citrusy acidity, lean body, nice mineral backbone and nuances of white fruits like pears, apples and a bit of peach. Very piercing and elegant with saline, chalky finish.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Jülg Sonnenberg Weisser Burgunder GG 2021

The nose is reductive, smoky, the wine will benefit from decanting. The palate is dry, revealing a lot of smokiness and salinity. The acidity is moderate balancing well the body. The reductive character is a bit too dominant at the moment, the wine lacks a bit of precision and tension.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Knipser Mandelpfad Spätburgunder GG 2018

The nose is oaky, dense and deep, with aeration revealing nuances of red and black cherries, a touch of bramble and forest raspberries, a hint of underbrush. The palate is also smoky, offering notes of tobacco, sweet spices, coffee. The wine demonstrates soft, round tannins, moderate acidity, fruity and smoky finish.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Knipser Im Grossen Garten Spätburgunder GG 2018

The nose is a bit muted and restrained, needs air to open up. The palate is fresh and juicy, bursting with notes of red cherries, cranberries, some forest berries. The tannins are soft complemented by the refreshing, crisp acidity. Fruity, oaky finish.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Knipser Kirschgarten Spätburgunder GG 2018

The nose is spicy and open, very flattering, soaring notes of fresh red cherries and red plums with sweet spices in the echo. The palate offers nice freshness, sticky, but well-managed tannins, moderate weight, good tension. The wine shows a great ageing potential, needs time. Mineral and saline finish.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Philipp Kuhn Kirschgarten Spätburgunder GG 2019

The nose is a bit restrained, needs time and air to open up. Nice tension on the palate, a lot of oak, sweet spices like cinnamon and cloves. Powerful entry, bold, sticky tannins, elevated, crisp acidity, moderate weight, a lot of sour cherries and raspberries. Juicy but slightly green finish.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Philipp Kuhn Steinbuckel Spätburgunder GG 2019

The nose is smoky, slightly muted, with air opening up with notes of cranberries, wild strawberries and crunchy red cherries. The palate reveals juiciness and power, bold, muscular, sticky tannins, balanced, creamy acidity, opulent body. Some herbaceous nuances on the finish.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Rings Felsenberg Spätburgunder GG 2020

Intense, flattering nose of hibiscus, floral notes, strawberries and red tea. The palate is juicy and round with soft acidity and silky tannins, moderate weight, juiciness of sour cherries and wild strawberries. Round and fruity finish, sweet berries on the lingering aftertaste.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Rings Saumagen Spätburgunder GG 2020

The nose is slightly reductive, needs air to open up. The palate is juicy and fresh, revealing nuances of red cherries, fresh strawberries, wild raspberries and cranberries. Refreshing acidity is backed by soft, silky tannins. An elegant style. Crunchy cherries on the finish.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Christmann Idig Spätburgunder GG 2020

The nose is pleasantly balsamic and deliciously volatile, revealing a lot of juiciness, nuances of sweet spices, dill, fennel, ripe red and black cherries. The palate is perfectly balanced between elevated, crisp acidity, juicy, fleshy tannins and ripe, voluptuous finish.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Theo Minges Rosenkranz-Zinkelerde Spätburgunder GG 2019

The nose is a bit funky, showing some animalistic notes and pungent spices. The palate is juicy, revealing soaring notes of strawberries, overripe cherries, raspberry compote and jam. A powerful style with moderate acidity, opulent, bold tannins and juicy, succulent finish.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Bergdolt - Kloostergut St.Lamprecht Kalkberg Spätburgunder GG 2020

The nose is smoky and oaky, revealing nuances of sweet spices, tobacco and cedar wood. The palate is nicely balanced between exuberant fruits and noble oak, it offers nice freshness, soft and well-managed but sticky tannins, elevated acidity, fruity, lingering finish.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Ökonomierat Rebholz Im Sonnenschein Spätburgunder GG 2017

The nose is perfumed with luscious notes of balsamic, fennel, a touch of dill and marinade notes, a bit oaky. The wine is light with elevated, fresh acidity, very elegant, already revealing some tertiary notes, delicate, suave tannins. A lean style with long finish full of nuances forest floor and smoke, a touch of mushrooms.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Siegrist Kalmit Spätburgunder GG 2018

The nose is spicy and oaky with nuances of nutmeg, cloves and a touch of allspice. The palate offers crisp, juicy acidity, sticky, bold, dense tannins, round and creamy body, a lactic touch in the echo, nuances of red and black cherries, a hint strawberry yogurt in the aftertaste. Supple finish.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Germany

GG Releases 2022

Kranz Kalmit Spätburgunder GG 2020

The nose is delicately spicy, a bit balsamic, offering nuances of strawberry sauce and raspberry compote. There is a touch of greenness on the palate, evident spiciness. The tannins are bold and sticky, balanced by crisp, crunchy acidity. A touch of black pepper in the aftertaste. The wine needs time. Refreshing, pungent, peppery finish.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Jülg Kammerberg Spätburgunder GG 2020

The nose is dense, spicy and balsamic, revealing notes of sweet cooked strawberry, raspberry jam and a touch of figs. The palate is round and fresh, offering exuberant notes of crunchy red fruits, forest berries and wild strawberries, bold, grippy tannins balanced by the elevated, crisp acidity. Spicy, pungent finish.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Jülg Kostert Spätburgunder GG 2020

The nose is powerful and head, showing a lot of depth and complexity, complicated by the notes of red and black cherries, nuances of oak and spices. The palate reveals crisp, refreshing acidity, round, well-managed tannins, nice juiciness, a touch of spiciness, some roundness, bright fruitiness of red and black cherries, wild strawberries and red plum. Lingering, juicy finish.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Friedrich Becker Heydenreich Spätburgunder GG 2019

The nose is very reductive, needs aeration. The palate is tight and restrained, opening up with notes of bramble and wild strawberries, a touch of cranberries and forest raspberries. The wine offers bold, grippy and muscular tannins, elevated, crisp acidity, some restraint. It needs some time to get rounded.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Friedrich Becker Sankt Paul Spätburgunder GG 2019

The nose is tight and restrained, not delivering many aromas at the moment. The palate is dense but closed and unfriendly, offering crisp, almost painful, incisive acidity, a lot of black minerality with only a touch red and black berries in the background. A very particular style, in a closed stage now, needs time.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Bernhart Sonnenberg KT Spätburgunder GG 2020

The nose is very open, revealing notes of hibiscus and barberry, nuances of fresh, crushed strawberry, smoke and coffee. The palate offers nice, crunchy acidity, fruitiness and juiciness, freshness and roundness, velvety, suave tannins. Long, succulent finish.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Bernhart Sonnenberg RG Spätburgunder GG 2020

The nose is a bit muted, needs air to open up. The palate is crunchy and juicy, with elevated, crisp acidity, creamy, velvety tannins, nuances of sour cherries, cranberries and red plums, a lot of freshness. The finish is slightly green but juicy and lingering.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

BADEN

Bercher Feuerberg Haslen Weisser Burgunder GG 2021

The nose is creamy, revealing nuances of brioche, vanilla and sweet spices. The palate reveals elevated, zesty acidity, a lot of salinity and minerality, nice tension, citrus and yellow orchard fruits in the background. The finish is saline and precise, very long and refreshing.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Salwey Kirchberg Weisser Burgunder GG 2019

The nose is intensely smoky and reductive. The palate is dry, with a lot of creaminess, nuances of umami, very seductive aromas of brioche and sweet spices, nice salinity, zesty acidity, moderate weight and balanced alcohol, with yellow fruits in the background. Smoky and saline finish. Classic!

Score : 17.5/20 (95/100)

Salwey Steingrubenberg Weisser Burgunder GG 2019

The nose is discreet, slightly smoky, needs air to open up. The palate is dry with piercing, zesty acidity, some creaminess and roundness, a lean texture, very elegant, ethereal structure, nice saline and juiciness. Mineral and succulent finish.

Score : 17.5/20 (95/100)

Dr. Heger Hinter Winklen "Gras im Ofen" Weisser Burgunder GG 2020

The nose is floral, delicate, with nuances of apple blossom and honeysuckle. The palate is dry, revealing zesty, vertical acidity, a lean body, a delicate interplay of minerality, salinity and fruitiness, nice tension. A linear, mineral style with long ageing potential.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Schlumberger-Bernhart Weingarten "Wingerte" Weisser Burgunder GG 2020

The nose is very oaky and smoky, with nuances of brioche, sweet and pungent spices. The palate is dry, very spicy, with pronounced notes of noble wood, some cinnamon and nutmeg. The high acidity balances well the richness of the body. The wine shows a lot of tension and potential, needs time to integrate oak better.

Good length.
Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Bercher Schlossgarten Villenger Grauer Burgunder GG 2021

The nose is spicy and pungent with notes of iodine and floral nuances. The palate is dry, with balanced acidity, a light acetic touch, beautiful freshness which carries the whole structure. Long, fruity finish.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Bercher Feuerberg Haslen Grauer Burgunder GG 2021

The nose is a bit reductive and smoky, with nuances of roasted sesame seeds and gunflint. The palate is dry, a bit too oaky at the moment, slightly bitter, revealing vigorous acidity and a rather elegant, mineral structure. The wine is tight, with a beautiful freshness, powerful in its tightness.

Score : 16.25+/20 (93/100)

Michel Schlossberg Grauer Burgunder GG 2021

The nose is floral and flattering, with nuances of fresh brioche and dough, some spices from the oak. The palate is dry, very creamy, revealing notes of vanilla, yellow and red apples, pollen and sweet baking spices. The elevated acidity balances perfectly the powerful body. A voluptuous, baroque style.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Franz Keller Bassgeige Kähler Grauer Burgunder GG 2020

The nose is discreet, restrained, with delicate notes of fresh bread and bakery. The palate is dry but creamy, with aeration revealing subtle nuances of yogurt, brioche, a touch of sweet spices. A perfect balance between elevated but soft acidity and rich, opulent body. Long, spicy finish.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Salwey Eichberg Grauer Burgunder GG 2019

The nose is fruity, slightly reductive, dense and opulent, with notes of yellow fruits and a very strong mineral undercurrent. The palate is dry with tight, dense, zesty acidity. The wine is packed with notes of iodine, salinity and savouriness, complicated by nuances of yellow and red apples, a bit of melon and a hint of tropical fruits. Nice creaminess on a very long finish. Delicious!

Score : 17.5/20 (95/100)

Salwey Henkelberg Grauer Burgunder GG 2019

The smoky and reductive nose with aeration opens up with notes of toffee, caramel, a touch of fresh bakery. The palate is lean, dry, a bit austere, some smoky sweetness emerges in the background. The wine is carried through by stimulating, crisp acidity. It reveals a beautiful tension combined with some roundness at the same time, a lot of smokiness, complicated by attractive confectionary notes. Cellar it away and open in a few years!

Score : 18/20 (96/100)

Schlumberger-Bernhart Weingarten "Wingerte" Chardonnay GG 2020

The nose is smoky, slightly reductive, revealing nuances of spices, like cinnamon and cloves, notes of vanilla and some cedar wood. The palate is dry, tight, showing a lot of oak influence, high acidity, sweet spices, moderate weight. The wine needs some time to integrate oak. Long, spicy finish.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Germany

GG Releases 2022

Dr. Heger Hinter Winklen "Gras im Ofen" Chardonnay GG 2020

The nose is full of iodine, revealing mineral and smoky notes. The palate is dry, saline, offering elevated acidity, plush, rich body, still a bit oaky, with some spiciness of wood, nuances of sweet spices, yellow fruits in the background. Pleasant, spicy finish. Moderate length.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Michel Schlossberg Chardonnay GG 2020

The nose is noble and oaky, revealing nuances of sweet spices, with some yellow ripe fruits in the background. The palate is dry, juicy and fruity, offering a lot of volume, creaminess and gourmandise, delicious balance between oaky character and ripe yellow fruits. Mineral, saline, creamy finish.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Franz Keller Kirchberg Chardonnay GG 2020

The nose offers noble reduction, with a lot of smoky, flinty notes and nuances of roasted sesame seeds. The palate is dry, with elevated, linear acidity, moderate weight, certain elegance and finesse, nice oaky bitterness with yellow fruits in the background, beautiful salinity, a touch of iodine. Mineral, delicious finish.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Bernhard Huber Bienenberg Chardonnay GG 2020

The nose is extremely reductive, needs some air to open up aromas other than smoke and flint. The palate is dry, offering crisp, vertical acidity, lean and elegant structure, nicely salinity and minerality. A leaner, fresher style. Long, salty finish.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Bernhard Huber Schlossberg Chardonnay GG 2020

The nose is smoky but creamy at the same time, offering notes of melted butter, fresh cream supported by nuances of smoke and grilles sesame. The palate is dry, slightly acetic, revealing notes of struck match complemented by nuances of juicy, ripe yellow apples and pears, beautiful creaminess, power, some volume, open and opulent in its character. Long, creamy and smoky finish.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

AHR

Burggarten Sonnenberg Frühburgunder GG 2020

The nose is attractive, offering nuances of red cherries, a touch of cinnamon, a bit of green and stemmy. On the palate the wine is slightly lactic with elevated, fresh acidity, fine-grained tannins, moderate weight, lean structure, needs some more time to integrate oak better. Mineral and saline finish.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Deutzerhof Herrenberg Frühburgunder GG 2020

The nose is a bit dusty, offering notes of cinnamon and cloves, a touch of menthol and eucalyptus, complemented by hints of crunchy red and black cherries. Nice acidity on the palate, fresh and juicy structure, velvety, soft tannins, moderate weight, a touch of greenness in the echo. Good persistence.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Deutzerhof Mönchberg Frühburgunder GG 2020

The nose is slightly oaky, with aeration revealing notes of crunchy red cherries, strawberries and raspberries. The palate is juicy and fruity, a bit overwhelmed by oak, offering crisp, crunchy acidity, good freshness, nice roundness, needs time to incorporate oak better. Long finish.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Deutzerhof Spätburgunder Landskrone GG 2020

The nose is oaky, revealing notes of cinnamon, cloves and nutmeg, nuances of red and black cherries, red plums and crunchy raspberries. The palate offers elevated, zesty acidity, moderate weight, a leaner style with a touch of greenness in the background. Needs time to open up.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Burggarten Spätburgunder Burggarten GG 2020

The nose is dense, oaky, deep, offering nuances of ripe black and red cherries, a touch of black raspberries and wild strawberries. The palate is juicy and powerful, with a nice fruit concentration and volume, some oak spiciness, well-balanced by fruitiness and elevated acidity. The tannins are sticky and bold. Long, spicy finish.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Nelles Spätburgunder Burggarten GG 2020

The attractive nose reveals nuances of candied orange peel, cinnamon, barberry, hibiscus, complemented by nuances of dried strawberries and Pu-Her tea. The palate is dry, revealing balanced acidity and nice fruitiness, dried red berries, delicate black tea notes, hints of roses, in general very perfumed. The tannins are silky and well-managed. Smooth, fruity finish.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Burggarten Spätburgunder Schieferlay GG 2020

The nose is spicy and oaky nose, offering a plethora of sweet spices like nutmeg, liquorice, cinnamon and cloves. The palate is slightly lactic, with a lot of concentration, elevated, powerful acidity, exuberant notes of red and black cherries, high intensity. At the same time the wine demonstrates certain finesse and elegance, a touch of green, herbaceous notes, sticky, bold tannins. Good ageing potential, needs time, in a closed stage.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Nelles Spätburgunder Rosenthal GG 2020

The nose is floral and exuberant, revealing notes of red berries tea, hibiscus, nuances of dried rose petals and peonies. On the palate nicely juicy, offering hints of red and black cherries, wild strawberries and barberry. The wine demonstrates intense, zesty acidity, moderate weight, smooth, well-managed tannins. Crunchy, fresh finish.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

J. J. Adeneuer Spätburgunder Alte Lay GG 2020

The nose is spicy, revealing nuances of cloves and cinnamon, Christmas spice mix, gingerbread, reminding of mulled wine. The palate is dry, with moderate acidity, smooth, juicy tannins, nice roundness, offering notes of red cherries, cranberries, wild strawberries with a touch of underbrush. Long, juicy finish.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Deutzerhof Eck Spätburgunder GG 2020

The nose is balsamic, slightly volatile, uplifted, revealing notes of red cherries, cranberries and forest raspberries. The palate is a bit savage, slightly acetic, offering nuances of red cherries, cranberries and wild strawberries nice freshness, elevated acidity, smooth and silky tannins. Juicy and spicy finish.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Deutzerhof Mönchberg Spätburgunder GG 2020

The nose is deep, oaky and spicy, giving evidence of the oak regimen. The palate is juicy, revealing a lot of concentration, rich, plush body, nuances of ripe red and black cherries, balsamic notes, nuances of liquorice and underbrush. The wine demonstrates elevated, zesty acidity, smooth and ripe tannins, good length.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Burggarten Spätburgunder Alte Lay GG 2020

The nose is delicately spicy, offering notes of cinnamon, nutmeg with a touch of liquorice and tobacco. The palate is dense and tight, opening up with crunchy, fresh acidity, muscular tannins, tight structure. The wine is packed with rich notes of cranberries, blueberries, a bit darker profile than usual. Good potential. Long, juicy and spicy finish.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

WÜRTTEMBERG

Aldinger Gips Marienglas® Weisser Burgunder GG 2020

The nose is finely reductive, very delicately smoky. The palate is dry, saline, mineral, with white and yellow orchard fruits in the background, very savoury, makes you salivate. A very beautiful, quite of a Burgundian style with elevated, zesty acidity and moderate weight. Delicious!

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Graf Neipperg Schlossberg Weisser Burgunder GG 2021

The nose is rich and smoky, with ripe yellow fruit notes, nuances of ripe lemon and a touch of honeysuckle. The palate is dry, slightly oxidative with citrusy, zesty acidity, savoury notes all through, a bit bitter of the finish.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)



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FINEST ITALIAN WINES

OperaWine

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Chianti Classico

The land of the black rooster

Chianti Classico is counted among the oldest wine appellations in the world. It was first demarcated in 1716 by the decree of Grand Duke Cosimo III de Medici. Being more than 300 years old, the region has developed a lot of legends and stories around its name, including the one about the black rooster that helped the Florentines to win over the Siene.

Being criticised a lot recently for the absence of the more precise terroir division within its 4083 ha of vineyards, the Consortium came up in 2021 with new regulations introducing 11 sub-zones called UGAs (Unità Geografiche Aggointive) - Castellina, Castelnuovo Berardenga, Gaiole, Greve, Lamole, Montefioralle, Panzano, Radda, San Casciano, San Donato in Poggio and Vagliagli. These new toponyms might appear as early as 2022 vintage on the labels of Gran Selezione wines, the top single-estate category, which requires at least 90% Sangiovese in the blend and 30 months of ageing. At the moment, according to the data from the Consortium, there are 154 wineries producing Gran Selezione, which represents around 6% of the appellation production. Some Gran Selezione wines are made from single vineyards and provide a genuine sense of place.

Gaudio Carus Vini Chianti

Classico Gran Selezione DOCG 2016

The nose is intense and perfumed, slightly oaky and smoky, revealing notes of dried red and black cherries, dried herbs, roasted meat, cinnamon, cedarwood and a touch of rose petals. The palate is juicy, fresh, with alcohol well-balanced by the juiciness and refreshing acidity. The wine reveals notes of fresh and dried red berries, some cranberries, cherries, goji berries, with a touch of balsamic, rosemary, mahogany and cloves. The tannins are smooth and silky. An elegant, classic style of Chianti Classico with a nice balance between power and finesse.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Castello La Leccia Bruciagna

Chianti Classico Gran Selezione DOCG 2018

A ruby colour of moderate intensity with some garnet hues. The nose is a bit restrained, heady and powerful with notes of dark cherries, cherry liqueur, nuances of blackberries and bramble, touches of sweet baking spices – vanilla, cloves, nutmeg, a bit of cacao. The palate is voluptuous, showing a lot of volume, power and concentration. The wine reveals notes of sweet, candied cherries, dried strawberries, roasted herbs and a touch of smoke. The tannins are grippy and chalky, but well-managed and ripe. The finish is warming, intense and persistent.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Castello La Leccia

Chianti Classico Riserva DOCG 2018

An attractive ruby colour with a touch of garnet. The nose is dense and concentrated revealing notes of dried and confit cherries, a touch of balsamic, roasted rosemary, a nice minty note. The palate is fresh and vivid, showing some volume but well-balanced by the refreshing acidity. The wine demonstrates notes of fresh and roasted cherries, a touch of strawberries and raspberries, dried herbs and a pleasant savoury and spicy hint. The tannins are bold and round. The finish shows some length and warmth.

Score : 14.5/20 (88/100)

Casa di Monte Le Capitozze

Chianti Classico Riserva 2016

A ruby-garnet colour, showing some evolution. The nose is intense with a plethora of animalistic notes, roasted meat, dried herbs, a touch of dried cherries and plums. The palate is juicy and elegant, revealing nuances of red berries, fresh cherries, strawberries, a touch of cranberries, spices and wood. The wine demonstrates some chalky tannins, a nice round body and a good freshness. The finish is savoury and slightly drying.

Score : 14.5/20 (88/100)

Montefioralle

Chianti Classico Riserva 2018

An opaque ruby colour with a hint of garnet on the rim. The nose is intense, warming and powerful. It reveals notes of dark berries, black cherries, plums, bramble, a touch of herbals, tomato leaf, a nice fine note of mint chocolate. The palate is voluptuous and heady, without being heavy. The wine demonstrates notes of dried red and black cherries, liquorice, roasted rosemary and a hint of balsamic. The tannins are bold, chalky and fine-grained. A muscular style that manages to keep balance and a certain finesse due to the typical Sangiovese acidity and herbaceous character.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Cantine Guidi 1929

Chianti Classico Riserva 2018

A pale ruby colour with a garnet hue. The nose is delicate, floral, with notes of rose petals, dried sweet red cherries, raspberries, a touch of dried herbs, rosemary and a savoury note of spices. The palate reveals a lot of sweet oak with nuances of cacao, cinnamon, vanilla, roasted coffee. Later the notes of cherry pie, strawberry compote, a touch of kirsch show through. The tannins are bold but round and well-managed. A modern style balanced between the sweetness of oak and fruits and the bold tannins and crisp acidity of Sangiovese.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Borgo Scopeto Vigna Misciano

Chianti Classico Riserva 2018

The wine shows a medium-deep ruby colour with a garnet rim. The nose is slightly muted, with aeration revealing notes of dried rose petals, dried cherries, cranberries, a touch of sweet spices, balsamic and wood. The palate is elegant but concentrated and dense, packed with dried red fruits, demonstrating refreshing acidity and extraordinary finesse. The palate demonstrates notes of dried plums, cherries, raspberries, with a lick of iron, savoury herbs, rosemary and sage. The tannins are velvety and smooth and the finish shows a pleasant bitterness which adds to the overall complexity and freshness.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Borgo Scopeto

Chianti Classico Gran Selezione 2015

The wine has a medium-deep garnet colour with a slightly orange rim. The nose is intense, smoky, slightly reductive, revealing notes of cherries and strawberries in syrup, eucalyptus, a touch of menthol, black tea, some earthiness and tar. The palate is dense and bright,

showing a lot of juiciness and good fruit concentration. The acidity is still present and lifts up the flavours. The palate is perfumed, slightly animalistic and smoky, showing a touch of wood with a plethora of sweet and savoury spices. The tannins are smooth, velvety and fluid. The finish is aerial, slightly bitter, with a pronounced smokiness in the background.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Melini Vigneti La Selvanella

Chianti Classico Riserva 2017

The wine shows a medium-deep bright ruby colour. The nose is intense and smoky, offering notes of black cherries, plums, blackberries, black pepper, savoury herbs and roasted meat. The palate is tightly wound, powerful, with a nice freshness and grippy, sticky, bold tannins. The palate demonstrates notes of black fruits, balsamic, resin, underlaid by pronounced oakiness and smokiness. The finish is warming and powerful with a touch of bitterness in the background.

Score : 14.5+/20 (88/100)

Losi Millenium

Chianti Classico Gran Selezione 2015

The wine shows a deep ruby colour starting to give a garnet hue on the rim. The nose is pronounced, intense and gives a sweet, warming sensation. There are notes of cinnamon, gingerbread, cloves, a touch of figs and prunes, some cumin in the echo. The palate is dense and concentrated showing a lot of power. The tannins are muscular and slightly rustic. The wine reveals notes of kirsch, amaretto, a touch of cherry drupe and almonds, all spices up with rich balsamic and savoury nuances. A powerful and heady style with a gourmet, juicy, warming finish.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)



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Losi Querciavalle Chianti Classico 2015

The wine shows a medium-deep ruby-garnet colour. The nose is seductive and perfumed, revealing notes of dried rose petals, dried cherries, a touch of sage and rosemary, combined with delicate nuances of iron and some meatiness. The palate is juicy and plush, offering refreshing acidity, a nice purity and chalky, fine-grained tannins. It explodes with notes of dried and fresh red cherries, some red plums, as well as tomato leaf, savoury spices and a nice salinity in the background. The finish is warming and dense with a pleasant spiciness.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Arillo in Terrabianca Poggio Croce Chianti Classico Riserva 2019

The wine shows a pale ruby colour. The nose is slightly reductive, smoky, needs some aeration. It opens up with notes of black cherries, blackberries, bramble, combined with nuances of cloves, cinnamon and nutmeg. The palate is concentrated and powerful, revealing notes of cherry liquor, cherries in dark chocolate, liquorice, a touch of iron and earthiness. A modern style of Chianti Classico with slightly drying but well-managed tannins and a savoury, herbal finish.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Tolaini Vigna Montebello Sette Chianti Classico Gran Selezione 2018

The wine shows a typical, pale ruby colour fine some garnet hints. On the nose it is packed with spices – cinnamon, cloves, a touch of nutmeg and vanilla. The second nose reveals notes of kirsch, cherry liquor, a touch of liquorice and balsamic. The palate is concentrated, powerful but keeps freshness due to the signature Sangiovese acidity. We find notes of dried and cooked cherries, red berries compote, a touch of sour cherries and cranberries. The tannins are grippy and drying but elegant and well-managed. There is a nice graphite minerality on the finish.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Carpineto Chianti Classico 2020

The wine an attractive, bright ruby colour. The nose is slightly reductive, smoky, with aeration revealing notes of fresh wood, some earthy nuances, a touch of liquorice and dried herbs. The palate is elegant, quite light and aerial, with grippy, chalky tannins and refreshing acidity. The palate reveals notes of red and black cherries milk chocolate, cacao underlaid by sweet baking spices and oaky notes. The finish is relatively short but pleasant and spicy.

Score : 14+/20 (87/100)

Carpineto Chianti Classico Riserva 2017

The wine shows a deep ruby colour. The nose is slightly muted, with aeration revealing notes of savoury herbs, cinnamon, as well as crunchy red cherries, hints of iron and raw meat. The palate offers a refreshing, tangy acidity and chalky, very sticky tannins. It opens up with notes of tomato leaf, sage, combined with red berries and some herbaceous quality. The finish is slightly bitter.

Score : 14+/20 (87/100)

Castellinuzza Chianti Classico Gran Selezione 2017

The wine has a medium-deep purple colour with a garnet tinge. The nose is slightly muted and reductive and needs aeration in the glass. It opens up with notes of liquored cherries, cherry drape, almonds, a touch of dried cranberries, goji berries, barberry, some menthol and some macchia, eucalyptus in the echo. The palate is juicy, fresh, offering nice fruit concentration, fresh acidity and controlled power. The wine demonstrates notes of dried and fresh red cherries, dried cranberries, a touch of cinnamon, combined with fine savoury and balsamic notes. A very classical, traditional style with a warming, spicy, savoury finish.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Lamole di Lamole Lareale Chianti Classico Riserva 2018

(organic) The wine shows a beautiful ruby colour, bright and shiny. The nose is open and seductive, revealing notes of ripe red and black cherries, cherry pie, a touch of smokiness, cinnamon and cloves. The palate is juicy, exuberant, fruity and slightly oaky with bold, drying, grippy tannins. The palate is packed with sweet red berries – cherries, some raspberries and cowberries, a lick of savoury herbs, rosemary and sage. The wine has a nice complexity and good aging potential. The finish shows a lot of concentration and graphite minerality.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Castellinuzza Chianti Classico Riserva 2017

The wine shows a typical ruby-garnet colour. On the nose we find nuances of warm underbrush, pine tree, some eucalyptus, as well as nuances of red cherries, rosemary and a light hint of iron. The palate is elegant and aerial but lacks some length and complexity. It reveals notes of dried cherries, some cherry drape, a touch of almond and savoury herbs. The tannins are drying and a bit coarse. The finish offers some juiciness and finesse.

Score : 14.5/20 (88/100)

Lamole di Lamole Vigneto di Campolungo Chianti Classico Gran Selezione 2017

(organic) The wine shows a medium-deep ruby colour with a garnet rim. The nose is dense and concentrated with savoury notes of rosemary, dried tomatoes, tomato leaf, combined with nuances of dried cherries, sweet baking spices and tobacco. The palate is polished, slightly woody, with sweet, well-managed, grippy tannins. The wine shows a nice complexity and a great interplay between savoury and fruity notes. The palate is packed with nuances of dried red fruits, withered herbs, some floral and mineral nuances. The finish is pleasantly saline and mouth-watering.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Lamole di Lamole Vigna Grospoli Chianti Classico Gran Selezione 2018

(organic) The wine shows a medium-deep ruby-garnet colour. The nose is exuberant and luscious, revealing notes of amaretto, liquored cherries, praline, as well as chocolate and nougat. The palate is dense and powerful with a lot of concentration and a fine, almondy bitterness. It opens up with notes of dried cherries, confit cherries, kirsch, a touch of cacao and tobacco. The tannins are bold but well-managed and fine-grained. A powerful, ripe style with a lot of muscles and a robust, slightly bitter finish.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Famiglia Nunzi Conti Vigna Elisa Chianti Classico Gran Selezione 2018

The wine shows a deep, almost opaque ruby colour. The nose is exuberant and intense, revealing a lot of smokiness, notes of cinnamon, cloves, nutmeg, a touch of black pepper and liquorice. The palate is dense, powerful and heady with robust, muscular tannins and a massive body. The palate mirrors the palate with a lot of spiciness and oakiness, underlaid by notes of red and black cherries, plums and bramble, combined with nuances of tobacco and dried herbs. The finish is warming, powerful, peppery, showing a lot of concentration.

Score : 14.5/20 (88/100)

Famiglia Nunzi Conti Chianti Classico Riserva 2018

The wine shows a bright ruby-garnet colour. The nose is opulently woody, slightly oxidative with notes of dried and cooked red cherries, a touch of rose and geranium, some lavender, with sage, cinnamon, cloves and nutmeg in the echo. The palate is juicy, showing balanced acidity and a nice oaky spiciness. It opens up with nuances of wood bark, coffee, cherry liquor underlaid by savoury hints of rosemary and bay leaf. The finish is enveloping, spicy and warming.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Brancaia Chianti Classico Riserva 2018

The wine shows a medium-deep, vivid ruby colour. The nose is slightly muted and needs aeration. It opens up with notes of crunchy red cherries, kirsch, praline, toffee with a delicate balsamic note. The palate is pungent, refreshing and elegant showing a lot of finesse and noble character. The tannins are slightly drying. The wine reveals notes of fresh and dried red cherries, cranberries, cowberries, combined with notes of sage, eucalyptus and rosemary. The finish is dry and slightly austere. The wine needs some more time to settle.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Ricasoli Brolio Chianti Classico Riserva 2019

The wine shows a deep ruby colour. The nose is profound and concentrated, revealing notes of dried and liquored cherries, as well as cinnamon, cloves, a touch of cedar wood and coffee. The palate is juicy, dense and vibrant, the oaky notes are underlaid by nuances of fresh crunchy black cherries, blackberries and Boysen berries. The tannins are bold but round and well-managed. The finish offers a nice sweetness and gourmandise.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Chianti Classico

Ricasoli Castello di Brolio

Chianti Classico Gran Selezione 2018

The wine shows a ruby colour with a garnet rim. The nose is dense and smoky, revealing nuances of tobacco, underbrush, cinnamon, a touch of dried cherries, kirsch and cigar box. The palate is concentrated and powerful, high alcohol is well-balanced by the exuberant juiciness of the fruit, refreshing acidity and smooth, silky tannins. The palate demonstrates a nice fruit concentration with nuances of crunchy red cherries, raspberries, a touch of dried herbs, savoury spices and noble wood. The finish is warming and spicy with a pleasant, piquant bitterness in the background.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Antico Podere Casanova Bucciarelli

Chianti Classico Riserva 2015

(organic) The wine shows a medium-deep ruby-garnet colour. The nose is slightly muted, with aeration revealing notes of cherry compote, kirsch, a touch of savoury herbs, a hint of iron and meatiness. The palate is powerful and vivid with a nice, refreshing acidity, plush, slightly drying tannins and a pronounced bitterness. It reveals notes of ripe black cherries, red fruit compote, a touch of sage and rosemary, a lick of spices, some animalistic notes. The finish shows some herbal bitterness.

Score : 13.75/20 (86/100)

Fattoria Montecchio

Chianti Classico Riserva 2015

The wine shows a pale ruby-garnet colour. The nose is intense, very fresh, opening up with notes of eucalyptus, macchia, fresh strawberries and raspberries, as well as nuances of iron and blood. The palate is slightly muted and lacks depth and concentration. There are notes of fresh red berries combined with nuances of dried herbs and savoury spices. The tannins are slightly drying and the finish is warming, spicy but short.

Score : 13.75/20 (86/100)

San Felice Il Grigio

Chianti Classico Riserva 2019

The wine shows a medium-deep, opaque ruby colour. The nose is dense and heady, revealing concentration and power. There are notes of cherry liquor, bramble, black cherries in dark chocolate, as well as cinnamon and cloves. The palate is dense, powerful, with a nice, refreshing acidity, opening up with notes of juicy black cherries, blackberries, a touch of tobacco, rosemary and roasted meat. The tannins are chalky but smooth and well-managed. The finish is crunchy, juicy with a pleasant savoury character and minerality. A very polished, well-made wine.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

San Felice Il Grigio

Chianti Classico Gran Selezione 2017

The wine shows a medium-deep ruby-garnet colour. The nose at first is slightly reductive and muted, opening up with notes of savoury herbs (rosemary, sage), coffee, a touch of smoked meat and some saltiness. The palate shows a nice salinity and minerality, solid fruit concentration lifted up by the refreshing acidity. Notes of red and black cherries interlace with hints of paprika, tomato leaf, roasted meat and soya sauce. The tannins are robust but round and polished. A delicious wine with a mineral, elegant finish.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Oliviera Campo di Mansueto

Chianti Classico 2019

The wine has a medium ruby color with garnet reflections. The nose is intensely smoky, revealing notes of roasted savoury herbs, a touch of eucalyptus and menthol, as well as notes of fresh and dried cherries and cranberries, a touch of strawberry compote. The palate is juicy and fruity with round, fine-grained tannins and a fresh, vivid acidity. The wine demonstrates notes of red and black cherries, rose petals, a touch of sweet baking spices, savoury herbs and a pleasant salty touch. The finish is lingering and warming with a pronounced mineral note.

Score : 14+/20 (87/100)

Oliviera Settantanove

Chianti Classico Riserva 2018

The wine shows a medium ruby-garnet colour with a brightening rim. The nose is intense and enticing with sweet notes of toffee, milk chocolate, vanilla, coconut and cacao with some dried herbs and cherries in the background. The palate mirrors the nose with notes of sweets and spices. The wine offers some elegance and finesse, the tannins are soft and polished. A sweet, gourmet finish.

Score : 14+/20 (87/100)

Quercia al Poggio

Chianti Classico Riserva 2017

The wine shows a classic ruby-garnet colour. The nose is a bit restrained, revealing notes of cherry compote, red plums, a touch of prunes, a hint of macchia and sage. The palate is powerful but elegant and full of finesse, with grippy, chalky tannins and juicy, refreshing acidity. It demonstrates notes of crunchy red cherries, wild strawberries, a touch of strawberry confit and savoury herbs. The finish is complex and long with sweetness of fruit underlaid by solid minerality.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Principe Corsini Zac

Chianti Classico Gran Selezione 2018

(Organic) The wine shows a very light ruby colour with some garnet reflections. The nose is delicate, finely floral, revealing notes of ripe strawberries, cherry compote, raspberries, a touch of cinnamon and cloves. The palate is juicy and suave with balanced acidity and velvety, fine-grained tannins. The notes of sweet red berries are intertwined with hints of cacao, withered savoury herbs, rosemary and sage. The finish is dry and elegant, lingers long.

Score : 16.25+/20 (93/100)

Principe Corsini Villa Le Corti Don Tommaso

Chianti Classico Gran Selezione 2018

(Organic) The wine shows a medium deep purple colour. The nose is delicately smoky and savoury with notes of ripe black cherries, peony, as well as cinnamon, bay leaf, a touch of cloves and nutmeg. The palate is powerful and dense but keeps a nice freshness and elegance. The tannins are polished and velvety. The wine demonstrates an attractive fruity character combined with notes of savoury herbs and spices. A refined, silky and long finish.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Principe Corsini Villa Le Corti

Chianti Classico Riserva 2018

(Organic) The wine shows a pale ruby colour with a brightening rim. The nose is slightly muted, needs aeration, later revealing notes of dried herbs, lavender, macchia, nuances of sandal wood, black pepper with some red fruits in the background. The palate shows a nice freshness and elegance with good fruit concentration and fine power. The herbal notes of Mediterranean broom interlace with notes of dried cranberries, red cherries, hibiscus, a touch of pomegranate and a slight hint of orange zest. The tannins are polished and smooth. Good length.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)



Chianti Classico

Santo Stefano Drugo Chianti Classico Riserva 2018

The wine shows a typical ruby-garnet colour. The nose is intense and powerful, revealing notes of cherry liquor, a touch of black pepper, cinnamon, cloves, tobacco and wood. The palate is muscular with bold, chalky, grippy tannins. There is nevertheless a certain lightness and elegance in its character. The palate is full of spicy, woody and dark chocolate notes. Tannins are very persistent and linger throughout the flow of the wine.

Score : 14+/20 (87/100)

Santo Stefano Chianti Classico Gran Selezione 2016

The wine shows a deep, opaque ruby colour with garnet reflections. The nose is dense, slightly oxidative, heady. We find notes of liquored cherries, dark chocolate, prunes, figs, a touch of tobacco and rosemary. The palate is juicy and approachable with nice fruit sweetness and ripe, round tannins. It reveals nuances of dried and cooked cherries, berry compote, a touch of cacao, kirsch and praline. The finish is fruity and lingering. Drink now.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Santo Stefano Chianti Classico Gran Selezione 2018

The wine shows a medium deep ruby colour with a brightening rim. The nose is dense with intense herbal notes of thyme, rosemary, a touch of lavender, bay leaf with some dried dark berries in the background. The palate reveals some elegance, with juicy acidity and grippy but polished tannins. The palate is packed with herbals mirroring the nose. Peppery notes underlay sweet black and red cherry nuances. The finish is lingering with a refreshing hint of eucalyptus.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Bibbiano Vigne di Montornello Chianti Classico Gran Selezione 2019

The wine shows an attractive ruby-garnet colour, brightening on the rim. The nose reveals a lot of smokiness, notes of cinnamon, cloves, underlaid by sweet red and black cherries, a touch of barberry and rosehip. The palate is juicy, with a lot of finesse and aerial character. The tannins are pronounced but well-managed and polished. The palate is packed with crunchy, sweet red berries, sweet spices, a touch of savoury herbs and a touch of saltiness. The finish is gourmet and succulent.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Bibbiano Chianti Classico Riserva 2019

The wine shows a clear ruby colour with a garnet rim. The first nose is smoky and oaky, then opening up with notes of ripe red and black cherries, wild strawberries, a touch of pomegranate and red plums. The palate is a bit tight and closed with drying, slightly bitter tannins. The flavours of ripe red berries are lifted up by notes of dried herbs and a touch of ferrous minerality. The finish is warming, even burning. The wine needs some time to integrate alcohol and tannins.

Score : 14.5/20 (88/100)

Bibbiano Vigna del Capannino Chianti Classico Gran Selezione 2019

(Organic) The wine shows a medium ruby-garnet colour. The nose is oaky and concentrated, revealing notes of stewed black cherries, balsamic, dried herbs, thyme and rosemary. With aeration nuances of sweet raspberries and strawberries appear underlaid by notes of rose petals and peonies. The palate is perfumed and flattering, unveiling a lot of gourmandise and finesse. The tannins are fine-grained and polished and the acidity uplifts the whole powerful structure of the wine. On the palate the notes of dried red cherries interlace with hints of macchia, hibiscus and pomegranate. The finish is persistent and noble.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Complicità Assolo Chianti Classico 2019

The wine shows a medium-deep ruby colour. The nose is intensely floral and perfumed, seductive, revealing notes of dried rose petals, peony, ripe red and black cherries, strawberry compote, sweet crushed raspberries, a touch of sweet spices. The palate is elegant and ethereal, with juicy, vivid acidity and polished, silky tannins. It echoes the nose with nuances of sweet red fruits, a touch of red plum, floral and delicate spicy notes. The finish is fruity, silky and lingering with juiciness and finesse.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Complicità Assolo Chianti Classico Riserva 2018

The wine shows a medium, slightly opaque ruby-garnet colour. The nose is elegant and restrained, revealing notes of rosemary, lavender, a touch of sour black cherries, leather, star anis and tobacco. The palate is dense and juicy with a lot of concentration, a strong woody character, powerful but polished, sweet and ripe tannins. The dense fruit flavours are supported by pleasant spiciness and savouriness of macchia and roasted herbs. The finish is long, decadent and warming.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Castello di Cacchiano Chianti Classico Riserva 2018

The wine shows a bright and vivid ruby colour. The nose is very intense and lively, revealing notes of pickled tomatoes, some bay leaf, dill and balsamic. The palate is juicy and vivid with refreshing acidity, light-weight and elegant. The tannins are present but well-managed and fine-grained. The palate is less concentrated than the nose but repeats it with the savoury notes of pickles, a touch of sour cherries and cranberries. The finish is slightly drying. A very particular style of Chianti Classico.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Castello di Cacchiano Millennio Chianti Classico Gran Selezione 2015

The wine shows a medium deep ruby colour with distinct garnet reflections. The nose is dense and heady, revealing notes of macchia, roasted herbs, a touch of chocolate and cacao, black cherries in the echo. The palate is packed with alcohol, with good fruit concentration and refreshing acidity. The wine shows concentrated black cherries profile, a touch of kirsch, chocolate, lots of herbals, a hint of liquorice. The finish is long and warming. A powerful style!

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

San Fabiano Calcinaia Chianti Classico Gran Selezione 2015

(Organic) The wine shows a deep ruby colour. The nose is dense and powerful, revealing notes of ripe, almost overripe cherries, kirsch, a touch of iron with a light animalistic note. The palate is juicy and concentrated with bold, drying tannins and a voluptuous body. The wine displays notes of dried and slightly bruised cherries, dried raspberry, nuances of macchia, withered herbs, rosemary and thyme. The finish is intense, mineral and fruity, with a pleasant bitter undertone in the echo.

Score : 14.5+/20 (88/100)

Casa Sola Chianti Classico Riserva 2017

The wine shows a bright ruby colour with a broad garnet rim. The nose is intensely fruity, offering notes of crunchy red cherries, dry cranberry, a touch of barberry, notes of cola, vanilla and sweet spices. The palate is gourmet, plush and pleasantly oaky. Juicy red and black cherries intertwine with nuances of cloves, vanilla, cinnamon, with a hint of eucalyptus in the background. The tannins are bold and drying but soft and well-managed. The finish spins out with notes of macchia and dried Mediterranean herbs. Good length.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Podere Le Cinciole Chianti Classico 2018

The wine shows a medium-deep ruby colour with a brightening rim. The nose is dense and spicy, opening up with notes of black cherries, bramble, a hint of black pepper, bay leaf and cloves. The palate is elegant, a bit restrained, with bold, grippy tannins and a nice, balanced acidity. The wine shows some minerality and finesse supported by delicate notes of dried cherries, raspberry confit and nuances of rosemary and thyme. The finish is warming, drying with a touch of herbal bitterness.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Castello di Querceto La Corte Chianti Classico Gran Selezione 2019

The wine shows a medium ruby colour with garnet reflections. The nose is dense and decadent with notes of incense, sweet spices, cloves, cinnamon with some notes of rose petals and red cherries in the echo. The palate is round and polished with a nice fruitiness and suavity, noble elegance and finesse. Notes of red and black cherries and strawberries are lifted up by savoury hints of dried herbs, a touch of sweet tobacco and liquorice. The tannins are muscular and grippy but well-managed and precise. Good persistence and a warming, enveloping finish.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Chianti Classico

La Montanina

Chianti Classico Riserva 2019

(Organic) The wine shows a medium-deep ruby garnet colour, brightening on the rim. The nose is dense and concentrated, slightly oaky, opening up with notes of strawberry compote, dried wild strawberries as well as hints of grey pepper, oregano, a touch of tobacco leaf and garrigue. The palate is warming and intense with good fruit concentration, some smoothness, ripeness and well-managed, round tannins. The wine is packed with ripe red and black cherries, crunchy raspberries, strawberries combined with notes of sweet spices and savoury herbs. Suave, juicy, lingering finish.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Casavecchia alla Piazza Buondonne

Chianti Classico Riserva 2019

The wine shows a bright ruby colour. The nose is a bit restrained, needs some air. The nose reveals notes of dark berries, black cherries, blackberries, as well as hints of black pepper, wood, oak bark and Mediterranean herbs. The palate is round and polished with grippy but juicy, sweet tannins. The wine reveals notes of dark cherries, bramble, hints of macchia, dried herbs and pungent spices. Good length and persistence.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Istine Levigne

Chianti Classico Riserva 2017

(Organic) The wine has a pale ruby colour with garnet reflections. The nose is intense, floral, very seductive. The wine reveals notes of rose petals, wild strawberries, strawberry compote, a touch of red and black cherries and a hint of sweet spices. The palate is juicy and vibrant, demonstrating the typical Sangiovese acidity and finesse. There is an explosion of crunchy red berries on the palate, a basket of strawberries, red cherries, cranberries and cowberries supported by fine nuances of dried herbs and spices. The finish is long and succulent with slightly drying, but juicy and polished tannins.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Gagliole Gallule

Chianti Classico Gran Selezione 2018

The wine shows a medium ruby garnet colour, slightly brightening on the rim. The nose is intense, herbal, with notes of sage, rosemary, garrigues underpinned with nuances of cherry compote, strawberry confit and a slight smoky and saline edge. The palate is powerful and dense, revealing a lot of concentration and depth. It opens up with notes of cooked cherries, roasted raspberries, a touch of balsamic and soya sauce, hints of dried Mediterranean herbs and roasted meat. A bold, powerful style of Chianti Classico with fleshy, voluptuous tannins and exceptional length.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Gagliole

Chianti Classico Riserva 2019

The wine shows a medium ruby colour, slightly brightening on the rim. The nose is intense, gourmet, revealing notes of ripe black cherries, blackberries, a touch of cacao and chocolate, nuances of noble wood and tobacco. The palate is dense, concentrated with a lot of fruit sweetness, spiciness and bold, slightly drying, polished tannins. The wine is packed with spices and oaky notes, underlaid by nuances of ripe fresh and dried cherries, a touch of balsamic, hints of macchia and dried herbs. The finish is warming, persistent and powerful.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Frescobaldi Tenuta Perano

Chianti Classico Riserva 2018

The wine shows purple, almost opaque colour. The nose is dense and fruity, revealing notes of dark berries, prunes, a touch of noble oak, sweet tobacco, a hint of milk chocolate. The palate offers a lot of power, concentration and gourmandise. It displays a plethora of black fruits – cherries, plums, a touch of blackberries with some notes of prunes and figs, touches of cacao and cassia. The tannins are polished and well-managed and the finish lingers long with a sweet, decadent persistence. A modern style of Chianti Classico with a lot of smoothness and charm.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Mannucci Droandi Ceppetò

Chianti Classico Riserva 2017

(Organic) The wine shows a deep ruby colour with a slightly garnet rim. The nose is very intense, heady and concentrated. It reveals notes of dried black cherries, noble wood, nuances of cinnamon and cloves, a touch of tobacco and cigar box. The palate is intense, woody, with powerful, drying tannins and moderate acidity. The fruitiness seems muted by the oak which dominates the wine. Long, woody finish.

Score : 14+/20 (87/100)

Fattoria Montecchio PRIMUM

Chianti Classico Riserva 2017

The wine shows a deep ruby garnet colour with a garnet rim. The nose is dense and concentrated, revealing notes of confit cherries, kirsch, a touch of spices and dried herbs, some hint of iron and blood. The palate is juicy with a nice fruit concentration and a pleasant salinity. The wine reveals notes of ripe red and black cherries, some cranberries, a touch of forest floor and underbrush, notes of sage and rosemary. The tannins are polished but well present and pronounced. A juicy, lingering finish.

Score : 16.25+/20 (93/100)

Podere Ciona

Chianti Classico Riserva 2015

The wine shows a medium ruby garnet colour with some brightening on the rim. The nose is intense, slightly dusty, very gourmet. It opens up with notes of cherry pie, strawberry compote, a touch of cacao, spices and vanilla. The palate is juicy and dense, revealing notes of dried and fresh sour red and black cherries, a hint of strawberry cream, sweet spices like vanilla and cinnamon. The finish is juicy with pleasant fruitiness and roundness. The tannins are bold but ripe and suave.

Score : 16.25+/20 (93/100)

Fattoria Montecchio

Chianti Classico Gran Selezione 2016

The wine shows a medium ruby garnet colour. The nose is dense, heady, promising a lot of concentration and power. It opens up with notes of ripe, almost overripe black cherries, noble oak, cigar box, a touch of cinnamon, cloves and nutmeg. The palate is dense and coating with powerful, but suave and round tannins. The wine is bursting with notes of dried cherries, some cooked strawberries, roasted raspberries, notes of sweet spices and dried herbs. The finish is elegant, lingering with pronounced fruitiness and pleasant spiciness.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Castelli del Grevepesa - Castello di Bibbione

Chianti Classico Riserva 2018

The wine shows a medium deep ruby colour with a garnet tinge. The nose is perfumed and intense, revealing notes of dried rose petals, dried red cherries, a touch of iron and earthiness. The palate is rather elegant and juicy with a fine, refreshing acidity and delicate, silky tannins. Fruity notes of red berries are interlaced with notes of macchia, dried herbs and a touch of gentian. A classic style of Chianti Classico with a well-integrated oak and a nice bitterness adding to the complexity. Good length.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Castelli del Grevepesa - Castello di Bibbione

Chianti Classico Gran Selezione 2016

The wine shows a medium ruby-garnet colour. The nose is intensely spicy and woody, revealing notes of dried herbs, roasted meat, a touch of cloves and nutmeg, some menthol and eucalyptus. The palate is full of gourmandise with nuances of milk chocolate, coconut, a touch of toffee, dried sweet cherries and plums. The tannins are well-managed, grainy but polished. The finish offers finesse and freshness.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)



Chianti Classico

Castelli del Grevepesa Clemente VII Chianti Classico Riserva 2018

The wine has a medium ruby colour with a brightening rim. The nose is dense, sweet, revealing gourmet notes of sweet baking spices, cherry liqueur, a touch of red cherry confiture, delicate notes of noble oak. The palate is intensely oaky, spicy, though the woody notes are well balanced by ripe, sweet black and red cherries, nuances of strawberry compote. A distinct touch of coffee and smoke in the echo. The tannins are slightly drying but rather elegant and smooth. The finish is lingering with notes of tobacco and roast.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Castelli del Grevepesa Clemente VII Chianti Classico Gran Selezione 2016

The wine shows a vivid ruby colour with garnet hues. The nose is a bit muted with a distinct metallic, earthy note, later revealing hints of bay leaf, eucalyptus, a touch of thyme, nuances of red and black cherries. The palate shows some elegance with balanced acidity and drying, but polished tannins. The wine offers a herbal profile with crunchy red fruits in the background. The finish is drying and slightly austere.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Fèlsina Rancia Chianti Classico Riserva 2018

The wine shows a pale ruby-garnet colour. The nose is packed with notes of sweet baking spices, noble wood, nutmeg and tobacco. The palate shows good intensity with a touch of oaky sweetness. The oak is dominating now while ripe red fruits are slightly muted. With aeration they start to open up with nuances of dried cherries, strawberry compote and raspberry confiture. The wine reveals a nice, crunchy acidity and polished, through bold tannins. The finish is gourmet and voluptuous with a lot of power and concentration. Though already accessible, this Chianti Classico needs some more time in the bottle to integrate the oak better.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Monsanto Chianti Classico Riserva 2019 (barrel sample)

The wine shows a pale vivid ruby colour. The nose is intense, revealing notes of vanilla, pollen, sour red cherries, a touch of cherry drupe, a hint of kirsch. The palate offers a bright, elevated acidity, elegant, slender body and smooth, slightly bitter tannins. The wine is packed with crunchy red fruits, mostly cherries and cranberries underlaid by herbal notes. The finish has a touch of bitterness. A very elegant Riserva!

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Castello della Paneretta Chianti Classico Riserva 2018

The wine shows a medium deep ruby colour with a garnet rim, slightly opaque. The nose is intense and audacious, showing a lot of smoky, meaty, animalistic notes, underlaid by nuances of noble wood, cinnamon, cloves and nutmeg. The second notes reveals a touch of menthol and eucalyptus. The wine is opening up in layers. The palate is a bit muted with bold, grippy, rather austere tannins. It mirrors the nose with notes of spices and wood supported by hints of dried cherries and aromatic herbs. The tannins dominate the finale. Slightly rustic.

Score : 14.5/20 (88/100)

Castello della Paneretta Torre a Destra Chianti Classico Gran Selezione 2016

The wine shows a deep ruby colour. The nose is intense and heady with notes of cherry liqueur, cherry compote, dark chocolate, a touch of coffee, black tea and sweet tobacco. The palate is luscious and oaky with powerful, but round tannins and fine volume. The wine reveals notes of ripe black cherries, bramble, a touch of cloves, cigar box and star anise. The finish is seductive, with pleasant sweetness and smoothness.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Fietri Chianti Classico Riserva 2012

The wine shows a pale ruby colour with a brightening, garnet rim. The nose is perfumed and flattering, revealing notes of sweet tobacco, cinnamon, a touch of vanilla, cloves and nutmeg with a hint of sour cherries in the background. The second nose offers savoury nuances of Mediterranean herbs. The palate is vivid and juicy, not showing any fatigue. The flavours of red and black cherries intertwine with notes of milk chocolate, kirsch, a touch of strawberry confiture and sweet spices. The finish is delicate and elegant, supported by grainy, slightly sandy tannins.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Cinciano Chianti Classico Riserva 2018

The wine shows a pale ruby-garnet colour. The nose is dense, slightly meaty, revealing notes of ripe red and black cherries, raspberry confiture, dried herbs. The nose is a bit muted and needs aeration. On the palate the wine demonstrates power and some austerity, the tannins are bold, grippy and drying. The flavours on the palates echo the nose with savoury notes of garrigue, Mediterranean herbs, some irony minerality. The finish is lingering with a bitter, herbal note.

Score : 14.5/20 (88/100)

Cinciano Chianti Classico Gran Selezione 2017

The wine shows a medium ruby-garnet colour with a brightening rim. The nose is intense and perfumed, packed with notes of cherry wood, cherry compote, kirsch, a touch of furniture varnish, sweet spices and tobacco. The palate is juicy and exuberant, with nice fruit concentration balancing elevated alcohol and smooth, slightly drying tannins. Bright notes of crunchy red cherries are combined with nuances of cloves, vanilla, nutmeg and cigar box. The finish is succulent and vivid.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Savignola 360 Chianti Classico Gran Selezione 2017

The wine shows a medium ruby colour with garnet reflections, slightly opaque. The nose is intense, powerful, on a darker spectrum of berries. It reveals notes of ripe black cherries, blackberries, bramble underlaid by the nuances of sweet spices and noble wood. The palate is juicy, enveloping and oaky, with notes of crushed black berries, cinnamon, cloves and nutmeg and polished, sweet tannins. The finish lingers with spices and woody flavours.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Savignola Paolina Chianti Classico Riserva 2018

The wine shows a light ruby colour. On the nose the notes of smoke and roasted meat are interlaced with nuances of roses, dried cherries, a touch of cranberries. The palate is aerial and elegant with well-balanced alcohol and smooth, velvety tannins. It reveals notes of dried red berries, hints of garrigue, some irony minerality. The finish is warming and relatively short.

Score : 14+/20 (87/100)

Monsanto Vigneto Il Poggio Chianti Classico Gran Selezione 2017

The wine shows a pale ruby colour with a garnet rim. The nose is aromatic and fragrant, full of roses, meadow flowers, ripe red cherries and wild strawberries. The palate is juicy and vibrant with zesty acidity and slightly drying but polished tannins. It offers a lot of gourmandise and sapidity, revealing notes of fresh and dried red cherries, cranberries, a touch of Mediterranean herbs and flowers. The finish is elegant, succulent, inciting the next sip.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Fèlsina Colonia Chianti Classico Gran Selezione 2018

The wine shows a medium deep ruby colour with some garnet reflections. The nose is dense and perfumed, revealing notes of rose, geranium, incense, cherry liqueur, nuances of chocolate and smoke. The palate is vibrant and juicy, offering a lot of power as well as concentration and gourmandise. The wine opens up with notes of ripe red cherries, a touch of strawberries and raspberries, some cranberries and a delicate hint of pomegranate. The crisp acidity lifts up well the massive structure. The oak influence is evident, though really well built-in and adds to the overall complexity of the wine. A powerful wine with a dense, robust finish.

Score : 17.5/20 (95/100)

Valiano San Lazzaro Chianti Classico Gran Selezione 2018

(Organic) The wine shows a medium ruby colour, brightening on the rim. The nose is concentrated and heady, revealing notes of milk and dark chocolate, toffee, a touch of caramel, sweet spices. Opening up, it displays nuances of roses and violets, a touch of red plums and cherries. The palate is dense and powerful, with bold, grippy, grainy tannins that stick tightly to the gums. The wine shows a bit austere and tight with alcohol and tannins dominating the palate. It needs time to settle. The finish is warming, slightly bitter and herbal.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Chianti Classico

Valiano Poggio Teo

Chianti Classico Riserva 2018

(Organic) The wine shows a pale ruby-garnet colour. The nose is packed with notes of dried red cherries, hibiscus, a touch of rosemary, macchia, some smoky and mineral nuances, a touch of black olive tapenade, a light oxidative note. The palate is dense with a pleasant sweetness and significant volume. It reveals notes of red berries compote, dried cherries, a touch of bay leaf and thyme. A classic Sangiovese finish with some slightly drying but round tannins and a touch of herbals.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Lecci e Brocchi Il Chiorba

Chianti Classico Riserva 2018

The wine shows a medium ruby colour with a brightening rim. The nose is intense and floral, revealing notes of sour cherries, roses, dried rose petals, a touch of fried herbs and a hint of iron. The palate is juicy and ample, showing volume and roundness. The tannins are slightly drying but smooth and voluptuous. The palate blends notes of sour red berries with nuances of Mediterranean broom, hints of ferrous soil and spices. The finish is a bit drying with a pleasant kiss of oak and a nice freshness.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Lecci e Brocchi MCMLXVII Celerarium

Chianti Classico Gran Selezione 2015

The wine shows a medium ruby colour, opaque, with garnet reflections. The nose is dense, smoky, powerful, revealing notes of cherry liqueur, cherry compote, dried herbs, roasted meat and a touch of maderisation. The palate offers powerful concentration, yet some freshness, moderate acidity and grippy, drying tannins. The wine is laden with ripe and overripe cherry fruits, a touch of strawberry compote, nuances of rose and peony, layers of chocolate, sweet spices and dried herbs. The finish is very drying and slightly austere.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Castello di Volpaia Coltassala

Chianti Classico Gran Selezione 2018

(Organic) The wine shows a bright, shiny ruby colour, slightly brightening on the rim. The nose is gourmet and flattering, unwinding with notes of rose petals, rose water, ripe red and black cherries, a touch of raspberries and wild strawberries. The palate reveals a lot of elegance and finesse with slightly drying but smooth and silky tannins. The wine is packed with flavours of juicy red berries, meadow flowers and garrigue. The oak is present but well-integrated. The finish is suave and velvety with a lot of freshness and gourmandise.

Score : 16.25+/20 (93/100)

Quercia al Poggio Vigna Le Cataste

Chianti Classico Gran Selezione 2016

(Organic) The wine shows a medium ruby colour with garnet reflections. The nose is heady, dense and powerful, opening up with notes of Mediterranean herbs, rosemary, warm soil, ferrous nuances underlaid by hints of ripe red cherries and wild strawberries. On the palate the wine reveals a lot of drying, austere tannins, a nice acidic backbone and a certain elegance. The palate mirrors the nose with notes of red berries interlaced with herbal and mineral nuances. The finish is warming, drying. The wine is dominated by the tannins and alcohol at the moment, needs time to soften.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Montignana

Chianti Classico Riserva 2019

The wine shows a pale ruby colour with a brightening rim. The nose is open and vibrant with notes of sour cherries, strawberries, a touch of dried cranberries, ferrous nuances and hints of macchia. The palate is juicy and ample with elevated acidity and grippy but elegant tannins. Sweet red berries dominate the palate with some herbals in the background. The finish is slightly bitter, savoury and saline.

Score : 14+/20 (87/100)

Badia a Coltibuono

Chianti Classico Riserva 2017

(Organic) The wine shows a pale ruby colour with some garnet reflections. The nose is spicy, dense and multi-layered, revealing notes of cherry compote, a touch of kirsch and dark chocolate, sweet raspberries, roasted meat and Mediterranean herbs. The palate is packed with confitured red berries, a touch of dark minerality and pleasant salinity. The tannins are polished and fine-grained. A long finish with some crunchiness and freshness.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Badia a Coltibuono Cultus

Chianti Classico Riserva 2017

(Organic) The wine shows a bright, very clear ruby colour. The nose is expressive and flattering with floral notes, nuances of ripe red cherries, strawberry compote, a touch of sweet spices and cacao. The palate is powerful with a slightly aggressive attack and burning alcohol. The wine reveals notes of kirsch, cinnamon, nuances of rose hip and rose petals, a touch of rooibos. The finish is warming. In general the wine seems slightly unbalanced at the moment, needs time to integrate alcohol.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Castello di Gabbiano Cavaliere D'Oro

Chianti Classico Riserva 2017

The wine shows a medium deep ruby colour, slightly opaque, with some garnet hues. The nose opens up oaky and heady with pronounced notes of cinnamon, cloves, milk chocolate, cherry liqueur and prunes. The palate is dense and powerful, with smooth, well-integrated tannins and controlled volume. There is a lot of sweetness in this wine. The palate reveals notes of cherry compote, dark chocolate, a touch of dried herbs and aromatic spices. The finish lingers with a pleasant stewed cherry note.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Castello di Gabbiano Cavaliere D'Oro Bellezza

Chianti Classico Gran Selezione 2017

The wine shows a medium deep garnet colour. The nose is muted, with aeration revealing notes of spices, dried cherries and herbs. The palate is spicy, with red and dark cherries, some coffee notes. The tannins are sandy and slightly drying. Rather short on the finish.

Score : 14+/20 (87/100)

Conte Guicciardini Belvedere Campoli Il Tabernacolo

Chianti Classico Gran Selezione 2015

The wine shows a pale ruby-garnet colour with a brightening rim. The nose is slightly muted with aeration revealing notes of milk chocolate, caramel, cherry confiture, a touch of cinnamon, nutmeg and cloves, a hint of toffee. The palate is powerful, mirroring the nose with sweet notes and gourmandise. The tannins are bold, drying and chewy. On the finish the warmth stands out with some drying sensation picking up.

Score : 14.5/20 (88/100)

Conte Guicciardini Belvedere Campoli

Chianti Classico Riserva 2016

The wine shows a medium deep ruby colour, opaque, with garnet reflections. The nose is dense and woody, with notes of dried black cherries, black plums, bramble, nuances of charred wood, smoke and coffee. The palate reveals a lot of freshness and concentration, polished, velvety tannins and some elegance. The palate is packed with juicy dark berries, earthy and herbal notes, nuances of tobacco and noble wood. The finish is intense and warming.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Castello di Querceto

Chianti Classico Riserva 2019

The wine shows a medium deep ruby colour with a brightening rim. The nose is dense, oaky, revealing notes of dark stewed cherries, a touch of blackberries, liquorice, dried herbs and coffee. The palate is powerful with linear attack, elevated acidity and chalky, slightly drying tannins. The wines some ferrous nuances, crunchy black cherries, dark berries and spices. The finish is refreshing and simple.

Score : 14.5/20 (88/100)

Castello di Querceto Il Picchio

Chianti Classico Gran Selezione 2019

The wine shows a medium deep purple-ruby colour. The nose is dense and perfumed, revealing notes of violets, geranium, peonies combined with nuances of black cherries and blueberries. The palate is oaky, concentrated with a lot of sweetness and vanilla from the oak. The tannins are smooth and round. The palate is packed with notes of black berries and sweet baking spices. The finish is warming and gourmet.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Chianti Classico

Geografico Montegiachi Chianti Classico Riserva 2018

The wine shows a medium deep purple-ruby colour. The nose is dark, heady, smoky with notes of cassis, sweet spices, coffee and charred wood. The palate echoes the nose with the same wood profile. The fruits are masked by the intense smokiness. The overall massive structure is uplifted by the refreshing acidity. The tannins are grippy but polished and well-managed. The finish is enveloping and spicy.
Score : 14.5/20 (88/100)

Geografico Contessa di Radda Chianti Classico Riserva 2018

The wine shows a medium deep purple-ruby colour. The nose is dominated by dark fruits with notes of blackberries, dark plums, bramble and black cherries with some spicy nuances in the echo. The palate reveals a very peppery character with multiple layers of sweet, even jammy dark berries intertwined with notes of cloves, nutmeg, black pepper, ginger and cinnamon. The wine boasts a nice freshness and elegance with fine-grained, slightly drying tannins. The finish mirrors the palate with savoury and spicy aftertaste.
Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Casaloste Chianti Classico Riserva 2018

(Organic) The wine shows a pale ruby-garnet colour with a brightening rim. The nose reveals nuances of stewed strawberries, cherry compote, notes of sweet spices and strawberry yogurt. The palate shows nice freshness and concentration with crunchy fruit, gourmandise and mellow tannins. Flattering notes of sweet berries intertwine with delicate nuances of dried herbs and a touch of ferrous minerality. The warming finish is uplifted by pleasant freshness and fruitiness.
Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Casaloste Chianti Classico Gran Selezione 2017

(Organic) The wine shows a medium deep ruby colour with a garnet tinge. The nose is heady, balsamic, with notes of cherry liqueur, stewed red berries, strawberry compote, a touch of orange zest, cinnamon, cloves and laurel. The palate is dense and powerful with a lot of concentration, linearity and round, polished tannins. It reveals notes of stewed cherries, sweet raspberry compote, a touch of rose water and sweet spices. The finish is gourmet, warming, not too long.
Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Villa Cerna Chianti Classico Riserva 2016

The wine shows a medium deep ruby colour with a garnet tinge. The nose is slightly unbalanced, showing some sour cherries and orange peel with oak and spices in the background. The palate reveals fresh acidity, light character and chalky tannins. The palate seems a bit empty with notes of sour red berries and dried herbs. The finish is fruity and spicy, slightly drying.
Score : 14.5/20 (88/100)

Castello Vicchiomaggio "Agostino Petri" Chianti Classico Riserva 2018

The wine shows a pale ruby colour with a garnet hue. The nose is muted and slightly oxidative with a particular note of almond, a touch of cinnamon, cloves, notes of wood and tobacco. The palate is juicy with nice acidity balancing the alcohol and chalky, slightly bitter tannins. The wine reveals classic notes of dried cherries and macchia. The finish is warming and drying.
Score : 14.5/20 (88/100)

Castello Vicchiomaggio La Prima Chianti Classico Gran Selezione 2018

The wine shows a pale ruby colour. The nose is slightly balsamic, herbal, medicinal, with notes of liquorice, a touch of anise and lavender. The palate is juicy and refreshing with an elevated acidity, nice linearity and polished tannins. The wine reveals notes of dried red and black cherries, sweet strawberries, a touch of rose petals and rose hip. The finish lingers with a nice floral note.
Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Castello Vicchiomaggio Le Bolle Chianti Classico Gran Selezione 2018

The wine shows a medium deep, opaque ruby colour with a brightening rim. The nose is dense and oaky, revealing notes of stewed red and black cherries, cinnamon, cloves, a touch of sweet blond tobacco and vanilla. The palate is smooth and round, showing some volume and gourmandise with sweet but grippy and slightly drying

tannins. The palate shows notes of dried red cherries, dried cranberries, a touch of noble wood and sweet spices. The finish is pleasantly warming and lingering.
Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Vallepicciola Lapina Chianti Classico Gran Selezione 2017

The wine shows a medium deep ruby colour with garnet reflections. The nose is smoky, slightly reductive, needs time to open up. With aeration it reveals nuances of red and black cherries, coffee, a touch of eucalyptus and balsamic. The palate is woody, showing a lot of smoky notes, nuances of cinnamon and tobacco, with black berries in the background. The tannins are round and smooth and the finish lingers with smoky undertones.
Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Vallepicciola Chianti Classico Riserva 2018

The wine shows a deep ruby colour, slightly opaque, with garnet reflections. The palate is dense and voluptuous, with notes of dried red cherries, prunes, a touch of dark chocolate, vanilla and sweet blond tobacco, hints of cinnamon and cigar box. The palate shows a lot of concentration and gourmandise with powerful body and sweet, round tannins. The wine reveals notes of kirsch, cherry compote, prune liqueur, nuances of sweet spices and liquorice. The finish is enveloping and warming.
Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Villa Montepaldi Tagliafune Chianti Classico Riserva 2016

The wine shows a pale ruby colour with a brightening rim. The nose is heady and dense, revealing notes of cinnamon, nutmeg, cloves, some sandal wood and blond tobacco. The palate is powerful with a lot of oak influence. The wine reveals notes of vanilla, eucalyptus, some herbal nuances of menthol and liquorice. Fruits stay in the background. The finish is warming, dense, lingering with a refreshing herbal note.
Score : 14.5+/20 (88/100)

Villa Montepaldi Chianti Classico Gran Selezione 2016

The wine shows a medium deep ruby colour with a brightening rim. The nose is perfumed and floral with notes of rose petals, peony and lavender. The palate reveals elevated acidity and alcohol, a lot of concentration and power. The tannins are bold and drying. The wine shows notes of red and black dried cherries, fresh wood, cinnamon, a touch of eucalyptus and nutmeg. The finish mirrors the nose with floral, perfumed notes.
Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Gussalli Beretta Castello di Radda Chianti Classico Riserva 2016

The wine shows a pale ruby colour with garnet hue. The nose is open and flattering with notes of sweet spices, stewed cherries, rose petals, dried herbs and a touch of smoked meat. The palate reveals nice freshness and fruitiness with chalky but relatively smooth tannins. The wine is slightly muted on the palate, notes of red berries and spices come in the echo. The finish is refreshing and slightly drying.
Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Gussalli Beretta Castello di Radda Vigna Il Corno Chianti Classico Gran Selezione 2016

The wine shows a bright, clear ruby colour. The nose is perfumed, floral and slightly peppery, revealing notes peony, cherry compote, nuances of macchia and sweet spices. The palate shows perfect balance with elevated acidity and fine-grained, polished tannins. Notes of crunchy red berries interlace with nuances of dried herbs, milk chocolate, nutmeg and cloves. The finish is noble, oaky with a good length.
Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Fattoria di Rignana Chianti Classico Riserva 2018

(Organic) The wine shows a medium ruby colour with a garnet tinge. The nose is intensely balsamic, spicy, heady with notes of cherry liqueur, notes of violets, hibiscus, a touch of fresh wood. The palate shows a lot of volume and power, staying nevertheless elegant and vertical. The alcohol is high, balanced by exuberant notes of sweet red and black cherries, a touch of blue plum, a subtle peppery note. The tannins are well-managed and fine-grained. The finish is warming, lingering with a pleasant herbal note of macchia.
Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Chianti Classico

Fattoria di Rignana Villa di Rignana Chianti Classico Gran Selezione 2016

(Organic) The wine shows a medium ruby colour with garnet hues. The nose is charming and perfumed, revealing notes of ripe sour cherries, bramble, a touch of blackberries and Boysen berries with a touch of cloves and nutmeg in the background. The palate is fresh and elegant despite high alcohol, with polished, fine tannins. Nuances of crunchy black cherries are supported by notes of kirsch, milk chocolate and cacao. The long finish brings some gourmandise and freshness.
Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Tenuta di Lilliano Ruspoli Chianti Classico Gran Selezione 2018

The wine shows a pale ruby colour with a brightening rim. The nose is dense, woody and herbal with notes of cinnamon, cloves, a touch of cigar box and smoke. The palate shows a lot of concentration and power with elevated alcohol and grippy but refined tannins. The palate seems muted and dominated by alcohol, all the fruity flavours are in the background. The finish is woody and warming.
Score : 14+/20 (87/100)

Tenuta di Lilliano Ruspoli Chianti Classico Riserva 2018

The wine shows a pale ruby-garnet colour. The nose is slightly muted, with aeration notes of cherry compote, vanilla, cloves and macchia come through. The palate offers some roundness combined with balanced acidity and smooth, polished tannins. The wine is laden with ripe dark cherries, notes of tobacco, cigar box and a fine bitterness in the background. The finish is persistent with a fine coffee note in the echo.
Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Capannelle Chianti Classico Gran Selezione 2016

The wine shows a medium ruby-garnet colour. The nose is slightly oxidative, oaky, revealing nuances of cherry compote, sweet blond tobacco, leather, toffee, a touch of vanilla and milk chocolate. The palate is delicate and fresh with smooth, silky tannins. The wine reveals nuances of crunchy red and black cherries, some strawberries, pomegranate, intertwined with notes of dried herbs and spices. The finish is light-footed but persistent.
Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Capannelle Chianti Classico Gran Riserva 2017

The wine shows a medium ruby-garnet colour. The nose is perfumed, floral, revealing notes of roses, sweet baking spices, cacao, a touch of roasted meat and wet earth. The palate is elegant and fresh with a refreshing acidity and bold but fine-grained tannins. The palate is packed with crunchy red cherry fruit, cranberries, notes of bitter chocolate, kirsch and dried herbs. The finish is elegant and lingering with red berries and herbs.
Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)



Riecine Chianti Classico Riserva 2019

The wine shows a medium ruby colour, slightly opaque. The nose is perfumed, floral, revealing notes of rose petals, peony, dried red cherries, raspberries and strawberry compote. The palate is juicy and full of finesse, with delicate, fine-grained tannins and nice freshness. The wine opens up with notes of pomegranate, dried cranberries, rose water, a touch of roasted herbs and cloves. The finish is warming, elegant and persistent.
Score : 16.25+/20 (93/100)

Riecine Vigna Gittori Chianti Classico Gran Selezione 2019

The wine shows a clear ruby colour with a brightening rim. The nose is intense and perfumed, slightly heady, revealing notes of macchia, roasted herbs, a touch of rose and peony, strawberry compote and crushed cherry. The palate is dense and offers a lot of fine concentration and with elevated alcohol balanced by fresh acidity and grippy, but well-polished tannins. Multi-layered, the wine opens up with notes of sweet forest raspberries, strawberry confiture, roasted herbs, a touch of warm earthy minerality. Very complex and luscious. Long, fruity and herbal finish.
Score : 17.5/20 (95/100)

Conti Capponi Villa Calcinaia Vigna la Fornace Chianti Classico Gran Selezione 2018

(Organic) The wine shows a medium ruby colour, slightly opaque. The nose is dense and heady, slightly oxidative, revealing notes of cherry liqueur, strawberry compote, a hint of cinnamon, cloves, nutmeg, a touch of varnish. The palate offers a good balance, with moderate acidity, powerful fruit concentration and grippy but well-managed tannins. The palate mirrors the nose with a touch of kirsch and sweet spices, notes of dried herbs and star anise. The finish is lingering with sweet cherry notes.
Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Conti Capponi Villa Calcinaia Chianti Classico Riserva 2018

(Organic) The wine shows a pale ruby-garnet colour. The nose is intense, heady with a light oxidative note, revealing notes of rose petals, ripe strawberries, cherry compote and sweet spices. The palate is dense with good fruit concentration, balanced acidity, smooth, slightly drying tannins and a good overall balance. The wine is packed with notes of dried and fresh red berries, notes of garrigue and pomegranate. The alcohol is very seamlessly integrated. Long, fresh finish.
Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Tenuta della Famiglia Cecchi Villa Rosa Chianti Classico Gran Selezione 2016

The wine shows a pale ruby colour with garnet reflections. The nose is dense, heady, concentrated, offering notes of roasted herbs, grilled meat, rosemary, thyme, a hint of eucalyptus. The palate shows some finesse and freshness, with elevated acidity and relatively fine (even diluted) structure. The tannins are present but well-polished. The wine reveals notes of dried cherries, cherry compote and a touch of macchia and withered herbs. The finish is slightly drying, herbal.
Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Querceto di Castellina Sei Chianti Classico Gran Selezione 2018

(Organic) The wine shows a clear ruby colour with a brightening rim. The nose is intense, revealing notes of dried herbs, macchia, Mediterranean brush, a touch of cherry liqueur, raspberry compote and crushed strawberries. The palate offers freshness and finesse with elevated acidity and polished, fine-grained tannins. The wine is packed with herbal notes, a touch of balsamic, some salinity with ripe red fruits in the background. An elegant, savoury finish. Classic!
Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Bonacchi Chianti Classico Riserva 2017

The wine shows a medium ruby colour with garnet reflections. The nose is intense and open, straightforward, revealing notes of ripe black and red cherries, bramble, a touch of dark chocolate, hints of cloves and nutmeg. The palate shows nice freshness and fine, slightly flat structure. The tannins are present, slightly drying. The wine opens up with notes of cherry liqueur, hints of warm soil and macchia. The finish is pleasant, with a touch of sweetness and gourmandise.
Score : 14+/20 (87/100)

Nizza DOCG

Marco Bonfante - Bricco Bonfante 2016, Riserva Nizza DOCG

The nose is fruity, elegant and offers a nice well-mastered power as well as brightness. It reveals notes of bright redcurrant, bright cherry and small notes of pulpy blackcurrant associated with touches of violet, pepper and laurel berries/sweet spices. The palate is fruity, balanced and offers juiciness, a mineral structure, good definition, gourmandise, accuracy, some tension as well as minerality. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy raspberry, bright redcurrant and small notes of juicy/fresh blue plum associated with a pretty racy minerality as well as delicate floral hints (even varietal) and a discreet hint of chocolate. The tannins are elegant, precise and coating.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Durio - Pragerolamo 2019 Nizza DOCG

The nose is fresh, racy, and liquoricey and offers a nice well-mastered intensity, concentration and depth. We find notes of liquorice, flowers (lily, iris, lilac), and small notes of crushed strawberry associated with touches of morello cherry, fine hints of mocha as well as a discreet hint of the local grove, salinity, and fine hints of toast. The palate is fruity, a bit aerial, and offers juiciness, minerality, energy, a nice tangy structure, delicacy in its concentration, as well as a certain density. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of crushed blackberry, morello cherry, and slight hints of cornflower/iris associated with touches of small crushed red berries, hints of chocolate, toast as well as a subtle hint of coffee and toasted hazelnut. The tannins are supple. Sapidità on the finish/persistence.

Score : 15.75/20 (91-92/100)

Ricossa - Noceto 2018 Nizza DOCG

The nose offers delicacy, a slight intensity as well as a delicate spiciness. It reveals notes of cherry in kirsch, violet, and small notes of creamy blackberry associated with delicate touches of spices, and creamy blackcurrant as well as a fine hint of tobacco and tea. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, minerality / a mineral frame, some tension as well as a fine fluidity. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of fairly ripe blackberry, cherry in kirsch, and small notes of crushed raspberry associated with touches of lily/violet as well as delicate hints of spices and vanilla. The tannins are mellow. There is some freshness on the palate.

Score: 15/20 (89-90/100)

L'Armangia - Titon 2019 Nizza DOCG

The nose is fruity and offers crunch, a certain power as well as a peppery finish. It reveals notes of crunchy cherry, cherry blossoms, and small notes of spice associated with fine touches of fresh cloves, black pepper, and a discreet hint of bay leaves. The palate is fruity, and finely tight and offers juiciness, a tangy frame, a certain brightness, good definition as well as good work on the bitterness. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of juicy Morello cherry, juicy blueberry and small notes of small crisp red berries associated with varietal touches as well as slight hints of cloves and a subtle hint of bay leaves.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

L'Armangia - Vignali 2019, Riserva Nizza DOCG

Nice aromatic nose, which offers a fine grain, a fairly wide aromatic palette as well as a feeling of tension. There are notes of crushed cherry, bright strawberry, and small notes of star anise associated with touches of small crushed blue berries, and cherry blossom as well as hints of blackcurrant, Bourbon vanilla, and a discreet hint almost of Ceylon tea. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, a mineral structure, acidity, good definition, gourmandise, a certain tension, a slight richness, freshness and suavity. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of chocolate, pulpy/crushed cherry and small notes of small blue fruits associated with touches of chocolate as well as hints of Bourbon vanilla, crushed raspberry, toast and toasted hazelnut. Good length. The tannins are racy and offer a very fine softness. Presence of an imperceptible almost saline point in the background.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Bocchino - Due Lù 2018 Nizza DOCG

The nose is aromatic, and fruity and offers complexity as well as a certain concentration. It reveals notes of boysenberry, cornflower and small notes of fresh cherry associated with a touch of lilac, pulpy/fresh raspberry as well as delicate hints of nutmeg and a very discreet hint, almost sage (in the background). The mouth is fruity, finely tight and offers juiciness, minerality, a juicy frame, a certain concentration, accuracy, a nice freshness as well as finesse in its definition. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of crushed blackberry, crushed blackcurrant and small notes of fresh cherry associated with touches of cornflower/fresh lilac as well as hints of small red berries, mocha, nutmeg and discreet hints of vanilla (in the background). The tannins are supple and fresh.

Score : 15.25+/20 (90-91/100)

Michele Chiarlo - Cipressi 2019 Nizza DOCG

The nose is fruity and offers spiciness as well as tension. It reveals notes of redcurrant and small notes of violet associated with slight touches of balsamic and a subtle hint of laurel berries. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, freshness, minerality and nice roundness. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy cherries, small bright red berries associated with touches of crunchy berries, fresh flowers and fine varietal hints as well as iris. The tannins are racy.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Franco Mondo - Le Rose 2018 Nizza DOCG

The nose is aromatic and flowery. It reveals notes of crushed blackcurrant and slight notes of fresh flowers/iris associated with touches of star anise as well as a subtle hint of balsamic and chocolate. The palate is fruity and offers freshness, juiciness, tension and a fresh structure. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of fresh blackberry, crushed raspberry and small notes of violet associated with touches of dark chocolate/mocha as well as hints of star anise and slight hints of fresh blond tobacco. Good length.

Score : 14.75/20 (88-89/100)

Scagliola Sansi - Forvia 2020 Nizza DOCG

Nice aromatic nose that offers a certain power, some richness as well as harmony. It reveals notes of wild blackberry, wild strawberry, and small notes of pepper associated with a slight sappy touch, liquorice and laurel berries. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, freshness, good definition, some tension, accuracy, and a fine grain. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, bright cherry and small notes of cornflower combined with touches of blueberry, crunchy berries, chocolate, blond tobacco, and a subtle hint of cardamom. The tannins are supple. Good length.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Coppo - Pomorosso 2019 Nizza DOCG

The nose is spicy and offers some power. It reveals notes of black plum, blackcurrant, and small notes of pepper associated with touches of crunchy red berries as well as slight hints of sense of the place and pepper. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, freshness, good definition, a certain gourmandise as well as a certain density. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy blackberry, luscious blackcurrant, and small notes of bright raspberry associated with touches of small crunchy berries as well as slight hints of iris, lily, a hint of lilac, chocolate, and vanilla/toast. A fine chew on the finish. Nice freshness and brightness of the fruit.

Score : 15.5/20 (90-91/100)

Cascina Nuova - Fida 2019 Nizza DOCG

(organic) The wine benefits from being decanted. There are hints of wild black berries, clove and small notes of pepper associated with touches of leather and a discreet hint of coffee. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, freshness, good definition, and a mineral structure. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/fresh blackberry, small wild black berries and slight notes of violet associated with touches of mocha, fresh plum as well as hints of cloves, laurel berries and A subtle hint of almost incense.

Score : 14.5/20 (88/100)



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Nizza DOCG

Sant'Evasio 2016 Nizza DOCG

The nose is fruity and offers a nice fleshy/juicy fruit, freshness, some concentration as well as some floral aromas. It reveals notes of fresh wild blackcurrant, crushed plum and small notes of crushed strawberry associated with touches of violet as well as slight hints of star anise and sap. The palate is fruity and offers freshness, juiciness, good definition and gourmandise. On the palate this wine expresses notes of bright black cherry, blueberry and small notes of cornflower associated with touches of crushed redcurrant as well as slight hints of star anise, nutmeg and a subtle hint of dark chocolate (in the background)
Score : 15.75/20 (91-92/100)

Cascina Guido Berta 2019 Nizza DOCG

The nose is fruity and offers a certain power as well as some floral aromas. It reveals notes of crushed redcurrant, pulpy cherry and small notes of blueberry associated with slight touches of lily, cornflower as well as slight hints of liquorice, black tea and a discreet hint of green pepper. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, minerality, a nice fresh frame, gourmandise, purity of aromas, good freshness and tension. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of blueberry, fleshy/bright cherry and small notes of bright raspberry associated with a touch of bright berries, tonka bean, toasted hazelnut and a subtle varietal hint in the background. Good length.
Score : 16+/20 (92-93/100)

Michele Chiarlo - LaCourt 2019, Riserva Nizza DOCG

The nose is tense. The wine benefits from being decanted. It reveals notes of boysenberry, sap, and small notes of fresh tobacco associated with touches of cloves as well as slight hints of spices and pepper. The mouth is fruity, finely tight and offers juiciness, a certain concentration as well as some intensity. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of crushed cherry, concentrated blackcurrant, and slight notes of balsamic associated with touches of fresh blond tobacco as well as fine spicy and varietal hints.
Score : 14.75/20 (88-89/100)

Frasca - La Guaragna 2019 Nizza

The nose is fresh, mineral, racy and offers tension as well as some spiciness. There are hints of crushed raspberry, fresh redcurrant and small notes of fresh violet associated with slight hints of cardamom and a subtle hint of pepper. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, freshness, minerality, good definition and a juicy/tangy structure. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of juicy/crunchy cherry, juicy/crunchy redcurrant and slight notes of fresh/tangy purple plum associated with touches of cardamom, chocolate and a subtle hint of toast. The tannins are supple and finely mellow. Nice chewiness on the finish/persistence. Nice freshness and a nice silky texture.
Score : 15.75+/20 (91-92/100)

Mauro Sebaste - Costemonghisio 2019 Nizza

The nose is elegant, racy and offers a nice definition. It reveals notes of fresh cherry, small fresh berries and small notes of fresh lily, iris associated with small touches of minerality as well as discreet hints of nutmeg and sweet spices. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, freshness, minerality, good definition and a fine tangy frame. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of crunchy/tangy cherry, juicy raspberry and small notes of small bright red berries associated with touches of lilac, iris as well as slight hints of fresh nutmeg and a very discreet hint of toasted hazelnut. The tannins are supple and racy. Nice sapidity on the finish/persistence.
Score : 15.75/20 (91-92/100)

Tenuta Il Falchetto - Bricco Roche 2017, Riserva Nizza

The nose is fresh, racy and offers a certain delicacy as well as a nice finesse and intensity of the grain. It reveals notes of morello cherry, boysenberry and small notes of crushed wild strawberry associated with touches of violet, mocha as well as slight hints of clove/toast and vanilla. The palate is fruity and offers freshness, minerality, well-mastered power, a tangy frame, good definition, a certain gourmandise as well as juiciness. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy raspberry, juicy/bright cherry and small notes of tangy blueberry associated with fine touches of violet/lily as well as hints of mocha, racy minerality, sense of the place (local biotop) and a very discreet hint of toasted hazelnut. The tannins are racy and elegant.
Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

La Gironda - Le Nicchie 2018 Nizza

The nose is aromatic and offers fruit, sweet spices as well as fine floral aromas. It reveals notes of saffron, tonka bean and small notes of red berries associated with touches of almost roasted herbs and nutmeg. The palate is fruity, finely tight and offers a nice tangy frame, minerality, and energy, as well as some roasted hints. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of fresh morello cherry, roasted small red fruits, and small notes of blackberry associated with hints of fresh blond tobacco, cloves as well as hints of almost roasted herbs, chocolate and toast.
Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Tenuta Olim Bauda 2018, Riserva Nizza

The nose is a little tight and offers some richness. The wine benefits from being decanted. It reveals notes of roasted blackberries, fairly ripe berries and small notes of morello cherries associated with touches of cornflower, camphor, toast and a fine hint of vanilla. The mouth is fruity and offers juiciness, a nice minerality, some freshness, roundness, finesse of its fatness as well as a certain well-mastered concentration. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/bright blackberry, pulpy/bright raspberry and slight hints of bright cherry associated with touches of violet, lily as well as hints of juicy/fresh plum, vanilla, fine hints of tonka bean, toast as well as a very discreet hint of almost black olive and a subtle saline note in the background. The tannins are fresh, precise and racy. Nice suave and sapid persistence.
Score : 15.5/20 (90-91/100)

Tenute Neirano 2020 Nizza

The nose is fruity and offers a certain richness/flesh of the fruit, a fine concentration as well as gourmandise. It reveals notes of bright cherry, pulpy raspberry, and small notes of pulpy redcurrant associated with touches of violet, and lily as well as hints of violet plum and a slight hint of star anise/liquorice. The palate is fruity, a bit aerial, and offers juiciness, gourmandise, some richness, intensity, fullness, some fatness, accuracy, a fine airy side as well as a pretty flesh of the fruit. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of fleshy/juicy cherry, luscious currants, and small notes of cornflower associated with touches of blue plum, fine hints of fresh blond tobacco, lily as well as discreet hints of toasted almond and a subtle hint of vanilla. The tannins are chewy and well-built. Good length. Nice finesse in its richness and nice acidity.
Score : 15.75/20 (91-92/100)

Isolabella della Croce - Augusta 2017 Nizza

The nose is spicy, finely dusty and offers a fine grain as well as a discreet touch of gray pepper. It reveals notes of camphor, gray pepper and small notes of blackcurrant associated with slight touches of clove, and raspberry as well as a discreet hint of tobacco and local grove. The palate is fruity and offers nice juiciness, brightness, freshness, and energy as well as certain straightness. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of fresh blackberry, small blue fruits and small notes of violet associated with touches of camphor, tobacco as well as a discreet hint of local grove/laurel berries, rose and a subtle hint of sweet spices/liquorice. Good length. The tannins offer fine tightness as well as suavity.
Score : 14.5/20 (88/100)

Garesio - 2016, Riserva Nizza

The nose offers a certain intensity, a fine grain as well as a fine well-mastered power. The wine benefits from being decanted. It reveals notes of crushed boysenberry, fairly ripe purple plum, and small notes of cooked blackcurrant associated with touches of fairly ripe raspberry, coffee, and cloves as well as slight hints of truffle and toasted almond. The palate is fruity, discreetly tight, and offers juiciness, a nice acidity as well as tension. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of cherry in kirsch, bright redcurrant, and small notes of bright strawberry associated with hints of cornflower, cooked blackcurrant as well as a fine hint of almost fig, truffle, tobacco as well as a very discreet hint of toasted almond. The tannins offer some chewiness. Good length.
Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Cascina Garitina - CEC 900, 2017 Nizza

The nose is fruity and offers some flesh of the fruit. It reveals notes of fleshy cherry, crushed strawberry, and small notes of fleshy plum associated with touches of cornflower as well as slight hints of caramelisation and liquorice. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, a nice tangy frame, gourmandise, energy as well as a very nice acidity. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of fleshy/juicy/tangy purple plum, juicy/fresh redcurrant and small notes of crunchy red

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berries associated with touches of cornflower, violet as well as slight hints of star anise, mocha, and toast. The tannins are supple. Salinity and sapidity on the finish/persistence. A fleshy, gourmand, and fruity wine.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Cascina Garitina - 900, Gianola 2015, Riserva Nizza

The nose is fruity and offers minerality as well as a fine touch of graphite. It reveals notes of blackberry, pulpy/juicy black plum, and small notes of morello cherry associated with touches of violet as well as slight hints of pink pepper, star anise, and an imperceptible hint of laurel berries. The palate is fresh and offers minerality, certain juiciness, a touch of graphite as well as some straightness. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of fresh blackberry, violet and small notes of fresh plum associated with touches of graphite, and camphor as well as slight hints of mocha and a hint of toast.

Score : 14.75/20 (88-89/100)

Cascina Barisel - La Cappelletta 2018 Nizza DOCG

The wine benefits from being decanted. The nose is harmonious. It reveals notes of black cherry, violet, and small notes of bright plum associated with a slight hint of lily as well as a very discreet hint of pepper. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, minerality, good definition, a nice touch of graphite, a nice grain as well as purity in its definition. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, pulpy purple plum, and small notes of bright blackcurrant associated with touches of graphite, mocha as well as slight hints of caramelisation and a discreet hint of fresh blond tobacco. The tannins are fresh and tense. A nice mineral and fresh wine.

Score : 15.5/20 (90-91/100)

Pico Maccario - Tre Roveri 2020 Nizza DOCG

The nose offers minerality and some fruits. It reveals notes of morello cherry, blackberry, and small notes of violet associated with fine touches of graphite, and star anise as well as a subtle hint of spices and a very discreet hint of Sichuan pepper. The palate is fruity, mineral, and offers juiciness, a nice definition/brightness of the fruit, tension, a certain gourmandise as well as finesse in its structure. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of juicy/fresh purple plum, fresh/juicy blackcurrant and small notes of violet associated with touches of fresh blackberry, graphite as well as slight hints of toast and nutmeg. The tannins are discreetly tight. Good length.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Tenuta Olim Bauda - 2016, Riserva Nizza DOCG

The nose is fruity and offers some intensity in its fruit as well as the finesse and power of the grain. It reveals notes of graphite, blackcurrant, and small notes of cornflower associated with touches of juicy purple plum as well as fine hints of spices and a very discreet hint of smoke. The mouth is fruity and offers juiciness, a certain brightness, tension, a nice freshness as well as straightness. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of fresh/juicy blackcurrant, purple plum, and small notes of graphite associated with fine hints of toast, and toasted hazelnut as well as subtle almost smoky, and vanilla hints (in the background). Slightly tight in the finish.

Score : 15+/20 (89-90/100)

Prunotto - Costamiòle 2018, Riserva Nizza DOCG

The nose is fruity and offers precision as well as a slight touch of gray pepper. It reveals notes of violet plum, violet, and small notes of dried blackcurrant associated with fine touches of vanilla and sweet blond tobacco. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, minerality, a certain harmony as well as a mineral/tangy frame. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, crushed blackcurrant, and small notes of pulpy plum associated with touches of lily, and Sichuan pepper as well as a subtle hint of tea and toasted almond. Good length. Some tightness on the palate.

Score : 14.75/20 (88-89/100)

Bersano - Cremosina 2019 Nizza DOCG

The nose is fruity and offers brightness, a nice definition of the fruit as well as a certain intensity of the fruit. It reveals notes of crushed cherry, pulpy plum, and small notes of violet associated with touches of crushed blue berries as well as fine hints of graphite, caramelisation, and a subtle hint of sweet blond tobacco (in the background). The palate is fruity and offers minerality, freshness, harmony, a fine graphite note as well as precision. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy plum, juicy/crushed blackcurrant, and small notes of blueberry associated with touches of cornflower, crushed currants, and slight hints of toast.

Score : 15.75/20 (91-92/100)

Cascina Barisel - Vigna dei Pilati 2017, Riserva Nizza DOCG

The nose is fruity and offers a fine concentration, some gourmandise as well as precision. It reveals notes of morello cherry, smoke, and small notes of sweet spices associated with touches of cooked blackcurrant as well as slight hints of gray pepper and clove. The palate is fruity, balanced and offers superb juiciness, gourmandise, elegance, delicacy, a nice silkiness as well as some melodious character. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy blackcurrant, bright blueberry and slight notes of pulpy/juicy purple plum associated with fine touches of small tangy red fruits, violet, lilac, mocha, vanilla as well as a hint of sweet blond tobacco. Good length.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Bava - Piano Alto 2017 Nizza DOCG

Nizza DOCG

The nose is fruity, finely tight, and offers some tension as well as a fine peppery touch. It reveals notes of pulpy purple plum, bright blackcurrant, and small notes of graphite associated with fine hints of violet as well as a discreet hint of pepper. The mouth is fruity, finely tight, and offers juiciness, acidity, good definition, a certain melodious character, gourmandise as well as tension. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of morello cherry, pulpy blackcurrant and small notes of violet plum associated with touches of fresh raspberry, racy minerality, hints of graphite, blond tobacco, nutmeg, sense of the place (local biotope) as well as delicate hints of faded rose (in the background) and chocolate. The tannins are supple. Good length.

Score : 15.5/20 (90-91/100)

Tenuta Bricco San Giorgio - Caranti 2019 Nizza DOCG

The nose is fresh, mineral, and racy. It reveals notes of bright plum, bright morello cherry, and small notes of blackcurrant associated with slight touches of violet, graphite and fine hints of blond tobacco. The palate is nicely juicy, fresh, mineral and offers brightness of fruit, a certain purity of fruit, energy as well as a very discretely tight grain. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of violet, bright blackcurrant, and small notes of cornflower associated with touches of morello cherry, small bright blue fruits as well as slight hints of star anise, lilac, cardamom as well as a very discreet almost chocolate hint (in the background). The tannins are supple and well-built. Good length.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

La Gironda - Ago 2016, Riserva Nizza

The nose is fruity, gourmet and offers a nice intensity in its fruit. There are notes of bright cherry, crushed red currant and, more slightly, lilac/fresh flowers combined with hints of blue forest berries, bright blackcurrant as well as hints of nutmeg, star anise and a very discreet touch of pepper. The palate is nicely fresh, mineral, balanced and offers a fresh/juicy structure, good definition, nice energy and some stretch. On the palate this wine expresses bright cherry, crushed currant and, more slightly, crunchy purple plum notes combined with hints of blueberry, star anise, bright wild strawberry as well as subtle hints of lilac, nutmeg, toastiness and a discreet hint of vanilla/hazelnut toast. The tannins are finely mellow. Very nice freshness, acidity and good volume.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)



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Tenute Rade - Historical 2017

Nizza DOCG

The nose is fresh and a bit aerial. It reveals notes of boysenberry, crushed purple plum and small notes of violet associated with touches of liquorice, gray pepper, and fine hints of bright berries. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, minerality, a tangy frame, good definition, gourmandise, suavity, tension, and energy. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy purple plum, bright blackcurrant, and small notes of cornflower associated with touches of cardamom as well as fine hints of toast, nutmeg as well as a subtle almost vanilla hint in the background. The tannins are relatively marked on the finish. A discreet hint of chocolate on the finish/persistence.

Score : 15.75/20 (91-92/100)

Vite Colte - La Luna e i Falò 2019, Riserva

Nizza DOCG

The nose is fruity and offers a certain purity of fruit as well as good definition. It reveals notes of bright blackcurrant, bright blackberry and small notes of bright purple plum associated with hints of gray pepper, lily as well as a subtle hint of tobacco and tonka bean. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, gourmandise, nice fatness as well as tension in the mouth. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of violet, bright/fresh blackcurrant, juicy/bright blackberry and small notes of plum associated with touches of fresh blond tobacco, nutmeg as well as a discreet hint of clove, liquorice and a subtle hint of almost toast. The tannins are racy. Good length.

Score : 15.25+/20 (90-91/100)

Malgrà - Gaiana 2018

Nizza

The nose is relatively aromatic and offers a slight intensity. It reveals notes of fairly ripe purple plum, and violet and small notes of dried blackberry associated with slight touches of dried strawberry as well as slight hints of tobacco, cloves, sweet spices, and a very discreet hint of almost fig in the background. The palate is fruity and offers freshness, minerality, a tangy frame as well as energy. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, a quite ripe plum, and small notes of cooked strawberry associated with touches of racy minerality, fresh/tangy small red fruits as well as slight hints of cloves, tobacco, and spices. A discreet powdery side in the finish/persistence.

Score : 15/20 (89-90/100)

Il Botolo 2016

Nizza

The nose is fresh, racy and offers some concentration as well as a fine, racy, powerful and finely grained character. There are hints of ripe wild blackcurrant, grey pepper and slightly of Bigarreau cherry combined with hints of violet, pepper, blackberry as well as fine hints of blond tobacco and a subtle spice note. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, a juicy/acidic structure, good definition and freshness. On the palate, juicy/sour black cherry, juicy/sour purple plum and light blueberry notes are combined with hints of roasted red berries, tart blackcurrant and hints of star anise and sweet blond tobacco. Sapid and gourmet on the finish/persistence. A fine touch of positive bitterness in the background.

Score : 15/20 (89-90/100)

Il Botolo 2017

Nizza

The wine needs to be decanted. The nose is racy and offers a fine spiciness as well as power in finesse. There are notes of roasted cherry, violet and, to a lesser extent, bright boysenberry, combined with hints of jammy redcurrant, violet, star anise, grey pepper and a very discreet hint of sap (in the background). The palate is fruity and offers suavity, gourmandise, unctuousness, energy, a nice roundness as well as a fine acidic frame. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of cherry, roasted blackberry and, more slightly, blueberry, combined with touches of red berries, hints of star anise, sap and nutmeg, as well as a very discreet hint of sweet blond tobacco and a subtle hint of the sense of place (biotop)/local grove. The tannins are structured. A very discreet hint of roast in the background.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Cossetti - Crivello 2019

Nizza

A lovely spicy nose that offers power, intensity and a fine, powerful grain. Fresh currant, pulpy cherry and, more slightly, clove notes are combined with hints of violet as well as fine pepper, incense and a discreet hint of local varietal/bush. The palate is nicely juicy, fresh, bright, gourmet, with some tension, sweetness, acidity, roundness and some fat. On the palate this wine expresses juicy/sour cherry, tart redcurrant and, more slightly, crunchy plum notes combined with hints of clove, fresh nutmeg as well as discreet hints of violet, vanilla and fresh blond tobacco. The tannins are supple and well-managed. Good length. Nice freshness.

Score : 15.25+/20 (90-91/100)

Cascina Nuova - Fida 2019

Nizza

(Organic) A pretty, fresh and elegant nose that offers a certain aromatic richness as well as an intensity of gourmandise. There are notes of wild cherry, crushed redcurrant and, more slightly, violet combined with touches of crushed wild strawberry as well as discreet hints of vanilla and fine pepper. The palate is fruity, a little tight and offers juiciness, a nice freshness/minerality, sapidity, an acidic frame, a certain tension as well as a good work on the bitter taste. On the palate this wine expresses notes of fresh cherry, redcurrant and, more slightly, iris, sense of place (local biotop) combined with hints of juicy blackberry and a subtle hint of star anise and chocolate. Good length. The tannins are supple and smooth.

Score : 15.25+/20 (90-91/100)

Gianni Doglia - Viti Vecchie 2019

Nizza

(unfiltered) The nose is elegant, aromatic and offers a nice fine grain, intensity, harmony, complexity and a nice spicy edge. There are notes of bright wild cherry, fresh raspberry and, more slightly, blueberry combined with hints of clove, pepper and a hint of fresh blond tobacco. The palate is nicely fruity, juicy, nicely sour and offers freshness and a fresh/acidic frame. On the palate this wine expresses tart/juicy currant, crunchy cherry and, more slightly, fresh blackberry notes combined with hints of blackcurrant as well as blueberry, lily/iris and discreet hints of liquorice. The tannins are supple and sapid. Nice acidity on the finish.

Score : 16+/20 (92-93/100)



Nizza DOCG

Cascina la Barbatella - La Vigna Dell'Angelo 2019 Nizza

Nice nose with some richness, a fine intensity and a fine peppery edge. There are notes of crushed blackcurrant, fleshy cherry and, more slightly, wild strawberry, combined with hints of violet, blueberry and discreet hints of star anise, cardamom, pepper and an imperceptible hint of laurel berries. The palate is nicely mineral and delicate, offering freshness, a certain fluidity (in a positive sense) and a fine acidic frame. On the palate this wine expresses notes of fresh sour plum, fresh sour cherry and, more slightly, violet combined with hints of star anise, fresh vanilla bean and a subtle touch of chocolate. The tannins are supple and elegant. Good length. Subtle chewiness on the finish/persistence.

Score : 15.25+/20 (90-91/100)

Cascina la Barbatella - La Vigna Dell'Angelo 2018, Riserva

Nizza

The nose is aromatic and offers concentration, some intensity/depth, freshness, elegance and fine grain. There are notes of boysenberry, bright blackcurrant and, more slightly, Sichuan pepper combined with hints of spice, tea, nutmeg, hints of jammy currants and a discreet hint of lily and star anise. The palate is nicely fresh, juicy, acidic and offers gourmandise, acidity, minerality, a discreet tightness and concentration. On the palate this wine expresses juicy/fresh cherry, fresh/juicy raspberry and, more slightly, crushed blackcurrant notes combined with fine touches of plum blossom, mocha and a discreet hint of spice, sense of place. Chewy on the finish. Nice persistence. A lovely gourmet wine! .

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

La Giribaldina - Cala Delle Mandrie 2017, Riserva

Nizza

The nose is fresh, intense, tight and offers energy and a tense/stretched side. There are notes of crushed blueberry, crunchy plum and a hint of mocha combined with hints of star anise, Cuben pepper and a hint of toast. The palate is nicely mineral and offers freshness, nice sour fruit, some richness, nice energy and tension. On the palate this wine expresses morello cherry, juicy plum and, more slightly, racy minerality combined with hints of star anise, lily, cherry blossom, hints of crushed berries and a discreet touch of grey pepper and toastiness. A touch of sense of place (local biotop) / local grove. An imperceptible hint of coffee in the background/persistence.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Tenuta Garetto - Favà 2020

Nizza

The nose offers elegance as well as a certain complexity/multilayered quality. The wine needs to be decanted. There are notes of boysenberry, toast, smoke and, more slightly, strawberry combined with hints of ripe red berry fruit as well as hints of nutmeg and a very discrete vanilla note. The palate is nicely juicy/acidic and offers freshness, a certain crunchiness, gourmandise, a discreet iodine side as well as a nice suavity and sapidity. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy cherry, crisp raspberry and, more slightly, of fresh flowers combined with hints of bright Quetsche plum as well as fine tips of lily, liquorice and fresh blond tobacco. Lovely freshness and crunchiness of fruit. A fruity wine.

Score : 15.25+/20 (90-91/100)

La Giribaldina - Cala Delle Mandrie 2018

Nizza

The nose is elegant and offers a certain crunchiness and freshness as well as a floral touch. There are notes of boysenberry, mulberry leaf and, to a lesser extent, wild berries, combined with hints of morello cherry, fresh tobacco and nutmeg. The palate is nicely mineral, racy and offers freshness, juiciness, acidity, good definition and energy. On the palate this wine expresses juicy/fresh cherry, bright red berry and slightly blueberry notes combined with hints of star anise, cardamom, crushed wild berries as well as fine nutmeg and a very discreet hint of place sense. The tannins are supple and smooth. Good length. Nice acidity on the finish/persistence. Good persistence. Subtle chewiness on the finish/persistence.

Score : 15.25+/20 (90-91/100)

Vinchio Vaglio - Laudana 2019

Nizza

The nose is pretty and elegant, with a spicy edge, a certain complexity and a certain delicacy in its power. Boysenberry, tonka bean and, more slightly, crunchy blackcurrant notes are combined with hints of strawberry, fine grey pepper and discreet hints of blond tobacco and an imperceptible almost roasted herbal edge. The palate is fruity and offers a nice acidity, minerality, energy, dynamism, silkiness and volume. On the palate this wine expresses notes of fresh/juicy cherry, crunchy redcurrant and, more slightly, purple plum combined with touches of blueberry, lily and fine tonka bean. A discreet saline touch in the background. A subtle hint of positive bitterness of cocoa/roast in the background. The tannins are supple and saline. Nice freshness. Congratulations!

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Garesio - Gavelli 2018

Nizza

Lovely, harmonious nose with some concentration/intensity, fine grain and a fine spicy edge. There are notes of blackberry, toast/chocolate and, more slightly, sweet pepper combined with hints of ripe berries and a touch of fresh blond tobacco. The palate is nicely juicy and offers brightness, fullness, fruit, nice acidity, gourmandise, tension and nice acidity. On the palate this wine has juicy/pulpy cherry, juicy/pulpy purple plum and a hint of chocolate with hints of tart red berries and hints of cherry blossom, fresh blond tobacco and a discreet hint of mocha (in the background). The tannins are supple and smooth. Good length. Nice work on the bitter taste.

Score : 15.75/20 (91-92/100)

Beppe Marino - Quattrofilari 2018, Riserva

Nizza

The nose is racy and offers a certain intensity as well as depth. There are notes of violet, vanilla essence and, more slightly, sweet blond tobacco combined with touches of crushed raspberry as well as fine hints of lilac, spices and a very discreet touch of grey pepper. The palate is fruity and offers minerality, good definition, juiciness, a mineral frame, a fine linear side as well as a good work on the bitter taste. On the palate this wine expresses notes of crushed currants, juicy/acidic blueberries and, more slightly, fresh raspberries combined with hints of fresh blond tobacco, chocolate as well as discreet hints of lily and toasted/chocolate.

The tannins are supple. Good length.

Score : 15.25+/20 (90-91/100)

Amistà 2020

Nizza

The nose is spicy and offers a fine and intense grain. There are notes of violet, lily and slightly fresh currants combined with fine touches of rose as well as crunchy plum, pepper, fine spice and an almost blood orange hint. The palate is mineral, balanced and offers a tangy structure, good definition, juiciness, energy and vibrancy. On the palate this wine expresses rose, lily and slightly lilac notes with hints of fresh/sour red berries and hints of bright blackcurrant, pepper, mocha/camphor and a discreet almost blood orange touch. Good length.

Score : 14.5+/20 (88/100)

Pico Maccario - Epico 2019, Riserva

Nizza

The nose is fresh and offers a fresh/crunchy fruit. There are notes of purple plum, liquorice and, more slightly, morello cherry combined with fine hints of lily, spice and a very discreet hint of the sense of place (local biotop). The palate is fruity and offers freshness, juiciness, fresh acidity, a certain tension, accuracy as well as mastery. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of morello cherry, juicy blackcurrant and, more slightly, purple plum, combined with touches of violet, lily, as well as hints of blond tobacco and a subtle touch of clove. The tannins are finely marked on the finish/persistence.

Score : 15.25+/20 (90-91/100)



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Nizza DOCG

Vinicola Arno - Lorella 2018

Nizza DOCG

The nose offers a certain gourmandise, creaminess and a fine grain. There are notes of crushed blackberry, raspberry and, to a lesser extent, crushed red berries combined with hints of blond tobacco, liquorice, lily and a touch of graphite. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, freshness, good definition and pulpy/fresh fruit. On the palate this wine expresses juicy/pulpy blackberry, juicy/pulpy raspberry and, more slightly, pulpy/juicy red berry notes combined with hints of lily, graphite as well as fine tonka bean and blond tobacco. The tannins are tightly wound and pronounced. A certain harmony on the palate.

Score : 15+/20 (89-90/100)

Marco Pesce 2017

Nizza DOCG

The nose is fruity, racy and offers a very fine concentration. There are notes of ripe blackcurrant, violet and, to a lesser extent, graphite, combined with fine touches of black fruit, camphor, a hint of black pepper and an imperceptible hint of incense. The palate is balanced and offers suavity, fine silkiness, definition, finesse and minerality. The tannins are racy and well-managed. Good length.

Score : 15.5/20 (90-91/100)

Dacasto Duilio - Moncucco 2019

Nizza DOCG

The nose is mineral and fruity. There are notes of fresh cherry, pulpy raspberry and, to a lesser extent, violet, combined with hints of nutmeg and a discreet touch of pepper. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, acidity, gourmandise, fine tension and fine grain. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy cherry, plum and, to a lesser extent, bright redcurrant, combined with hints of violet, fresh tobacco and discreet hints of racy minerality and toasted almond/vanilla. The tannins are supple.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Villa Giada - Dani 2020

Nizza DOCG

The nose is fruity and offers freshness, good definition and a very fine intensity in its grain. There are notes of morello cherry, plum and, to a lesser extent, lily, combined with hints of camphor/graphite and fine hints of clove and tonka bean. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, an acidic frame and a discreet but good work on the bitter taste. On the palate this wine expresses juicy/ripe blackberry, fairly ripe blackcurrant and, more slightly, violet notes combined with hints of lily, plum blossom, clove and fine tonka bean and tobacco. A fine powdery finish. The tannins are discreetly marked. A discreet hint of undergrowth on the finish.

Score : 15/20 (89-90/100)

Villa Giada - Dedicato 2019, Riserva

Nizza DOCG

The wine benefits from being decanted. The nose offers notes of crushed blackberry, coffee and, more slightly, purple plum combined with delicate touches of fleshy/juicy fruit, violet, sweet spices and a fine touch of mocha. The palate is fruity, precise, focused and offers gourmandise, fine richness, freshness, energy, acidity, roundness and good volume. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy blackberry, fleshy/juicy blackcurrant and, more slightly, violet, combined with hints of pulpy raspberry, pulpy plum, fine tips of lily, sweet blond tobacco, as well as a discreet hint of cardamom, sweet spices and toasted almond. The tannins are racy and elegant. Good length.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

LHV Avezza 2016, Riserva

Nizza DOCG

The nose is fresh, fruity and well defined. There are notes of pulpy cherry, violet and, more slightly, blackberry combined with fine touches of ripe redcurrant, lily, lilac and a discreet touch of pepper. The palate is nicely fresh, chiselled and offers juiciness, a certain delicacy, energy as well as a nice acidic frame. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of crunchy cherry, pulpy blackcurrant and, more slightly, pulpy purple plum, combined with hints of lily, lilac and fine points of cardamom, toasted hazelnut and a subtle hint of chocolate in the background. The tannins are finely mellow. Good length.

Score : 15.5/20 (90-91/100)

Bersano - Generala 2018, Riserva

Nizza DOCG

The nose is fresh, fruity and offers a nice crunchiness/purity of fruit and a fine creaminess (in the background). There are notes of crushed cherry, crunchy

blackcurrant and, more slightly, dark chocolate combined with fine touches of crunchy blue berries, blueberry, star anise and a discreet hint of pepper. The palate is nicely fresh, mineral, balanced and offers a tangy frame, purity, gourmandise and a nice energy. On the palate this wine expresses notes of crushed redcurrant, crunchy/sour cherry and, more slightly, crushed blackberry combined with a touch of tart blueberry and hints of tonka bean/black chocolate, vanilla and a subtle hint of star anise. The tannins are elegant and supple. Good work on the bitter taste (discreet, in the background). Nice persistence.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Erede di Chiappone Armando - Ru 2014

Nizza DOCG

The nose is fresh, mineral and racy. There are notes of fairly ripe boysenberry, crushed blackcurrant and, more slightly, jammy strawberry combined with fine touches of tobacco, pepper and a discreet hint of fig and a subtle coffee. The palate is nicely fresh, dynamic, tense and energetic. On the palate this wine expresses notes of fairly ripe/fresh blackcurrant, dried cherry and, more slightly, of wild red berries combined with hints of iris, iris root as well as hints of tonka bean, tobacco, clove as well as a subtle hint of almost coffee and an imperceptible hint of truffle in the background. Good length.

Score : 15/20 (89-90/100)

Francesco Iandolo 2019

Nizza DOCG

The nose is fruity, floral and offers harmony, certain intensity and a fine grain. There are notes of boysenberry, violet and a touch of white pepper combined with hints of pulpy cherry and discreet hints of cardamom, bay leaf and liquorice. The palate is nicely fresh, mineral, balanced and offers a tangy structure, juiciness, roundness, harmony, gourmandise, a nice suavity and a certain volume. On the palate this wine expresses juicy/pulpy purple plum, crunchy blackcurrant and, more slightly, crunchy cherry notes combined with hints of blueberry, tonka bean, laurel berry, pink pepper and a subtle hint of mocha/hazelnut toast. The tannins are elegant and supple. Good length. Harmony. Congratulations!

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Dacapo - Vigna Dacapo 2018, Riserva

Nizza DOCG

The nose is fruity and offers a certain concentration, gourmandise as well as a fine depth. There are notes of pulpy/crunchy blackcurrant, pulpy/crunchy strawberry and, more slightly, crushed redcurrant, combined with fine touches of star anise, fresh nutmeg and a very discreet hint of pepper. The palate is fruity, racy and offers juiciness, acidity, good definition, a certain gourmandise, finesse, energy, a finely creamy texture and a nice fine grain. On the palate this wine expresses notes of crushed blackcurrant, pulpy currant and, more slightly, tart/pulpy cherry combined with hints of star anise, crushed berries, blueberry as well as a hint of Sichuan pepper, Bourbon vanilla and a subtle touch of toastiness. The tannins are finely mellow. Lovely freshness and deliciousness.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

LHV Avezza 2017

Nizza DOCG

The nose is fruity, racy and offers some intensity and fine power. There are notes of boysenberry, crushed wild strawberry and, more slightly, crushed redcurrant combined with fine touches of blackcurrant, blueberry, chocolate and a discreet hint of pepper and nutmeg. The palate is fruity, fresh, mineral and offers elegance, a nice freshness and a fine power. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, pulpy/juicy blue berries and, more slightly, wild strawberry, combined with hints of vanilla, blueberry and fine hints of dark chocolate and toasted hazelnut. A very discreet hint of pepper and almost balsamic in the background. Good length.

Score : 15.25+/20 (90-91/100)

Serra Domenico 2019

Nizza DOCG

The nose is fruity, fruity and offers some power and fine concentration. There are notes of ripe/fresh wild blackcurrant, ripe wild black berries and, more slightly, wild strawberry with fine touches of pepper, lilac, nutmeg and a discreet hint of sense of place (local biotop) and toastiness. The palate is fruity, tightly wound and offers juiciness, acidity, minerality, energy and tension. On the palate this wine expresses notes of crisp cherry, violet and, more slightly, juicy/fresh blackcurrant combined with a touch of blackberry, fresh lilac, blueberry, fine hints of fresh blond tobacco as well as a fine touch of bay and pepper. The tannins are structured and racy. Nice freshness.

Score : 15+/20 (89-90/100)

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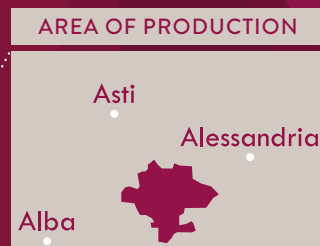
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