

N°24 - International edition

VertdeVin®

MAGAZINE

Spirits

IRISH WHISKEY THE PHOENIX RISES !

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MÉDOC 2020 SPECIAL SESSION

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BRUNELLO 2015 VINTAGE IS REVEALED

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HOW VDP IMPACTED GERMAN WINES

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THE ABUSE OF ALCOHOL IS DANGEROUS FOR YOUR HEALTH, PLEASE DRINK RESPONSIBLY.

I'm very pleased to present you the new issue of VERTDEVIN Magazine, the n°24, 2023-2024 Winter issue. This edition of the magazine introduce an eclectic selection of wines and spirits from several countries.

To start this new issue we chose with my team (meet them in page 5) to speak to you about different winemakers and wines from France, Italy, USA and New Zealand. This magazine is the result of exhilarating trips, amazing tastings, discoveries and fabulous meetings!

Well, in the first part of the magazine you will discover some winemakers interviews (Château Le Tros, Château Loudenne, Quintessa...) general articles (Welcome Brunello, VDP Premiere, Prophet's Rock...) and, two special tasting (Frescobaldi and Château Bellevue)... Don't miss our article about the new « Nutrition Charts » which will soon have to be obligatorily displayed on the back labels of bottles

Afterwards, a great article about Irish whiskey wrote by John Wilson, a new contributor for our Magazine. It's great expertise about this spirit will permit to you to learn more about it.

Also go to page 16 to meet Alessandra Piubello, a new contributor to the magazine who gives us the pleasure of writing about Alto Adige

Following that the "Buying Guide" part will be waiting for you...

In the second part find interviews of 4 restaurants chosen from our selection of more than 450 restaurants offering great wine lists. Go on pages 28 to 31 to know more about it !

Well, in the third part of the magazine, you will have your taste buds tickled while finding more than 1.300 wines with reviews and score : Médoc, Bordeaux, Bourgogne, Loire, Jura, Sicily, Nizza, New Zealand, Great Britain, Germany...

Enjoy the reading, savor the tastings and read with delicacy the Wine Buying guide.

Jonathan Choukroun Chicheportiche

INVITATION

VertdeVin

MAGAZINE & WEBSITE FOR WINE & SPIRITS LOVERS



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!

*More informations
& Registration*



SAVE THE DATE DURING VINEXPO-WINE PARIS 2024:
Tuesday, February 13th 2024 (7pm to 9pm)
at Hôtel Mercure Paris Vaugirard (Porte de Versailles)





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GRAND CRU CLASSE & VIGNOBLE JARDIN

Au cœur de l'appellation Saint-Emilion, les micro-parcelles du **Château Croix de Labrie, Grand Cru Classé de Saint-Emilion**, forment une superficie de 5,16 hectares. Des vignes travaillées en **agriculture biologique et biodynamie** dont sont issus deux grands vins : Château Croix de Labrie et Chapelle de Labrie. **Ici, les maîtres-mots sont le soin, l'attention, la douceur.** Un vin dominé par les Merlots, comme le sont les plus grands classés. Château Croix de Labrie est de ceux-là, peut-être **le plus grand des petits domaines les plus prestigieux et des plus rares.**

The tiny plots of Château Croix de Labrie, Grand Cru Classé, total an area of 5.16 hectares (12,75 acres) in the middle of Saint-Emilion Grand Cru appellation area. 100% organic agriculture and biodynamic techniques are applied, whose fruit produces great wines : Chateau Croix de Labrie and Chapelle de Labrie. The watch-words here are care, attention and gentleness. This is a Merlot like the best of the Grand Crus Classés. Château Croix de Labrie is a Grand Cru and is one of that family, perhaps the best of the small estates - very exclusive and rare.



Artisan Vigneronne et propriétaire, **Axelle Courdurié** travaille le vignoble, par climat et terroir, de la taille à la vendange, et de la vinification à l'élevage. **Pierre**, est un «globe wine trotter». Il accompagne Axelle à la production et aime à dire que **leur domaine est conduit à la manière des petits domaines bourguignons.**

Artisan Vigneronne, Axelle Courdurié is the owner and winemaker, who works her garden vineyard, by climate and terroir, from pruning to harvesting and then from winemaking to ageing. Pierre, is a wine globetrotter, who travel around the world, promoting the wines of his partners. He supports Axelle with production and likes to say that their estate is managed rather like the small Burgundy estates.

«Nous voulons que nos vins reflètent les terroirs qui les ont produits. Nous voulons aussi qu'ils nous ressemblent.»

*« We want our wines to reflect the terroirs that produced them. We also want them to be familiar.»
Axelle and Pierre Courdurié*

WWW.CHATEAU-CROIX-DE-LABRIE.FR



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VERT DE VIN CONTRIBUTORS

©Marco Cellai



JONATHAN CHOUKROUN CHICHEPORTICHE

Jonathan is a French journalist, wine & spirits critic and editor. He began his career working for other wine media (paper and digital) as well as wineries (Bordeaux, USA). Passionate, curious and epicurean, he chose in 2010 to create VertdeVin in order to highlight all the beauty and diversity of wines & spirits, always with high standards in the work.



VALENTINA GUÉRIN DE TOURVILLE

Valentina is a French journalist and professional taster, based in Bordeaux. Graduate in WSET Diploma and French Wine Scholar (in-depth knowledge of French wines), she has experience of working as a sommelier and in the vineyard. She is also the writer for her personal wine blog, an author of wine courses, a member of the French Sommeliers Union and a judge of national wine competitions. She travels abroad and often visits Bordeaux wineries and professional events.



CHLOÉ CAZAUX GRANDPIERRE

Chloé lives in Bordeaux, France. She is dipWSET, FWS and sommelier with a unique specialization : she is an expert about Japanese saké and spirits (she even has written a book about it !). She tastes wines, spirits, sakés and realizes interviews for VertdeVin Magazine. She is a member of prestigious associations.



JOANIE METIVIER

Sommelier, Wine writer, Whisky ambassador, her official title is a little vague and her path rather atypical. Her studies are ongoing and will probably ever be. She may be the youngest Wine writer in Quebec, but her adventures are rich and esteemed. Read her articles on joaniemetivier.com, and follow her on Instagram: @joaniemetivier



ERIKA MANTOVAN

Erika Mantovan is an Italian journalist. She is also professional sommelier, author and lover of life. Erika is extremely curious about wines and the history of the several French and Italian terroirs. Graduated in Economics and Tourism Development, she puts into practice the teachings to give light to the territory through recipes and wines.



YUKIKO KUMATA

Yukiko is a Japanese journalist and writer, born in Tokyo. Passionate about wine, she came to France to study oenology at the University of Dijon, a region with which she fell in love and where she still resides today. Journalist for several years, she reports for many Japanese media (magazines and television).



SARAH MCCLEERY

Sarah's has over 20 years of wine trade experience. She bought and sold wine for several years before turning full-time to writing. She has written for a host of newspapers, trade and consumer magazines. She has a successful wine content writing business, serving all sectors of the wine trade.



MATTHIAS STELZIG

Matthias is a wine writer based in London. Frequently travelling to wine regions in Europe and overseas he covers stories for special daily newspapers, for website and business publications in Germany, the United Kingdom and Austria. He has been in the wine business for over twenty years and has gathered a wide knowledge of international markets. With his expertise on wine he supports the communication of several companies in the business.



VALERIA TENISON

Valeria Tenison is a MW student, skilled sommelier and wine writer with a passion for sharing her knowledge and expertise. Born in Saint-Petersburg, Valeria has lived and worked in many countries across Europe and Asia, gaining unique insights into the world of wine.



ALESSANDRA PIUBELLO

A wine & food journalist and editor of several magazines, she collaborates with national guides and leading sector magazines and has published several books. A professional wine-taster, she is a judge in the most authoritative wine competitions. She is a member of prestigious associations.



JOHN WILSON

John is an Irish drinks writer based in Dublin, Ireland. Having worked in the business for a number of years, he began writing about spirits, wine and beer. He is drinks correspondent for The Irish Times newspaper, has written a number of guides, and has appeared many times on radio and television.



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CHÂTEAU Le Tros

A story of family, passion and... bon vivants!

Château Le Tros is a Bordeaux winery located between Créon and Branne and more precisely in Tizac-de-Curton, in the Bordeaux appellation. The estate was created in the early 1970s by Roger Jabouin, the grandfather of Mathieu Jabouin who is the current owner of this place. A great cycling champion and mechanic by trade, he settled on this clay-limestone hillside on his return from Algeria. He started with just two hectares of vines and mixed farming, as was common at the time. The production was mainly intended for family, friends, neighbors but also to barter with other local farmers-breeders. Moreover, for a little anecdote, Mathieu still has his grandfather's account book mentioning the exchange values of a liter of wine for potatoes, vegetables or even various meats.

"My grandfather was a businessman, generous, hardworking and very social. Over the years, he created strong, close ties with his clients. He regularly traveled the roads throughout France to meet them and deliver the wine. Years of building friendships with its customers throughout France. Today many of its families have remained loyal to us, proof of the quality of our wines. Some of their children continue to buy our wines! The success of Château Le Tros rests entirely on their loyalty, thank you to them!"

Step by step the estate grew, notably under the leadership of Philippe Jabouin and his wife Florence to reach a peak of 70 hectares in the 1980s. In 2010 Mathieu Jabouin succeeded his father and chose to tighten production by focusing on the best plots of the estate, thus increasing to 56 hectares.



Photos © Château Le Tros

VertdeVin: What are the terroirs of Château Le Tros?

Mathieu Jabouin: We are mainly on clay-limestone soils (commune of Tizac) but we also have soils of coarse gravels, almost pebbles (commune of Genissac).

VdV: Is there a special meaning to the name "Le Tros"?

M.J.: Tros is a derivative of 'barter' which would seem to designate a 'small piece' in Gascon (local dialect). It is also and above all the name of the place where the château's first plot of vines was planted.

VdV: Was it always clear to you that you would make wine?

M.J.: Personally, I was lucky to grow up in the countryside but also to be an observer and admirer of my family. Since I was little, I have been passionate about wine and everything that surrounds it. I have always lived with the vines, the wine, nature, the different seasons in the vineyard and in the cellar... the smells of fermentation... In short, a bit like Obelix I fell into the vat when I was little!

VdV: Could you tell us about your other activi-

ties, including, among others, Gascon, pig breeding?

M.J.: I was indeed also "bitten" by my grandfather's various passions such as hunting, gathering, fishing and animals. All of this plays an important place in my life, in my activities and my daily pleasure. For the record, I have had different animals since I was little (chickens, geese, deer, moutons, donkey) in my childhood.

As a bon vivant, an epicurean but also passionate about animals and breeding, I had long wanted to get into pigfarming.

In 2020 I therefore launched the project by welcoming a few Gascon pigs to the estate. They live independently in a park covered with oak trees on an 8 hectare hillside. For the moment I am discovering breeding and its hazards, but what a pleasure to taste your own farm products. Short circuit quality and good taste are words that go perfectly with our wines.

VdV: Do you have any particular plans for the next few years?

M.J.: In the near future I would like to fight against this crisis in the wine world by seeking new markets without neglecting our loyal and historic customers (whom I can never thank enough!). I want to continue to produce a wide range that is just as high quality as these last vintages (we have been enjoying it since 2015 and 2023 is not far behind!). Above all, I would like to continue to share moments of conviviality around wine, moments of good living, with anyone who wishes. Long live Bordeaux wines!

Thanks to Mathieu Jabouin for his warm (and epicurean) welcome!
Jonathan Choukroun Chicheportiche



Château Le Tros

Le Broustera, 33420 Tizac-de-Curton - France
www.chateauletros.fr



CHÂTEAU Loudenne

A new page in 350 years of history

Located just 6 km north from the famous Saint-Estèphe appellation, Château Loudenne is an estate with a rich history, a unique terroir and a great potential to produce exceptional wines. Bought in April 2022 by Christophe Gouache, already the owner of Château Bellerive in Valeyrac, Loudenne starts a new page in its history and a renewal in the winery as well as in the vineyards, and is preparing to carry out numerous projects.

HISTORY OF THE CHÂTEAU

Château Loudenne begins its history in 1670, as a residence for a noble Bordeaux family. In 1875, it was acquired by the Gilbey family, wine merchants, who held Loudenne for 125 years, and invested significantly in its development.

The Gilbeys noticed the Château's terroir, as well as its position on the border of the Gironde estuary, giving access to the ocean, and thus to the international market. They then created a port in Loudenne, the only private trading port on the estuary, which allowed them to easily send barrels of wine for export.

The Gilbeys also enlarged the chartreuse, created an English-style park and the "folies" – the small towers on the four gravel hills, which form the Loudenne terroir. They also planted vines and built one of the first gravity cellars in Médoc, with an area of 12,000 m².

In 2013 Loudenne was bought by the Chinese group Mautai, known for its baiju alcohol, and turned away from the European market. But in 2022 Mautai was forced to sell the château, acquired then by Christophe

Gouache, who retained the partnerships with Camus and Philippe de Poyferré, created by the Chinese owners in 2016, and his objective now is to promote the Loudenne brand in France and internationally, as in the Gilbey era.

GRAVELLY HILLS THE ESTUARY:

TWO COMPONENTS OF TERROIR OF LOUDENNE

The slopes of 19-meter-high hills with gravelly soil, a portion of clay and a limestone base form a great terroir for red grape varieties, while the lower part of the hills, on the edge of the Gironde, has clay-limestone soil, favorable for white grapes.

But it is also a particular micro-climate, created by the estuary, which forms the Château's terroir and

which gives a particular character to its wines. The wind from the Atlantic blows almost constantly on Loudenne vineyard, bringing the salinity of the sea, which can be found in its white wines, and sometimes even in reds. The wind also helps drive away excessive humidity and prevents vine diseases. This healthy microclimate allowed Loudenne to obtain organic certification in 2021 and to produce its first organic vintage in 2022.

The Médoc saying: "There is no great terroir that

while other Médoc properties did not sell produced white wines under their labels. This is why Loudenne white wine is dated as the oldest Médoc white wine which arrived on the market even before the Pavillon Blanc of Château Margaux in 1920.

The objective of the new owners of Loudenne is to breathe new life into the château, previously well-known abroad, to restore notoriety to its wines, while showing that the château is capable of renewing itself and following trends of the global

market, by offering new products.

Thus, the 100% Malbec cuvée and the No Added Sulfites cuvée (of which 6,000 bottles are produced), have recently entered the range of wines.

LOUDENNE'S WINE TOURISM APPROACH AND PROJECTS

An important area of development for the Château is its wine tourism offer and the wish to show that it is opened and ready to welcome visitors.

The Château's private port offers cruise boat trips and shuttles from Bordeaux, Blaye, Royan and Pauillac to bring visitors to discover the history of Loudenne and its wines. Visitors can also have lunch at the Château's Table Éphémère or enjoy a picnic basket with local products, accompanied by Loudenne wines.

In the years to come, the technical installations and the cellar will be renewed and visited by tourists. A new route with reproductions of images from the period, explaining the history of the Château, as well as a shop and a tasting area are already open.

A lot of work has already been accomplished in the vines with the transition to organic and vineyard restructuring. Today, in addition to wine tourism development, the work at the Château consists of adapting its facilities to the plot selection approach, and working on the quality of wines with renowned consultants, such as Stéphane Derenoncourt.

Valentina Guérin de Toruville

Château Loudenne

33340 Saint-Yzans-de-Médoc - France

www.chateau-loudenne.com



does not look at the river", perfectly characterises the terroir of the château.

CHÂTEAU LOUDENNE WINES

Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot make up a large part of the vineyard, with a little Cabernet Franc and Petit Verdot. The Cabernet Sauvignons are planted on the upper part of the hills, on the gravel, the Merlots – on their lower parts, while the white vines (Sauvignon Blanc and Sémillon) – are closer to the estuary.

The red wines of Loudenne are age-worthy, but already accessible after 5–6 years. But it is its white wine that has marked its history. Upon their arrival in 1875, the Gilbeys planted vines and began to market bottled wines, under the Loudenne label from 1880,

Quintessa Winery

From Chile to Napa Valley for made charismatic and fascinating wines

We are in Rutherford, a small town in the Napa Valley between St. Helena and Oakville; in the 1970s the Chilean couple Augustin and Valeria Huneeus decided to move to New York, at that period she was involved in medical training and he was about to experience in the wine sector. In 1990, they chose the Napa Valley to realise their dream: making the best wine in Napa Valley.

A region known for its patchwork of nuances and mesoclimates that enhance the production of multifaceted and charismatic wines. The Quintessa estate, in the foothills of the Vaca Mountains, boasts a very large area of vines planted near Dragon Lake. Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Cabernet Franc, Carmenère and Petit Verdot are cultivated here. Organic and biodynamic farming methods are used. The vinification protocols are precise and non-interventionist in order to obtain the best possible expression of the soil and of the vintage. Wines with unique and expressive personalities, but we leave it to the producers themselves to reveal other curiosities.

VdV: What are the selling points of your wines?

Quintessa is an organic and biodynamic estate set amidst natural vegetation and ancient oaks in Rutherford, Napa Valley, the most highly regarded growing region in the United States. Its 280 acres reflect a diversity of geology, exposures and microclimates. These are the distinct qualities that inspired founders Augustin and Valeria Huneeus in their vision for a timeless wine estate when, in 1989, they planted 160 of the property's acres to the vine. For more than three decades, each bottling of Quintessa has been inspired by the estate model: we craft a singular wine – the Quintessa red blend. Each vintage offers a transparent, energetic expression of the property, evoking a place and time.

VdV: What are the peculiarities which allow you to

recognize your wines from others?

Quintessa is a wine that represents very transparently a property with singular characteristics in the Napa Valley. The estate is a beautiful compilation of hillsides surrounding a lake in the center of them. The origin of the soils is mostly volcanic, like most of the region, but also there is the western natural border of the Napa river. This obviously generates an alluvial component on the property. The expression of the wine is consistent with this pattern and depending on the climatic conditions it may show aromatically a combination of fruit, together with earthiness and herbs, but in my opinion the most interesting attribute is in its mouthfeel. There is a very distinct graphite component that you can taste, and together with its structure and length, it elongates the mouthfeel. Fresh, bright and mineral, that is a rare combination in the region and it happens naturally in this property.

VdV: I guess you are deeply involved in the production of wines... How was born your passion of it?

I am attached to my profession as I feel very lucky for the path that I chose. Quintessa is a property of immense beauty, but also strongly connected to its origin. When you get the chance to understand how it was formed together with the sense of privacy and calmness that you get when you walk through it, you know you are in a special place. But there is no place like this that will be as beautiful with a seamless presence of us as humans. I deeply enjoy working with the team, winemaking led by Rebekah Wineburg and Martin Galvan in the estate vineyard, as we share this deep appreciation for the place: for the efforts we make to read nature at its best and for the long term vision that we all share. The beauty of what we do is that it allows us to create an emotional bond which is rare to find in many work environments. That makes it special too.

Jonathan Choukroun Chicheportiche



Quintessa Illumination 2022

North Coast, California

The nose is fruity, juicy and offers elegance, a certain balanced richness as well as a bright citrus/tanginess. [...] On the palate this wine expresses notes of crushed peach/nectarine, kumquat and small notes of lime associated with touches of quénette, pink grapefruit as well as discreet hints of elderflower, wild verbena and a hint of honeysuckle. Good length. [...] Good work on the good bitterness on the finish/persistence.

(Read full review on www.vertdevin.com)

Score : 16.25+20 (93/100)

Quintessa 2020

Rutherford, Napa Valley

The nose is fruity, powerful, intense and offers deepness. Beautiful powerful and fine grain. [...] On the palate this wine expresses notes of blackberry/cassis and small roasted fruits associated with touches of crushed raspberry, chocolate, Bourbon vanilla and caramelization. Tannins are powerful, elegant and polished. A very discreet hint of balsamic in the background. Beautiful persistence.

(Read full review on www.vertdevin.com)

Score : 17.5/20 (95/100)



Quintessa

1601 Silverado Trail S
St Helena, CA 94574, USA
www.quintessa.com



Mouton Cadet

The committed Bordeaux brand

Mouton Cadet needs no introduction: for 90 years, the brand has strived to offer a range of quality Bordeaux wines at reasonable prices. We may not really know it, but Mouton Cadet is very committed to its winegrowers and to the wine sector. This is the opportunity to present their vision to you a little more thanks to the interview with Jérôme Aguirre, Director of Mouton Cadet Wines.

VertdeVin: What is Mouton Cadet's CSR policy?

Jérôme Aguirre: At Mouton Cadet, we support our winegrowers, this is part of our commitment. We have a 3-year contract with our winegrowers and if requested, a support to organic farming conversion. There is a real support from our technical teams who generally visit all our winegrowers twice a week. The idea is really to have improvement and progression over the years. It is a link that we want to maintain with our winegrowers. The technical side is important of course with the continuous improvement at the level of the vineyard, the know-how, the quality of the harvest and the winemaking processes. Our Mouton Cadet winegrowers make the wine and even start ageing it, it is the following year that the wines are recovered, and few people know that.

Mouton Cadet has existed for 90 years and has always been very committed to this notion of de-

velopment in the Bordeaux vineyards. Bordeaux is a patchwork of wine landscapes, and we, at Mouton Cadet, like the profile of winegrowers from small family properties and for some of them, we have been working with for 2 or 3 generations! We specially value these family properties who are committed, who live daily in their vineyards, who work self-sufficiently, who have values. It is our choice to work with them and support them with our technical teams.

Without good grapes, you cannot make good wine. Wine culture is in our DNA: it is the story of Baron Philippe de Rothschild. This is why we have also put in place a charter with our winegrowers which covers our social (particularly remuneration) and environmental commitments. We want to highlight our commitments because we think that Bordeaux needs to further capitalize on its environmental management.

VdV: How do you select winegrowers?

J.A.: Generally, we do an audit visit to the facilities with the winegrowers. But above all we get to know each other, we discover their personalities to see if they could work with us. The human aspect is a very important point: it is an intangible value, but it is the most important in preserving the know-how of winemaking. We attach a lot of importance to it. We want to defend viticulture on a human scale with winegrowers who are in

the vineyard during the morning, in the cellar in the afternoon and who do the accounting in the evening!

We are currently experiencing a moment of transition in Bordeaux. It is up to us to show direction with our winegrowers. We want to unite. Moreover, we organize events such as a day of common size, inter-winegrower meetings, exchanges between those who are in conventional and organic viticulture...

Mouton Cadet is not trying to make Grand Cru Classé. It's not the same product. The wonderful artist Dubuffet showed that the ordinary could be the extraordinary. Today, we try to look at Bordeaux with a different eye and therefore we are looking, with our technical teams, for territories with magnificent living soils, winegrowers who work their land without knowing themselves that they are on a treasure. We want a signature from Bordeaux which will allow young people to get into wine and recruit other young people. We want to show an elegant, easy, unpretentious Bordeaux within everyone's reach.

VdV: How many winegrowers do you work with?

J.A.: We work with around 200 winegrowers and 30% of the parcels are organic. 70% of them have been working with Mouton Cadet for over 9 years. We have a few vines in our own name, but our DNA is this community of winegrowers,



Jérôme Aguirre, Director of Mouton Cadet Wines
and Ophélie Michaud, Winemaker.



Photo © Alhangatti

Jean-Guy Issard, Mouton Cadet winegrower since 1999

and we work every day with them to consolidate our relationship. This represents between 8 to 10 million of bottles.

VdV: What are the Mouton Cadet Collections?

J.A.: Mouton Cadet is particularly renowned for the art of blending, in order to offer the very best of the Bordeaux terroir. But we also offer a 100% Merlot or a 100% Sauvignon Blanc. We don't for-

bid ourselves anything. You need a bit of creativity in the products you want to offer, and you must be daring! We have developed an organic collection in red, white, and rosé and we distribute our wines in 130 countries. We like to challenge ourselves and present a modern interpretation of a Bordeaux wine, with a fresh style. Europe is



our main market, but we are also very present in the United States and Asia. We then have our core collection Mouton Cadet red, white and rosé and a more premium line with Mouton Cadet Cuvée Héritage. We want to offer round, fruity wines with brightness and freshness.

New cuvées will see the day: there are things to highlight, terroirs to be bottled differently. We have many projects, but we want to work with all humility as close as possible to our winegrowers to support them in a complicated period. We have a lot of field work to do, especially in Bordeaux, for restaurateurs to highlight the region's wines.

We also work on packaging such as the type and weight of bottles, recycling... This is a part of our daily job for our CSR policy.

Chloé Cazaux Grandpierre

Mouton Cadet
www.moutoncadet.com



Photo © Alhangatti

THE PHOENIX RISES

THE IRISH WHISKEY REVIVAL

Over the last decade or so, Irish whiskey has enjoyed a huge rise in popularity worldwide. The boom has been led by Jameson, now one of the best-selling spirits in the world, and Midleton Very Rare, the most sought-after luxury Irish whiskey. This follows a century of decline that saw Irish whiskey wither and almost die out.

In the late 19th century, Irish whiskey (Irish whiskey always has an 'e', Scotch doesn't) sold more than its rival just across the water and was also held in higher esteem. Then a series of disasters befell the industry. Firstly, the Irish distilleries banned the new far faster continuous still (invented by an Irishman) while the Scots embraced it and were able to distil more quickly and cheaply. Then, after the War of Independence, the Irish lost access to the British market and empire. In the 1920's the American market closed due to prohibition. This was followed by a trade war with Britain in the 1930's and World War 2.

In the mid-1970's the last remaining distilleries came together to form one consolidated company, Irish Distillers. One of the group, Bushmills, continued to produce whiskey from its base in Northern Ireland, while the remainder, including Jameson, Powers, and Paddy, were all made in the same distillery in Mi-

leton, East Cork. So, by the mid-1970's these were the only two operating distilleries left in Ireland. In 1988, Irish Distillers was taken over by French drinks group Pernod Ricard.

In the 21st century, renewed interest in whiskey led to a whole new generation of distilleries being set up around the country. There are now in excess of thirty producers, some creating very exciting, small batch artisanal whiskies. As their stocks mature, they can only get better. In the meantime, there has been plenty of experimentation, with producers using different cereals, such as rye, oats, unmalted barley, as well as finishing whiskey in every kind of barrels, including Japanese Mizunara oak.

So how does Irish whiskey differ from Scotch? Irish whisky is usually distilled three times and can be made from a combination of different cereal grains. Scottish whisky is produced solely from malted barley and generally distilled twice. In the past, Scotch tended to have smoky, peaty flavours, whereas Irish was said to be smoother and have more orchard fruits and spices. The distinctions have blurred in recent years as distilleries on both sides of the Irish Sea experiment with new styles.

Many of the better Irish whiskies are single pot still, a unique Irish style. This means it is produced in a single distillery and made



from a mixed mash of malted and unmalted barley. The unmalted component gives the whiskey a spiciness and richer texture. In the past, Irish wine merchants imported wines in barrel from France, Spain and Portugal. When empty, these barrels were filled with young unoaked whiskey. So, a whiskey might be aged in a mix of Port, Sherry and Bordeaux casks, before being blended at bottling time. Today the vast majority of Irish whiskeys are first aged in one-year-old Bourbon casks (Bourbon must be aged for a year in new American oak barrels) before being finished in various wine casks for a year or two.

The most sought-after Irish whiskey is Midleton Very Rare, small quantities of which are released twice a year. It sells for around €280-300 a bottle but the price frequently climbs to €500 or more. Older vintages have sold for up to €11,500 for a bottle. First created in December 1984, it has been released every year since then. It is always a blend of grain and malted whiskeys and does not carry an age statement, being blend of whiskeys that are anything from 12 – 40 years old.

Below five different Irish whiskeys to try out. Most will be available in France. If not, Irish specialists mitchellandson.com and celticwhiskeyshop.com offer a huge range and can arrange delivery. Prices are approximate. Remember that, if you make it to Ireland, most distilleries welcome visitors and offer tours and tastings.

John Wilson

Teeling Single Pot Still

Irish Whiskey - 46% abv

Made from a mash bill consisting of 50% unmalted and 50% malted barley. It is triple distilled before being matured in a combination of American virgin oak, Bourbon, and Sherry casks. The nose has citrus peel and subtle toasted wood; on the palate it has roasted hazelnuts, smooth pears and apples with a honeyed note, and a long smooth dry finish.

Score : 14.5+/20 (88/100)

Redbreast 12-year-old Single Pot Still

Irish Whiskey - 40% abv

This is one of the most awarded and popular of all Irish whiskeys. It has a very high percentage of whiskey aged in sherry casks. Rich aromas of butterscotch, exotic spice, and dried fruits. On the palate, there is great intensity, with toasted nuts, caramel, coffee and dried fruits. The finish is smooth and long.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)



DUNLOONEY DISTILLERY

Powers John' Lane 12-year-old Single Pot Still

Irish Whiskey - 46% abv

Originally one of the great Dublin whiskeys, Powers is now made in Midleton Distillery. It has always had a reputation for full-bodied flavoursome pot still whiskeys and the multi-award winning John's Lane is true to this heritage. Most of the ageing takes place in Bourbon casks with a small portion of Sherry barrels. Rich dried fruits and roasted coffee on the nose; this has a slightly oily texture, smooth but full-bodied with orange peel, orchard fruits, toasted wood, and milk chocolate on the lengthy finish.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Mitchell & Son – Yellow Spot 12-year-old Single Pot Still

Irish Whiskey - 46% abv

Wine merchants Mitchell & Son once aged whiskeys in their wine cellars in Dublin. Each cask received a coloured 'spot' of paint depending on its age and quality. The 12-year-old Yellow Spot was aged in Bourbon, Sherry and Malaga casks. A spicy nose with pepper and coriander alongside notes of honey. The palate is silky smooth with apricots, nectarines and sweet vanilla spice with a lovely burst of honey coming through on the finish.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

The Irishman 12-year-old Single Malt Irish Whiskey, Walsh Whiskey - 43% abv

Another outstanding, multi-award-winning whiskey. Co-founder and Managing Director Bernard has been one of the most influential and innovative people in Irish whiskey. Only six thousand bottles are produced each year. The Irishman 12-year-old single malt is triple distilled and aged in first fill bourbon casks.

An amazingly aromatic nose full of exotic fruits and orange peel that carry through to the palate, which also offers orchard fruits, pineapples, honey and citrus. Powerful, long and smooth.

Score : 17.5/20 (95/100)



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À CONSOMMER AVEC MODÉRATION

Languedoc

PICPOUL DE PINET

TERROIR ET MERROIR



© CIVIL

Easily identified by its Neptune bottle marked with the Languedoc cross, Picpoul de Pinet obtained the AOP in 2013. The wines of this young appellation are made from 100% of the piquepoul grape variety (whose name bears the appellation), that is to say, they are only white. This grape variety, grown throughout the south of France, is particularly well suited to the edge of the Thau basin. The Picpoul de Pinet vineyard which extends within the Agde triangle, from Pézenas to Sète, can be distinguished by two sectors, TERROIR and MERROIR ; to the north of AOC, on the terroir side, a succession of limestone hillocks covered with scrubland and pine forests. As for the merroir, at the edge of the basin, is made up of clay and silt, sand and sandstone. In all cases, these wines have beautiful vivacity and refreshing citrus aromas, which go well with seafood, especially oysters, of course!

Yukiko Kumata



© Vitinova

Celebrating this year its 10th AOP anniversary

Flores 2022

Picpoul de Pinet AOP

Its pale yellow color with green highlights, it seduces with its very fresh aromas such as lemon and grapefruit. In the mouth, its attack is very lively, nervous and sharp. But its acidity is not aggressive, its freshness marked by lemongrass lasts well in the finish. Ideal for an aperitif on the terrace or with a seafood platter.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Flores, 2021 selection

Picpoul de Pinet AOP

This cooperative has two cuvées of Picpoul. The "Sélection" Cuvée has a golden yellow color which shows the maturity of the fruit and the wine. Its aromas of white flowers (acacia), taste of lemon and yellow stone fruits are quite concentrated. But its attack, peps and bitterness on the finish strike a balance between freshness and maturity. It is appreciated for dishes with sauces such as Beurre Blanc.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Les Vignerons Montagnac Domitienne 2022

Picpoul de Pinet AOP

Its gold color with a green reflection, it has aromas of ripe yellow fruits and white flowers. Its mouth confirms the nose, floral, airy and light. Fresh and pleasant, its marked grapefruit aromas last a long time in the mouth. Its lightness makes you want to drink it in the summer in the afternoon by the water.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Château de Pinet - Gaujal de Saint Bon Cuvée Ladies 2022

Picpoul de Pinet AOP

Located in the village of Pinet, the oldest AOP estate, this Château de Pinet offers several cuvées. The Ladies cuvée releases aromas of fresh and crunchy fruit, reminiscent of Granny Smith apple. Marked by salinity and iodine on the attack, its mouth is quite fresh with a note of orange zest. Then, it gives a certain structure, but remains light with a point of bitterness on the finish which highlights its freshness. It goes well with seafood and shellfish.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Domaine de Petit Roubié, Patience 2022

Picpoul de Pinet AOP

The pioneer in the world, this family estate has been practicing organic viticulture since 1985. Its special cuvée "Patience" has a pale golden yellow color, its pure, crystalline and fresh nose is reminiscent of chervil. On the palate, it is supple on attack, mineral like a piece of chalk, with a beautiful acidity and fruitiness of grapefruit flesh. Fleshy and gourmand with a hint of orange, its finish is generous. It is quite rich for a Picpoul, it flourishes better at the table than during a simple aperitif.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Beau Virac 2020

Picpoul de Pinet AOP

In general, Picpoul de Pinet is consumed when young, 1 or 2 years after harvest. However, some producers create somewhat special cuvées, which have an aging potential of around 5 years. This is the case with this cuvée. Its nose is quite mineral (even with hints of petrol!), acacia flower and very ripe citrus, but with liveliness. In the mouth, we find this rather powerful citrus tanginess. But the mid-palate is quite juicy and reminiscent of pressed ripe orange. It has a certain structure while maintaining its freshness and lightness. It is complex. It goes well with fish with firm flesh such as meunière-style sole.

Score : 17.25+/20 (95/100)



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ALTO ADIGE WINE SUMMIT

Two full days in the South Tyrolean highlands under the banner of the fourth edition of the Alto Adige Wine Summit organised by Consorzio Vini Alto Adige. With its mountainous scenery, the Alto Adige region of Northern Italy is a complex mosaic of unique and original settings and cultures.

Alto Adige is a trading point from every direction and the meeting place of three different cultures (German, Italian and Ladin). The area is an authentic climatic island located in the centre of the Alps. 98% of the territory is mountainous and only 0.6% of the area is cultivated with vineyards at altitudes ranging from 200 to 1000 metres. The vineyards of Alto Adige carpet the slopes bordering two rivers, the Adige and Isarco, along the route from the Alpine glaciers to the Mediterranean flora of the South Tyrolean lowlands. A short journey (90 km) in which extremely varied landscapes and climatic zones alternate. A patch of land that manages to contain more than 20 different grape varieties (autochthonous and allochthonous).

With its 5,700 hectares of vineyards, Alto Adige accounts for about 1% of the Italian peninsula's vine-growing land. Despite its small size, it is one of Italy's best-known wine regions. The approximately 150 Alto Adige wineries produce about 44 million bottles with 98% of the labels classified as DOC. The most common grape varieties are white covering 64% of the cultivated area (both autochthonous and allochthonous), while among the reds, in addition to the two native grape varieties Schiava and Lagrein, almost all the best-known varieties have been systematically cultivated for more than a century and Pinot noir has certainly found a privileged home here.

Alto Adige is now a region with a strong vocation for producing white wine with almost double the production of red. It is therefore surprising that 50 years ago, the situation was the exact opposite. The great variety of soil, altitude and exposure creates the opportunity to cultivate vines in the most suitable areas so that they can express the highest level of quality. South Tyrolean soils are a jigsaw puzzle made up of porphyry of an-

cient volcanic origin, shales, metamorphic quartz and mica rock, dolomitic limestone, sand and gravel of moraine or alluvial nature. It was precisely the complexity of the territory that prompted the Consortium to implement more precise and timely zoning to enhance the peculiarities of each individual area. This territorial zoning has led to the identification of 86 different Additional Geographical Units, which have been included in the application to amend the Alto Adige DOC regulations, which are still awaiting official approval although 2024 is expected to be the game-changer. Alto Adige wine as we know it is the result of a recent quality revolution, which came at the turn of the 1970s and '80s when the world of wine was changing everywhere and Alto Adige winegrowers, bound by production based on quantity and indigenous grape varieties (Schiava accounted for eighty per cent of the vineyards) were struggling to keep up. It was a difficult turnaround involving the search for quality and international varieties, which would later relaunch local production. Nowadays, we find young oenologists managing family-run com-





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panies and even the wine cooperatives (which account for 70% of production and are a flagship of the region) have implemented considerable generational change.

The Alto Adige Wine Summit event included an opening dinner in the medieval Mareccio Castle with Alto Adige sparkling wines and evenings in the company of local producers. Since there were about 80 wine experts from twelve countries, we were divided into groups so that we could fully enjoy the opportunity to speak with the vigneron. Moreover, the Consorzio Alto Adige's top management, with director Eduard Bernhart and president Andreas Kofler, together with the invaluable collaboration of AB Comunicazione, which handled relations with the press, organised a day, again divided into groups, to discover the Alto Adige region and visit the winemakers.

We were therefore able to walk through the vineyards with Josef Anton Briegl from the Josef Briegl winery and drink some of his wines in the vineyard. We toured the Schultaus and the Sankt Valentin vineyards and tasted their respective wines in the company of Stefan Walcher from the San Michele Appiano winery. We then headed to Strobhof where, in addition to our host, the managers of the San Michele Appiano winery and Josef Briegl, we were welcomed by three more producers: Martini & Sohn, Cantina San Paolo and Tenuta Romen.

The final evening took place at Firmian Castle,

hosted by mountaineering legend Reinhold Messner, who is also a wine producer. It was a memorable event, where once again one could sense the enormous unity between all the producers (97 took part with their wines this year), the consortium and everyone working in the Alto Adige wine sector.

"Regardless of where and in what form events take place, our goal is always to tell the story of our territory's differences and the Alto Adige Wine Summit 2023 is a unique opportunity, a privileged moment, to give voice to the diversity of our terroirs and wines," said Andreas Kofler, President of the Alto Adige Wine Consortium. An all-enveloping program that, together with our encounters with the winemakers, was highly stimulating.

The Alto Adige wines tasting

Alto Adige is a virtuous example of an area that, in the space of just a few decades, has been able to innovate and embark on a road to excellence, as was amply demonstrated by the tastings. 290 wines were available for tasting of which 108 were previewed. The time given was too short and this is the only criticism we can make of the summit's perfect, tried and tested organisation. A not-to-be-missed event. We focussed on the best tastings among the previews, the white wines in particular.

Alessandra Piubello

Cantina San Paolo Alto Adige Pinot Bianco Sanctissimus Riserva 2019

The overall bouquet is intense with notes of apple, sage and spices. The substance is voluminous, elegantly calibrated and dynamic in its gustatory drive. The tense and savoury finale has a long progression. A white that will be remembered. It comes from approximately 120-year-old vines (one of the oldest vineyards in Alto Adige) on very steep terrain.

It is the flagship wine of this historic winery founded in 1907, which extends over 185 hectares. Oenologist Philipp Zublasing, born in 1985, has been at the winery's helm since 2023.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Cantina Kaltern Alto Adige Pinot Bianco Quintessenz 2021

A wine that places its best bets on the finesse of its never excessive and exuberant, yet always highly harmonious and subtle aromas: hints of wild flowers, chamomile, white fruit, spice and graphite. The sip offers a remarkably expressive, smooth and fresh harmony but with character. The lengthy finale closes on pleasant savoury notes.

"Quintessenz" is a Pinot Bianco that is part of the Kaltern Winery's high-end line. Founded in 1900, the winery currently manages 445 hectares. Thomas Scarizuola, a young, 34-year-old oenologist, has been in charge of the winery since 2023.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Nals Margreid Alto Adige Pinot Bianco Baron Salvadori Riserva 2021

Clear aromas of pear, herbs, orange blossom and sweet spices. Silky and enveloping yet compact and energetically toned, it finishes slowly with lingering notes of chamomile.

Baron Salvadori comes from 40/60-year-old vines belonging to the Nals Margreid winery, founded in 1932 and currently covering 160 hectares.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Cantina Tramin Alto Adige Chardonnay Riserva Troy 2020

A wide olfactory range that opens with hints of exotic fruit, delicate floral scents, citrus peel, hazelnut, a touch of vanilla and menthol nuances. The intense and well-balanced sip shows a deep texture that is both dynamic and consistent. A lengthy and saline finale that closes on a note of toasted hazelnut.

It was 1898 when Christian Schrott, the parish priest of Termeno, decided to set up a cooperative to group together the area's many winegrowers. It now has 160 grower-members managing 270 hectares of vineyards.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Peter Zemmer Alto Adige Chardonnay Riserva Vigna Crivelli 2021

The olfactory profile emerges on notes of chamomile, crushed almond, ripe yellow fruit and hints of vanilla. Structured and soft on the palate, the sip is rich, complex and harmonious while the finale is persistent, savoury and pleasant.

The winery, founded in 1926 by the great-uncle of the current owner Peter Zemmer, extends over about 60 hectares with vineyards that stretch over various territories with different soils. Vigna Crivelli is a Magrè cru on soils of fine sands and morainal detritus rich in limestone, silt and clay.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)



eAlesandra

Tenuta Ebner Alto Adige Chardonnay 2016

A symphonic and delicate nose with floral hints, purity of fruit, aromatic herbs, graphite and hints of spice. Its peculiar elegance is striking due to the well-marked rhythm in the dynamism of the sip and the weightless structure that captures the palate, enraptured by sublime drinkability. A profound and savoury closure.

This is the first vintage ever produced and we were surprised by this seven-year-old, vivid and tense chardonnay produced from 30-year-old pergola-trained vines whose roots delve into porphyry soils. The vineyard is isolated, surrounded by rock and forest and cooled by winds from the Renon. The wine comes from a small 6-hectare estate on the slopes of the Renon plateau owned by Florian Hintner, whose family has been running the property for more than a hundred years, although the first bottlings only date back some ten years.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Tenuta Pacher Hof Alto Adige Valle Isarco Sylvaner Alte Reben Riserva 2021

With a wide and fine olfactory range, the aromas chase each other: notes of camomile, wild flowers, white fruit and walnut husk. Compact and silky in structure, its finesse and dynamic impetus are striking and invite further drinking. A lengthy persistence for a memorable wine.

Andreas Huber is the winemaker of the family estate, whose records date back to 1142. The eight hectares are located in Novacella, in the Isarco Valley. This particular wine comes from vines that are over 40 years old at an altitude of between 620 and 370 metres.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Cantina Turmhof – Tiefenbrunner Alto Adige Müller Thurgau Vigna Feldmarschall Von Fenner 2021

Lively and intense aromas in the making, right up to the last sip. A cornucopia of white fruit, white flowers, mountain herbs and sage. The expressive power of this characterful and unique wine, a gem of multi-faceted limpid elegance, is the result of the

harmonious fusion of structure and freshness. A long, balsamic and savoury closure.

This wine comes from a three-hectare vineyard at an altitude of 1,000 metres, currently more than 50 years old (the first planting was in 1972 and this speaks volumes about the Tiefenbrunner family's visionary approach). Christof Tiefenbrunner is the fifth generation to take care of the Turmhof estate, which he does with dedication and passion.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Abbazia Novacella Kerner Praepositus 2022

The aromatic array evokes hints of herbs, citrus fruits, elderflower and white-fleshed fruit. Tense and edgy on the palate, its impetus is fresh while not lacking in dense texture, closing with a satisfying finale.

Wine has been produced in the Abbey of Novacella, under the order of the Augustinians, since 1142: it is one of the world's oldest wine producers.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Cantina Kurtatsch Alto Adige Gewürztraminer Riserva Brenntal 2021

The ample and pleasant olfactory panorama awakens the senses: lychee, rose, mango, caramelised orange peel, linden honey, lavender. The intense structure, characterised by fullness of body and enveloping softness, receives the gift of balance and pleasurable drinkability from a vivid freshness and an equally pronounced sapidity that compensate for its unobtrusive sweetness. One of the flagship wines of this winery with an impressive capacity for evolution.

With its 190 members, the wine cooperative, founded in 1900, manages 190 hectares. Young Erwin Carli has been head oenologist since 2023.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Ansitz Waldgries Alto Adige S. Maddalena classico Antheos 2022

The nose offers a bouquet of red raspberry, cherry, olive leaf, juniper and herbs. A well-structured body and dense tannin, softened by the pulpy fresh fruit offers a drink that is as enveloping as it is agile. The officinal and

fruity components linger in the lengthy finale.

In 2009, Christian Plattner, oenologist and owner, planted age-old schiava varieties, thus giving new life to ancient vines dating back to the time of his great-grandparents, in the cru Hohe Leiten vineyard on sandy and gravelly soils of glacial origin with residual porphyritic soil. The estate, which dates back to 1242 and was taken over in 1926 by the Plattner family, extends over approximately 7 hectares of vineyards.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Gump Hof Markus Prackwieser Alto Adige Sauvignon Riserva Renaissance 2020

Strokes of gooseberry, sage, officinal herbs, white-fleshed fruit and flint make up the olfactory canvas. The style is refined, the aromaticity is subtle: in the glass we find a clear and pure expression of mountain viticulture. It radiates energy from its innermost core, spreading with soaring freshness and vital dynamism. Bottled only in the best vintages, its firm yet never prevailing structure is captivating and always slightly a step behind the texture of the pulpy fruit: simply thrilling!

The Prackwiesers have owned Gump Hof since 1850 although the farmhouse has been mentioned since 1546. Markus, one of Alto Adige's most talented winegrowers, manages 7 hectares perched on high ground with gradients between 50 and 70%.

Score : 17.5/20 (95/100)

Franz Gojer – Glöggthof Alto Adige S. Maddalena classico 2022 Vigna Rondell

An intense aromatic palette with notes of ripe cherries, wild berries, umami, tobacco and earthy undertones. On the palate, the tannins are soft and balanced, the taste is smooth and juicy with a dynamic progression and a finale that closes on a slightly almond note. Vigna Rondell is a cru on a morainic hillside with mainly sandy soils. The winery was founded in 1970 by Franz Gojer but his young son Florian is now responsible for both the winery and the agronomic aspect of the vineyards spread over 8.5 hectares.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Castelfeder Alto Adige Pinot Nero Riserva 2020 Burgum Novum

A penetrating nose with hints of berries, mountain flowers, cloves, rhubarb and a fine spiciness followed by tones of undergrowth. In the mouth, its elegant and balanced structure is enveloped by a ripe tannic texture. The sip is lively with good tension, traversed by a fresh-savoury texture that encourages drinkability. Very persistent, with spicy tones in the finale.

The 70-hectare winery, founded in 1969 by Alfons Giovanetti, is now run by his young grandchildren: Ivan, oenologist, and Ines, sales manager.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Plonerhof Alto Adige Pinot Nero Riserva Limited Edition 2019

The nose picks up aromas of red fruits, black cherry and spices. The taste is ample and well-structured with fine and elegant tannins accompanying the full and enveloping sip. It closes with extreme persistence and a return of red fruits and spices.

The Plonerhof Winery, founded in 2004 by Erhard Tutzer, a nurseryman specialising in rooted vines, extends over 5 hectares of vineyards. Tutzer is an expert in Pinot Noir clones, so much so that he has experimented with more than a hundred of them, also in collaboration with the San Michele all'Adige Institute, although he mainly uses about twenty.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)



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WELCOME BRUNELLO 2023

2019 vintage is revealed

Brunello di Montalcino is one of the world's most prestigious areas, a true testimony to Made in Italy, it has the good fortune to be circumscribed. We deal with an area of 3500 hectares, of which 2100 are dedicated to the production of Brunello (appellation reaches nine thousand bottles per year). The beauty of the landscape of the Val d'Orcia, as well as the centuries-old culture of viticulture on the great hill that surrounds the medieval village of Montalcino, has been a UNESCO World Heritage Centre since 2004, a travel destination for many tourists from all over the world, with European wine lovers leading the way, followed by Americans and Italians, and more recently Asians (+45%). A positive balance, more revenue for the tourist target as well for the sales value boosted.

Fabrizio Bindocci, President of the Consorzio del Brunello di Montalcino, pointed out at the recent "Benvenuto Brunello" (press preview event) that "the results are better than the record year of 2022 and mark an increase of +17% over the three years of the pre-covid, making Montalcino a tourist destination that is increasingly in demand and appreciated". Spotlight on 2019 vintage, eagerly awaited and showed up by Consortium like the excellent 2016. We are perhaps a little far from that level; it remains a vintage with a solidity and eloquently narrative, able to reveal the peculiarities of the different areas of the Brunello di Montalcino, besides the stylistic maison code. A vintage marked by extreme weather conditions (hail, frost, drought, excessive rainfall, events that are unfortunately becoming more frequent); the winter water reserves helped a bit, the

signs of the climatic changes are taking place and are becoming more and more visible in layer of tannins, which in some cases are a little dry; there are still pulpy sips with good expression of the fruit. General considerations respect what was reported by the critics who tasted the wines from the 118 wineries present at Benvenuto Brunello 2023.

Last november has been the chance for the "Leccio d'Oro" awards too! The most virtuous wine lists in the world with depth of vintages and quantity of references are: the Ristorante Veranda at

the Hotel Villa d'Este in Cernobbio (over 50,000 bottles, 4,000 labels, including 300 from Montalcino).

In New York, the Sistina restaurant, in a magnificent building on the Upper East Side, boasts 100,000 bottles, 4,600 labels, including the best vintages of Brunello and Brunello Riserva. For Wine Shop category, the winners are: Quadrifoglio in Calosso (with over 100 labels, including Brunello and Rosso di Montalcino) and The Berry Bros. & Rudd in London (with over 100 references).

For the first time in 32 editions the commemorative tile of the vintage has been done by a journalist: Monica Maggioni (RAI). The project born in 1992 at the behest of the Consorzio del Vino Brunello di Montalcino; people can admire all the tile in the centre of Montalcino village. "The black, tense strokes of ink are the sign of war. We are living in a moment marked by the collective drama of war. That is why, even on an occasion as joyful as Benvenuto Brunello, I wanted to leave a visual trace of what is happening beyond our eyes and beyond our country," said Maggioni.

Erika Mantovan





BRUNELLO DI MONTALCINO Top Labels

Fuligni 2019

A powerful wine, rich with balsamic aromas and mineral notes in the aftertaste. It has a well-balanced body with both tannins and freshness.

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

Gianni Brunelli 2019

It's impressive for its elegance, deep persistence, and evolving vinous aromas. It is an icon of its kind.

Score : 18/20 (96/100)

Gorelli Giuseppe 2019

It is a landmark of the denomination. It has an enchanting profile of raspberry and blackcurrant, complemented by floral notes and a hint of bitterness. The texture is substantial, yet it remains highly drinkable.

Score : 18/20 (96/100)

Poggio Di Sotto 2019

Always a noteworthy. The sip is velvety with a layer of soft tannins, and the taste is delicate yet intense.

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

Val Di Suga - Poggio al Granchio 2019

It deserves the sip because of its fresh and balsamic aromas with a hint of strawberry juice. This is a very charismatic version of Sangiovese with a progressive sip driven by blackberries, drop of ginger and dried fruit aromas.

Score : 18/20 (96/100)

Canalicchio di Sopra - La Casaccia 2019

The wine is deep and intense with a complex patchwork of aromas and vibrant tension in the middle palate. One of the best wines ever produced by the winery and the young Francesco Ripaccioli.

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



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VDP PREMIERE 2023

HOW VDP CREATES A NEW IMAGE OF GERMAN WINES

3 days, 460 wines - been there, done that



VDP. DIE PRÄDIKATSWEINGÜTER

The "Vorpremiere VDP.GROSSES GEWÄCHS®" took place in Wiesbaden from 27 to 29 August. This year's tasting of the top dry wines of VDP members featured 471 of the 599 GGs which were released to the market in 2023. Chardonnays, Weissburgunders, Silvaners and Grauburgunders brought a hint of diversity to the expected hegemony of Rieslings. According to VDP rules, white wines in the GG category can be sold no earlier than 1 September of the year following the vintage, while reds await release for an additional year.

2022 is generally described as a good year. The spring did not experience late frosts and already at the end of May and beginning of June vines began to show rapid vegetative growth. There was plenty of work in the vineyards: growers had to remove excess shoots on a weekly basis to reduce the risk of fungal diseases. The summer was hot and dry. Older vines with more developed root systems did well, but young plants had a hard time. Many winemakers noted the rapid accumulation of sugar in the berries, while others said that the drought had caused the vines to shut down, which helped to preserve freshness due to the low pH. Despite the water shortage, the harvest promised to be bountiful. Many did green harvest to improve quality, ease stress on the vines and put more energy into ripening the remaining berries.

Sparkling producers began picking as early as the end of August, before switching to Spätburgunder and Riesling. At the beginning of September, the rains started: winemakers faced the choice of continuing to pick under the rain or waiting for the weather to pass. The grapes for many GGs were harvested before the rains, for others after, which explains the great variety of styles and quality of the 2022 wines. After the rains there was a natural threat of botrytis, but a warm and dry autumn and careful selection in the vineyards helped to maintain quality.

Valeria Tenison



© Fraunzi Stegemann

FRANKEN

Rainer Sauer - Am Lumpen 1655® - Silvaner 2022

The wine shows a pale lemon colour with a silver hue. The nose is intensely smoky, complemented by fresh citrus notes and a hint of wet stones. The palate shows a lot of acidity and tension, opening up with nuances of lemon and lime flesh and zest. Salty, slightly bitter finish is long and refreshing.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

MOSEL-SAAR-RUWER

Van Volxem - Scharzhofberger Pergentsknopp - Riesling 2022

This Riesling has a pale lemon colour. Expectedly it is still closed on the nose, so far very yeasty, needs more time to develop. The palate shows a lot of tension, crisp, electric acidity, lemons, tight and dense texture. Citrus fruits are dominating the linear finish. Great potential. Come back in a few years.

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

Grans-Fassian - Goldtröpfchen - Riesling 2022

The wine shows a pale lemon colour. The nose is a bit muted and shy, needs a good amount of air to open up. The palate offers crisp, refreshing acidity, supported by succulent nuances of lemon zest and bitter lemon, a hint of mandarin and apricot blossom. High concentration and perfect balance, along with lingering, mineral finish, prove the overall top quality. Will age nicely.

Score : 17.5/20 (95/100)

Fritz Haag - Juffer - Riesling 2022

The Juffer Riesling from Fritz Haag offers a medium pale lemon colour. The nose is floral and delicate, opening up with notes of acacia and honeysuckle. The palate offers relatively soft acidity, generous ripe character of Sicilian lemons and red grapefruits. Dense and fluid texture leads into the long, seducing finish.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Fritz Haag - Juffer Sonnenuhr - Riesling 2022

The wine shows a pale lemon colour. The nose is still very young, rather yeasty and pungent. The palate offers elevated acidity, the wine is uplifted but very tight still. Bound with reduction for now, this dense texture will allow it to age beautifully.

Score : 17.5/20 (95/100)

RHEINGAU

Josef Spreitzer - Rosengarten - Riesling 2022

The wine shows a pale lemon colour. The nose is delicately floral, offering nuances of pollen and honeysuckle. The palate is juicy and powerful, revealing balanced acidity and good tension. Nuances of apples and lemons linger all the way through to the refreshing finish. Excellent ageing potential.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Josef Spreitzer - Sankt Nikolaus - Riesling 2022

Sankt Nikolaus from Spreitzer shows a pale lemon colour. The nose is still very reductive and yeasty, needs time to develop. The wine is juicy on the palate, offering zesty, succulent acidity, powerful texture and intense citrusy character. Tight on the finish, will unfold slowly.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Familie Allendorf - Berg Roseneck - Riesling 2022

The wine shows a pale lemon colour. The nose is still a bit muted, spicy and pungent with fermentative notes. The palate offers power and concentration, crisp acidity, intense citrus notes of pomelo and grapefruit. Very balanced despite an overall very ripe style. Will age nicely.

Score : 17.5/20 (95/100)

NAHE

Emrich-Schönleber - Halenberg - Riesling 2022

The wine shows a pale lemon colour. It offers an attractive nose of citrus fruits, kombawa and lime. The palate is juicy and bright, with balanced, delicate nice acidity and an ethereal structure which still has a good texture and great concentration. Mineral finish adds to the complexity of this delicious Riesling.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

H. Dönnhoff - Höllentpfad im Mühlenberg - Riesling 2022

The wine shows a pale lemon colour. The nose is still unsettled, dominated by yeasty, fermentative nuances. The palate offers pleasant freshness and light, delicate body. The wine is tight and ethereal, with a touch of reduction in the echo, mineral and refreshing finish, excellent balance and long potential.

Score : 17.5/20 (95/100)



© Franz Stegmann

H. Dönnhoff - Hermannshöhle - Riesling 2022

This Hermannshöhle Riesling has a pale lemon green colour. The discreet nose offers nuances of citrus fruits and a delicate floral touch. Still yeasty on the palate, the wine reveals power and ripeness, all with a perfect balance of vertical, electric acidity. Intense and long finish.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

RHEINHESSEN

Kühling-Gillot - Rothenberg - Riesling 2022

The wine shows a pale lemon colour. The nose is still slightly yeasty and discreet. The wine reveals its juicy and ripe character, supported with fresh acidity. Beautiful juiciness of yellow orchard fruits and ripe lemons is pleasant and appealing. The wine is almost accessible already. The finish is long and succulent.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Gunderloch - Pettenthal - Riesling 2022

The wine shows a pale lemon colour. The nose is restrained and spicy, with an yeasty and pungent touch. The palate offers elevated acidity, lean and compact texture, very restrained character. It stays vertical and savoury all through with its spiciness and stony minerality. Great good potential.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

St. Antony - Zehnorgen - Riesling 2022

The wine from St. Antony has an intense yellow colour. The nose offers nuances of ripe yellow apples, slightly overripe and bruised even. The palate reveals elevated acidity, juicy texture and a high concentration of yellow apples and Sicilian lemons along with a hint of ginger. Already quite accessible. Uplifted finish.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Wittmann - Brunnenhäuschen - Riesling 2022

The wine shows a pale lemon colour. The nose is intense, revealing notes of ripe lemons, lemon zest and pomelo. The palate offers crisp, zesty acidity, juicy fruit concentration, dense and tight texture, still a hint of yeast reduction. Excellent length and ageing potential.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

K. F. Groebe - Kirchspiel - Riesling 2022

The wine shows a pale lemon colour. The nose is delicately floral, offering nuances of pollen and acacia. The palate reveals pleasant salinity and extraordinary finesse, very mineral character that makes you salivate immediately. The wine is already accessible with a juicy, salty and lemony finish.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

PFALZ

Philipp Kuhn - Im Grossen Garten - Riesling 2022

The wine shows a medium pale lemon colour. The nose is slightly reductive, revealing nuances of sesame seeds and some struck match. The palate is powerful and juicy, with very intense fruit of yellow lemons, pomelos and apricots. The delicious and opulent finish is lingering with fruit sweetness that does not leave a heavy but rather ethereal sensation.

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

Philipp Kuhn - Schwarzer Herrgott - Riesling 2022

The wine shows a medium lemon colour. The intense nose offers nuances of citrus fruits and yellow lemons, some pomelo and mandarins. The palate reveals uplifted acidity, dense and powerful texture and perfect balance. The juicy finish lingers long. A lot of sunshine in this glass!

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

Philipp Kuhn - Kirschgarten - Riesling 2022

The wine has a medium lemon colour. The intense nose opens up with nuances of green tea, floral hints of jasmine and acacia. The palate is very pleasant, enveloping, offering beautiful juiciness of grapefruits, complemented by a hint of herbal bitterness. Delicious citrusy, bitter-sweet finish.

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

Dr. Bürklin-Wolf - Pechstein - Riesling 2022

The wine shows a pale lemon straw colour. The nose is a bit fermentative and yeasty still with a typical pungent touch. The palate offers elevated, crisp acidity, saline and spicy character, bold texture, at the moment a bit tight. Succulent, citrusy and mineral finish. Very good ageing potential.

Score : 17.5/20 (95/100)

Dr. von Bassermann-Jordan - Ungeheuer - Riesling 2022

The wine shows a pale lemon colour. The nose offers discreet nuances of white flowers and pollen. The palate is tight and concentrated, with refreshing acidity and almost electric tension, a lot of minerality. Saline and juicy finish. Beautiful development ahead.

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

Georg Mosbacher - Langenmorgen - Riesling 2022

Langenmorgen shows an intense yellow colour. The delicate nose offers nuances of citrus fruits, as well as some floral notes. Powerful on the palate, the wine reveals a lot of succulent acidity, that balances perfectly its bold texture and intense concentration. The fruity finish lingers long.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Dr. Bürklin-Wolf - Reiterpfad In der Hohl - Riesling 2022

The wine has a medium yellow colour. The nose is a bit smoky, opening up with nuances of ripe citrus fruits like mandarins and Sicilian lemons. The palate is juicy but tight, offering plenty of acidity, very fresh and concentrated finish. Excellent ageing potential.

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

A. Christmann - Meerspinne - Riesling 2022

The wine shows a medium yellow straw colour. The nose is savoury and spicy with a hint of ginger and white pepper in the echo. The palate offers beautiful freshness and juiciness, all in perfect balance. Vertical and linear finish. Will age nicely.

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

Dr. Bürklin-Wolf - Gaisbühl - Riesling 2022

The wine has an intense yellow colour. The nose is slightly restrained and smoky, opening up with citrus and floral notes. The palate reveals intense spiciness and minerality, a savoury character, supported by fresh and tight acidity. The wine is dense and still closed, needs time to broad its shoulders and expose its full potential.

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

A.Christmann - Vogelsang - Riesling 2022

The wine shows an intense yellow colour. The nose is a bit yeasty still, pungent and fermentative. The palate offers a lot of power and concentration, at the moment very tight and closed. The wine will need a lot of time to settle and integrate this dense minerality. Outstanding length and long development ahead.

Score : 18/20 (96/100)

A.Christmann - Idig - Riesling 2022

The wine shows an intense yellow colour. The nose is restrained and elegant with interlacing fruity and mineral nuances. The palate offers intense, zesty acidity, savoury character against the citrusy background. The finish is long and saline. Excellent ageing potential.

Score : 17.5/20 (95/100)

Müller-Catoir - Bürgergarten Im Breumel - Riesling 2022

The wine has a pale lemon straw colour. The nose is a bit smoky with nuances of yeast and sesame seeds. The palate reveals elevated, pungent acidity and tight texture, still fermentative character, a hint of bitterness and phenolic texture. A wine to watch! Beautiful potential.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Ökonomierat Rebholz - Im Sonnenschein Ganz Horn - Riesling 2022

The wine has a medium yellow colour. The nose is restrained and smoky, at the moment rather reductive. The palate offers succulent juiciness and fruitiness, supported by mineral underpinnings. Good length and pleasant, salty finish.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Dr. Wehrheim - Kastanienbusch Köppel - Riesling 2022

The wine shows a pale lemon colour. The nose is very floral with a touch of reduction and a hint of gooseberry and passion fruit. The palate is juicy, intense and powerful with crisp, citrusy acidity, tight texture and mineral finish. Very good potential to age but at the moment extremely tight and "thing in itself".

Score : 17.5/20 (95/100)

Ökonomierat Rebholz - Schäwer - Riesling 2022

The wine shows an intense yellow colour. The nose is very reductive, needs a lot of air, time and patience to open up. The palate offers elevated acidity, spicy and fermentative character, complemented with citrusy and floral notes. Beautiful freshness and concentration on the finish. Excellent ageing potential.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

BADEN

Bercher - Feuerberg Haslen - Weisser Burgunder 2022

The wine shows a pale lemon colour. The nose is bright, citrusy and juicy. The palate offers good tension, zesty, succulent acidity, balancing the powerful texture. The wine lingers long with notes of lemons and limes. The finish is reverberating with pleasant fruit sweetness in the echo.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Andreas Laible - Plauelrain Stollenberg - Grauer Burgunder 2022

The wine shows a pale lemon straw colour. Nuances of yellow fruits, slightly overripe and bruised, dominate the nose. The palate though reveals excellent freshness, a lot of juiciness and high concentration. A hint of oak spices adds to the complexity and don't break the balance. Powerful, delicious finish lingers long.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Bercher - Feuerberg Haslen - Grauer Burgunder 2022

This Grauer Burgunder shows a typical pink gold hue. The nose is intensely fruity with nuances of yellow fruits with a delicate saline note in the echo. The palate is mineral and fresh, offering juicy acidity, citrusy character with a hint of iodine on the finish. Excellent ageing potential.

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



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NUTRITION CHARTS ON WINE LABELS

Wine labels now look different in the EU. Since December 8th, a nutritional value table, similar to those on yoghurt pots and tinned soups, needs to be included in back labels on all wine bottles. With Regulation 2021/2117, the EU wants to provide consumers with more information to help them make informed purchasing decisions. In practice, however, the decision might miss the intended purpose.

Useful information – or perhaps misleading

Wine labels mandatorily include essential information for consumers. Perhaps the most important of which – alcohol content – is already stated on all bottles. Likewise, the presence of sulphites is key, and they have been complemented by other allergens since December. Vegans might be pleased to see information on protein.

Sweetness level, however, has long been a source of confusion. Producers describe it in terms, such as sweet or dry, which are defined very differently in each region, country and language. Some bottles do not state a sweetness indicator at all.

Information on sugar content is therefore relevant, even if a tolerance of more or less two grams is permitted. (For a dry wine with a maximum of four grams of residual sugar, this could represent a significant discrepancy.)

Further to sweetness level (residual sugar) the new charts also display the amount of calories, suggesting that wine contributes to weight gain. The perception attached to this indicator can be misleading: the human body does not convert alcohol calories – unlike those derived from sugar – into fat. Yet, each gram of alcohol corresponds to seven calories on the label's final count – each gram of sugar to only four. A bone-dry white wine with 15% alcohol has a declared 105 calories per 100 millilitres. An off-dry Mosel with 10% alcohol and eight grams of residual sugar would have less, even though the sugar content is significantly higher.

Considering that, due to the chemical composition of wine, carbohydrates directly correlate with sugar

content, one value would have sufficed to inform consumers of energy intake.

Some nutrients, such as fat, saturated fatty acids, protein and salt, are included in the mandatory labelling but are not present in wine at all (or only in traces). Official chemists know this and do not even analyse the wine samples for these. Producers are allowed to declare the content as "0".

Additions and corrections

Wine might also contain substances that have no nutritional value and are not eaten individually as food. These additives, used for technological reasons, are on the list of mandatory label requirements – but their purpose isn't.

What would be really interesting information for wine drinkers to judge the quality and production method of a wine is reduced

to a non-descript enumeration. A customer could, for example, understand whether the wine-maker has reduced acidic levels by using deacidification agents – if these were identified clearly. Conversely, in warmer regions, grapes often do not develop enough acidity, which is sometimes added. Unlike the elegant, natural, acidity of a Gros Manseng from Gascony, an Assyrtiko from Santorini or a Riesling from the Rhine, which

makes these varieties so charming.

Similarly, natural tannins from grape skins and stems are typical varietal compounds in good wines. It would be useful for consumers to know if artificial tannins have been added in the form of an industrially produced powder. The same could be said of wood flavouring: maturation in barriques costs about one euro

per bottle, if not more; considerably costlier than the few cents needed to pour an oak powder into the wine for the wood tone.

The list of possible additives and correctives in wine production does not end here. Gum Arabic, which gives wines a smoother texture, is one of the most harmless. Even if the ancient Egyptians preferred to embalm their dead with it. Others, such as carboxymethylcellulose – used to avoid tartaric acid



Red Wine	
NUTRITION FACTS	
Calories: 85	
Fat	0g
Sodium	5mg
Cholesterol	0mg
Carbohydrate	0g
Protein	0g
Percent values are based on your unique diet.	

deposits – can easily startle consumers. Potassium sorbate, dimethyldicarbonate, selective plant fibres, bacteria, enzymes and activators are also unlikely to provide reassurance.

The new labelling efforts and regulations do not inform the customers of many interesting nuances and processes that could truly help them make an informed quality-based purchasing decision. Furthermore, labelling is allowed in any official EU language; a British or German customer will easily struggle if navigating a Hungarian, Greek or Bulgarian label.

Behind the code

Although most mandatory information can be included in the foodstuff-like tables, it might also hide behind a QR in a so-called "e-label". Winegrowers have lobbied hard for its creation, avoiding an overload of data in printed labels.

The requirements for e-label have not yet been legally defined and the format could simply be abolished. Just two weeks before the new labelling regulation came into force, the EU came up with an addendum: The "i" logo, an international norm, registered as ISO 2760 and generally recognised symbol for additional information, is suddenly not enough for the EU Commission. The term "ingredients" must appear above the "i" logo and QR code.

Winegrowers across the EU are horrified. "Several hundred million labels have already been printed", complained Mauricio González, president of the Comité Européen des Entreprises Vins (CEEV). "They have now become unusable." Ignacio Sánchez Recarte, the CEEV's secretary general, added that this "pure red tape brings more uncertainty than anything else [...]" it goes against the spirit of Regulation 2021/2117 and jeopardises the single market."

Paolo Castelletti, Secretary General of the Italian Wine Association, clearly voiced his feelings: "There is a Europe that sometimes becomes a stepmother to its companies."



© Pixabay

Europe, however, replied in a preachy manner via Olof Gil, the European Commission's spokesperson for trade and agriculture: "The wine sector has enjoyed two years of transition for the adoption of the new labelling rules." He added that "all wines produced before December 8th are exempt from the new labelling requirements." Then again, not all wines released this vintage are fermented by December. A piece of information the EU Commission might find helpful.

Matthias Stelzig



©Matthias Stelzig

Cucine Nervi



Roberto Conterno is known for its fine wines, like Monfortino e Barbera Francia, after all also for the recent acquisition of the historic Nervi company in Gattinara, Alto Piedmont, in 2018. This goal contributed to turning the spotlight on the entire area north of Piedmont, renowned since the 19th century for the cultivation of the Nebbiolo variety, able to be the protagonist in blends of wine named as Gattinara, Boca, Gemme, Lessona (the main appellations).

Conterno's project has taken shape in a few years; its work, carried out by the architect Primatesa, embraced at the beginning a total mutation of the cellar followed by the building of a gourmet restaurant. From an architectural point of view, Cucine Nervi - so is it called - is among the most beautiful and successful in Italy due to its furnishings, elegant and precious materials chosen, the play of lights, the management of the spaces, for the impressive show-kitchen and a the huge wooden dedicated to a chef table experience, (wood dated back to 48,000 year old, a New Zealand kauri one interspersed with resin veins). The cuisine, entrusted to the thirty-year-old chef Stefano Battaini (originally from Varese), has a contemporary soul but enhances the raw materials of the Piedmontese territory selected by special local suppliers. Risotto is something untouchable and essential in these places near the Vercelli area, even though Stefano feels much more confident processing meat.

Stefano exploit what he had learned, like cooking techniques, during his experiences in Ireland, Australia and Stockholm; and he agreed to stop in Gattinara to launch the Cucine Nervi project to build his identity. His cuisine is a contemporary one, decisive able to enhance the raw material and places it in a position of dialogue with many other elements whose flavors are shown in different cooking processes. The guest can choose a variety of dishes "à la carte" and two menu tasting. My advice is to put yourself in his hands, order the "White Paper" menu (€120) and be amazed by an amuse bouche that could easily be a game: soft buttermilk, toasted mackerel and salmon roe, then a trout fario flanked by Ossola bacon, leek and ginger and finally a donkey sirloin with caviar and salsify. On the side you may try the "Classics" (€80) and "Seasons" (€100) menu.

Consistent sauces and tasty flavors with accelerations and contrasts find a proper balance. Stefano's cuisine is an imaginative and creative gastronomic one. In the cellar you can choose among over 500 references catalogued in two wine lists, one dedicated to the wines of Conterno (Barolo, the Barbera Francia and the Gattinara) with a depth of love that few brands manage to achieve, and one with deep space for local wines, from Piedmont and from around the world, proposed at a very accessible price. Eventually a meal at Cucine Nervi is an involving experience which deserves many visits for those who are intrigued to try all the seasonable tastes.

Erika Montovan

Cucine Nervi

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🌐 www.cucinenervi.com

Elegance and the pursuit of excellence, out of time

Villa d'Este

The arrival of the Wine manager Alex Bartoli at Villa d'Este gave impetus to the restaurant department, getting people to talk more and more about this prestigious patrician residence on Lake Como; besides the eloquent hotel the chatting is about the magnificent wine list proposed: such a very high profile. Impressive rarities, entire pages dedicated to glorious names of both Italian and French wines, there is a depth of vintages which the appellative "extraordinary" is due.



Château Margaux, Domaine de la Romanée - Conti, Krug, Sello, Gaja, and Sassicaia, are just some of the several names you will find on the menu. What appears to be a sort of "environmental bubble" like an undisputed charm destination, breaks a barrier and takes the guest into a "time bubble" due to the chance of tasting wines which benefit from over a century of aging. Villa d'Este offers a premium experience made possible by the ability that just a few wines have: "stop the time". Bartoli, due to his mental and palatal predisposition, made this dream concrete, which a residence like Villa d'Este deserved, where time does not seem to have passed. Indeed, in the latest evolution phase it has regained possession of its beauty, undoubtedly facilitated by some of the most evocative and elegant Renaissance architecture in the Bel Paese, commissioned to the architect Pellegrino Tibaldi by Cardinal Tolomeo Gallio in the mid-1500s. The structure, as we know it today, has been converted into a hospitality facility in 1873. Silk, velvet, linen... bright colors frame the horizon, it's hard to manage all this involving shade of blue, in particular, the one takes us back to the late Middle Ages and the vaults of the churches painted with a starry sky (Upper Basilica of San Francesco in Assisi, or the cathedral of Siena).

Anyway, if the purpose of this column is to select the restaurants with the best bottles anthology, we cannot fail to underline the meticulous research and organizational work Bartoli has done. Born in '93, includes experiences in the Gota of catering Italian, from the Enoteca Pinchiorri to Cracco and Da Vittorio and a short rest in London. Woe betide you if you call him "young". By mutual agreement with the owners of Villa d'Este, the construction of this "wine project" is continuously expanding and dialogues with the present, the prestigious selection of 4000 references photographs the best interpreters of the national and transalpine territories and is magnified in the organization of Wine Dinners, which to define as prestigious would be an understatement: wine is at the centre, accompanied by delicate dishes, without eccentric peaks reaching balanced flavors, all created by the steady hands of chef Michele Zambanini.

Erika Montovan

Villa d'Este

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www.villadeste.com



© Villa d'Este

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Restaurant Premnord

Local, natural and committed



Her name is Céline Dedinger and she is the chef of the Premnord restaurant, in the very beautiful Domaine Prieuré Roch, which is located in Prémieux-Prissey in the Burgundy's Côte de Nuits. Surrounded by prestigious names like Nuits-Saint-Georges and Aloxe-Corton, the young chef creates gourmet seasonal natural cuisine in a modern setting with a breathtaking view of a jewel cellar and the 1er Cru "Clos des Argillières" Nuits-Saint-Georges vineyard. She shares the stage with Gaël Saunié, the Head Sommelier.



The two of them work together to offer their customers' taste buds a sensitive experience thanks to a fine selection of bottles from here and elsewhere. Gaël was, in another life, a

specialist in economics applied to agriculture. 11 years ago, he decided to branch out into sommellerie and he passed through beautiful houses like the Preirial (1* in Lyon) and the Domaine de Murtoli (1* in Corsica). Today he creates a link with his profession of yesterday because the whole team, with Franck Ragognetti, the director, has a desire to move towards local and natural productions while making them affordable. Note that the lunch menu is 30 euros, that 30% of the bottles are less than 50 euros and that you can reserve a bottle in advance so it can be prepared.

This wine list is impressive with a strong emphasis on Burgundy (85 references from Domaine Prieuré Roch await you) but not only that. This list features eclectic wines : 800 bottles including wines from France (Burgundy, Bordeaux, Jura, Savoie, Alsace, etc.), Italy, Spain, South Africa, Switzerland, Georgia, Chile or even the United States. Spirits lovers, however, are not left out with a bar menu with 150 references that are just as pretty and balanced between liqueurs, eaux-de-vie and cocktails. Gaël's current favorite: the "Atelier 27 db" distillery by Baptiste Debeaumont, a local, who makes totally atypical things like a spirit from smoked squash inspired by the production method of the famous Mezcal!

If you feel like it, you can also stay at Domaine Prieuré Roch. In fact, since 2014, they have had 5 guest rooms. You will appreciate the charm of a renovated winegrower's house whose keywords are conviviality, comfort and intimacy. Beautiful address in every way.

Chloé Cazaux Grandpierre

Restaurant Premnord

Domaine Prieuré Roch - 6, RD 974 (RN74)
21700 Prémieux-Prissey (France)
www.premnord.com



Nama Wine Restaurant

When Japan meets Bordeaux

Some restaurants are a lovely invitation to travel: Nama is one of them. Discover here a different concept where eating is synonymous of enjoyment. Through blind tasting, cooking local and seasonal food, Nama pushes a little further the hospitality with a staff also working here since the beginning.

Patrick Herreyre has been working for 10 years in Japan for a famous wine merchant before coming back to his region, Bordeaux with one idea in mind: to open a fusion restaurant! He knows perfectly Japanese culture and speaks fluently the language: it was totally natural for him to create a bridge between French gastronomy and Japanese cuisine! Nama, which opened in 2014, means "raw" but it also means "ambition" and it is what you can feel while tasting the Nama's cuisine! Indeed, the Chef is playing with flavors from Japan but also with local and seasonal ingredients made in Southwest France.



© Nama

Then, you can also select a bottle or just take a glass of wine in their wine list. The latter is not super long as they select very precisely the wines, and it changes quite often. Patrick and his team are going to different wine exhibitions like Millésime Bio in Montpellier or Salon des Vins de Loire; they also visit local wineries to enhance the Bordeaux style that we love. Obviously, the restaurant proposes also some Japanese sakés and spirits... And for those who doesn't want to drink alcohol, Nama selected a nice list of soft drinks (no Coca Cola here) with marvellous teas from Japan and Taiwan as they match perfectly with their menus.

Nama has got a very nice reputation and it's really a marvelous moment to go there: what are you waiting for?

Chloé Cazaux Grandpierre

The concept of Nama is also quite unique: everything is blind. You choose between 3 different menus, and you need to tell the staff if you have any allergies or special diet. The dishes arrive and you should guess what you are enjoying. What is also quite fun is that you can order a wine and food pairing with a little twist! It is what is called the "Battle": two glasses of wine (or maybe something else...) poured blind and here also, you must guess what it is. You can then discover warm vintage versus cool vintage, Sauvignon Blanc from the old world versus the new world, white wine versus rosé wine...

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Frescobaldi

From the 14th century the Marchesi de Frescobaldi family have been making wines, mainly and historically in Tuscany. Today, they own 9 wine estates (approximately 850 hectares) in different DOC and DOCG regions characterized by a remarkable diversity of terroirs, expositions, grapes, identities...

They have recently also created restaurants to better highlight their productions (wines and oils) as well as Italian gastronomy.



Tenuta Perano Gran Selezione Rialzi 2019 Chianti Classico

The nose offers intensity, a fine, powerful, frank and racy grain. It reveals notes of small black berries, spices and small notes of black cherry [...]. On the palate this wine expresses notes of quite ripe small red fruits, cherry and small notes of quite ripe raspberry associated with touches of star anise, cardamom, toasted notes, hints of chocolate, black olive and a subtle hint of dried almond. Tannins are well developed. (Read full review on www.vertdevin.com)

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Tenuta Castelgiocondo 2015 Brunello di Montalcino

The nose is mineral, racy and elegant. There are notes of sage, local grove and small notes of Bigarreau cherry associated with touches of small jammy red fruits [...]. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, bright blueberry and small notes bright cherry associated with touches of cornflower, sage as well as a subtle almost orange hint (in the background) and saline in the background/on the finish. Tannins are elegant and racy. Good length. A very discreet hint of cocoa on the finish. Nice (but discreet) work on the good bitterness on the finish which stretches/lengthens the persistence. (Read full review on www.vertdevin.com)

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

Tenuta CastelGiocondo, Ripe al Convento 2017 Brunello di Montalcino Riserva

The nose is gourmand and offers a beautiful elegance/delicacy in its richness as well as in its concentration. It reveals notes of crushed blackberry, pulpy cassis [...]. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy blackberry, creamy cassis and small notes of roasted-fresh small fruits associated with fine touches of chocolate, cherry blossoms, a hint of cooked blue fruits as well as fine hints of vanilla, cardamom, black olive and a subtle hint of toasted almond. Tannins are supple and sapid. Good length. Nice iodized and sapid side on the finish. (Read full review on www.vertdevin.com)

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



Castello di Pomino, Benefizio 2021 Pomino Bianco Riserva DOC

The nose is fruity and offers a certain intensity as well as a certain deepness. We find notes of mirabelle plum, butter and small notes of small yellow fruits associated with touches of crushed apple, peach blossoms [...]. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy mirabelle plum, butter and small notes crushed nectarine associated with touches of small yellow flowers, crushed apricot as well as fine hints of beeswax, verbena, almond and an imperceptible almost sappy hint (in the background). Nice tannic hints on the finish both in aroma and structure. A very subtle chew. Good length. A subtle hint of good bitterness in the background which leads the tasting like a « fil rouge ». (Read full review on www.vertdevin.com)

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

Castello Nipozzano Vecchie Viti 2020 Chianti Rufina Riserva

The nose is fruity, fresh and offers a certain minerality. We find notes of bright red cherry, bright strawberry and small notes of cornflower, blueberry[...]. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, juicy/pulpy raspberry and small notes of cherry associated with touches of orange/mandarin, hints of small roasted blue fruits, liquorice stick, toast, sweet spices as well as a subtle hint of black olive and toasted. Tannins are elegant, precise, racy and slightly mellow. An almost powdery touch on the finish/persistence. Great freshness! (Read full review on www.vertdevin.com)

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Castello Nipozzano Montesodi 2020 Chianti Rufina Riserva

The nose is fruity, intense and offers a floral side as well as concentration, precision and control. We find notes of blueberry, cherry[...]. On the palate this wine expresses notes of Bigarreau cherry, blueberry and small notes small fruits/ concentrated cassis associated with touches of candied orange zest as well as very discreet hints of sense of place (local biotop: olive black, rosemary...). Tannins are sapid and racy. Good length. Very discreet toasted hints and toasted almond on the finish. (Read full review on www.vertdevin.com)

Score : 16/20 (92/100)



Château Bellevue

One of the oldest Saint-Émilion winery

Château Bellevue is a historic and splendid property in Saint-Émilion whose origins date back to the 17th century. Its 3 hectares of vines facing South/South-West, with 100% Merlot planted, are located on the famous astéria limestone plateau, dominating the Dordogne valley. The estate benefits from an exceptional terroir composed of clay-limestone and clay-siliceous soils which a bigger part of limestone as you approach the summit... even reaching the ground level on the top ! These terroirs give to wines elegance, complexity, great freshness, some spices and an incomparable aromatic richness.

www.chateaubellevue.fr



© Château Bellevue

Château Bellevue 2022

Saint-Émilion Grand Cru, Grand Cru Classé

The nose is structured, precise and offers lovely fruit, creaminess as well as lovely definition. It reveals notes of creamy blackberry, Bigarreau cherry [...]. On the palate this wine expresses notes of creamy blackberry, pulpy/juicy blueberry and small notes of racy minerality associated with fine sappy hints, small roasted fruits as well as hints of almond, roasting and vanilla. Beautiful polished and gourmand tannins. A subtle chew in the background. Presence of a very discreet sappy and saline hint in the background. Good length. *(Read full review on www.vertdevin.com)*

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

Château Bellevue 2020

Saint-Émilion Grand Cru, Grand Cru Classé

Beautiful elegant, racy, precise nose and offers a nice aromatic palette, a fine power as well as a certain intensity. A beautiful fine and discreetly tight grain [...]. The palate is nicely structured, full of sapidity and offers tension, a nice freshness, precision, a beautiful acidity as well as a beautiful balance. Airiness in its little richness/creaminess, in the balances. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/bright blackberry, pulpy/fresh raspberry and small notes of racy minerality associated with touches of chocolate/mocha, hints of fresh blue fruits, fine hints of toasted hazelnut as well as a subtle hint of fresh sap, liquorice and fresh pepper. Tannins are elegant, gourmands and straight. Good length. *(Read full review on www.vertdevin.com)*

Score : 17.5/20 (95/100)

Château Bellevue 2019

Saint-Émilion Grand Cru, Grand Cru Classé

Beautiful aromatic and slightly spicy nose. We find notes of wild blackberry, pepper, menthol and small notes of quite ripe wild black berries [...]. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/fresh blackberry, small juicy/fresh black fruits and small notes of fresh/juicy raspberry associated with touches of tobacco, mocha as well as discreet hints of salinity, camphor and a discreet hint of toasted almond. Good length. Beautiful freshness and suppleness. *(Read full review on www.vertdevin.com)*

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



Château Bellevue 2018

Saint-Émilion Grand Cru, Grand Cru Classé

Nice elegant nose which offers a beautiful, powerful and intense grain. We find notes of quite ripe cassis, morello cherry and small notes of liquorice stick [...]. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy blackberry and quite ripe (but fresh) small black fruits associated with hints of cornflowers, menthol, cloves as well as discreet hints of fresh pepper, cinnamon and fresh undergrowth. Tannins are fresh, well-built and supple. Good length. Presence of a very discreet saline hint on the persistence. *(Read full review on www.vertdevin.com)*

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Château Bellevue 2012

Saint-Émilion Grand Cru, Grand Cru Classé

Nice, aromatic, spicy nose which offers a discreet almost powdery touch, a certain deepness as well as a beautiful racy freshness (terroir) [...]. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, quite ripe cassis and small notes of racy minerality associated with touches of plum, camphor, fresh sap, tobacco as well as fine hints of cloves and toasted. Tannins are elegant and discreetly powdery. *(Read full review on www.vertdevin.com)*

Score : 16.75+/20 (94/100)

Château Bellevue 2010

Saint-Émilion Grand Cru, Grand Cru Classé

The nose is elegant, spicy and harmonious. We find notes of pepper, sweet spices and small notes of wild cassis associated with touches of small fresh black fruits [...]. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy redcurrants, tangy cassis and small notes of cornflower associated with touches of liquorice stick as well as a subtle hint of almond, clove, undergrowth, incense and almost eucalyptus. Tannins are precise, supple, sapid and discreetly tight. A subtle hint of vanilla in the background. A certain palatability on the finish. *(Read full review on www.vertdevin.com)*

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Sakés from Kochi

Clean, fruity and unique !

Located on Shikoku island in the south of Japan, Kochi creates clean and fresh sakés. One specificity of the prefecture is its love for creating new yeasts which will give fruity aromas like the Space-Deep-Sea kobo. A yeast which survived in the Soyouz spacial station and then at 6200 meters under water ! What a yeast !

Chloé Cazaux Grandpierre

Arimitsu Shuzo - Akitora

Junmai - Yamadanishiki 80%

This sake is transparent with beautiful aromas. The nose is fresh and fruity with nice notes of rice and a very umami, tasty side. With time, we perceive slightly meaty touches of cooked mushrooms. We also have fine hints of apple and stewed pear. On the palate, the sake is fresh and fruity. There is a slight hint of sweetness at the attack. The mid-palate is dynamic with beautiful notes of cooked rice and a very present umami flavor. We have a spicy, saffron side which also appears. It is well balanced between the roundness, the bitterness of the lime zest and the freshness. The finish is almost malted grains with a touch of pepper and apple.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Tosatsuru Shuzo - Tosatsuru

Junmai Daiginjo - Yamadanishiki (40%)

The sake is translucent and shiny. The first nose is fresh and fruity. We have beautiful exotic notes like pineapple but also anise. We also notice a little coconut water and aromatic cooked Thai rice. With air, it is even fresher and more intense, still with these beautiful notes of anise and cooked fennel. We even have a green papaya and white jasmine flower side. The palate is fresh with a roundness at the attack then a fairly frank and direct aspect. There is a beautiful clarity with a spicy, peppery mid-palate. We find this anise with fine notes of apple and mint. It is very fluid with a bitterness at the end of the palate on the green orange zest. The finish is measured and rather direct and dry.

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

Suigei Shuzo - Kouiku no.54

Junmai Ginjo - Gin no Yume (50%)

This sake is translucent. The nose is round and aromatic with umami notes. We have a little cooked red apple as well as yellow melon. With air, it is very fine with notes of star anise but also cardamom. We perceive fine touches of mango. In the mouth, it is very straight with a fairly silky or even oily attack. Then the mid-palate becomes dry and direct. It is very clear, airy and fluid with mainly notes of cardamom and anise above all. There are touches of white peach as well as lychee. The finish has a powerful bitterness well achieved with good tangerine and apple skin bitters. There is an interesting paradox between a certain juiciness and a very dry side. Beautiful complexity.

Score : 17.5/20 (95/100)

Keigetsu Shuzo - Sake Nature 2022

Junmai Daiginjo - Gin no Yume bio (45%)

The sake is translucent and shiny. The nose is fresh and fruity with notes of citrus fruits such as orange and pink grapefruit but also orchard fruits such as peach. When aerated, we always perceive this very fresh, airiness with a very fruity aroma similar to

the first nose. In the mouth, there is a slight fizzy attack. We have notes of grapefruit but also peach and apricot. It's fluid and direct. Seductive with this aromatic. The attack is sweet, the mid-palate is more spicy and warm. The finish gives notes of rice, bordering on white strawberries and fresh fennel. At the end of the mouth there is a pleasant note of fresh almond. Nice pure and aromatic sake.

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

Fumimoto Brewery - Shimanto Blue Label

Junmai Daiginjo - Niida (Nikomaru) (50%)

The sake is transparent and shiny. The nose is fresh with notes of cooked rice but also almond. With time, the nose remains discreet with fine touches of fresh hazelnut as well as apple and white peach. The palate is fresh with a tangy attack of apple but also rambutan. We have grain notes but also white pepper. The mid-palate is pleasant, spicy. We perceive a velvety feel during tasting: this texture persists and makes the mouth feel homogeneous, which is very pleasant. The aromas are discreet on peach and red apple. The finish is short with hints of rice with a spiciness still emerging and the skin of the kiwi. Nice sake.

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

Kouchi Shuzo - Niyodogawa Black (yeast Cel 24)

Junmai Daiginjo - Gin no Yume (40%)

The sake is bright with transparency. The first nose is intense, explosive with notes of fruit such as pineapple and apple. We also perceive other fruits such as mango, lychee and a creamy, milky side. We also have spices like star anise and fresh fennel. With air, it is still just as intense. The green apple is more defined with the pineapple and a bit of harlequin candy. The palate is fresh with a powerful and aromatic attack of apple, cactus and pineapple. There is a certain roundness that accompanies the mid-palate. The finish is drier and direct with a slight umami. We also have peppery notes and still a bit of this milky side which persists at the end of the mouth on the almond milk.

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

Kameizumi Shuzo - Ginroku (yeast Cel19)

Junmai Ginjo - Gin no Yume (50%)

This sake is translucent and shiny. The nose is fresh and fruity. There is a lovely clarity with notes of apple and pear. There is also a little earthy side that emerges. We also perceive fine touches of fresh vanilla. With time, it is still very fresh and airy. The aromas are discreet, sweet with hints of lychee. The tasting is fresh with a slight sparkle on the attack. Powerful, the sake explodes in the mouth with a pleasant bitter texture. We always have fruits like apple, anise, pepper. The mid-palate is also aromatic

and this continues in the finish with mint. The tasting is fluid, easy, pleasant. It is a thirst-quenching sake with a rounded attack then a very straight and direct side afterwards. Interesting.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Tsukasabotan Shuzo - « 20% of the Koji determines 80% of the taste » (yeast AA-41)

Junmai - Yamadanishi (55%) and Akebono (70%)

The sake is transparent and shiny. The nose is aromatic with notes of rice and peach. We also notice a little fresh mint and coconut milk. With air, there are notes of grapefruit as well as yellow peach. It's fruity and delicate yet intense. The palate is fresh and fruity with notes of green apple and grapefruit. A certain bitterness accompanied by spices arrives in the mid-palate. We then have notes of dried fruits such as almond and a very dry and direct finish. A vegetal side persists with mint but also other aromatic herbs. The end of the tasting no longer has this bitterness and ends with a note of cooked rice. It is a sake with character: aromatic and tense at the same time.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Takagi Shuzo - Tosa Kinso (yeasts AA41 et AC17 - deep sea kobo)

Tokubetsu Junmai - Tosaurara (60%)

The sake is shiny and translucent. It has an initial fresh and fruity nose with notes of mint and white peach. We also perceive slight hints of grapefruit and fine touches of cooked rice. The second nose is always fruity and fresh. Delicate. The palate is fine, fruity with notes of peach and there is a slight salinity. There is a bitterness in the mid-palate present with spices such as white pepper. This light bitterness continues on the finish. We have notes of almond and pear but also pear skin. There is an interesting floral side to peach blossom. The sake is clear with a pleasant finish of cherry blossom and a hint of morello cherry and red apple.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Kameizumi Shuzo - Kameizumi (Space & Deep Sea Sake)

Junmai Daiginjo - Kaze Naruko (50%)

The sake is bright and colorless. The nose is subtle, discreet with notes of white peach and brugnnon. We can also see fine hints of rice. With time, it remains delicate with touches of citrus and a lovely minty freshness. On the palate, the attack is fresh and fruity. We have a little bitterness which invigorates the tasting. It's supple with notes of apple, lychee and white peach. It's juicy and clear. The finish is spicy at the beginning with white pepper and we have notes of rice, peach blossom and jasmine. We finish with rice and the bitterness makes the tasting straight, ideal for gastronomic pairings.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Umeshu

On the other side of the plum

Umeshu is a delicious Japanese beverage made with ume, a plum. The prefecture of Wakayama is the first one to be awarded with a Geographical Indication in 2020 in order to protect and promote this incredible liquor which can be appreciated by itself, on the rock or in cocktails.

Chloé Cazaux Grandpierre



Kishu Roman - Sujimoto Farm Co.Ltd
Umeshu (10-11 %)

This Umeshu has a beautiful golden color with shine and clarity. The nose is fresh and discreet with notes of dried apricot, almond blossom and almond paste. There is a very light, pleasant vegetal aspect as well. With aeration, the nose changes. There is an umami that arrives with fine touches of peach skin but also of grain. The palate is fresh with nice acidity. We still have these notes of grain but also of salted plum. The palate is precisely interesting with this sweet and salty side which persists in the mid-palate until the finish. It's light, discreet. The tasting has a soft texture. There is a balance between fruit and alcohol. We have a sensation of minty freshness and a finish of apricot kernel but also of apricot blossom.

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

Plumity Black - Ume Domaine Arimoto
Umeshu (19%)

This umeshu has a very beautiful golden color with cognac highlights. It is clear and shiny. The nose is fresh and intense with very beautiful notes of plum but also apricot. We smell a little alcohol which brings an interesting spiciness. The second nose is also powerful with the same aromatic always well defined. There is an interesting lemony aspect as well. The palate is intense on apricot but also orange marmalade. The alcohol is present, spicy, with notes of vanilla and pepper. There is a very nice balance on the palate between juicy fruit, salivating acidity, powerful alcohol and smooth sugar. It is an umeshu with personality. The finish is beautiful, intense with sweetness and acidity. We always have these notes of apricot jam, orange marmalade, white pepper but also prune on the finish which lingers. There is a very nice intensity of the fruit. It's all about intensity in this tasting.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)



Beni-nanko - Nakano BC
Umeshu (20,0%)

The Umeshu has got a beautiful bright and clear orange color. You can already feel the umeshu in the glass before you even put your nose in it ! The nose is fresh and fruity with a nice definition of fruit with apricot but also candied cherry. We have very beautiful fine notes of earl grey tea. With time, it is also very fine and very fresh with touches of apricot, plum and blood orange. The palate is fresh and fruity. There is a nice sweetness and power with the alcohol from the start. We have spices with pepper and there is a nice balance on the palate despite the strong alcohol. We also have a little texture in the mouth with an astringency and above all the very sweet finish with a nice sugar and orange and apricot purée notes. Beautiful, very long finish.

Score : 18/20 (96/100)



Nakata Kishu Nanko Umeshu taru - Nakata Shokuhin
Umeshu (20,0%)

Very beautiful cognac color with orange highlights for this Umeshu. The nose is intense with notes of toast, roasted almond and vanilla but also coconut. The barrel takes over and blends with the plum in a pleasant and harmonious way. It is intense when aerated with a rather cooked plum and the dry and pulpy pruneau d'Agen at the same time. The palate is fresh with notes of toast and roasted almonds. The alcohol is well blended with notes of brandy plum and coconut. It's intense. The acidity is present and the sugar too but well balanced. The finish is fruity with a touch of bitterness. It is a complex and delicious Umeshu.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)



Minabe no Umesake - Sekaiitto Co., Ltd
Umeshu (12%)

This umeshu has a beautiful light apricot color with shine and a very slight haze. The nose is intense and fresh on apricot and plum. With aeration, there is a saline side that emerges, still with plum but also candied lemon. The palate is fresh, tangy and sweet with floral and vegetal notes. We have touches of citrus zest such as candied lemon and orange but also plum. We perceive a hint of pleasant fresh vegetal. The acidity is very present, it lightens the whole thing nicely. The finish is salivating with notes of plum and apricot. There's a nice umami to it.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

« Kanjukunankobai Koi Umeshu » Yoshimura Hideo Shoten Co., Ltd
Umeshu (13%)

This Umeshu has a beautiful orange-brown color. It is shiny and cloudy in the appearance of nectar. The nose is fruity and tangy with notes of plum and apricot. We also smell grains and an umami aspect is also felt. With air we have nice notes of flowers such as violet. The palate is fresh, soft with this very pleasant texture of nectar which brings roundness. There is a nice acidity with hints of plum and apricot. The finale is delicate with umami.

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



Rockin' and Rollin'

Rock Star Wines

A handful of prize New Zealand wines that show the country's thrilling terroir.



© Sarah McCleery

Given the global affection for New Zealand's wines, and their notable presence on Michelin star restaurant wine lists, it's striking that New Zealand makes only 1% of the world's wine.

Divided between the subtropical North Island and the more continental South Island, the country's vineyards are planted on a latitudinal range between 35 and 45 degrees south. Surrounded by the Pacific Ocean, no vineyard is more than 80 miles from the sea. Stretching 930 miles from north to south, New Zealand is blessed with a rich variety of soils and micro-climates. However, the key takeaways – countrywide – are plenty of sunshine, accompanied by refreshing sea breezes and 'young soils'. Young, in this case, meaning less than 10,000 years old: comprising silt, sand, gravel and stonier alluvial soils.

In the summer leading New Zealand expert and Master of Wine, Rebecca Gibb pulled together a handful of vinous highlights, to highlight the country's diverse terroir and the uniquely expressive wines that are made there. Here are my 'pick of the picks', each a world-class offering.

Marlborough, located in the north-east of the South Island, is most famous for Sauvignon Blanc, so it was a joy to taste a single-vineyard blend of three varieties, not one of which was SB! **Te Whare Ra Toru 2022** is a single-vineyard field blend of Gewürztraminer, Riesling, and Pinot Gris. [Toru is Mauri for three]. The soils here are loam over clay with some fine gravel. The juice was co-fermented in old barrels, resulting in a wonderfully vivid and articulate wine. The nose captured notes of peach, prickly pear, grated citrus peel and light, dry spice too. The palate was a lovely combination of juicy and generous, the texture of Pinot Gris and structural backbone,

thanks to the Riesling. Fragrant and long-lived on the palate. Next up was a **100% Pinot Gris 2020 from Prophets Rock** in Central Otago. Here the vineyards are planted between 225 and 440 meters above sea level. Fruit comes from the Home Vineyard parcel, where the soils are predominantly schist with quartz, mingled with clay. These are amongst the steepest vineyards planted in the area, and yields are correspondingly low (38 hl/ha). Fermentation took place in old barrels. This wine has such an attractive, fragrant bouquet: ripe orchard fruits, fresh pineapple, and spring flowers. A succulent, moreish palate that lingered with impressive freshness. Off dry in style, this is a standout wine for the foodies.

Nestled just below Marlborough are the vineyards of North Canterbury, home to the Greystone estate. Waipara Valley is one of four sub-regions, and here you find the special Omihi clay and limestone soils. **Greystone's Riesling 2019** hails from this terroir and is marked by the texture that is commonly associated with the soils. Reminiscent of baked pear with touches of praline and green honey. The residual sugar comes in at 22.8 g/l, but the ph. is notable at just 2.95, meaning there's striking, zippy acidity.

My final choice is the **Escarpment Martinborough Pinot Noir 2020**. Located in the southern tip of the North Island, the fruit comes from a selection of vineyards across the Te Muna Road sub-region. The soils are mostly alluvial gravel, and the altitude just 60 to 70 meters above sea level. The Pinot Noir fruit was crushed in open top fermenters, pressed, and then left to macerate, on the skins for 20 days. Ageing took place in French oak barriques (22% new) for 11 months, followed by a further seven months in stainless steel. The wine was bottled without fining and unfiltered. What appealed to me was the wine's bright red cherry fruit, fresh earth notes and hints of spice. The palate has lovely energy and drive, with a judicious balance of tannins and acidity.

I wonder what proportion of New Zealand's wines find themselves cellars to age in. While all these wines were charming to drink today, they each had the structural credentials for modest ageing. It strikes me that Te Whare Ra Toru 2022 will make for a fascinating study over the next three to five years, thanks to its texture, acidity, and breadth of fruit. I could see myself buying a case of six and enjoying a couple of bottles in each of the next few years.

There's no doubt that New Zealand can make rock star wines, and for now, the wines don't require a rock star salary!



Prophet's Rock

One of the star wineries of Central Otago

We are with one of New Zealand's stars. Winemaker Paul Pujol is making waves with wines that crisply tell the story of the flavors of two Bendigo vineyards: Home Vineyard and Rocky Point. Not just one version of the same. Very elegant, expressive wines with good evolutionary potential. Paul vinifies Pinot Noir, Chardonnay, Riesling and Pinot Gris, the grapes that shaped his education in the world: Languedoc, Sancerre, Alsace (at Kuentz-Bas, where he became the first non-French head winemaker), Oregon and finally Burgundy, at the court of François Millet. He learned the parcel approach in the vineyard and in the cellar. He fell in love with Riesling and Pinot Gris, varieties of which New Zealand is clonal poor.

Burgundian tools and winemaking protocols: the "François Millet School".

The aim is to extract as little as possible, deliberately avoiding the use of stems "which risk hiding the true flavour of the soil". The cleanliness of the bouquet and the expressiveness at the nose, are the results of the frequent racking with a light hand pump. This is an approach to winemaking that did not exist in New Zealand before Paul's single pressing and very low extractions.

At the highest point of Bendigo, we find the Home Vineyard of 7.5 hectares. The ancient soils are made up of red, iron-rich schist and layers of clay. The presence of a unique microclimate has allowed the accumulation of limestone (pedoge-

nic lime) present for about half a meter from the surface. The soils are able to retain water, one of the most precious elements at this time of climate change. A portion of the vineyard reaches 400 meters seeded. It represents the highest point where vines are cultivated in the entire Otago area.

Rocky Point, on the other hand, spreads over 17 hectares and consists mainly of straight shale and clay sections. It is a very large and diverse vineyard planted in early 2005.

The collaboration with Millet did not end in Burgundy, Paul moved away from the idea of dark Noirs we used to taste in New Zealand, getting focused on obtaining wines with good body and tension, which Paul expresses in 4 versions from 6 different clones: Home Vineyard Pinot Noir, Olearia Pinot Noir, Retrospect Pinot Noir, Cuvée Aux Antipodes. As for Pinot gris, although it is a less aromatic variety,

the four clones selected by Paul fit perfectly into this context, reading the New Zealand mineral soil and returning fleshy, iron and intense flavors in a sip endowed with freshness and energy.

Erika Mantovan

Prophet's Rock

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Prophet's Rock Dry Riesling 2021

At the nose complex aromas driven by floral and citrus notes beside a great freshness, spice and underlying minerality in the aftertaste. Vertical progression, a medium long-lasting.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Prophet's Rock Pinot Gris 2022

Salty, persistent and with a smoky edge. Engaging and taut. At the nose aromas of pear and red apple aromas with hints of white spice and white flowers. Medium body with yellow fruit notes and crunchy mineral well balanced and delicious structure.

Score : 17.5/20 (95/100)

Olearia Pinot Noir 2022

Energetic, with a lashing acidity, joyful in its sweet red fruits. Vibrant sip with red and dark cherry, hints of boysenberry and spices; layers of integrated tannins are fused into an elegant middle palate. End with mineral and red fruit notes.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Home Vineyard Pinot Noir 2022

A little darker and shadowy than Olearia, intense and deep; great persistence and solidity. Terrific aging potential, ripe tannins for a velvety texture driven by berry, liquorice, smoky and oak hints in the aftertaste.

Score : 18/20 (96/100)

Retrospect Pinot Noir 2018

A super reserve, the highest expression of Pinot Noir for Paul, made by a selected plot on the Home Vineyard. Very elegant, silky tannins, spicy haloes in a broad sip with a mineral edge. After a bit of aeration, balsamic notes lengthen the persistence and the energetic feeling.

Score : 18/20 (96/100)



©Prophet's Rock

Morellino di Scansano

The land of the Etruscans

The town of Scansano, nestled in the hills in the far south of Tuscany, almost at the border with Lazio, bears the weight of history on its shoulders. The area around used to be inhabited by the Etruscan tribes whose relics one still can see in the 4th century BC archeological site of Ghiaccio Forte, a few kilometers away from the modern settlement. In the Middle Ages and later, the town's importance grew as it was the centre of seasonal migration ("estatatura"). People from the humid Maremma moved further inland due to malaria outbreaks. Scansano, with its 500 meters of altitude and refreshing sea breezes, turned out to be an ideal place to escape the pest.

Etruscans, and later Romans, could not live without wine. It was a part of everyday life and religious ceremonies. The name of Sangiovese, the predominant grape of the area, comes, according to one of the theories, from Roman "Sangue di Giove," the blood of Jupiter, as it is bright ruby colour reminded of human blood and acquired a symbolic usage in pagan rituals. Today, it is the quintessence of Morellino di Scansano DOCG wine.

Vignaioli del Morellino di Scansano, a cooperative uniting 170 growers in the area, produces 25% of the wine in the appellation. Founded in 1972, last year it celebrated its 50th anniversary. With Sergio Bucci, a visionary General Manager who joined the company in 2010, Vignaioli has made a massive step towards the sustainability of production, less environmental impact, and even higher quality to which the cooperative has dedicated itself since the 1980s. Preserving the cultural and historical richness of the place, the winery works predominantly with local grapes, also bringing to life relatively unknown varieties like Cilieggiolo and Ansonica.

Valeria Tenison



Cantina Vignaioli Scansano – San Rabano Vermentino Spumante Brut

Maremma Toscana DOC

Vermentino 85%, Chardonnay 15%

The wine shows a pale straw colour with intense, persistent mousse. On the nose nuances of tropical fruits like pineapple and starfruit interplay with a classic apple-pear profile and floral nuances of acacia honey. The palate reveals delicate bitterness, typical for Vermentino, adding to freshness. Simple and accessible, a pleasant aperitif wine.

Score : 14+/20 (87/100)

Cantina Vignaioli Scansano – San Rabano Spumante Rosato Brut

Maremma Toscana DOC

Sangiovese 80%, Cilieggiolo 20%

The wine shows a vivid, pale pink colour. The nose is intense and exuberant, offering nuances of fresh strawberries, strawberry yogurt, a hint of coffee and milk chocolate. The palate is refreshing with pleasant, pearly mousse and creamy texture. The wine shows good complexity, not just an aperitif but a serious, food-friendly sparkling wine.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Cantina Vignaioli Scansano – Scantianum Viognier 2022

Toscana IGT

The wine shows an intense, yellow straw colour. The nose is exuberant and rich, typical for a Viognier, revealing nuances of apricots and mandarins, supported by reverberating notes of violets. The palate is powerful but not heavy, offering good freshness, enhanced by light bitterness. A good representative of the variety.

Score : 14.5/20 (88/100)

Cantina Vignaioli Scansano – Vermentino Vigna Fiorini 2022

Maremma Toscana DOC

85% Vermentino, 15% Viognier

The wine has a pale lemon colour. The nose is intense and very floral, revealing nuances of violet, mandarin and apricot. The palate offers good freshness and attractive minerality, combined with delicate fruity and herbal notes of the Mediterranean. Light bitterness on the finish adds to the sapidity. An easy-drinking and refreshing wine.

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

Cantina Vignaioli Scansano - Rasenno 2022

Bianco di Pitigliano Superiore DOC

Trebbiano 85%, Chardonnay 15%

The wine shows a pale lemon-straw colour. The nose is rather neutral and discreet, offering nuances of yellow lemons, pears, a touch of fresh hazelnuts and almond blossom. The palate is dry and slightly salty, with refreshing acidity and an easy-drinking character. Saline, citrusy finish.

Score : 14+/20 (87/100)

Cantina Vignaioli Scansano - Scantianum Vermentino 2022

Toscana IGT

The wine shows a pale lemon-green colour. The nose is slightly reductive, herbaceous, offering good freshness and a mineral touch. The palate reveals crisp acidity, light body and good sapidity. An easy-drinking aperitif wine with citrusy and grassy character.

Score : 14+/20 (87/100)

Cantina Vignaioli Scansano - Ansonica 2022

Maremma Toscana DOC

The wine shows a pale golden colour. The nose is delicate and restrained with floral and honey nuances, a touch of raisins and a hint of herbal notes. The palate reveals some fruity nuances of pear drops and candied melon combined with a hint of liquorice. Moderate but refreshing acidity balances a light tannic grip, coming from the short skin maceration. The finish is rather short.

Score : 14+/20 (87/100)

Cantina Vignaioli Scansano - Capoccia Cilieggiolo 2022

Maremma Toscana DOC

The wine shows a vivid, deep ruby colour. The nose is spicy and attractive, revealing nuances of cherry yogurt, vanilla, a touch of blueberries and plums. The palate is soft and fluid, the tannins are light and delicate. An easy-drinking and refreshing summer red wine to be served slightly chilled.

Score : 14.5+/20 (88/100)

Cantina Vignaioli Scansano - Capoccia Riserva 2020

Maremma Toscana

The wine shows intense ruby colour. The nose is spicy and voluptuous, offering nuances of red and black cherries, a hint of strawberries and plums, all supported by pleasant sweet spices in the echo. The palate reveals freshness and delicate tannins, a certain softness of texture and good sapidity. The warming finish lingers with nuances of forest berries and violets. A textbook example of Cilieggiolo!

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

Cantina Vignaioli Scansano - Roggiano 2022

Morellino di Scansano DOCG

The wine has a bright ruby colour. The nose is savoury, offering nuances of tomato leaves, ripe cherries and cranberries, a touch of irony minerality. The palate reveals a pleasant spiciness and finesse, balancing grippy tannins by refreshing, crisp acidity. The finish is lingering with a delicate note of blood. So Sangiovese!

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

Cantina Vignaioli Scansano - Roggiano Riserva 2020

Morellino di Scansano DOCG

The wine shows a medium ruby-garnet colour. The nose is intense and perfumed, very attractive and enveloping, offering nuances of forest cherries, cherry compote and blueberry pie, combined with floral hints of rose. The palate is slender and vertical, with bold but ripe tannins and persistent acidity, giving the wine its serious character and length. Irony, savoury finish.

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

Cantina Vignaioli Scansano - Poco per pochi 2016

Toscana Rosso IGT

5 autochthonous and international grapes in the blend

The wine shows a deep ruby-garnet colour. The nose is deep and intense, revealing nuances of cooked figs and prunes, a touch of tobacco, some leafiness as well as notes of black pepper. The palate offers good freshness and elegance for such a massive wine, there is concentration without heaviness and good length. An accessible Supertuscan wine with a perfect balance between fruit and oak.

Score : 15.5/20 (91-92/100)

Cantina Vignaioli Scansano – Vin del Fattore Sangiovese Governo all’Uso Toscano 2022

Maremma Toscana DOC

The wine shows a deep ruby colour with a purple hue. The nose offers exuberant notes of blueberry, blackberry, a hint of cassis and sweet baking spices. The palate reveals pleasant, crunchy acidity that balances well a touch of residual sugar, typical for Governo. Attractive flavours of figs, dried grapes and prunes are supported by ripe and juicy tannins. An easy and pleasant wine that is already ready to drink.

Score : 14.5+/20 (88/100)

Cantina Vignaioli Scansano - Vigna Benefizio 2022

Morellino di Scansano DOCG

100% Sangiovese

The wine shows a medium ruby colour, clear and shiny, not a hint of garnet at the moment. The nose reveals nuances of sour cherries, blueberries, a hint of violets and spices like cloves and vanilla. The palate is fresh and juicy, offering crunchy acidity, slight drying tannins and warming alcohol. The finish is lingering with nuances of red and black cherries, complemented by a delicate note of nutmeg. Still very young.

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

Cantina Vignaioli Scansano - Vigna Benefizio 2021

Morellino di Scansano DOCG

The wine shows a medium ruby colour. The nose is spicy and savoury, slightly restrained, opening up with nuances of withered flowers and dried cherries. The palate offers a classic Sangiovese vibe: slightly rough tannins, high acidity, savoury notes of tomato leaves and hard, irony character. Looks promising but needs more time.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Cantina Vignaioli Scansano - Sicomoro Riserva 2020

Morellino di Scansano DOCG

The wine shows a medium ruby colour with a garnet rim. The nose is rather discreet, with aeration opening up with nuances of fallen leaves, a hint of sweet spices, dried cranberries and goji berries. The palate reveals a sound imprint of oak, grippy tannins and bold character. The finish is warming and spicy. An autumn wine!

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)



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Passopisciaro winery

Back to the future

Andrea Franchetti has been one of Italy's great wine producers. What we have to observe and share now, is how much his visionary ideas still influence the entire Etna area. It is the purpose of Vincenzo Lo Mauro, the current director of the Passopisciaro winery (it takes the name from the place where is located).

It was the year 2000, when Andrea was in Rome on business following the establishment of Tenuta Trinoro, looking for the right inspiration to produce other wines in southern Italy. He first went to Calabria without finding a proper way. He was looking for a place with sun, sea and snow. During his brief stay in the capital, a doctor friend suggested to him - quite as a joke - that he had a small plot of land in Etna, vines included even if forsaken. All the conditions he wanted were there. Andrea landed on Etna and found Vincenzo, his life was to be turned upside down in a matter of days he was about to be entirely devoted to Franchetti's new project: to make identity wines from scratch at the foot of the volcano.

He goes to Randazzo, to a bar, to clear his head and to think about how to put together a team, to go and clear the vineyard, to get it working. Once done, the work of building the winery begins. Starting with a handful of hectares they grew up to 26; during the last decade old vineyards of Nerello Mascalese were recovered and new ones - of Petit Verdot, Cesanese di Affile and Chardonnay



© Vini Franchetti

- were planted. All of those works have contributed, along with a handful of other pioneers, to the oenological renaissance of the Etna area. Franchetti was the first to believe in and bet on this part of Sicily, introducing the concept of parcel winemaking, which follows the territory to the Contrade, inspired by the Burgundy cru. The 142 Contrade, spread over the territory of 11 municipalities, led to an event of international scope in 2008. "In the first year we were 36 wineries, today we are a hundred," confides Vincenzo, who, after Andrea's death two years ago, together with his son Benjamin, keeps going to run this estate, which has become an icon and a beacon for the entire appellation, in Via Guardiola, considered the Rue du Temp Perdu of Etna. The winery interprets

the different plots in Rampante, Sciaranuova, Guardiola, Porcaria and Chiappemacine. Besides Nerello, as we said, also Chardonnay, destined to Passobianco wine, and 2 hectares (5 acres) of Petit Verdot and Cesanese d'Affile, which are used to make Franchetti.

A total of 10 references still be produced, with up to 6 different districts being individually highlighted. Beside them a few years ago, the "20 years" to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the winery. Only 1,550 magnums of the 2019 vintage, a blend of all the Contrada of Passopisciaro "as a tribute to this magnificent land, to the years that have passed and to the future that awaits us" - said Franchetti. The flavours of the soils are in a single sip: the spiciness of Sciaranuova, the firm structure of Guardiola, the delicate floridity of Rampante, the juicy red berries of Porcaria and the pungent vegetal notes of Chiappemacine. The future promises to be lively and vital, an open building site, more hectares have been purchased and will soon be dedicated to the production of new wines in deference to Etna's vocation and Andrea's intuition.

Erika Mantovan

Passopisciaro
www.vinifranchetti.com

Read tasting on pages XXX



© Vini Franchetti

Wines to discover and savour this winter !



Vertde
Vin
Score
16.25
92-93/100

Vicara.G 2022 Grignolino del Monferrato Casalese DOC

We are in the heart of Monferrato, in Piedmont, with the Visconti family who have been inherited centuries-old expertise in the cultivation of vines. Since the beginning of the 2000s have been engaged in high-profile productions paying homage to the typical grapes of Piedmont, from Barbera to Freisa, trying their hand at different versions of the ubiquitous Grignolino grape. In the 33 hectares of vineyards spread across the municipalities of Ozzano, Rosignano, Treville and Ponzano, this G is a pure Grignolino, that gathers the expressiveness of different areas given by different geological settings, from the oldest Cadorna Formation (30 million years ago) to the Pietra da Cantoni (16 million years ago). Marly soils, are rich in fossil and limestone residues. Short macerations, only steel vat used; the wine is brilliant, taut but with a juicy and engaging fibre with flavors of pomegranate, peach and pepper.

Price: €€



Vertde
Vin
Score
17.25
94-95/100

Château Moulin Haut-Laroque 2019 Fronsac

The nose is aromatic, elegant, racy and offers a nice power with smoothness/precision, racy texture, depth and complexity. It reveals notes of fleshy wild cassis, fleshy Boysenberry and more slightly crushed strawberry associated with violet as well as fineness of pulpy cherry and hints of gray pepper. The palate is nicely structured, precise, delicate and offers freshness, power in delicacy, a melodiousness, a fine tanginess as well as silky matter. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy Boysenberry, bright blackcurrant and small notes bright blueberry associated with touches of pulpy cherry, hints of crushed redcurrants, chocolate, Bourbon vanilla as well as a subtle hint of toasted hazelnut and graphite/wet stone. The finish is powdery, sapid and delicate. Tannins are elegant, fresh and delicate. A nice bitterness at the end. Good length and persistence.

Price: €€

Cascina Gilli - Notturmo 2019 Albugnano DOC Superiore

In Castelnovo Don Bosco, this small family business is doing better and better making wines which great level of quality it has achieved in recent years, especially with its Freisa reds and the latest Albugnano Superiore Notturmo, 100% Nebbiolo. A rise started in 1983, the year the winery was founded. The young Paolo Vergnano is assisted in the cellar by oenologist Gianpiero Gerbi, who has selected the best batch of grapes cultivated on clay marl and an important limestone component in Schierano. A lower use of barrique in favor of large casks gives to this wine (aged for 12 months), a mouth-watering, rich and agile mouthfeel with fruity, red citrus and woody yeast returns.

Price: €

Vertde
Vin
Score
16
92/100



Vertde
Vin
Score
16
92/100

Weingut Jurtschitsch, Ried Heiligenstein 10TW Riesling 2021 Kamptal

The wine has a lemon-yellow color of medium intensity. The nose offers depth, ripe fruit and complexity. It expresses notes of ripe citrus fruits (yellow lemon, grapefruit), pineapple, white peach, tangy apricot, as well as slightly sweet notes of candied quince and citrus jam which add substance to the wine. [...] The wine expresses notes of ripe and juicy stone fruits (white peach, apricot), fresh citrus (Meyer lemon, grapefruit, lime), kiwi, gooseberries, as well as fresh herbs (peppermint, cut grass), white flowers, as well as a delicate minerality on the finish (slightly smoky) and a good bitterness. The finish is straight, chiseled and tangy. It expresses slightly bitter fresh citrus notes (lime zest, grapefruit) and sharp acidity. A wine with complexity and good energy.

Price: €€



Vertde
Vin
Score
16.25
92-93/100

Tenuta Cucco - Cerrati 2019 Barolo DOCG

In one of the choicest places for Barolo Nebbiolo, Serralunga d'Alba, Piero Rossi Cairo manages the Cucco Estate with obstinacy and care. Since 2018, in addition to converting the vineyards to organic, he has been convincingly producing three versions of Barolo with a parcel approach (à la Burgundy). From the Cucco Vineyard, the winery's most historic vineyard within the Cerrati MeGa, facing south and south-east at 350 meters above sea level, on limestone-clay soil, a Barolo is born after a maceration of around 30 days and aging of 30 months in traditional 25-hectolitre barrels. In the austere and classic vintage like the 2019 is, the wine shows itself with density, a solid tannic structure, given by a fine and persistent pixels, aromas of dark red fruits, currants and berries, hints of spices.

Price: €€



Vertde
Vin
Score
16.5
93/100

Domaine Guy & Yvan Dufouleur - Les Dames Huguette 2020 Bourgogne Hautes-Côtes de Nuits

The nose is fruity, concentrated and intense. Elegant, precise and tight-knit, with fleshy blackberry, blueberry and lighter, almost roasted red berry notes combined with hints of fleshy blue berries, as well as vanilla and a subtle liquorice stick. There is also a discreet note of toasted hazelnut. The palate is mineral with an acidic structure that has juiciness. There is freshness, gourmandise, accuracy with a certain tension and good definition. There are notes of juicy, pulpy blackberries, crunchy Morello cherries and, more slightly, fresh flowers combined with hints of fresh, pulpy blue berries, liquorice, toasted almonds and a touch of blond tobacco and vanilla. There is a lovely, rich body that is delicate and perfectly balanced in finesse. There is a fine chewiness on the persistent finish with good definition and gourmandise.

Price: €€



Wines to discover and savour this winter !



Vertde
Vin
Score
17.5
95/100

Monteverro 2010 Toscana IGT

Beautiful elegant nose that offers a certain brightness, control and deepness. It reveals notes of small black fruits / cooked cassis, blueberry and small notes of Bigarreau cherry associated with touches of cornflowers, lily, small dried local flowers, hints of camphor, warm earth as well as a subtle hint almost sage and sense of place (local biotope). The palate is fruity, beautifully led, deep and offers balance, freshness, a nice definition, elegance, a small stretched side as well as a certain opulence. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of quite ripe wild cassis, violet and small notes of wild strawberry combined with touches of cornflowers, star anise, earthiness, olive tree as well as a subtle hint tapenade. A beautiful salinity on the finish. Tannins are elegant and mellow. A discreet hint of camphor in the background. Beautiful persistence (14 caudalies).

Price: €€€€€

Anakota – Helena Montana Vineyard, Cabernet Sauvignon 2019 Knights Valley, California

Beautiful powerful, racy nose which offers a beautiful finesse of the grain, concentration, a certain intensity as well as a nice airy and fresh side in its power. It reveals notes of boysenberry, quite ripe wild red berries and small notes of fresh pepper associated with touches of dry local grove, Bigarreau cherry as well as a hint of crushed plum, at a very discreet hint of blond tobacco and almost Bourbon vanilla hint. The palate is fruity, elegant, well-balanced, racy, fresh and offers precision, a tangy frame, roundness, concentration, a balanced richness, a nice racy (and balanced) power, a small fat as well as gourmandize. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy blackberry, crushed blackcurrant and small notes of bright/quite ripe redcurrants associated with a touch of violet, lily, black cherry as well as hints of fresh local soil, dark chocolate/cocoa, fine almost rosemary/aromatic herbs hints, cinnamon and toasted hazelnut/toasted almond. Good length.

Price: €€€€€



Vertde
Vin
Score
17.5
95/100

Grand Corbin Despagne 2020 Saint-Émilion Grand Cru classé

On the nose it is fruity, gourmand, nicely defined and offers purity of the fruit, a certain small intensity, a nice pulpy/juicy fruit as well as some complexity, deepness, and a certain power. [...] On the palate it is fruity, elegant, fresh, offers power (in delicacy), concentration (in finesse), a nice fine grain, structure, deepness, a small multi-layer side, a good volume, precision, a fine tension as well as richness (in control). The wine expresses notes of wild bright blackcurrant, pulpy blueberry, small notes of juicy plums associated with touches of small black fruits, cornflower, strawberry flowers, hints of vanilla, toasted hazelnut, blond tabaco, mocha and a very discreet hint of graphite/wet stone (in the background). Good length. The tannins are precis, well built, elegant, racy and offer a certain softness. A very well-made and gourmand wine. Bravo!

Price: €€

Vertde
Vin
Score
17.75+
96/100



Vertde
Vin
Score
16.25+
93/100

Holdvölgy, Expression 2019 Tokaji Hárslevelű Dry

The nose is fruity, mineral, chiselled, fresh, aromatic and offers a good definition as well as a nice small varietal side. It reveals notes of crunchy green peach, crunchy brugnon and small noble varietal notes associated with touches of fresh lily, sap candy as well as an almost acacia hint. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, suavity, freshness, a good definition, precision, a tangy frame, tension, gourmandize, a beautiful finesse, delicacy as well as a nice fineness of the grain. On the palate this wine expresses notes of lychee, juicy white peach and small notes of white flowers associated with touches of fresh lily, fresh acacia as well as a hint of iodine/saline. Good length. A nice small softness/chew on the finish/persistence. Beautiful complexity on the noble varietal. A subtle tannic hint both in the aromatic and in the structure/grain. Congratulations !

Price: €€



Vertde
Vin
Score
17
94/100

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!

Price: €€

H. Blin Parcellaire 100% Meunier Champagne Blanc de noirs

The foam is nice and persistent with fine bubbles. The champagne has a nice light golden color. The nose is powerful on the immortal flower but also on the bread crust. Gradually we perceive notes of candied orange, fine cocoa and almond. Still on the power, saffron and honey combine with pleasant notes of hay and dried mango. Complex, a nutty note takes over and you can smell a little bit of rosewood, tomato coulis, apple compote and dried rose petals. The palate is fresh and saline, evolved. The bubbles are fine and refreshing. We have an interesting woodiness on walnut, hazelnut and almond. There is also a nice minerality with a salty butter. Dynamic, this salinity continues on the finish with a touch of saffron. The end of the tasting encounters flavors of salted plum, almond, hazelnut biscuit and a hint of coffee. This validates the complexity and length of the finish with umami.

Price: €€€

Vertde
Vin
Score
16.5
93/100





CHATEAU
Bellefont-Belcier
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SAINT-EMILION GRAND CRU

CHÂTEAU
TOUR SAINT CHRISTOPHE
SAINT-ÉMILION GRAND CRU CLASSÉ

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Sauternes & Barsac

CRUS CLASSÉS

Château Guiraud 2013

Sauternes, 1er Grand Cru Classé à Sauternes

Beautiful aromatic nose, elegant, tangy and which offers a certain balanced richness, precision as well as a nice botrytis. We find notes of mirabelle plum, apricot in syrup and small notes of small candied yellow fruits associated with touches of crystallized zest, an almost sap/lime blossom hint as well as a subtle hint of verbena and delicate hints of gingerbread. The palate is fruity, juicy, suave and offers a good definition, a pretty/elegant/dashing acidity, tension, roundness, purity as well as a certain precisely controlled richness. Just the right level of sweetness, full of balance. On the palate this Sauternes expresses notes of pineapple in syrup, crystallized lemon, candied pear and small notes of quince associated with touches of dried apricot, fine hints of gingerbread, small caramelised fruits as well as a subtle hint of vanilla, acacia flowers and toasted almond. Good length and beautiful persistence. A discreet and nice work on the good bitters in the background/end of the mouth.

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

Château Lamothe Guignard 2013

Sauternes, Grand Cru Classé

The wine has a deep golden color. The nose is subtle, honeyed and very fruity. It expresses notes of fresh papaya, yellow peach in syrup, roasted apricot, pineapple in syrup, ripe mango, candied orange, lemon peel and candied lime, as well as fine floral notes (acacia, apple blossom, orange blossom), a touch of fresh almond, beeswax, sweet spices and roasting (toasted hazelnut, vanilla, a hint of nutmeg, saffron), as well as a touch of butter and toasted brioche. The palate expresses more the notes of development: we find in particular the flavors of roasted apple, wet leaves, dried fig, dried apricot, a very slight note of cognac. There are also notes of bitter orange jam, roasted apricot, peach in syrup, toasted hazelnut, bitter almond, black tea, poached pear, honey, beeswax and dried flowers (lime blossom, chamomile), with a touch of vanilla in the background. The finish is sapid, long, with an oily texture, balanced by a good level of acidity and a bitter hint of grapefruit. A balanced wine with refined and integrated notes of development.

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

Château Doisy-Daëne 2013

Barsac, Grand Cru Classé

The wine has a golden color of medium intensity. The nose is subtle, complex and refined. It first expresses notes of beeswax, honey, wet leaves, dried flowers (linden, chamomile), white tea, then completed by notes of stone fruits (juicy yellow peach, roasted apricot), caramelised pineapple, as well as vanilla, nutmeg, toasted hazelnut and brioche. The palate is expressive, fragrant and complex. On the attack it expresses spicy, floral and herbaceous notes (vanilla, clove, nutmeg, infused tea leaf, acacia, dried linden flowers), associated with flavors of chestnut honey with a fine bitterness, bee's wax, toasted hazelnut and a rich, but fresh fruity substance. We find in particular notes of yellow peach in syrup, roasted pineapple, roasted apricot, candied orange peel and a subtle bitterness of grapefruit. The texture is round and oily, balanced by a slight bitterness and a nice acidity. The finish is long and lemony. A harmonious and pleasant wine.

Score : 17.5/20 (95/100)

Château La Tour Blanche 2013

Sauternes, 1er Cru Classé

The wine has a golden color of medium intensity. The nose is refined and elegant, with lots of freshness and delicate aromas of development. It expresses notes of ripe yellow peach, roasted apricot, pineapple in syrup, fresh lemon, candied lemon peel, bitter orange jam, roasted pineapple, apple blossom, acacia, a touch of roasted golden apple, poached pear, honey and beeswax, combined with notes of vanilla, caramel, brown butter, fresh hazelnut, a touch of roasted bitter almond and toasted brioche. On the palate, the wine offers depth, complexity, a round and oily texture, balanced by a beautiful acidity. We find notes of peach in syrup, candied apricot, bitter orange jam, candied lemon peel, pineapple in syrup, roasted golden apple, poached pear, as well as a fine floral bouquet (acacia, apple blossom), spicy (nutmeg, vanilla), milky (butter), honeyed notes and a hint of torrefaction (toasted brioche, caramel, hazelnut praline). The finish is persistent and rich, balanced by a good level of acidity and tangy notes of candied lemon.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Château Doisy-Daëne 2021

Barsac, Grand Cru Classé

The wine has a golden color of medium intensity. The nose is fragrant, fresh and lemony. It expresses notes of freshly grated lemon zest, candied lemon peel, fresh orange zest, candied orange peel, a bitter touch of grapefruit, as well as gourmand notes of stone fruits. (fresh apricot, yellow peach), fresh pineapple and passion fruit. We also

find notes of white flowers (acacia, apple blossom, chamomile), as well as a toasted and vanilla touch in the background. The palate offers complexity and freshness. It expresses notes of ripe yellow peach, juicy apricot, fresh pineapple, candied lemon peel, orange zest, passion fruit, combined with notes of linden, chamomile and acacia, as well as a touch of vanilla and toasted hazelnut in the background. The finish is persistent and offers a beautiful salivating acidity and a pleasant bitterness which balance the richness of the wine. Gourmandise, harmony and freshness on the palate.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Château Filhot 2013

Sauternes, Grand Cru Classé

The wine has a golden color of medium intensity. The nose expresses notes of roasted apple, roasted pear, peach in syrup, caramelised pineapple, citrus jam (bitter orange, lemon), apricot in syrup, as well as delicate notes of bee's wax, honey, a refined floral bouquet (apple blossom, acacia, lime blossom, chamomile), as well as a touch of black tea and wet leaves in the background. On the palate, the wine offers richness, elegance and freshness, all in balance. It expresses notes of fresh, very ripe pineapple, apricot in syrup, very ripe yellow peach, roasted apple, bitter orange jam, candied lemon peel, honey, acacia, lime blossom infusion, Earl Gray tea with a subtle smokiness, caramel and sweet spices (vanilla, cinnamon, cloves, nutmeg). The finish is very long, refined and offers good bitterness and a nice acidity which balances the richness and sweetness of the wine. A concentrated and rich, but elegant wine.

Score : 17.5/20 (95/100)

Château La Tour Blanche 2021

Sauternes, 1er Cru Classé

The wine has a lemon yellow color, with golden highlights, of medium intensity. The nose is fresh and concentrated. It expresses notes of sweet stone fruits (very ripe yellow peach, peach in syrup, roasted apricot), candied citrus fruits (candied orange, candied citron, candied lemon), a touch of fresh citrus fruits (lemon, orange), pineapple, flower honey, linden blossom infusion and acacia flowers, as well as fine woody notes of vanilla, caramel and toasted brioche. On the palate, the wine is concentrated, with an oily and rich texture, balanced by a good level of acidity. We find notes of candied citrus fruits (candied orange, candied lemon), peach in syrup, roasted apricot, sweet pineapple, as well as acacia, flower honey (with a fine hint of honey beeswax), toasted brioche, caramel and vanilla. Beautiful length, which offers freshness and tangy exotic fruit notes (passion fruit, crunchy pineapple). Richness balanced by a beautiful acidity and freshness.

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

SAUTERNES & BARSAC

Château Farluret 2021

Barsac

(organic) The wine has a golden color of medium intensity. The nose is fragrant, dense and refined. It expresses notes of peach in syrup, ripe pineapple, fresh apricot, candied lemon peel, orange zest, candied orange, as well as flower honey, white flowers (acacia, lime blossom, apple blossom) and a bitter hint of grapefruit and a touch of vanilla and toasted hazelnut. The taste is oily, dense and aromatic. In attack, it expresses spicy and toasted notes (vanilla, toasted hazelnut, bitter almond), peach in syrup, ripe pineapple, a hint of exotic fruits (papaya, passion fruit), apricot in syrup, as well as acacia, apple blossom and linden. Beautiful balance, thanks to a salivating acidity. The finish is persistent, fresh and slightly spicy. A gourmand and pleasant wine.

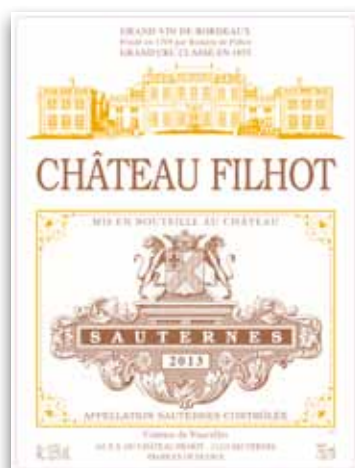
Score : 16+/20 (92-93/100)

Château Haut-Bergeron 2013

Sauternes

The wine has a deep lemon yellow color with golden hints. The nose is fragrant and fresh, with a hint of bitterness. It expresses notes of candied orange, candied citron, lemon zest, fresh apricot, juicy yellow peach, peach in syrup, pineapple in syrup, as well as a touch of exotic fruits (fresh mango, passion fruit), vanilla, nutmeg, toasted hazelnut and bitter almond. We also find the aromas of chestnut honey, beeswax, saffron, dried chamomile, dried lime blossom and brewed black tea. The palate is fragrant and offers a nice complexity, as well as a pleasant herbaceous hints. We find in particular notes of infused green tea, black tea, dried chamomile, acacia, linden infusion with a honeyed touch and beeswax, associated with notes of saffron, vanilla, toasted hazelnut, fresh almond, as well as stone fruits in syrup (peach, apricot, pineapple in syrup) and candied citrus fruits (lemon, candied orange). The finish is long, tasty and fresh, thanks to a nice acidity and notes of mint syrup that appear at the end of the palate. A gourmand and balanced wine.

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



Champagne

Champagne José Michel & Fils Spécial Club 2014

This champagne has a beautiful straw yellow color. The nose is aromatic and delicate with notes of brioche as well as yeast. We perceive citrus fruits like orange as well as touches of apple and yellow peach. With time, the nose is more aromatic with a very umami flavorful hint and a nice minerality. We also have a freshness that emerges, brought by fresh herbs such as mint or basil. The palate is fresh, dynamic with a beautiful bubble. The minerality is present and a pleasant acidity which coats the palate. We find notes of apple and tangy pear, hints of roasted almond as well as plum and saffron on the finish. It is a complex champagne with a beautiful balance. Gastronomical.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Champagne Lacourte Godbillion M.A.M 2015

This Champagne has a beautiful straw yellow color with golden reflects. Bubbles are dynamic. The nose is intense with creamy notes of bourbon vanilla cream, egg yolk but also cooked apple, quince and saffron. With air, the wood is well integrated and present with touches of coconut, toast and brioche. It is fresh, with character and an attractive roundness yet supported by a straight minerality. The palate is fresh, tangy with still the woodiness that appears on the attack with notes of pine sap, coconut, rosewood as well as sental wood. The palate finishes with precious notes accompanied by a beautiful salivating acidity which continues in a subtle finish. The champagne is fruity with fine hints of yellow peach, pear, apple and plum. The bubbles are present and pleasant. The whole is airy while having depth and complexity. A very beautiful Champagne with a discreet but persistent finish.

Score : 19/20 (98/100)

Champagne Patrick Boivin Le Clos 667 2009

This Champagne has a beautiful straw yellow color with dynamic bubbles. The nose is intense with a very nice mineral freshness. We perceive notes of apple, plum as well as an interesting salinity with a savory side close to a gourmet meat juice. With time, the plum in all its forms takes over: fresh plum, umeboshi, plum juice with tertiary notes reminiscent of almond and hazelnut. Freshness is also brought by fine hints of mint and rosemary. Aeration brings a round, brioche, sensitive side. The palate is fresh, tangy with an immediate bouquet of flowers: violet, rose, jasmine and especially lime blossom. This salivating acidity is reminiscent of Japanese umeboshi plum in the mid-palate with apple and crunchy pear. The tasting is pleasant, airy with a beautiful aromatic complexity of the fruits: apple, pear, quince, plum, persimmon. The finish has a hint of salt, it is fine with a vanilla note and always plum as a common thread as well as a hint of almond paste.

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

Champagne Dérot-Delugny 2012

The Champagne has a beautiful clear and shiny color which tends towards straw yellow with golden reflections. The bubbles are dynamic and refined. The nose is discreet, light with beautiful notes of brioche and yeast. We also perceive fresh almond and lightly roasted almond as well as fine hints of citrus zest. With air, the whole is fresh and we perceive touches of apple as well as raspberry. The tasting is fresh, straight and tangy. There are notes of apple, pear as well as white raspberry. The almond appears in the mid-palate with a discreet hint of very pleasant bitterness. The palate has a beautiful minerality, a nice freshness. The finish has texture with covering bubbles and a touch of astringency which persists on a velvety finish. It is a well-crafted champagne with a straightness and a foundation.

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

Champagne Dauby Mère & Fille 2014

The Champagne has a beautiful clear golden color. The bubbles are dynamic, fast and refined. The nose is intense, seductive and fruity with notes of apple and blackberry. We perceive fine touches of yellow peach, almond, brioche as well as vanilla cream. The second nose offers the same sensation of a fruit basket with fresh, juicy and pulpy pear as well as notes of fragrant yellow rose. The palate is fresh, tangy with hints of almond, apple and plum. Well crafted, the tasting offers a discreet and mineral mid-palate with notes of plum and orange supreme. The finish is savoury in delicacy with a creamy vanilla side. It is a chiseled champagne which brings Gourmandise on the citrus side. Beautiful finesse and covering bubbles.

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

Champagne Lionel Carreau Cuvée PrémBulles 2012

There is a beautiful clear and shiny straw yellow color with dynamic bubbles. The nose is aromatic, powerful with notes of apple as well as almond, hazelnut and a fine hint of fresh walnut. With time, the nose opens up to reveal vanilla and fresh herbs. We perceive a discreet note of tea. The palate is fresh, direct and sensitive with a

nice hint of bitterness. We have delicate spices like saffron and Madras curry. The tasting has a nice acidity which makes the whole thing airy with notes of plum, apple and quince. The mid-palate is more on vanilla and cream with a fair balance between dynamism and roundness. The finish is straight and long with an interesting, pretty pineapple note.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Champagne Froment-Griffon Vindémia 2008

This Champagne has a beautiful straw yellow color with golden reflections, shiny with very numerous and dynamic bubbles. The first nose is round, pleasant, intense with a magnificent note of sugar brioche and bread. Then little by little, touches of fruit appear with cooked yellow apple, poached pear and light soy sauce. There is a tasty, umami aspect that emerges. With air, the scents are delicate and enveloping. We perceive a hint of sweet spices and almond. The palate is fresh with present acidity. We have notes of kirsh cherries, juicy williams pear with alcohol, apple but also spices like cardamom and star anise. There is a nice minerality with a slightly astringent attack. The mid-palate is supported by salivating freshness and the finish presents an aromatic saffron and candied quince. It is a Champagne with character, well crafted.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Champagne A.Margaine Spécial Club Blanc de Blancs 2014

It has a beautiful light and shiny straw yellow color. The first nose is fruity with notes of Granny Smith apple and fine hints of yeast. We also perceive touches of almond as well as fresh hazelnut. With time, there is a seductive roundness with stone fruits such as fine notes of peach as well as apricot. We can also perceive light touches of citron. The palate is fresh with well-executed effervescence. There is a nice minerality and a tangy aspect. The attack is frank, the mid-palate has a slight astringency which gives fullness to the Champagne. We have notes of cider apple, pear but also juicy pineapple and luscious white peach. The finish is in a beautiful tension with dried fruits like almond.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Champagne Michel Furdyna Etincelles 4 blancs 2017

The Champagne has a beautiful shiny color with a straw color. The bubbles are dynamic and form numerous strings. The nose is intense, pronounced on fruits such as apple in all its forms as well as brioche, vanilla and sweet spices. The second nose is always intense with citrus zest such as grapefruit, lightly roasted hazelnuts and a hint of peach in syrup or muscat grape. The palate is pleasant with a surprising floral aroma: apple blossom, elderflower, elegant rose and especially plum. The whole is fresh, airy yet substantial. The finish is discreet, short with a hint of salt.

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

Champagne André Brochot Sélection Millésime 2011 2011

This Champagne has a beautiful golden color with fine bubbles. The nose is intense with notes of cooked banana, vanilla and cooked apple. It's very yeasty, brioche-like with a cooked lemon aspect and round sweet spices. The second nose opens with a more floral and vegetal or even mushroomy aspect. It is a vinous Champagne with touches of peach and roasted almond. The palate is fresh, intense with notes of lemon and refined juicy apple. We also perceive touches of plum, apple blossom as well as fine hints of candied citron. The effervescence is pleasant. The mid-palate has a slight astringency which gives fullness. The finish is also full of substance, a salivating acidity, a tasty aspect of umami, touches of sweet spices on blond tobacco and stone fruits as well as a fine hint of cherry stone and apricot.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Champagne Jean Velut Témoignage 2011

The color of this Champagne is clear and shiny with a beautiful golden color and dynamic strings of bubbles. The nose is aromatic, pretty with beautiful, well-defined fruits such as juicy plum, apple in all its forms as well as fine hints of fresh pear. We also have touches of raspberries and citrus zest. When aerated, it has more tertiary aromas with a gourmet brioche, almonds as well as hints of lightly roasted hazelnut. A yeasty side is also present and we find it in the mouth with a fresh and frank attack. The effervescence is very pleasant, it supports the tasting with its freshness. We find notes of apple, pear as well as salted plum. There is a nice minerality with a chalky side in the mid-palate. The finish is savoury, with quince and dried fig. We always have the fine yeasty hints that accompany the tasting until the end. The finish is long, fine. It is a beautiful, well-balanced, chiselled Champagne.

Score : 17.5/20 (95/100)

Champagne

Champagne Froment-Griffon Xtra Brut 2015

This Champagne has a beautiful light straw yellow color with pretty dynamic strings of bubbles. The first nose is intense with lovely notes of coffee, baked bread as well as apple and white flowers. The second nose is fresh, we perceive a pleasant icy minerality, almost minty. There are fine hints of mulberry blossom, apple blossom and almond. The palate is round with a savory attack. But, the Champagne is dry with directness during tasting. We find the apple but it is accompanied by green plum, lemon zest as well as delicate floral hints. There is always a minerality present during the tasting. The finish is salivating with a touch of salt and notes of almond.

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

Champagne Chassenay d'Arce Pinot Blanc Extra Brut 2012

The color of this Champagne is clear and shiny with a very light straw color. The nose is aromatic, mineral, almost smoky. We have vegetal, sappy notes with also touches of peach, muscat grape and pear. With air, we get notes of apple and juicy grapefruit. It's fragrant, spring-like. The palate is fresh with a nice salivating acidity. We find fruits but also flowers. White peach, pear, muscat and juicy grapefruit. Fresh hazelnut also makes its entrance in the mid-palate with a slight astringency which gives fullness on the palate. There is always a very nice minerality with this pleasant fruit between the fruits of our orchards and exotic fruits from elsewhere. Pinot Blanc, a rare grape variety, is very well worked. A beautiful Champagne.

Score : 17.5/20 (95/100)

Champagne Moutardier 2012

This Champagne has a beautiful intense golden color with shine. The nose is pronounced with notes of yeast, brioche coming out of the oven as well as fine hints of cooked yellow apple. We also perceive touches of saffron as well as a very light toast. When aerated, it is more intense and delicate at the same time. The fruits are present with cooked pear and red plum. The palate is fresh, refined with intensity. We perceive citrus fruits like lemon and juicy grapefruit, crunchy apple and bread dough. In the mid-palate, almond appears with a discreet note of liquorice. The finish presents notes of yellow curry as well as saffron and poached cooked pear. We also have exotic fruits like baked papaya as well as dried mango and candied pineapple. It is a beautiful Champagne with balance. There is a fine minerality which is like a backbone of the tasting. We start with fresh fruit and quickly fall in love with more tertiary notes but always with dynamism. The effervescence contributes to this perception. The finish is long, delicate, subtly toasted with a hint of crushed blackberry.

Score : 18/20 (96/100)

Champagne Ponson Paul Gadot Précurseur 2013

The color of this Champagne is shiny with a beautiful clear golden color and strings of dynamic bubbles. The nose is intense, charming with subtle notes of cooked apple, curry and toast. We perceive a beautiful freshness brought by touches of basil as well as pineapple mint. Yeast and bread crumbs compete with discreet notes of coconut. With air, there are citrus zests as well as hints of yellow peach and bread crust. Complex. The palate is fresh with tertiary notes of cooked apple, poached pear as well as citrus zest. There is a pastry side in the mid-palate, creamy with almond milk. The tasting is discreet. The acidity is very present, salivating with a touch of iodine and good bitterness. It's mineral, straight and tasty. The finish is long, very beautiful and aromatic with notes of butter, freshly baked bread and apple reduction.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Champagne Torny 2018

The Champagne has a beautiful golden color. It is clear and shiny. The nose is intense, fruity with notes of cooked apple, Mirabelle plum and warm quince. We perceive fine hints of saffron as well as touches of caramelised almond. With time, there is a lovely minty freshness, liquorice with notes of plums and discreet hints of dried tomato. There is a savory, umami, mushroomy side that also comes through. The palate is fresh with notes of plum, crushed blackberry as well as brandied cherry. There is a lovely freshness, a salivating acidity which accompanies a saffron, citrusy mid-palate. The finish is delicate, tasty with cooked apples and tangy plums. The effervescence brings a touch of pleasant minerality.

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

Champagne Sadi Malot Vintage 2013

The color of this Champagne is shiny with a straw yellow color. The bubbles are dynamic, fine and rapid. The nose is aromatic, mineral, smoky with subtle notes of juicy apple as well as orange zest. We have thin slices of toast and brioche. The second nose is still on the same line with grapefruit, thyme flower as well as a tarte tatin and creamy side. The effervescence is lovely, the palate is fresh and tangy. We have notes of granny-smith apple as well as touches of pineapple. We have

a beautiful definition of the grape variety with the addition of fine hints of white grapes which provide a slight astringency giving fullness. It is clear and straight with a toast, buttery touch which rounds out the base of this Champagne. Everything is delicate, well integrated. The finish is on plum, browned butter and orange zest.

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

Champagne Lacuisse Frères Vintage Minéral 2013

This Champagne has a beautiful clear and shiny golden color with beautiful dynamic bubbles. The nose is intense, fruity with notes of cooked apple, candied lemon and peach in syrup. In the background of the nose, we perceive a fine touch of nuts as well as sweet spices. With air, it is yeasty, with hints of bread crumbs and a very beautiful, surprising floral note of peony. The palate is fresh, with a still dynamic effervescence. We always have this floral side which develops with fresh walnut, paprika, orange and apple. The mid-palate is more buttery, biscuity. The acidity is salivating, well done. It is a great Champagne with directness and amplitude. The finish is subtle, long. A gourmet Champagne that brings a lot of pleasure.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Champagne Xavier Lorient 2013

The Champagne has a beautiful clear color with a golden color and dynamic bubbles. The nose is intense, aromatic and fresh with notes of cherry stone, stewed red plum and orange. We also perceive tropical hints of mango as well as lychee. With time, apple and pear appear with sweet spices. There is a creamy and yeasty side. The palate is fresh with honey. The intensity of this aroma is impressive with a very beautiful definition of a flowery yellow linden type honey. The mid-palate continues this floral and fruity momentum. The effervescence is discreet, fresh and round. We find exotic fruits like mango but also cooked apple, pulpy cherry in brandy and fresh pine sap. The finish ends with a hint of saffron and still in honey.

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

Champagne Louis Brochet Extra Noir 2013

This Champagne has a pale golden color, limpid and shiny with very fine bubbles. The nose is intense with plum brandy and candied orange zest. We have a beautiful freshness, a beautiful chalky minerality that emerges. With air, an interesting smokiness appears with hints of aromatic herbs and apple blossom. The tasting is fresh, with a slight roundness on the attack. We perceive plum, crushed blackberry but also lemon and juicy fresh apple. We have some nice refreshing bitters. The palate is fine, with grapefruit and a finish of wild moss and lychee.

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

Champagne R. Dumont et Fils 2012

The Champagne has a beautiful intense golden color with shine and fine bubbles. The nose is fresh, aromatic, intense on saffron, cooked apple and roasted almond. We also have hints of peach in syrup and juicy pomelo. Then it's the fresh apple that appears with subtle hints of yeast and brioche. With aeration, the minerality is present with minty freshness and an interesting root aspect. The palate is fresh, intense with fruit such as apple, pear but also crushed blueberries. There are brioche notes and a salivating acidity in the mid-palate. The finish is subtle with hints of lime, walnuts and apple blossom.

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

Champagne Barbichon et fils Cuvée Les Bouvettes 2017

This Champagne has a beautiful color with a bright and clear intense golden color. The nose is fruity with notes of cooked apple as well as saffron. We also perceive touches of quince. With time, fine hints of honey and apple reduction appear. The attack is frank with a beautiful effervescence. The acidity is salivating and the tasting presents simple but well-defined notes of apple, brugnon, honey as well as yellow apple reduction. We also perceive touches of citrus zest such as orange. The finish is warm, still with notes of apple. There is suppleness and a nice amplitude.

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



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AUSTRIA

Weingut Bründlmayer Brut NV

Langenlois, Austria

This traditional method sparkling, aged on lees for a total of 18 months is a blend of Pinot Noir, Chardonnay, Pinot Gris, Pinot Blanc, and Grüner Veltliner. It reveals enchanting notes of brioche and bread dough, a testament to meticulous craftsmanship. Very ripe apricot adds a luscious, fruity layer, while the extended lees aging imparts a beautiful creamy texture. This sparkling wine is refined, offering a luxurious and elegant experience in every sip.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Weingut Bründlmayer Blanc de Blancs Extra Brut GG 2014

Wagram, Austria

Crafted with fine Chardonnay sourced on the Spiegel and Steinberg slopes in the Wagram region, this sparkling wine delights with its elegant mousse and lively acidity. The almond-rich taste harmonizes beautifully with notes of ripe green apple and brioche, creating a sophisticated flavor profile. Its blossom delicateness further enhances the experience, showcasing the meticulous attention to detail.

Score : 18/20 (96/100)

Weingut Loimer Extra Brut Reserve NV

Niederösterreich, Austria

With an extended 20 months on lees, this sparkling marvel blends 38% Zweigelt, 25% Pinot Noir, 19% Pinot Blanc, and 18% Chardonnay. Its fine mousse dances on the palate, accentuating yeasty notes and candied lemon. The fine-tuned aromas, enriched by vibrant acidity, unveil a symphony of complexity.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Weingut Loimer, Langenlois, Grosse reserve, Blanc de Blancs, Brut Nature NV

Niederösterreich, Austria

A blend of Chardonnay, Pinot Blanc, and Pinot Gris aged 36 months on lees. Delicate brioche and yellow apples on the palate, intertwined with subtle notes of puff pastry. The crispiness of each sip is complemented by poignant acidity, leading to a saline finish that adds depth and character. This sparkling beauty leaves an ever-so-long-lasting effervescence.

Score : 17.5/20 (95/100)

Weingut Steininger, Riesling Ried Heiligenstein Große Reserve Sekt 2018

Langenlois, Austria

From the prized terroir of Heiligenstein, this wine's richness and complexity are sourced in its unique terroir. Stone fruits and herbal notes interplay seamlessly, leading to the richness of ripe peach and a touch of tropical allure. The delicate mousse elevates the tasting experience, while the very prolonged lees aging imparts complexity. The base wine's six-month rest in large acacia barrels adds a distinctive texture.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Weingut Steininger, Grüner Veltliner Ried Steinhaus Große Reserve Sekt 2017

Langenlois, Austria

The hard granite soils of Ried Steinhaus contribute a distinctive minerality that sets the stage. Aged for about three years on lees, with an additional eight months in large acacia barrels, this sparkling wine unveils layers of complexity. Lemon zest and subtle white pepper notes add a zesty flair, while the straight-to-the-point acidity heightens the intensity of effervescence.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Weingut Malat, Blanc de Blancs, Grosse Reserve, Brut nature 2016

Kremstal, Austria

100% Chardonnay expression, enveloped in smoky minerality, this sparkling gem showcases a lengthy, mature finish that speaks to the wine's depth and sophistication. Honey notes add a touch of richness, creating a tapestry of flavors that culminate in a harmonious complexity. What distinguishes this Grosse Reserve is its well-balanced profile, where the absence of dosage enhances the inherent freshness.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

UNITED STATES

Domaine Carneros, Jardin d'Hiver cuvée, Extra Brut 2017

Carneros, Napa Valley, California

Domaine Carneros Cuvée Jardin d'Hiver is a limited edition cuvée, made with traditional method. This Late Disgorged Extra Brut gives a nice nuanced complexity to the usual Chardonnay and Pinot Noir blend. Upon the palate, this sparkling wine unfolds with a rich, creamy texture. Contrasting citrus notes join together with mature toasted nuts, creating a harmonious and complex flavor profile.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Domaine Carneros, Le Rêve Blanc de Blancs 2016

Carneros, Napa Valley, California

This prestige cuvée from Domaine Carneros unveils the epitome of excellence with its 3 years of lees aging, a meticulous process that extracts the utmost elegance and finesse from Chardonnay. Rich with citrus and baked apple notes, this sparkling gem presents hints of ginger, baked cookies, and dough, creating a symphony of flavors on the palate. Beyond its current allure, the Le Rêve promises great aging potential and can continue to gain complexity.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Schramsberg, J. Schram Noirs 2014

North Coast, California

Schramsberg's J. Schram Noirs, in its second vintage released only as the finished sparkling wine emerges nine years after the grapes are harvested. The result is a rich, full-bodied indulgence with a heavy, toasty, and creamy bubble texture. Primarily a blend of Pinot Noir, complemented by a touch of Chardonnay, the wine offers captivating brioche and caramel notes that linger on the palate.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Schramsberg, J. Schram Blancs 2014

North Coast, California

The 2014 vintage of Schramsberg's J. Schram Blancs is an exceedingly rare wine with only about 300 bottles produced. Aged gracefully for eight years, this sparkling wine unveils a fruit-forward profile, featuring notes of ripe apples, pear, lemon, and grapefruit. The complexity deepens with subtle hints of crackers, while a touch of vanilla and coconut presence adds layers of richness.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Roco Winery, RMS, Brut, DD 10 years 2013

Willamette Valley, Oregon

DD stands for Delayed Disgorgement, meaning the wine has undergone a late disgorgement after a remarkable ten years of maturation. The result is revealing indulgent notes of caramel, nuts, and chocolate. Baked apple and candied lemon add a delightful sweetness, while the toasty essence enhances the richness of the mouthful. This sparkling delivers a massive volume and intensity, showcasing the depth and complexity achieved through meticulous aging.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Frank Family Vineyards, Blanc de Blancs 2016

Carneros, Napa Valley, California

Frank Family Vineyards Blanc de Blancs is a sparkling delight that has undergone a patient aging process, resting five years on lees. The result is a wine with light, delicate bubbles that dance on the palate. Soft apple and lemon notes intertwine with hints of beeswax and blossom, creating a harmonious and nuanced flavor profile. The wine is beautifully balanced, offering a softness that enhances its overall appeal. Crisp and zesty, it exudes a fullness of life that makes each sip a refreshing and lively experience. Frank Family Vineyards has crafted a Blanc de Blancs that stands as a testament to their dedication to quality sparkling wines.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

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UNITED KINGDOM

Gusbourne Estate Ltd, Blanc de Noirs 2018

Kent, United Kingdom

With balanced fruit intensity, this wine captivates the palate with a truly remarkable clarity of aromas. A pronounced and distinctive character emerges, revealing layers of brioche, crackers, and yogurt. The fruit-driven profile is elegantly composed, with notes of raspberry and red apple taking center stage. Subtle hints of mint, violet, and a medley of red fruits contribute to the wine's complexity and deep depth of flavors.

Score : 18/20 (96/100)

Gusbourne Estate Ltd, Blanc de Blancs 2018

Kent, United Kingdom

The Gusbourne Estate Ltd Blanc de Blancs is a sparkling wine that exudes purity and clarity. With subtle notes of apple, lemon, and a hint of fresh flowers, it presents an elegant and refined profile. The wine's texture is characterized by a combination of creaminess and a chalky, grainy quality, offering a nuanced experience on the palate. Delicate hints of ginger add a touch of warmth.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Chapel Down Kit's Coty Cœur de Cuvée 2016

Kent, United Kingdom

Sourced from our 100-acre Kit's Coty vineyard on the North Downs of Kent, the wine is made from the very best parcels of hand-harvested Chardonnay. It's a wine of notable richness and elegance. On the palate, subtle notes of green apple, hazelnuts, and melon contribute to a balanced and refined overall profile. The impact of chalk soils adds a touch of minerality to the experience. The integration of oak and fruit character is well-executed, resulting in a wine with a rounded and mouth-filling body.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Hattingley Valley, Blanc de Blancs 2015

Hampshire, United Kingdom

2015 vintage reflects the nuances of a challenging growing season, transitioning from a cool summer to a sunnier autumn, but vintage variation is very notable in Britain's wine production. The wine presents crisp acidity and introduces subtle aromas of

puff pastry and crisp yellow apples. With seven years of bottle aging, the acidity has mellowed, and the characteristic lees-aged notes have developed. Stone fruit flavors come into play, offering a balanced profile with minimal oak presence.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Hattingley Valley, King's cuvée 2015

Hampshire, United Kingdom

Hattingley Valley's King's Cuvée, a limited release, has a unique backstory originating from an overlooked barrel in the winery's early years. Aged for 7 months in oak and further matured for 6 years on lees, the cuvée achieves notable depth, smoothness, and a lingering creamy finish. Crafted from a blend of Chardonnay, Pinot Noir, and Meunier, the King's Cuvée features honeyed and vanilla notes, reminiscent of a dessert. Its vivid acidity ensures a dry palate as well as a fresh and elegant profile.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

1086 by Nyetimber 2010

South England, United Kingdom

Nyetimber's 1086 offering stands out for its masterful balance, seamlessly integrating acidity, texture, and length. Crafted from carefully selected parcels of Pinot Noir, Chardonnay, and Pinot Meunier, made only in the best, most favorable vintage, the wine unfolds with a rich and harmonious character. Subtle lacing and a delicate chalky undertone accompany nuanced notes of ripe apples and pears. The mid-palate achieves a gratifying balance, featuring well-measured freshness and acidity.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Digby Fine English Brut NV

Sussex, United Kingdom

Digby Fine English Brut stands out with Pinot Noir taking the lead, complemented by Chardonnay and Meunier. Aged for 2 years on lees, the wine presents a lively combination of lemon, fresh-cut thyme, apple, butter, crackers, and a subtle hint of smoke. This wine is classy, and well-structured, with refreshing acidity, balance, and a notable intensity of flavors. It encapsulates a refined elegance, making it a proper choice for an easy enjoyment.

Score : 14.5+/20 (88/100)



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

Crémant du Jura

Domaine Rolet - Crémant du Jura Blanc Brut

The Crémant is pale with shine and a straw yellow color. The nose is fresh and fruity with notes of pear and apple with a present minerality. After aeration, there is also a touch of citrus and fresh grass. The palate is fresh with a nice refreshing acidity. There is a pleasant effervescence and notes of fruit such as crunchy apple and pear. We also see white and green grapes. The palate is fine, delicate but intense with beautiful touches of flowers. The finish is airy with a touch of almond.

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

Fruitière Vinicole de Voiteur - Crémant du Jura Blanc Brut

The Crémant is bright and clear with a light straw yellow color. Bubbles are dynamic. The nose is fresh and intense with notes of coconut but also fresh apple. We also perceive touches of dried fruits such as almond and hazelnut. The attack is frank and fresh with a very present and salivating acidity. The bubbles are marked. We have notes of cooked apple but also of candied lemon and hazelnut. We perceive a slight bitterness in the mid-palate accompanied by a hint of coffee. The finish is a bit toasty, a bit smoky with this roasted note. The finish is long.

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

Fruitière Vinicole de Voiteur - Crémant du Jura Brut Millésimé 2020

This crémant has a pale straw yellow color, bright and clear. Bubbles are dynamic. The nose is fresh, fruity and aromatic with notes of plum but also fresh apple and apricot. After aeration, we perceive minerality and notes of hazelnut. The palate is fresh and tangy. The excitement is very present. We find fruity notes like apple and juicy pear but also plum. We have a hint of bitters which accompanies touches of citrus zest. The finish is fine, simple.

Score : 14.5/20 (88/100)

Jérôme Armoux - Crémant du Jura Élégance Brut Nature

The crémant has a beautiful clear and brilliant color on pale straw yellow. The nose is very aromatic, intense with notes of candied fruit, orange and spices such as cinnamon. It's an atypical nose, very pretty, poetic. We perceive notes of very ripe apple, mango but also flowers such as honeysuckle. After aeration, it is always intense with flowers like tipanier and always this fruitiness with guava and even black fruits like blackcurrant. The palate is fresh, aromatic, intense with notes of red fruits such as blackcurrant, stewed strawberries and spices. It's persistent. There is a slight bitterness in the mid-palate which revives the whole accompanied by a dynamic bubble. The finish is long. It's a fairly exuberant crémant.

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

Jérôme Armoux - Crémant du Jura ZD (Zéro Dosage) Blanc de Blanc 2018

This crémant is clear and brilliant with a very pale straw yellow color. The nose is intense with tropical fruity notes with passion fruit but also pink grapefruit. We have citrus fruits with citron and crunchy green apple. It is very delicate and light on the nose, airy like lace. The palate is fine with a tasty attack with fresh fruit but also dried fruits which gradually arrive in the mid-palate. We find citrus fruits with good bitters. The whole remains discreet and delicate. The finish is very long with a beautiful aromatic intensity and above all this umami side which gives volume to the tasting.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Caveau des Byards - Crémant du Jura Prestige

The crémant has a beautiful clear and brilliant straw yellow color. The bubbles are fine and numerous. The nose is intense with fruity notes of apple but also juicy peach. Little by little, a nutty and slightly toasty notes emerge. The palate is dynamic with a very present effervescence. We have notes of cooked apple but also orange. We perceive a discreet bitterness. It's simple and effective with a white grape finish.

Score : 14.5/20 (88/100)

Caveau des Byards - Crémant du Jura Brut rosé

This rosé crémant is clear and brilliant. It has a salmon color. The nose is fresh and fruity with a mineral touch. We find notes of cherry as well as yellow apple and a slight hint of curry. The second nose is more discreet and also more floral with touches of

rose. The palate is fine with a nice discreet effervescence. We have notes of stewed apple, even a little cider apple. There are touches of cherry and blackcurrant. It's simple and fruity with a slight bitterness on the finish which will pair well with the cuisine.

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

Caveau des Byards - Crémant du Jura Brut Blanc de Noirs

This crémant is bright and clear with a straw yellow color. The nose is aromatic on fruits with apple, juicy white peach but also apricot. The second nose is always delicate with fruit and a fine minerality. The palate has an attack with a slight bitterness of citrus zest. We find yellow peach and apricot in the mid-palate with notes of white grapes. We also have hints of apple and almond. The finish is delicate and light on apple.

Score : 14.5/20 (88/100)

Caveau des Byards - Crémant du Jura Brut

This crémant is bright and clear with pretty bubbles. It is straw yellow in color. The nose is aromatic, intense and fruity with notes of apple and nectar. Little by little we also perceive touches of hazelnut and fresh grass. The palate is fresh with a light effervescence. We find notes of crunchy green apple as well as almond. There is a slight bitterness in the mid-palate which accompanies touches of citrus zest. It's refreshing with a fruity finish.

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

Domaine Désiré Petit - Crémant du Jura Brut

This crémant has a very pale straw yellow color with shine. The nose is fresh and fruity with a refreshing minerality. We have notes of apple but also of baked peach. We also perceive delicate touches of apricot blossom and orange blossom. After aeration, it is still fruity and delicate, airy. The palate is fine with a nice acidity on the attack. The effervescence is present and the mid-palate is discreetly fruity with peach and almond. The minerality appears at this point with an interesting salinity which continues in a light and airy finish.

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

Domaine Désiré Petit - Crémant du Jura Brut Blanc de Blancs

The crémant has a nice foam and rapid bubbles. The color is pale straw yellow. The nose is fresh, intense and fruity with notes of apple but also the presence of minerality. We have a light smoky, toasty feel. After aeration, we find the fruit but also a touch of white pepper as well as a little umami. In the mouth, it is fresh with a controlled and pleasant effervescence. We have fresh fruit with the apple but also dried fruit with the almond. We have a nice acidity and a slight astringency which brings volume. This acidity reflects touches of lemon. We still have a little umami and the finish ends with lemon blossom and almond. This finale is relatively long.

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

Domaine Désiré Petit - Crémant du Jura Brut rosé

This crémant rosé has a beautiful limpid and brilliant color which tends towards orange-rosé. The nose is fresh and aromatic with fruit such as raspberry but also stewed strawberries. After aeration, it is discreet and delicate with minerality and a touch of red apple. The palate has personality, accompanied by a dynamic effervescence. We find a little minerality with a smoky aspect and fruit such as blackberry and raspberry. We perceive a fine bitterness that is somewhat reminiscent of blackberries. The finish is discreet, bordering on a little saline.

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

Domaine Rolet - Crémant du Jura - Blanc de Noirs 2018

This crémant has a beautiful mousse with rapid bubbles. It has a pale straw yellow color, limpid and brilliant. The nose is fresh with a nice intensity. We have notes of fruit like fresh green apple but also white grape and juicy white peach. We perceive a minerality with a smoky appearance. After aeration, we perceive the same aromas. The palate is fresh with a nice effervescence. We have notes of apple and a mineral side. We perceive a slight bitterness which accompanies the lime zest. There are touches of white peach and white grapes in the mid-palate with a discreet hint of petroleum. The finish is pure, with salivating acidity.

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



Crémant du Jura

Domaine Rolet - Crémant du Jura Cœur de Chardonnay Brut - Blanc de Blancs 2018

The crémant has a pale straw yellow color with green reflections, limpid and brilliant with dynamic bubbles. The first nose is intense on orchard fruits such as apricot, quince, plum but also white peach. We perceive touches of apple and pear. It's a pretty basket of fruits with minerality and a discreet umami aspect. The second nose is more mineral with hints of almond. The palate is subtle with touches of yuzu, fresh apple but also juicy pear. There is indeed a nice juiciness with a full mid-palate and a fine effervescence. It's straight, delicate, airy. There is a nice salivating acidity. This crémant is delicate, with a great balance between freshness and fruit. It has length and intensity on the nose and on the palate. Complexity is also present with several aromatic groups. Great success.

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

Domaine Butin - Crémant du Jura

This Crémant has a light and brilliant straw yellow color with dynamic bubbles. The nose is fresh and aromatic with fruit: apple, pineapple but also white peach. We have apple and pear in several forms: apple juice, cooked apple, crunchy apple. Same for the pear. After the aeration, it is delicate with freshness and crunchy, juicy fruits. We also have some citrus fruits. In the mouth, it is pleasant. The attack is fresh and tangy with notes of lemon and mandarin without forgetting floral touches. The effervescence is measured. In the mid-palate we have a nice definition of peach and brugnion. It is pleasant with a light finish.

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

Domaine Vapillon - Crémant du Jura Brut

The crémant has a beautiful pale straw yellow color with a very present effervescence. The first nose is fresh with notes of dried fruits such as apricot and almond. We also perceive a discreet hint of orange zest. After aeration, the nose opens up better with notes of plum. The mouth is fresh with a dynamic bubble. We have notes of undergrowth as well as plum. We perceive almond but also a hint of walnut. Freshness is a common thread, almost minty, until the finish. There is a vegetal hint on the palate. The tasting ends with a discreet finish with a slight bitterness on the almond.

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

Fruitière Vinicole d'Artois - Crémant du Jura Brut - Blanc de Blancs

The crémant has a straw yellow color with a beautiful foam. The first nose is aromatic with a beautiful minerality. We have touches of green apple but also a slight hint of green curry. After aeration, we have an umami perception which emerges with touches of green pear. The palate is fine, aromatic and expressive with notes of nuts but also green apple. There is a beautiful minerality and above all a nice salivating acidity which accompanies a light effervescence. The fine tasting is pleasant with a finish of green walnuts.

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

Marcel Cabelier - Crémant du Jura Brut - Blanc de Noirs

This crémant has a beautiful compact foam and the color is pale straw yellow. The nose is fresh and fruity with a light note of coconut water as well as touches of green apple and juicy pear. We also perceive a fine hint of red peach and lemon. It's tricky to aerate. The tasting is fresh with measured acidity and a nice effervescence. We find notes of apple, juicy pear but also orange. We perceive a slight bitterness brought by touches of citrus zest. It is clear and clean with a fruity finish.

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

Marcel Cabelier - Crémant du Jura Brut

This Crémant is bright and clear with significant bubbles. It has a very light straw yellow colour. The nose is aromatic, fresh and intense with a nice smoky appearance. We have fruity notes with crunchy fresh apple but also juicy white peach. With aeration, the nose becomes more delicate but still seductive with an interesting juiciness. The palate is fresh, pleasant with notes of crunchy apple, but also white grapes and white peach. There is a light buttery aspect on the finish. The bubbles are fine, it's pleasant with a finish of apricot stone.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Marcel Cabelier - Crémant du Jura 60 Extra Brut - Vintage 2017

This crémant has a beautiful limpid and brilliant, light golden color. The nose is intense, aromatic with fruity notes. We have touches of yellow peach as well as apricot but also notes of dried and candied fruits with orange zest and almond paste. It is a round, complex, attractive nose. Allowed to breathe, we get hints of cooked yellow apple as well as sweet spices. The palate is fresh, frank with a bitterness on the attack which accompanies fruity notes of orange zest and cooked apple. Then, a certain salinity in the mid-palate appears. The crémant is dry, straight, saline with a beautiful minerality and a salivating acidity which continues in the finish. The end of the tasting is straight with a hint of apple, yeast and bitter almond.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Marcel Cabelier - Crémant du Jura - Collection Chardonnay

The crémant has a straw yellow color. It is clear and shiny. The nose is fresh and fruity with a hint of petroleum as well as touches of apple. We also have a nice definition of pineapple mint and especially eucalyptus. After aeration, it is always fresh and fruity. The palate is fresh with this note of eucalyptus from the start. Relatively vegetal with aromatic herbs, this crémant has a beautiful acidity and a floral lily finish.

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

Marcel Cabelier - Crémant du Jura Brut - L'esprit de Chardonnay 2018

The crémant is clear and brilliant with a straw yellow color. The nose is intense and aromatic with notes of apple but also pear, nectar and juicy yellow peach. We also perceive touches of petroleum as well as white grapes. When aerated, we have a nice hint of juicy lychee that appears. The palate is fresh with dynamic effervescence. We find fruity notes of apple and white grape. The acidity is very present, light and salivating. The whole is well balanced with a floral and fruity finish. We have a nice minerality and a hint of torrefaction. It is a clear and thirst-quenching crémant with a slight complexity which gives it all its charm.

Score : 16.5+/20 (92-93/100)

Domaine de Savagny - Crémant du Jura Brut

The bubble is rapid, the foam is compact. This crémant has a beautiful clear and brilliant light straw yellow color. The first nose is fresh and fruity with a nice intensity. We have notes of fresh apple but also pear. We also perceive a hint of juicy white peach and lemon zest. After aeration, a saline side appears with a fresh minerality. The palate is also fresh with discreet aromatics. The excitement is dynamic. We have a hint of salinity which fills the mid-palate. There is texture but the aroma remains light with notes of white grape, apple and a discreet hint of petroleum. The finish is fine.

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

Domaine de la Pinte - Crémant du Jura Brut - Nature Non Dosé

Crémant has a very compact foam and fine, rapid bubbles. It has a clear and brilliant straw yellow color. The nose is powerful, punchy with notes of apple and greengage. Then it calms down with fine hints of yellow peach and above all a note of interesting peppermint. After aeration, the nose has root notes and always freshness. We also have floral notes. The mouth is fresh. We have sensitive notes of fruits such as blackberry but also pear. We have a very nice touch of black pepper or even Kampot pepper. The tasting is different with also citrus and lemongrass zest. The finish is still with confusing aromas with a hint of earl gray. Atypical.

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

La Petite Marne - Noir Frères - Crémant du Jura

The Crémant has a beautiful pale straw yellow color, bright and clear. The foam is compact and the bubbles are fine. The nose is aromatic with fruity notes of apple and juicy white peach. It's delicate even when aerated with hints of lemon zest. The palate is fresh, pleasant with a nice note of peach as well as apple. Acidity is measured with dynamic effervescence. The finish is on flowers like wisteria. It's a simple crémant but well crafted, refreshing and pleasant.

Score : 16/20 92/100)



Crémant du Jura

Domaine Geneletti - Crémant du Jura Brut

This crémant is straw yellow with a bright and clear color. The nose is fresh, smoky and fruity with beautiful notes of apple and white fruits. We also perceive mineral freshness and a slight creaminess. The second nose is quite minty with buttery notes. The palate is fine with a discreet but present effervescence. There are notes of crunchy apple and pear. A touch of lychee appears with always a hint of minerality. It's simple but well produced. The finish is light, the whole is refreshing.

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

Domaine Baud Génération - Crémant du Jura Brut

This crémant has a clear and brilliant straw yellow color. The bubbles are fine. The nose is fresh with minerality and even a discreet earthy hint. We also have green fruit. The second nose presents notes of bergamot and a bitter impression like a hint of gentian. The tasting is fresh. The attack is frank with a dynamic effervescence. We find this note of gentian with touches of lemon. There is a velvetiness in the mid-palate which is interesting with the minerality and the straightness of the tasting. We perceive a hint of salinity in the finish.

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

Domaine Baud Génération - Crémant du Jura Brut S

This crémant has a clear and brilliant color with a straw yellow color. The nose is fresh, intense and fruity with tropical notes like mango. But we also perceive fresh apple and juicy yellow peach. There is also a discreet hint of violet. When aired it is more discreet and calm. We have touches of dried fruits like almond and a hint of salinity. The tasting is fresh with the salinity which is marked at the attack. We find yellow apple, plum but also lemon blossom. There is a marked minerality with this almost iodised salinity. The finish is fine.

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

Jean Michel Petit - Crémant du Jura Brut - La Renardière

This crémant has a beautiful straw yellow color with a very present effervescence. The nose is fresh with notes of stewed apple but also of toast and butter. After aeration, you still have this smokiness which accompanies fruit and a hint of coconut. The mouth is fresh with a dynamic bubble. We find fruits like yellow peach but also apple with these buttery, brioche or even toasted touches. The finish is delicate on the flowers. Beautiful creation.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Jacques Tissot - Crémant du Jura Brut

This crémant has a pale straw yellow color. The bubbles are numerous and dynamic. The nose is fresh with fruit like green plum but also crunchy apple. We perceive a certain minerality which accompanies the minty freshness. After aeration, it's a little more exotic and smoky at the same time. The palate is fresh with dynamic effervescence. We have juicy apple and pear. There is a lovely juiciness on the palate with a hint of bitterness which accompanies remaining touches of citrus. The finish is fine with a light floral note of jasmine.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Jacques Tissot - Crémant du Jura Brut Prestige

This crémant has a beautiful clear and brilliant color that tends towards straw yellow. The bubbles are numerous and dynamic. The nose is fresh and fruity with smoky minerality but also apples, pears and notes of melting apricot. After aeration, it is also intense. The palate is fresh with a nice salivating acidity. We still have minerality with a fresh and straight, almost chalky touch. It's fine and direct with notes of crunchy apple and crunchy white fruits. There is a nice vinosity. The finish is clean, perfect for food and wine pairings.

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

Tissot-Maire - Crémant de Jura - Blanc de Blancs Brut

The crémant has a light straw yellow color with numerous bubbles. It has a nice effervescence. The first nose is intense with minerality that stands out. We have a very beautiful fruit with apple but also juicy white peach. It's very clear, crystal clear. We also have a slightly petroleum hint, a bit of green apple and a floral nuance. The second nose

is more delicate. The palate is fine, direct with a beautiful delicate effervescence. We find these aromas of crunchy green apple but also a very nice minerality. The acidity is very well balanced with a nice salivation. The aromas are discreet with a hint of bitterness on the finish of lemon.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Tissot-Maire - Crémant du Jura Brut - Blanc de Noirs

The crémant has a clear, pale straw yellow color. The nose is fresh, round with discreet woody notes. We have a nice touch of white peach as well as white grapes. After aeration, the second nose is more exotic with mango and pineapple. There is a discreet pleasant hint of vanilla. The palate is fresh with nice acidity. The excitement is dynamic. We have touches of almond with a nice acidity like that of redcurrant. The finish is more discreet, still with the presence of red apple and white grapes. There is a beautiful balance and great finesse.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Tissot-Maire - Crémant du Jura Brut Lapiaz

This crémant has a pale straw yellow color. The nose is fresh and fruity with notes of crunchy apple as well as green plum. There is a hint of mango as well as lychee with fresh vanilla. The second nose is always delicate, almost powdery. The palate is fresh with apple and a dynamic effervescence which refreshes the whole. We perceive a slight bitterness brought by citrus fruits such as grapefruit and lemon. There is a lovely finesse, directness and seductive white grape notes that continue on the finish. It's fresh, fruity and simple.

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

Tissot-Maire - Crémant du Jura Brut Rosé

This Crémant has a bright and clear color with a light pink color. The nose is fresh and fruity between black fruits like blackberry and red fruits like strawberry. It's discreet with a hint of pepper and flowers like rose. Allowed to breathe, there is a hint of racy minerality. The palate is fresh with dynamic bubbles. We find the discreet bitterness of blackberry skin accompanied by black cherry and a slightly smoky appearance. There is a beautiful balance and vivid acidity. There is a hint of blackberry compote on the finish. Nice.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Michel Tissot & Fils - Crémant du Jura Rosé Brut - Grande Tradition

This crémant has a beautiful pale pink color. It is shiny with fine bubbles. The nose is fresh and fruity with a smoky minerality. We have blackberry, black cherry but also red apple. The second nose opens with peony-type flowers. The palate is fresh with a minerality present from the attack with an interesting salinity. There is also a nice acidity and dynamic effervescence. There are notes of red apple, quince, ripe fig and blackberry. It's nice and light. The finish is salivating with the acidity still present. It's refreshing.

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

Michel Tissot & Fils - Crémant du Jura Brut - Grande Tradition

The Crémant has a light, bright and clear straw yellow color with dynamic bubbles. The nose is fresh with fruit such as peach and yellow apple. We also perceive discreet hints of vanilla and butter. When aerated, we always have a beautiful freshness and a more exotic appearance with passion fruit. The palate is fresh, fruity, with very present fine bubbles. We find apple, juicy peach and pulpy white fruits. There is a nice balance, a certain straightness. It's clean and refreshing. The finish is subtle on jasmine flower. Great achievement.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Michel Tissot & Fils - Crémant du Jura Brut - Millésimé 2016

This crémant has a bright straw yellow color. The nose is intense with beautiful notes of cooked yellow apple but also a fine hint of petroleum. We also perceive white grapes and a hint of quince. The second nose is more measured with a touch of roasted pineapple. The palate is fresh with a bitterness present from the attack which enhances the whole. The effervescence is pleasant. We have honeyed as well as fruity notes with apple but also candied melon. There is a hint of salinity in the finish with umami.

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



Savoie white wines

Adrien Veyron, Cuvée Intense 2022 Apremont

The wine has a pale lemon yellow color with slight green highlights. The nose is fresh, chiselled and precise, finely mineral and tangy. It expresses saline notes, a bit chalky at first and is then complemented by aromas of fresh citrus fruits and citrus zest: lemon, lemon zest, grapefruit (with a delicate bitterness on the nose), as well as softer touches of crunchy apricot, fresh yellow peach, as well as mirabelle plum in the background. We also find very subtle notes of acacia, butter and flower honey. The mouth is lively and expressive. The attack is fresh and chiseled, on citrus fruits with a hint of bitterness (grapefruit, lemon zest, lime), associated with notes of white peach, fresh apricot, orange zest in the background, as well as touches of honey, lees (a light touch of butter) and white flowers (lime blossom). The finish is moderately persistent, pleasant, with a delicate bitterness and a nice acidity associated with a certain roundness.

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

Domaine Guillaume Pin, La Croix du Plot 2021 Apremont

The wine has a pale lemon-yellow color. The nose is frank, straight and offers a precise mineral frame (limestone, even chalky). It then expresses a lot of lemony freshness and a fragrant floral bouquet: we find in particular the aromas of lemon zest, fresh grapefruit, a very slight bitter note of lime, as well as notes of acacia, honeysuckle, a hint minty and slightly buttery in the background. There is also roundness on the nose thanks to notes of white nectarine and crunchy apricot. On the palate, the wine is chiselled and savoury, with a frank attack, an oily texture in the mid-palate and a lively acidity on the finish. It expresses the flavors of lime and yellow zest, grapefruit, fresh quince, a floral touch (acacia, honeysuckle), white nectarine, apricot, a touch of butter and saffron on the finish. The finish is persistent, refreshing, tangy and mineral. A wine with lots of energy and freshness.

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

Maison Viallet, Château d'Apremont, Cuvée Jacques de Montmayeur 2022 Vin de Savoie Apremont

The wine has a pale lemon-yellow color. The nose is aromatic, fresh and straight, with a delicate smoky and mineral touch, which develops after aeration towards the note of gunflint. Then, we find the tangy notes of lemon, grated lemon zest, lime juice, lime blossom, pomelo and white peach, associated with notes of acacia, lime blossom, as well as with a hint of honey and nutmeg in the background. The palate is chiseled, lively and expresses in attack its mineral and flinty smokiness, which we have on the nose. The mid-palate offers freshness and fruity roundness in balance (flavors of lemon, lime zest, pomelo, combined with notes of white peach and green apple), as well as a floral touch. (acacia, lime) and a good bitterness, softened by the note of flower honey. The finish is persistent and tangy. Beautiful lively and salivating acidity, lots of freshness.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Cave de Cruet, Sublime Roussette de Savoie, Altesse 2022 Roussette de Savoie

The wine has a pale lemon-yellow color. The nose is airy and offers a nice freshness. It expresses notes of fresh citrus fruits (lemon, pomelo, orange in the background), white flowers (lime blossom, acacia, chamomile), butter, a touch of limestone, as well as notes of fresh herbs (mint) and anise in the background. The mouth is fragrant and excessive. It has a round and oily texture, balanced by a pleasant bitterness and a salivating acidity. We find more fleshy notes of stone fruits (peach, apricot), as well as the more pronounced buttery note, associated with touches of honey, even beeswax, linden, acacia, lemon peel yellow, orange peel and grapefruit. The finish is moderately persistent, but savoury.

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

Domaine Carrel & Senger, Le Marestel 2020 Roussette de Savoie

The wine has a lemon yellow color, of medium intensity, with golden reflections. The nose is precise, concentrated, a bit tight and reserved at first, but complex. It expresses the tangy aromas of candied lemon, lemon zest, fresh pomelo, combined with rounded

notes of stone fruits and exotic fruits (ripe apricot, crunchy pineapple, white peach), white dried flowers (acacia, linden), as well as a touch of flower honey, fresh almond and butter. The palate is very fragrant, rich and generous, while remaining fresh and elegant. The attack is expressive and open, with sweet honey notes (flower honey, chestnut honey), floral notes (acacia, dried linden, apple blossom, honeysuckle), as well as a fine spiciness (nutmeg, cumin) and a touch of beeswax. We then find the sweetness of stone fruits and exotic fruits (juicy yellow peach, apricot, ripe pineapple, a hint of passion fruit in the background), candied lemon and pomelo. The finish is long, savoury and gourmand and adds notes of bitter almond, toasted hazelnut and smoke, as well as a hint of caramel and a delicate bitterness. The acidity is supple, but quite fresh. A very beautiful wine, fleshy, rich and complex.

Score : 17.25/20 (95/100)

Domaine Vendange, Madame de M... 2020 Roussette de Savoie

The wine has a golden color of medium intensity. The nose is fragrant and complex. It first expresses notes of honey, beeswax, dried white flowers (dried linden, chamomile), white lily, associated with fine notes of saffron and toast, a touch of butter, everything is enveloped by the fruity roundness (fresh golden apple, yellow peach, apricot, Williams pear) and refreshed by a touch of candied lemon and lemon zest.

The palate is enveloping, with a slightly sweet attack, balanced by a pleasant bitterness that appears in the mid-palate. We find bitter notes of candied lime and grapefruit, associated with the roundness of yellow peach, apricot and honey, as well as notes of honey, saffron and white flowers (dried linden, chamomile infusion, acacia). The finish is savoury and persistent, with a pleasant bitterness and a rather round, but fresh acidity. A wine with concentration and complexity.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Domaine G. & G. Bouvet, Altesse Monterminod 2021 Roussette de Savoie

The wine has a lemon yellow color of medium intensity. The nose is fragrant and subtly mineral: it expresses notes of wet stones with a touch of limestone, associated with notes of white flowers (acacia, apple blossom, orange blossom), candied lemon, yuzu, a touch of orange, apricot and yellow peach, as well as a hint of lemon yogurt and brown butter in the background. The palate is refined and balanced, with fruity substance and a lovely freshness. We find the flavors of candied lemon, orange zest, crunchy apricot, yellow peach, acacia, orange blossom and lemon yogurt. Beautiful lemony acidity, fresh and salivating. The finish is persistent, tangy and

slightly bitter. A wine with beautiful balance and freshness.

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

Les Rocailles 2021 Chignin Bergeron

The wine has a pale lemon yellow color. The nose is juicy and aromatic. It expresses notes of ripe lemon, apricot, yellow peach, grated orange zest, green apple, associated with touches of acacia, honeysuckle, as well as a hint of fresh bitter almond. The palate is silky and savoury: it expresses delicate, slightly sweet notes of honey and beeswax, combined with flavors of apricot, lemon, white peach, acacia, honeysuckle and orange zest, as well as with a slight bitterness of grapefruit in the background. The finish is rather persistent and fresh, with a supple but balanced acidity and a slight bitterness.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Domaine Louis Magnin, Cuvée «Grande Orgue» 2018 Chignin Bergeron

(organic) The wine has a golden color of medium to deep intensity. The nose is complex, elegant, with pleasant and enveloped tertiary notes. It expresses notes of dried lemon peel, candied lemon, fresh green apple, apricot, white peach, candied quince, freshly grated lemon zest, as well as aromas of hay and white flowers (acacia, dried lime, white lily), a spicy touch (saffron, nutmeg), as well as a touch of lemon yogurt and toasted brioche. The palate is rich, even a little sweet, savoury and complex, while remaining elegant. We find the fragrant floral bouquet (acacia, dried lime, chamomile infusion), a touch of hay, beeswax and honey, a fine spiciness (saffron, nutmeg), as well as fruity flavors (ripe apricot), white peach, candied



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Savoie white wines

lemon, roasted green apple, candied quince, combined with the freshness of lemon zest and grapefruit). The finish is long, with a good noticeable; but pleasant bitterness (candied lime and grapefruit), as well as a touch of honey in the background, everything is balanced by a lively acidity. Beautiful complexity, depth and harmony.

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

Le Fils de René Quenard, La Bergeronnelle 2021 Chignin-Bergeron

The wine has a lemon color of medium intensity. The nose is reserved at first and requires aération. It expresses notes of stone fruits (white peach, apricot), white flowers (acacia, apple blossom, apricot blossom), combined with tangy aromas of lemon, clementine, green apple and fresh quince, as well as a touch of cut grass, toasted brioche and honey in the background. The palate is ample, round and juicy. Firstly, we find slightly sweet honeyed notes, then – noted of ripe stone fruits (white peach, apricot), candied lemon, fresh lemon, quince and white flowers (acacia, lime). The finish is long and adds to the bouquet the notes of beeswax, dried chamomile, as well as bitterness of candied lime and grapefruit. Beautiful salivating acidity balances the roundness of the wine. A complex, rich, but harmonious wine.

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

Domaine Marc Portaz, Tête de Cuvée 2022 Vin de Savoie Abymes

The wine has a pale lemon-yellow color. The nose is rather discreet, tangy and expresses citrus notes (fresh lemon, lemon zest, orange juice, grapefruit), associated with notes of white peach, acacia, as well as a slight touch mineral. The palate is gourmand and fruity. There are notes of fresh lemon, lemon zest, grapefruit juice, white peach and acacia. The minerality (recalling limestone notes) returns at the end of the palate. Beautiful acidity, liveliness and a slight bitterness on the finish with medium persistence. A fresh and easy-to-access wine.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Terres de 1248, 2022 Vin de Savoie Abymes

The wine has a pale lemon-yellow color. The nose offers gourmandise, roundness, as well as a beautiful freshness. It expresses notes of white peach, crunchy apricot, fresh lemon zest, dried lemon zest, a hint of grapefruit bitterness, green apple, white flowers (acacia, dried chamomile, infused dried linden), as well as a slight touch of smoke and spice (saffron), fresh hazelnut and raw butter. The palate offers a round and fruity attack, which develops in a tangy mid-palate and a finish with a hint of good bitterness. We find notes of white peach, fresh lemon, grated lemon zest, green apple, acacia, lime blossom, and a touch of saffron and butter on the finish. Beautiful crunchy and chiseled acidity. The finish is persistent, with notes of bitter grapefruit. Beautiful freshness and gourmandise.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Domaine des Crocs Blancs, Salut à Toi ! 2022 Vin de Savoie Abymes

The wine has a lemon-yellow color of medium intensity. It has a lovely deep and complex nose, with a pronounced but elegant spiciness, as well as fleshy fruit. We find notes of ripe yellow peach, juicy apricot, candied lemon, fresh lemon, pomelo, green pear, associated with notes of nutmeg, a touch of saffron, smoke, as well as with floral notes of acacia, dried linden and chamomile. The palate is gourmand, round and warming, even a little sweet. It expresses the flavors of candied lemon peel, grapefruit juice, fresh lemon, Williams pear, and quince, combined with a fine spiciness (saffron, nutmeg) and floral bouquet (acacia, nutmeg, apple tree flowers, lime tree flowers). The finish is rather persistent, gourmand, with a slight sweetness and roundness, balanced by a nice acidity.

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

Domaine de l'Idylle, Alpine Cruet 2022 Vin de Savoie Cruet

The wine has a lemon-yellow color of medium intensity. It has a lovely concentrated, fleshy and complex nose. The wine first expresses distinct floral and herbaceous notes (apple blossom, honeysuckle, dried linden, hay, dried wildflowers), which combine on the second nose with tangy hints of lemon zest, orange zest, pomelo, grapefruit, as well as a touch of white nectarine, smoke and cumin seeds in the background. On the palate, the attack expresses the slight smokiness, minerality and spiciness in the notes of cumin, flint and a salty touch, which also persists on the finish. The mid-palate is tangy and lemony, with a fine floral bouquet. We find notes of lemon, lemon zest, grapefruit, white nectarine, acacia and honeysuckle. Beautiful persistence with saline and lemony notes, combined with a lively acidity.

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

Domaine des Anges, Le Plaisir des Anges 2022 Savoie

The wine has a pale lemon yellow, slightly golden color. The nose is aromatic, lemony and floral. It expresses notes of fresh lemon, lemon zest, a touch of pink grapefruit with a hint of bitterness, as well as white flowers (acacia, apple blossom, honeysuckle),

stone fruits (white peach, nectarine), apricot) and a touch of honey in the background. The mouth offers roundness and fruitiness. We find notes of ripe citrus fruits (lemon, lemon zest, candied lemon peel, pink grapefruit), stone fruits (white peach, apricot), white flowers (acacia, honeysuckle, apple blossoms) and honey. The finish is quite persistent, with a nice acidity and a pleasant bitterness. A fresh and balanced finis

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Domaine Saint-Romain, Sous la Roche 2022 Savoie

The wine has a pale lemon-yellow color, with slight greenish reflections. The nose is fragrant and straight, with a precise mineral framework, as well as an aromatic floral bouquet, a tanginess of citrus and a certain roundness of stone fruits and exotic fruits. It expresses mineral notes (limestone), lemon, lemon zest, fresh green apple, white peach, fresh pineapple, as well as acacia, apple blossom and dried linden flowers. The attack on the palate is lively, with a beautiful tanginess. We find notes of lemon zest, lemon juice, fresh pineapple, orange zest, green apple, white peach, acacia, linden, as well as a limestone mineral hint in final. Nice crispy acidity and good length.

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

Perceval, Château La Gentilhommière, Mondeuse Blanche 2022

Vin de Savoie

The wine has a lemon-yellow color of medium intensity. The nose is fragrant, with an expressive floral side. We find notes of orange blossom, apricot blossom, acacia, honeysuckle and lily, combined with fresh and chiselled lemony notes: lemon zest, lemon juice, pomelo and grapefruit, as well as a fine mineral and herbaceous touch (cut mint). The palate is airy, fresh and floral. It expresses notes of apple blossom, acacia, lime blossom and orange blossom, combined with a tanginess of lime, lemon juice, lemon zest, as well as a fine mineral touch. and fresh almond. The acidity is lively and refreshing. Good length with a fine bitterness of grapefruit and fresh almond.

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



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“PERFECTUS — PERFECTION IN THE BALANCE — IN STATERA”

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Loire red wines

SAUMUR-CHAMPIGNY

La Source du Ruault 2021

Saumur-Champigny

(organic) The wine offers a brilliant ruby color. The nose expresses a lot of fruit (slightly tart) and a nice freshness. We find notes of bigarreau cherry, raspberry, cranberries, red currants as well as a very fragrant floral bouquet (wildflowers, cornflower, a touch of rose). On the second nose, there are a peppery and herbaceous touch (dried aromatic herbs, a hint of hay and tomato leaf in the background). The palate is fluid, airy and supple. It expresses juiciness, tangy fruits (bigarreau cherry, cranberries, raspberry, red currant), a touch of black pepper, tomato leaf (very slightly), aromatic herbs and flowers (wildflowers, dried rose, cornflower). The tannins are very fine, practically imperceptible. The finish is quite persistent, fruity and round, with a nice acidity. An airy and delicate wine.

Score : 14.5/20 (88/100)

La Source du Ruault, Senseï 2017

Saumur-Champigny

(organic) The wine offers a brilliant ruby color. The nose offers a nice concentration, even a slight sweetness of ripe red and black fruits. It expresses notes of fresh morello cherry, wild blackberry, roasted red cherry, fresh raspberry, raspberry coulis, as well as a hint of blueberry jam. The second nose reveals aromas of menthol, sweet spices (liquorice, ground cloves, a slight touch of nutmeg and white pepper), fresh thyme, as well as cornflower, violet, dried herbs, crushed tomato leaf (in the background) and a slight chalky mineral note. On the palate, the wine is straight, chiseled and offers an opened attack, as well as melted and delicate tannins, with a very slight bitterness. The flavors are juicy and bright. We find notes of roasted red cherry, fresh morello cherry, raspberry and blueberry, as well as a bitter touch of cranberries, delicate spicy notes (white pepper, clove, cumin), floral (violet) and herbs (tomato leaf, thyme). The finish is savory, with red fruits (you can smell ripe red cherries in particular). Beautiful refreshing acidity, but integrated and supple at the same time. A balanced and gourmand wine.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

La Source du Ruault, Clos de la Côte 2017

Saumur-Champigny

The wine has a brilliant ruby color. The nose is deep, concentrated and complex. It expresses notes of roasted bigarreau cherry, fresh morello cherry, wild blueberry, wild plum, wild strawberry, as well as crushed blackcurrant. The woody notes are melted and delicate: we find touches of sweet coffee, toasted notes, a light aroma of caramel (or coconut, which appears on the second nose) and dark chocolate, as well as spicy notes (liquorice, white pepper, cloves), floral bouquet (dried cornflower, lily) and a herbaceous touch of dried tomato leaf, which adds freshness to the wine. The palate expresses a concentrated and ripe fruity bouquet, as well as a firm, but fine tannic structure, associated with a beautiful acidity and a pleasant bitterness. The flavors are precise and gourmand: we find notes of morello cherry, roasted red cherry, wild blueberry, wild plum, elderberry and cranberries, combined with tasty notes of sweet spices (liquorice, white pepper, cloves, ground nutmeg, a touch of cinnamon), aromatic herbs and dried flowers (thyme, tomato leaf, dried cornflower). The finish is persistent and refined: it continues with notes of bird cherry, morello cherry, juniper berries, bay leaf and a touch of limestone in the background. Nice acidity. A harmonious wine, with good aging potential.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Dumnacus Vignerons, 2021

Saumur-Champigny

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is refined and gourmand: it expresses the roundness of ripe red fruits, their fine tanginess and a spicy touch in the background. We find notes of red cherry, strawberry, crushed raspberry, red currants, a touch of morello cherry, as well as a subtle floral bouquet (violet, a hint of iris and rose petals), some herbaceous notes (thyme dried, dried mint) and sweet spices (nutmeg, a touch of liquorice) in the background. On the palate, the wine is gourmand, juicy and supple, but with good structure and persistence in the mouth. It expresses flavors of tangy red fruits (raspberry, crunchy strawberry, red cherry, morello cherry juice, a touch of crushed blueberry), with a fine herbaceous touch. The mid-palate is fruity, juicy and enveloping, the finish is more on spices and dried aromatic herbs. The tannins are structured, rather firm, but fine and enveloped. A racy and straightforward wine.

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

Les 7 Lieux Dits «Les Poyeux», Sélection parcellaire créée par neuf vignerons 2022

Saumur-Champigny

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is refined and gourmand: it expresses the roundness of ripe red fruits, their fine tanginess and some spiciness in the background. We find notes of red cherry, strawberry, crushed raspberry, red currants, a touch of morello cherry, as well as a subtle floral bouquet (violet, a hint of iris and rose petals), some herbaceous notes (thyme, dried mint) and sweet spices (nut-

meg, a touch of liquorice) in the background. On the palate, the wine is gourmand, juicy and supple, but with good structure and persistence in the mouth. It expresses flavors of tangy red fruits (raspberry, crunchy strawberry, red cherry, morello cherry juice, a touch of crushed blueberry), with a fine herbaceous touch. The mid-palate is fruity, juicy and enveloping, the finish is more on spices and dried aromatic herbs. The tannins are structured, rather firm, but fine and enveloped. A racy and straightforward wine.

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

Château du Hureau, Fours à chaux 2022

Saumur-Champigny

(organic) The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is subtle and refined. It expresses notes of morello cherry, tart red cherry, red currant, raspberry coulis and crushed blueberry, as well as touches of cherry blossom, rosehip and a hint of crushed mint leaf. On the palate, the attack is round, silky and expressive. We find notes of ripe wild strawberry, roasted red cherry, raspberry coulis, crushed blueberry, morello cherry, as well as a fine floral bouquet (cherry blossom, rose, iris), a touch of mint (even chocolate with mint) and nutmeg. The tannins are velvety and soft. Lots of freshness thanks to a lively acidity and notes of dried herbs (mint, thyme) on the lingering finish.

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

Château du Hureau, Lisagathe 2020

Saumur-Champigny

(organic) The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is fragrant and offers accuracy, concentration and a certain complexity. It expresses notes of crushed strawberry, roasted red cherry, raspberry coulis, blackcurrant, crushed blueberry and red currant, as well as a touch of berberis, red apple, fresh rose, iris, thyme flower, a fine touch of chocolate with mint, blackcurrant bud and liquorice, as well as a very fine hint of undergrowth. The palate is fresh, juicy and precise. It expresses herbaceous notes (thyme, crushed mint, blackcurrant bud) on the attack, which combine with notes of morello cherry, raspberry, strawberry, tart red cherry, red currant and blackcurrant in the mid-palate. The finish is tangy and persistent, with delicate notes of undergrowth and rose petals, accompanied by good bitterness and a firm, but enveloped tannic structure. A fresh, straight and well-structured wine.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Thierry Germain, Domaine des Roches Neuves, Clos de l'Echelier 2021

Saumur-Champigny

(organic) The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity with purplish reflections. The nose is reduced at first, but reveals a fruity and floral bouquet after aeration. It expresses notes of crushed strawberry, raspberry, red cherry, blueberry, combined with notes of lily, violet and blackcurrant leaf, as well as a very fine touch of ground nutmeg in the background. The palate offers lightness, airiness, fine tannins and freshness. It expresses notes of red cherry, crushed blackcurrant, raspberry, crunchy strawberry and red currant, as well as cut grass, lily and violet in the background. The finish is chiseled, but a bit firm, with a slight bitterness of tannins and a touch of cranberry. The acidity is lively and fresh.

Score : 14.5+/20 (88/100)

Thierry Germain, Domaine des Roches Neuves, La Marginale 2021

Saumur-Champigny

(organic) The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is discreet and requires aeration. It then expresses notes of wild strawberry, morello cherry, red cherry, red currant jelly, crushed raspberry, blackcurrant, as well as violet, blackcurrant leaf, tobacco and wet leaves in the background. The palate is gourmand, juicy and fruity. It expresses notes of wild strawberry, crushed blackcurrant, morello cherry, crushed raspberry and red currant jelly, as well as touches of violet, blackcurrant leaf, tobacco and dried rose in the background. The tannins are melted and silky, but firmer on the finish. The finish is fruity and quite persistent. Nice refreshing acidity.

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

Thierry Germain, Domaine des Roches Neuves, Francs de Pied 2022

Saumur-Champigny

(organic) The wine has a deep and bright ruby color, with purplish reflections. The nose is straight, juicy and offers a pure fruity expression. We find notes of morello cherry, bigarreau cherry, crushed blackcurrant (even crème de cassis), blackberry and wild strawberry, associated with slightly sweet floral notes of peony and lilac, as well as touches of menthol and chocolate in the background. On the palate, the wine is airy, it offers a texture of silky tannins and juiciness. The flavors are fruity, ripe and fresh. We find notes of morello cherry, bigarreau cherry, wild strawberry, fresh blackcurrant, raspberry, as well as a floral touch of lilac and violet. The finish offers good persistence, juiciness and salivating acidity.

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

Loire red wines

Régis Vacher, Domaine du Caillou, La Herpinière 2022 Saumur-Champigny

(organic) The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity with purple reflections. The nose is pure, precise and aromatic, with distinct mineral and herbaceous notes integrated into a bouquet of fresh fruit. It expresses notes of fresh blueberry, crushed blackcurrant, bigarreau cherry, raspberry and red currant, combined with a touch of limestone, cut grass, blackcurrant leaf and rose petals. The palate is lively, tangy and chiseled. It expresses notes of bigarreau cherry, red currant, crushed raspberry, blackcurrant, combined with notes of blackcurrant leaf, cut grass and rose petals, with a fine touch of limestone in the background. Beautiful liveliness on the finish, brought by a salivating acidity. The finish is tangy, slightly tannic. The tannins are fine, slightly noticeable, but with a firm structure.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Régis Vacher, Domaine du Caillou, Les Trognés 2022 Saumur-Champigny

(organic) The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity with purplish reflections. The nose offers freshness and tanginess. We find notes of red cherry, raspberry, red currant, a touch of blueberry and blackcurrant, as well as notes of blackcurrant leaf, violet, iris and menthol (even pine needles). On the palate, the wine is chiseled and tangy, with a touch of bitterness on the finish and firm, slightly rough tannins. It expresses notes of red cherry, strawberry, raspberry, red currant and a hint of blueberry, combined with floral (violet, rose) and herbaceous (blackcurrant leaf, dried mint) notes. The finish is moderately persistent, juicy, with a sweet touch of morello cherry jam. A salivating acidity balances tannins on the finish.

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

Domaine Annivy, Oeillade 2021 Saumur-Champigny

The wine has a brilliant pale ruby color. The nose offers fine minerality (limestone, wet stone) and a fruity freshness: it expresses notes of crunchy strawberry, red cherry, red currant, raspberry, cranberries, as well as a hint of ground nutmeg, dried rose and dried wild flowers, with a fine hint of cut rosemary in the background. On the palate, there is juiciness, lightness and airiness. The wine first expresses notes of tangy fresh fruits (strawberry, raspberry, red cherry, a hint of blackcurrant), which develop in the finish more towards roasted fruits (roasted red cherry, roasted raspberry), slightly spicy (nutmeg) and floral touches (dried wild flowers, dried rose). The tannins are light, almost imperceptible. Liveliness and crunchy acidity on the finish. Good persistence.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Domaine Annivy, Noir Absolu, Vieilles Vignes 2021 Saumur-Champigny

The wine has a pale ruby color. The first nose expresses juiciness, fruit (strawberry, crushed raspberry, red cherry, red currant jelly, blueberry, crushed blackcurrant) and fine floral notes (violet, rose petals). The second nose completes the bouquet with notes of dried mint, a touch of chocolate and spices (clove, white pepper). The palate is refined and savoury. It expresses notes of crushed strawberry, roasted raspberry, red cherry, red currant, associated with a herbaceous touch (dried mint, cut grass) and floral (violet, rose in the background) notes, with a hint of nutmeg in the background. bottom. The tannins have a fine and pleasant texture. The finish is gourmand, with lots of fruit and freshness, thanks to a salivating acidity. Good persistence on blackcurrant.

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

Domaine Annivy, Segreto 2021 Saumur-Champigny

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is aromatic and gourmand: it expresses notes of ripe and juicy fruits (red cherry, morello cherry, strawberry, raspberry coulis, red currant, fresh and dried blackcurrant, roasted blueberry, fresh purple fig), combined with notes of sweet spices (cloves, liquorice, a hint of vanilla), aromatic herbs (bay leaf, rosemary in syrup) and flowers (peony, violet). On the palate, there is concentration, freshness and a lively tanginess. The wine expresses the flavors of fresh raspberry, strawberry, crushed blackcurrant, blueberry, red currant, a fine touch of bitterness from cranberries, associated with notes of blackcurrant leaf, sweet spices (liquorice, cloves). cloves, nutmeg and a sweet hint of vanilla in the background), flowers (peony, violet) and herbs (bay leaf, rosemary). The tannins have a velvety texture and a firm, but not dry, structure. Good length with a touch of bitterness and crunchy acidity. Concentration, precision, freshness and gourmandise.

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

La Seigneurie, Sénonien 2022 Saumur-Champigny

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose offers fruit and gourmandise expresses notes of red cherry, strawberry, crushed raspberry, a touch of fresh blueberry and blackcurrant, combined with a hint of violet and mint. On the palate, the attack is juicy and fruity, but the mid-palate expresses a tight side of tannins and a

slight bitterness. We find notes of morello cherry, red cherry, blackcurrant, wild plum, crushed raspberry and strawberry, combined with notes of violet, cut rosemary and dried mint in the background. The tannins are firm, a little rough and tight, softened by a lively and salivating acidity. The finish expresses the notes of tangy, even tannic fruits.

Score : 14.5+/20 (88/100)

La Seigneurie, Vieilles Vignes à Pierrot 2020 Saumur-Champigny

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose offers precision, finish and delicious fruit. It expresses notes of wild strawberry, crushed raspberry, blackcurrant, wild blackberry, morello cherry and red cherry, combined with notes of violet, wild flowers and lily, as well as a fine touch of thyme, blackcurrant bud, and wild mint in the background, as well as a fine spiciness (white pepper, ground nutmeg). The palate is juicy, silky and gourmand, with a certain power of tannins and a perceptible minty side on the attack. It expresses notes of crushed blackcurrant, morello cherry, crushed raspberry, red cherry, cranberries, as well as notes of wild mint, nutmeg, liquorice and a fine floral and herbaceous hints in the background (blackcurrant bud, violet). The tannins are firm and young, a little dry. The finish is fresh, juicy, quite persistent. The acidity is salivating, lively and helps balance the tannic side. Gourmandise and structure.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Domaine Filliatreau 2020 Saumur-Champigny

(organic) The wine has a pale ruby color. The nose is a little reserved and discreet. After aeration, it expresses notes of strawberry, red cherry, raspberry, red currant jelly, a beautiful floral hint: a touch of violet, lily, as well as a herbaceous hint (blackcurrant bud, mint dried, blond tobacco in the background) and spicy (nutmeg). The palate is juicy and gourmand, a little tight at the beginning (the tannins are fine, but firm and a little dry). It expresses notes of crunchy strawberry, raspberry, cranberries, blackcurrant, red cherry, associated with notes of dried mint, blackcurrant bud, as well as a delicate spicy (nutmeg), herbaceous (blackcurrant bud, blackcurrant, dried mint) and floral (violet) hints. Beautiful acidity and persistence with a pleasant bitterness. Structure, accuracy and gourmandise. A frank and straight wine.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Le Blason de Parnay 2022 Saumur-Champigny

(organic) The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. On the nose, the wine is reserved and requires aeration. It then expresses the aromas of small black and red fruits (blackcurrant, blueberry, red currant, as well as red cherry and raspberry), associated with touches of violet, fresh cornflower, cut grass and wet stone in the background. On the palate, there is concentration and directness. The wine expresses notes of small black fruits (tart blackcurrant, blueberry, bird cherry with a hint of bitterness), as well as red cherry and red currant. We also find floral notes (violet, cornflower) and blackcurrant leaf in the background. The finish offers a certain persistence, accuracy and a lively salivating acidity. The tannins are well structured. A gourmand finish, with notes of crushed blackcurrant and tangy morello cherry.

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

Le Clos du Château de Parnay 2020 Saumur-Champigny

(organic) The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is fleshy, fruity and gourmand. It expresses notes of crushed strawberry, raspberry coulis, ripe red cherry and wild blackberry, as well as roasted red cherry and fine notes of sweet spices (ground cumin, clove), flowers and dried herbs (dried mint, wild flowers, dried rose, a touch of dried rosemary). On the palate, the wine offers fullness on the attack, a mid-palate on its tight tannic side and a finish, expressing a salivating acidity. We find notes of small black fruits (blackcurrant, blueberry), tangy morello cherry, raspberry and cranberries, as well as touches of dried wildflowers, a hint of dried mint and sweet spices (cumin, cloves). The finish is juicy and quite persistent.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Clos des Cordeliers, Cuvée Tradition 2020 Saumur-Champigny

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is gourmand, fruity and juicy. It expresses notes of sweet wild strawberry, crushed raspberry, fresh red cherry, fresh blackcurrant, crushed blueberry, as well as a touch of roasted red cherry and crushed blackcurrant leaf, which adds freshness to the fruit. fleshy. We also see a touch of violet in the background. On the palate, the wine is essentially fruity, lively, chiselled and more tangy than the nose. It expresses tangy notes of red cherry, blackcurrant, crushed blueberry, raspberry, red currant and cranberries, combined with notes of fresh grass, blackcurrant leaf and a fine touch of violet in the background. The finish is tight, tannic and tangy. The tannins are rustic, a bit drying. The acidity is lively and salivating.

Score : 14.5+/20 (88/100)

Loire red wines

Clotilde Legrand, Les Lizières 2021

Saumur-Champigny

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The first nose offers distinct minerality (wet stone), and is complemented in the second nose by notes of red cherry, crushed raspberry, fresh red currant, crushed blackcurrant, wild strawberry and wild blackberry. We also find notes of wild mint, violet, lily and a touch of liquorice in the background. The attack on the palate is juicy, enveloping and fleshy. We find notes of crushed morello cherry, very ripe red cherry (see roasted), wild strawberry, raspberry coulis and red currant, as well as notes of slightly sweet flowers (peony, lilac, a touch of violet in sugar) and a herbaceous touch (wild mint, blackcurrant leaf) and spicy in the background (liquorice, cloves). The finish is persistent, tasty and warm (even with very discreet notes of cocoa and chocolate cherry), but with a fresh and tangy structure. Pleasant spiciness on the finish. Good potential.

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

Clotilde Legrand, Les Terraces 2017

Saumur-Champigny

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity, with light garnet reflections. The nose is fragrant and offers finesse and a certain complexity. It expresses notes of dried red cherry, dried raspberry, fresh raspberry, morello cherry, blackcurrant, as well as notes of evolution (undergrowth, leather) and very delicate notes of truffle and mushrooms, associated with notes of tobacco, sweet spices (white pepper, ground cumin) and dried herbs (mint, bay leaf). The palate is refined and melted, with a round attack and fine tannins. It expresses tertiary notes (undergrowth, leather, mushrooms) balanced by fruity flavors (very ripe fresh red cherry, dried red cherry, crushed strawberry, crushed raspberry, blackcurrant), as well as floral notes of peony, violet and sweet spices (nutmeg, white pepper). The finish is persistent, velvety and savoury. Beautiful refreshing acidity, combined with warm notes of cocoa and cumin on the finish.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Clotilde Legrand, La Chaintrée 2015

Saumur-Champigny

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity, with garnet reflections. The nose offers concentration, depth and complexity. It expresses notes of very ripe, dried and jammy fruits (ripe morello cherry, raspberry coulis, fresh blackcurrant, blackcurrant jam, roasted red cherry, wild strawberry), combined with notes of sweet spices (white pepper, liquorice, cumin), herbs (dried mint, dried bay leaf), violet, as well as tertiary notes of undergrowth and mushrooms in the background. The palate expresses a fine sweetness on the attack (chocolate cherry, macerated cherry), balanced by notes of fresh fruit (strawberry, morello cherry, crushed raspberry), dried mint and violet, as well as a nice acidity. We also find notes of sweet spices (liquorice, white pepper, cumin), undergrowth and mushrooms in the background. An evolved, complex wine, which has freshness and a beautiful tannic structure, firm, but refined.

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

Domaine des Coutures, La flamboyante 2020

Saumur-Champigny

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity, with slight purple reflections. The nose is delicate, even discreet, but offers a certain depth and complexity. It expresses notes of wild strawberry, crushed raspberry, morello cherry, red cherry jam, red currant jelly, blackcurrant, associated with notes of violet, fresh rose, iris, dried mint, blackcurrant bud, as well as a fine spiciness (liquorice, coriander seeds, ground cumin) and a very discreet note of sweet coffee in the background. The palate is tasty, silky and concentrated. There is a lot of fruit, slight notes of sweet spices, as well as a fine floral bouquet and a slight minerality in the background. We find in particular notes of wild strawberry, red cherry jam, crushed blueberry, blackcurrant (even crème de cassis), morello cherry and blackberry, supplemented by notes of liquorice, clove, cumin, ground, liquorice, dried rose, violet and coffee in the background. The tannins are fine, but powerful and tasty. Beautiful salivating acidity which balances a certain richness of the wine. Good persistence with a pleasant bitterness on the finish.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Autrement La Folie LuCé 2016

Saumur-Champigny

(organic) The wine has a pale ruby color with light garnet reflections. The nose is subtle and complex. It harmoniously combines notes of evolution (wet leaves, undergrowth), sweet spices (clove, nutmeg, a hint of vanilla and cinnamon), roasting (toasted hazelnut) with a refined fruitiness (wild strawberry, roasted raspberry, morello cherry, roasted red cherry, blackcurrant), as well as a floral and herbaceous bouquet (violet, dried rose, dried mint). On the palate, the wine offers gourmandise, delicacy and complexity, as well as firm tannins. We find notes of roasted raspberry, roasted red cherry, wild strawberry, morello cherry, crème de cassis, associated with notes of wet leaves, tobacco, undergrowth, dried flowers (violet, rose) and sweet spices (cloves, nutmeg, cinnamon in the background). Beautiful acidity and length on the palate with a peppery note and a slight bitterness.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Encore La Folie LuCé 2021

Saumur-Champigny

(organic) The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is reduced, with fermented notes at the beginning, but reveals pleasant fruity and tangy aromas after aeration. It expresses notes of red cherry, raspberry, cranberries, garnet juice, as well as violet and dried rose. The palate is delicious, fresh and straight. It expresses notes of tangy red fruits (red cherry, cranberries, raspberry), associated with touches of blackcurrant, blueberry, violet and peony. The tannins are enveloped, with a good structure and firmness. Beautiful juiciness and salivating acidity on the finish. Fruit and freshness.

Score : 14.5+/20 (88/100)

Arnauld Lambert, Les Parcellaires : Terres Rouges, craie sablo-limoneuse 2022

Saumur-Champigny

(organic) The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose offers fruit and a fine mineral structure. We find notes of crushed blackcurrant, morello cherry, wild strawberry, red cherry and red currant, associated with a chalky, herbaceous (dried mint, blackcurrant leaf) and floral (violet, peony) touches. The palate is gourmand, open, very fruity, with a beautiful wrapped and refined tannic structure. It expresses the flavors of morello cherry, red cherry jam, wild strawberry, crushed blackcurrant, raspberry coulis, combined with notes of peony, violet, lily, mint syrup and blackcurrant leaf. The finish is gourmand, fruity and fresh. Good acidity and good persistence.

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

Château de Villeneuve 2021

Saumur-Champigny

(organic) The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose offers concentration and precision. It expresses notes of fresh raspberry, dried raspberry and strawberry, wild strawberry, morello cherry, blackcurrant and crushed blueberry, associated with notes of violet, dried mint, nutmeg (in the background) and lily. The palate offers juiciness and the tanginess of fresh raspberry, red cherry, red currants, balanced by the sweetness of strawberries and morello cherries. We also find notes of dried mint, violet, lily, grated nutmeg and blackcurrant leaf in the background. The acidity is salivating and refreshing. The tannins are well structured, firm, but not drying. A gourmand, chiseled and straightforward wine.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Château de Villeneuve, Vieilles Vignes 2021

Saumur-Champigny

(organic) The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose offers juiciness and concentration. It expresses notes of dried red cherry, fresh morello cherry, wild strawberry, crushed raspberry, blueberry and a touch of blackcurrant, combined with notes of violet, rose, cornflower, liquorice stick and blackcurrant leaf. The palate is delicate, but juicy and gourmand. It expresses notes of strawberry, crushed raspberry, red currant, red cherry, blueberry and crushed blackcurrant, combined with floral and herbaceous notes of violet, rose, peony and blackcurrant leaf. The tannins are fine and enveloped. Beautiful acidity and juiciness on a quite persistent finish.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Domaine des Coutures, L'épanouie 2022

Saumur-Champigny

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity with slight purple reflections. The nose is rather discreet. It expresses notes of red cherry, raspberry, strawberry, fresh red currant, blackcurrant, as well as crushed blackcurrant leaf and violet. The palate is more expressive and offers lightness, juiciness and airiness. It expresses notes of red cherry, strawberry, crushed raspberry, blackcurrant and red currant, associated with a delicate touch of sweet spices (white pepper, nutmeg), flowers (violet, peony), as well as a good bitterness in the rather persistent finish. The tannins are sapid, soft, with a fine but firm texture. Beautiful acidity which refreshes the wine.

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

Domaine des Coutures, La sélection 2021

Saumur-Champigny

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose expresses juicy, ripe and slightly tart fruits: red cherry, raspberry, crunchy strawberry, red currant, elderberry and blackcurrant, combined with notes of blackcurrant leaf, wild mint, violet, fresh peony, as well as a touch of rose and fresh tobacco in the background. On the palate, the wine is tangy and chiselled, but fruity and juicy. It expresses notes of strawberry, fresh raspberry, red cherry, red currant, a touch of blackcurrant, as well as floral notes of violet, rose and dried peony. The finish is savoury, quite persistent, and also offers delicate spicy notes (white pepper, nutmeg). The tannins are fine, silky, complemented by a nice acidity. A gourmand and well-structured wine.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Loire red wines

Domaine de Nerleux, Cuvée des Nerleux 2022

Saumur-Champigny

The wine has a bright ruby color with purple reflections. The nose is fragrant and fruity: it expresses notes of red cherry, strawberry, crushed raspberry, blueberry, a touch of blackcurrant, associated with notes of mint, blackcurrant bud, violet, peony, iris and rose, as well as a subtle touch of white pepper in the background. The palate is savoury, fruity, with a tannic structure, slightly grippy, but refined. It expresses notes of wild strawberry, red cherry, morello cherry, blackcurrant, crushed raspberry, combined with notes of blackcurrant bud, dried mint, violet, rose and iris. The finish expresses a salivating acidity, as well as the roundness and juiciness of ripe fruit. Good persistence on the palate with a hint of menthol and cherry in chocolate on the finish.

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

Domaine de Nerleux, Clos des Châtains, Vieilles Vignes 2021

Saumur-Champigny

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose offers fruit as well as a certain complexity and a refined bouquet of spices and flowers. It expresses notes of roasted red cherry, ripe morello cherry, blackcurrant, raspberry coulis, wild strawberry, redcurrant jelly, associated with menthol and aniseed notes (wild mint, even pine needles, liquorice, almost star anise), with a refined floral notes (fresh rose, iris, violet) and delicate notes of sweet spices (ground cumin, white pepper). The palate is chiseled, straight, fruity and juicy. It expresses notes of strawberry, crushed raspberry, morello cherry, red cherry jam, redcurrant jelly, as well as notes of sweet spices (liquorice with a hint of anise, cumin, white pepper), flowers (violet, dried rose, iris) and a very delicate toasted touch in the background. The finish is persistent, sapid, with notes of ripe fruit, even jammy, balanced by a refreshing acidity.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Domaine de Nerleux, Les Loups Noirs 2020

Saumur-Champigny

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The aromas are delicate at first, but the nose expresses itself more after aeration. We find a subtle and refined spiciness (liquorice, clove, cumin, white pepper), a minty freshness (wild mint, a hint of rosemary), floral notes (violet, fresh rose, iris, lily), as well as a refined and fresh fruitiness (red cherry, strawberry, morello cherry, raspberry, blackcurrant, blueberry, wild plum). On the palate, the wine is airy and offers a fresh and tangy fruitiness. We find notes of crunchy strawberry, raspberry, fresh red currant, red cherry, a touch of blackcurrant and morello cherry, combined with notes of blackcurrant leaf, wild mint, violet, iris and lily, as well as a fine spiciness (liquorice, cloves, nutmeg, a hint of cinnamon). The tannins are firm, grippy but fine, balanced by a beautiful acidity. A complex, straight wine, with good aging potential, but closed for the moment.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Domaine Christelle Dubois, Boutifolle 2022

Saumur-Champigny

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The first nose expresses a distinct smoky note, which disappears after aeration. We then find notes of stewed cherry, strawberry, crushed raspberry, blackcurrant and dried cranberries, associated with aromas of violet and lily, as well as a touch of fresh tobacco and mint. The palate is airy, light, juicy and very fruity. It expresses notes of crushed strawberry, compote red cherry, crushed raspberry, red currant and blackcurrant, completed by notes of violet, lily and mint (in the background). The tannins are fine, almost imperceptible. Beautiful acidity and a delicate touch of blueberry on the finish. An accessible wine, easy-to-drink, with lots of fruit and gourmandise.

Score : 14.5+/20 (88/100)

Antoine Lelias, Les Insolents 2021

Saumur-Champigny

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose offers concentration and a beautiful fruity substance. It expresses notes of small juicy black fruits (blackcurrant, blackberry, blueberry), wild strawberry, morello cherry, red cherry jam and raspberry coulis, combined with notes of violet, lilac, dried rose, blackcurrant bud and dried mint,

as well as a touch of limestone mineral in the background. The palate is fresh, tangy and fruity, with a salivating acidity, which is especially expressed on the finish. We find notes of red cherry (with a slight hint of fermentation), crushed raspberry, strawberry, blackcurrant, red currant, as well as floral touches of violet, lilac and a hint of blackcurrant leaf. The tannins are grippy and a little bitter. The finish is rather persistent, tangy and fruity.

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

Domaine Filliatreau 2021

Saumur-Champigny

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose offers concentration, juicy fruit and a fine tanginess. It expresses notes of ripe red cherry, fresh raspberry, strawberry, red currant and cranberries, combined with notes of blueberry, blackcurrant, blackcurrant leaf, rose, violet and lilac, as well as with a touch of limestone in the background. The mouth is silky, melted, enveloping and fresh. It expresses notes of wild strawberry, morello cherry, red cherry jam, fresh raspberry, blackcurrant and blueberry, combined with notes of mint syrup, blackcurrant leaf, and a very delicate touch of chocolate in background (chocolate cherry) and a refined floral bouquet (violet, rose, lilac). The finish is juicy, gourmand and fruity, with expressive notes of ripe cherry and lively acidity. The tannins are soft and melted. A gourmand and pleasant wine, with lots of fruit. Good sapid persistence.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Lena Filliatreau 2020

Saumur-Champigny

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is reserved, but more expressive after aeration. We find notes of strawberry, fresh red cherry, raspberry, red currant, crushed blackcurrant and a touch of violet, dried rose, blackcurrant leaf and a hint of white pepper in the background. The palate is juicy and gourmand, but structured (the tannins are a little grippy in the mid-palate). It expresses notes of compote red cherry, morello cherry, crushed raspberry, strawberry, as well as a touch of blackcurrant and the tannic touch of wild plum. We also find a hint of blackcurrant leaf, dried mint, violet and fresh rose. The acidity is high, salivating. It balances the tannins of the wine and brings freshness. The finish is moderately persistent, juicy and fruity, with good bitterness and a fine herbaceous hints of wild mint.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Domaine Filliatreau, Vieilles Vignes 2020

Saumur-Champigny

(organic) The wine has a bright ruby color. The nose is refined and offers great concentration, lots of freshness, as well as complexity. It expresses notes of tangy fresh red fruits (red cherry, raspberry, fresh cranberries, strawberry), a touch of black fruits (crushed blackcurrant, blueberry), a subtle herbaceous hints (wild mint, blackcurrant leaf), as well as an elegant floral bouquet (violet, wild rose, lilac, lily of the valley), a fine spiciness (liquorice, nutmeg, cumin) and a hint of tobacco and black tea in the background. The palate offers straightness, good concentration, freshness and firm tannins, a little grainy, but not drying. The flavors are juicy and gourmand. We find notes of red cherry, morello cherry, strawberry, crushed raspberry, fresh red currant, blackcurrant, as well as a touch of blackcurrant leaf, violet, wild rose, lilac and lily of the valley, combined with a fine spiciness (a hint of liquorice and cumin). The finish is persistent, tannic, but balanced by juicy fruit flavors. A structured, refined and promising wine.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Château du Bellay, Vieilles Vignes 2019

Saumur-Champigny

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is reserved at first, but expresses generosity and a concentrated and ripe fruity substance. We find aromas of wild blackberry, morello cherry, wild plum, wild strawberry, red currant jelly and elderberry syrup. Then, we find an elegant and enveloped herbaceous hint, which adds complexity and a touch of freshness to the wine: the notes of mint syrup, minty chocolate and rosemary. The notes of sweet spices (liquorice, clove, nutmeg, a touch of vanilla) are delicate and integrated. The floral bouquet (violet, peony, rose), as well as a touch of fresh tobacco, completes a beautiful aromatic expression of the wine. The palate is gourmand, very fruity, even a bit jammy. It expresses notes of wild blackberry, morello cherry, red cherry jam, raspberry coulis, wild strawberry, fresh blackcurrant, as well as



Loire red wines

flowers (violet, peony, rose, lilac) and sweet spices (liquorice, clove, nutmeg), combined with a herbaceous touch of blackcurrant leaf and fresh tobacco. The tannins are firm, powerful, a bit dry and require time to melt. The finish is persistent, sapid, fruity and spicy (with notes of cumin on the finish), refreshed by a nice acidity. A wine to keep, powerful, straight and well-constructed.

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

Domaine Dubois, Vieilles Vignes 2022 Saumur-Champigny

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is juicy and fruity. It expresses notes of stewed red cherry, crushed strawberry, raspberry, blackcurrant and red plum, combined with touches of violet and lily of the valley, as well as a touch of blackcurrant leaf. On the palate, the wine is airy and offers lightness and fluidity. It expresses notes of juicy morello cherry, compote red cherry, crushed strawberry, crushed raspberry, blackcurrant, violet and iris in the background. The tannins are well structured, fine, with a slight bitterness. Beautiful salivating acidity and tangy fresh fruits and a herbaceous touch on the moderately persistent finish.

Score : 14.5/20 (88/100)

SAUMUR

Domaine de Peyanne 2021 Saumur

(organic) The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The first nose expresses spiciness (cloves, nutmeg, white pepper in the background) and slightly toasted. On the second nose, we find notes of fresh fruit (red cherry, strawberry, raspberry, a hint of blackcurrant and crushed blueberry), as well as floral (violet, lily, lily of the valley), herbaceous aromas (dried mint, blackcurrant leaf), and mineral touch (limestone) in the background. On the palate, the wine is gourmand, juicy and especially fruity. It expresses notes of red cherry, morello cherry, wild strawberry, crushed raspberry and blackcurrant, associated with a floral bouquet (violet, wild rose, lily of the valley, lilac) and a fine spiciness (clove, liquorice, ground cumin) and a hint of fresh tobacco in the background. The tannins offer a certain power, a beautiful structure and a fine texture. The finish is savoury, delicious and fresh, thanks to a salivating acidity which balances the dry tannins at the end of the log. Gourmandise and a beautiful structure which should become even more rounded.

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

M de Montgu ret 2022 Saumur

The wine has a brilliant ruby color, of medium intensity. The nose is warming and aromatic. It expresses notes of morello cherry, red cherry, ripe red currants, sweet wild strawberry, blueberry jam, combined with notes of dark chocolate with mint, menthol, liquorice, and a slight touch of toast (even caramel), a fine minerality (chalk, wet stone), as well as notes of flowers (violet, cornflower, a touch of iris), dried grass, bay leaf and cinnamon in the background. On the palate, the wine is full, textured and silky, with a certain sweetness, given by the notes of sweet spices (liquorice, cinnamon, cloves), caramel, chocolate, and very ripe fruit, even roasted (fresh morello cherry and jam, roasted red cherry, blueberry jam, black plum, blackberry), slightly sweet floral notes (iris, fresh rose) as well as a touch of freshness offered by the notes of dried mint, cut rosemary and bay leaf. The acidity is salivating and lively. The tannins are well structured, powerful, but silky. Good length, concentration and gourmandise.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Domaine Filliantreau, Ch teau Fouquet 2021 Saumur

(organic, biodynamic) The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is gourmand, (organic, biodynamic) The wine has a pale ruby color. The nose is closed at first. After aeration, the wine offers notes of wild strawberry, ripe raspberry, red cherry, blueberry, blackcurrant, bird cherry, as well as lots of flowers (violet, rose, lilac, cornflower) and a touch of wild mint, blackcurrant leaf and liquorice in the background. The palate is silky, and offers fleshy fruit and fine roasted notes. We find in particular the flavors of fresh ripe red cherry, roasted red cherry, wild strawberry, raspberry coulis, crushed blackcurrant, as well as a fine floral bouquet (violet, peony, lilac) and a herbaceous touch (mint dried, blackcurrant leaf) and spicy (clove, liquorice). The tannins are melted and velvety, and the acidity is supple, but fresh and pleasant. Beautiful persistence, gourmandise and freshness.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Br z , Cabernet Franc 2021 Saumur

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity and with slight purplish reflections. The nose is gourmand and fruity. It expresses notes of wild strawberry, morello cherry, raspberry coulis, redcurrant jelly and red cherry. We also find notes of violet and peony, as well as a delicate touch of mint syrup in the background. The palate mainly expresses fruits (red cherry, raspberry, wild strawberry, morello cherry), associated with a hint of violet and blackcurrant leaf. Tannins are drying on the finish, but softened by a lively acidity and juiciness. The finish has a medium persistence.

Score : 14/20 (86-87/100)

SAUMUR PUY-NOTRE-DAME

Domaine de La Paleine 2019 Saumur Puy-Notre-Dame

(biodynamic) The wine has a bright ruby color. The nose is expressive and fragrant. It offers aromas of ripe and dried black fruits (wild blackberry, morello cherry, dried blackcurrant), raspberry and wild strawberry, as well as bright and pronounced floral notes. We find the aromas of violet, dried rose, lily, lily of the valley, as well as a touch of fresh tobacco, wet leaves in the background and a fine spiciness (liquorice, white pepper, ground cumin), as well as a delicate touch of vanilla in the background. On the palate, the wine is structured and firm, with dry and grippy, but fine tannins. It expresses notes of wild strawberry, red cherry, raspberry, wild blackberry and morello cherry, combined with floral touches of violet, dried rose and lily of the valley, as well as a spicy hint of nutmeg, liquorice and cumin. The wine has a nice salivating acidity which balances the dryness of the tannins, but seems closed at the moment. Beautiful persistence on the palate, with sweet spices and black fruits.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

La Maison Cass e 2022 Saumur Puy-Notre-Dame

(biodynamic) The wine has a bright ruby color. The nose is fragrant and very floral, with a precise mineral framework and a burst of fruit. It expresses a refined touch of limestone, accompanied by notes of iris, rosehip, violet and cherry blossom, a juicy and fresh fruity notes (morello cherry, ripe wild strawberry, wild blackberry, blackcurrant, berberis) and a fine spicy (liquorice, nutmeg) and herbaceous (dried mint) touches. The palate is chiseled, straight and lively, with a firm tannic structure. It expresses notes of tart red cherry, morello cherry, blackcurrant, blueberry, wild strawberry and blackberry, associated with a floral bouquet (violet, cherry blossom, rosehip), a touch of liquorice, nutmeg, cumin and dried mint in the background. The finish is a bit tight and tannic. Good length in the mouth, freshness, nice acidity and power. A racy, age-worthy wine.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

CH TEAUMEILLANT

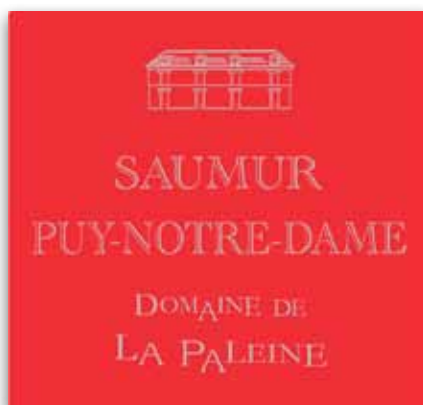
Domaine Siret-Courtaud 2022 Ch teaumeillant

The wine has a ruby color with purple hints. The nose is gourmand, fruity and fresh. It expresses tangy notes of raspberry, bigarreau cherry, red currant, with a touch of cranberries and garriguet strawberry in the background. We also find a note of crushed blackcurrant in the background, associated with a slight spicy (white pepper) and floral (field flowers) hints. The palate is silky, airy, with a juicy, fruity and open attack. The wine expresses flavors of ripe red cherry, crushed raspberry, strawberry, red currant, dried rose and wildflowers, as well as a pleasant peppery note (white pepper) that continues on the finish. The tannins are very supple and fine. Beautiful acidity which refreshes the fairly persistent, fruity and gourmand finish. A pleasant wine, which goes well with many dishes.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Domaine Goyer, Tradition 2022 Ch teaumeillant

The wine has a pale ruby color. The nose offers an expressive spiciness, as well as fresh and juicy fruity notes. It expresses peppery notes (white pepper, see black pepper, pink pepper berries), a hint of coriander seeds, as well as a very slight touch of sweet spices (clove), associated with notes of juicy raspberry, wild strawberry, fresh and roasted red cherry and crushed blueberry, as well as subtle notes of mint and flowers (peony, iris in the background). On the palate, the wine is round, supple and gourmand, with very slightly tannic (the tannins are practically imperceptible). The flavors are essentially fruity: we find notes of strawberry, fresh red cherry, red currant, raspberry, associated



Loire red wines

with a floral touch of peony and a very delicate peppery note, which appears at the end of the mouth. The finish is fruity, gourmand, moderately persistent. An accessible and easy-drinking wine.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Nicolas Lecompte 2021 Châteaumeillant

(70% Gamay, 30% Pinot Noir) The wine has a pale ruby color. The nose offers finesse and delicacy. It expresses the aromas of crunchy strawberry, juicy raspberry, red currants, a touch of blackcurrant and crushed blueberry, as well as a fine spiciness (white pepper, liquorice, cumin) and menthol, associated with aromas of wild flowers and rose petals. On the palate, the wine offers a fruity, juicy texture, with a spicy and warm finish, with notes of sweet spices (cloves, a very fine touch of cinnamon). We also find notes of ripe strawberry, fresh and roasted red cherry, red currants, a touch of red plum and blackcurrant (which leans slightly towards the creaminess of crème de cassis), associated with floral notes of peony and dried rose petals. The tannins are delicate, with a fine texture. The acidity is soft, but present. A wine of suppleness and gourmandise.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Domaine Lecompte, Folie Douce 2020 Châteaumeillant

The wine has a pale ruby color, with very light garnet reflections. The nose offers concentration, freshness and spiciness, which combine in harmony. It expresses notes of wild strawberry, compote red cherry, fresh morello cherry, crushed blackcurrant, blueberry, as well as a touch of blackberry and wild plum in the background. We also find freshness, expressed by the aromas of wild mint and menthol, as well as subtle spicy notes: liquorice, white pepper, cloves, nutmeg, as well as floral touches of lily and lilac. On the palate, the wine offers sapidity, accuracy and well-structured, but melted tannins. It expresses the flavors of roasted red cherry, morello cherry, wild blackberry, wild strawberry, crushed blackcurrant in the background, as well as a refined and integrated spiciness (clove, white pepper, liquorice). Delicate notes of barrel aging (toast, mild coffee, a touch of toasted vanilla and caramel) appear on the finish, complemented by slightly sweet floral notes (iris, peony). A gourmet, harmonious, ripe and warm wine, with power, persistence and complexity.

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

Domaine Roux, Héritage 2021 Châteaumeillant

(60% Gamay, 40% Pinot Noir) The wine has a pale ruby color. The nose is straight, refined and offers a juicy fruitiness associated with touches of spices and flowers. It expresses notes of wild strawberry, red cherry jam, morello cherry, red currant, raspberry, a touch of cranberries, as well as white pepper, dried rose, wild flowers, as well as a hint wild mint, smoke and leather in the background. On the palate, the wine offers a lot of gourmandise, juiciness of fruit, airiness and a delicate and melted tannic structure. It expresses notes of wild strawberry, morello cherry, compote red cherry, crushed raspberry, a touch of blueberry, as well as a hint of white pepper, nutmeg, wild flowers and dried rose, with a touch of dried mint, tobacco and leather in the background. The finish is persistent, enveloping, juicy, slightly sweet, but fresh, with a nice acidity and notes of tart cherry. A balanced and gourmand wine.

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

Domaine Roux, Cuvée Mediolanum 2019 Châteaumeillant

The wine has a pale ruby color with light garnet reflections. The nose is fragrant, finely spicy, with subtle tertiary notes and fruit freshness. It expresses notes of red cherry, morello cherry, wild strawberry, raspberry, red cherry jam, red currant jelly, associated with fine touches of wet leaves, undergrowth (with a very discreet note mushrooms in the background), dried thyme, dried cornflower, rose and dried nasturtium. The spiciness is expressed in notes of liquorice, white pepper and cloves. There is also a herbaceous touch of wild mint. On the palate, the wine offers bright flavors, fullness without heaviness, controlled power and fine, well-structured tannins. We find the flavors of ripe wild strawberries, red cherry compote, fresh morello cherry, black plum (with a slight prune side), blackberry, as well as spicy notes (liquorice, cloves, a touch of vanilla), wild mint and chocolate. Tertiary notes (undergrowth, wet leaves) are also present and add to the complexity of the wine. The finish is juicy, concentrated and persistent, refreshed by a beautiful acidity. A wine with complexity, balance and aging potential.

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

La Belle Anglaise 2020 Châteaumeillant

The wine has a pale ruby color with light garnet reflections. The nose is fragrant and offers precision, juiciness and freshness. It expresses notes of wild strawberry, morello cherry, red plum, wild black plum, crushed raspberry and blueberry, combined with touches of blackcurrant jam, dried mint, peony, wild flowers and cherry blossom, as well as very light notes of liquorice and cherry in chocolate in the background. The

palate is expressive, very fruity and offers well-structured tannins, which are slightly grippy in the mid-palate, but enveloped by a juicy fruity substance. It expresses the flavors of ripe morello cherry, red cherry jam, red currant jelly, sweet wild strawberry, raspberry coulis, as well as floral notes of dried rose, peony and a sweet touch of cherry in chocolate. The finish is gourmand, warm, a little jammy, but balanced by a good level of acidity. A fleshy and open wine.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Domaine Hubert, Origines 2020 Châteaumeillant

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose offers brightness, expression, fruit and a slight smokiness and spiciness. It expresses notes of red cherry, strawberry, morello cherry, crushed blackcurrant, roasted red cherry and blackberry jam, combined with notes of white pepper, cloves, smoke, dried mint, liquorice, as well as peony and violet, with a fine toasted note in the background. The palate is silky and tasty, with concentrated but airy fruitiness and a pronounced spiciness. We find notes of fresh morello cherry, ripe red cherry (even macerated), crushed strawberry, ripe raspberry, raspberry coulis, as well as spicy touches (clove, white pepper, liquorice) with a hint of toasted hazelnut and fresh flowers (peony, iris). There is a certain fullness of the ripe and slightly sweet fruity notes on the palate, carried by a beautiful structure of tannins, a good level of acidity and a slight bitterness which balances the very ripe and macerated hint of the fruit. Good length.

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

Domaine de Chaillot (Parenthèse) 2020 Châteaumeillant

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. It offers a nice concentration of fruit on the nose, complemented by a mineral framework and a fine spiciness. We find notes of fresh morello cherry, dried red cherry, dried cranberries, fresh raspberry, raspberry coulis, ripe red currants and red plum (even prunes). There is also the freshness of cut wild mint, a touch of blackcurrant bud and delicately integrated notes of sweet spices (liquorice, cloves, grated nutmeg), as well as a finesse of floral notes (peony, dried cornflower, violet), dried bouquet garni and cherry or chocolate. On the palate, the wine offers controlled and balanced power: a beautiful concentration of ripe and sweet fruit, but not overripe, supported by a fine, but firm tannic structure and lively acidity. The flavors are ample, fleshy, enveloping and sweet: we find notes of chocolate cherry, fresh morello cherry, plum with a prune side, wild strawberry and raspberry coulis, associated with notes of sweet spices (liquorice, cloves, grated nutmeg), dried flowers (cornflower, peony), a touch of roasting (toasted hazelnut, coffee) and dark chocolate. The finish is savory, gourmand and warming, with freshness brought by the acidity of the wine. Power and balance despite a high alcohol degree.

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

Domaine de Chaillot Rêvésens 2020 Châteaumeillant

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose offers precision and purity of fruit, as well as a fine minerality. It expresses notes of ripe morello cherry, wild strawberry, raspberry coulis, crushed blueberry and blackcurrant, associated with a mineral touch (dry stone, rock), fine spicy notes (liquorice, clove, a hint of vanilla), floral bouquet (rosehip, rose petals, cornflower), a touch of torefaction (toasted hazelnut) and chocolate cherry in the background. A delicate herbaceous touch (thyme, fresh tobacco) appears on the second nose. The palate is juicy, very fruity, pure and open. It expresses the freshness of ripe red fruits (wild strawberry, red cherry), fresh morello cherry, morello cherry jam, raspberry coulis, as well as a warm touch of chocolate plum and prunes (in the background), combined with notes of mint chocolate, liquorice, clove, cumin, as well as a floral touch of peony. The finish is persistent, with a warming note of macerated cherry and a touch of kirsch, counterbalanced by the acidity. The tannins are melted and silky. A fleshy and concentrated wine.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

SANCERRE

Domaine des Brosses 2022 Sancerre

The wine has a pale ruby color. The nose is pure, essentially fruity, with a smoky touch in the background. It expresses notes of strawberry, tart raspberry, red currant, roasted red cherry and elderberry, combined with notes of smoked meat, white pepper, a touch of fresh thyme, violet and wild flowers. The palate is airy, fresh, juicy and slightly tannic. It expresses notes of fresh red cherry, red currant, raspberry, roasted red cherry, combined with notes of white pepper, cloves, a slight smoky touch and a hint of violet and wild flowers. The finish is juicy, fruity, with fresh acidity and spicy and savory notes which persist on the finish and complement an expressive note of fresh red cherry. Lightness and gourmandise, a beautiful fruitiness.

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

Loire red wines

Joseph Mellot, Le Connétable 2020 Sancerre

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is fragrant and firstly offers savoury and spicy notes. It expresses aromas of cloves, white pepper, ground nutmeg, combined with light notes of leather and fresh tobacco. Then, we find an elegant floral bouquet (fresh rose, lilac), as well as ripe and juicy fruits: red cherry, strawberry, crushed raspberry, a touch of blackcurrant, roasted red cherry and elderberry. The palate expresses firm tannins, a certain power and juiciness. We find notes of red cherry, strawberry, raspberry, blackcurrant and elderberry, associated with notes of sweet spices (clove, nutmeg, liquorice), smoke, leather, fresh tobacco and flowers (violet, lilac). The tannins are firm, slightly bitter and grippy. A salivating acidity gives liveliness to the wine and softens a slight astringency of young tannins. The finish is persistent, enveloping, chiselled, sapid and expresses all the complexity of the wine.

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

Pierre Prieur & Fils, Domaine de Saint-Pierre 2020 Sancerre

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity (even deep). The nose is gourmand, fruity and pleasant. It expresses notes of fleshy morello cherry, wild strawberry, candied red cherry, blueberry, raspberry coulis, as well as wild mint, smoke, white pepper, peony and violet, with a hint of chocolate in the background. On the palate, the wine is fleshy, fruity, even warming with a touch of macerated fruit. It expresses notes of red cherry in chocolate (with a hint of kirsch), morello cherry, fresh wild strawberry, raspberry coulis, red currant jelly, crushed raspberry and crème de cassis, combined with notes of minty chocolate, a touch of cinnamon, liquorice, white pepper as well as slightly sweet floral notes (iris, peony), and a hint of smoke on the finish. The tannins have a fine texture, as well as good structure. The finish is persistent, gourmand and expresses notes of very ripe, even jammy, red fruits (morello cherry jam, fresh morello cherry) with a good level of acidity.

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

Roger Champault «Les Pierris» 2022 Sancerre

The wine has a pale ruby color. The nose offers a lot of freshness and a tanginess of small red fruits. It expresses notes of red cherry, raspberry, red currant, crunchy strawberry and elderberry, combined with floral notes of violet, fresh rose petals, cherry blossoms, as well as herbaceous touches (crushed mint, smokiness of oregano) and discreet hints of sweet spices (white pepper, cloves, a touch of liquorice). On the palate, the wine is chiseled, precise and tangy, with lots of liveliness and salivating acidity. It expresses notes slightly sweeter than those found on the nose: wild strawberry, very ripe red cherry, or even with a hint of jam, red currant jelly, fresh raspberry and raspberry coulis, combined with notes of crushed blackcurrant, cut mint, as well as floral notes of peony, rose petals and dried wildflowers. The tannins are firm, but well structured. They are grippy in the mouth without drying it out thanks to a lively acidity. Good length, with lots of freshness and a slight bitterness. A racy, aromatic, gourmand and straightforward wine.

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

Pierre Prieur & Fils, Domaine de Saint-Pierre 2019 Sancerre

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose offers purity, precision and ripe fruity notes. It expresses aromas of red cherry, juicy morello cherry, crunchy raspberry, wild strawberry, blueberry and wild blackberry. We also find the freshness of wild mint, a floral touch of rose petals and a delicate spiciness (liquorice, cumin, white pepper, a touch of vanilla in the background). On the palate, the wine offers expressive and juicy fruity flavors. It expresses notes of fresh morello cherry, morello cherry jam, wild strawberry, red currant jelly, crushed blueberry, as well as a hint of crème de cassis, associated with notes of sweet spices (vanilla, a touch of cinnamon, liquorice), chocolate cherry in the background, as well as floral notes of iris and rose. The tannins are silky, but structured. The finish is persistent, juicy and enveloping, with notes of ripe red fruits and a touch of chocolate, refreshed by a supple, but refreshing acidity.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Pierre Prieur & Fils, Domaine de Saint-Pierre, Cuvée Maréchal Prieur 2016 Sancerre

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose offers concentration of delicacy, a fresh fruitiness and fine spicy notes. It expresses the aromas of roasted red cherry, fresh morello cherry, crushed wild strawberry, raspberry coulis, a touch of blackcurrant and wild plum in the background, as well as notes of white pepper, ground cumin, seeds of coriander, liquorice (even star anise), wild mint, as well as flowers (violet, lily, lilac). There are also fine tertiary notes of undergrowth and truffles. The palate is expressive and juicy, with a

firm, slightly grippy tannic structure. It expresses notes of fresh morello cherry, bigarreau cherry, wild strawberry, crushed raspberry, fresh blueberry, a touch of blackberry, as well as notes of sweet spices (a hint of cinnamon, liquorice, cloves), dried mint and flowers (fresh rose, violet, lily). The tertiary notes (truffle, undergrowth) are very delicate. A long finish combines the roundness and generosity of the fruit and the tannic power with a beautiful salivating acidity. A fleshy, powerful, but refined wine.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Domaine La Croix St-Laurent 2020 Sancerre

The wine has a pale ruby color. The first nose is ripe and warm and expresses notes of juicy red fruits (wild strawberry, fresh and jammed red cherry, crushed red plum, crushed raspberry), associated with aromas of blueberry, blackcurrant, and a touch of mint. Crushed, cut rosemary, as well as a refined floral bouquet (fresh rose, peony), notes of fresh tobacco, aromatic herbs (thyme, bay leaf) and sweet spices (liquorice, clove). The palate is juicy on the attack, round and enveloping, with a firm, but not drying tannins that appear afterwards. The flavors are juicy, full and fleshy: they offer richness and concentration to the wine. We find in particular notes of crushed wild strawberries, fresh morello cherries, red cherry jam, red currant jelly, raspberry coulis, as well as notes of sweet spices (cloves, a hint of nutmeg), flowers (peony, rose petals, violet), as well as an enveloped herbaceous notes of minty chocolate, rosemary syrup. The finish is warm, with notes of ripe fruit and a touch of dark chocolate, refreshed by a nice acidity. The finish is long, fruity and gourmand. A rather rich wine, but refined and balanced.

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

Domaine de La Jolive 2020 Sancerre

The wine has a pale ruby color. The first nose offers smoky, slightly meaty notes, which disappear after aeration. We find the fruitiness of wild strawberry, red cherry, red currant, elderberry, wild strawberry, as well as a touch of crushed blackcurrant. The nose also expresses herbaceous notes of dried mint, tomato leaf, and delicate floral (wildflowers, violet, a touch of peony) and spicy (liquorice, nutmeg) notes. The palate is generous with fruit, but fresh and juicy. It expresses notes of fresh red cherry, crushed raspberry, crunchy strawberry, a touch of red plum and cranberries (with a slight bitterness), red currants, as well as aromatic herbs (crushed mint, a touch of oregano) and fresh flowers (rose petals, a hint of violet and dried wild flowers) and a fine spiciness (liquorice stick, clove), as well as a fine touch of dried red fruits. The finish is enveloping and juicy, with fresh red fruits, notes of sweet spices and a fine touch of dried flowers, roasted meat and smoke in the background. The acidity is pleasant and fresh. The tannins are structured and integrated into a refined fruitiness of the wine. Expression, gourmandise and structure.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Domaine Philippe Rimbault, Apud Sarracum 2022 Sancerre

The wine has a pale ruby color. The nose is fruity and gourmand, slightly mineral. It expresses notes of fresh and juicy red fruits, with a tangy touch: red cherry, raspberry, red currant, crunchy strawberry, combined with a subtle limestone and wet stone touch. We also find a delicate floral bouquet in the background (violet, wild flowers). On the palate, the wine is straight and tangy, but with juiciness and fruit. It expresses flavors of tart red cherry, raspberry, strawberry, red currant, a touch of bitterness from cranberries, as well as floral notes of violet, cherry blossom and a touch of limestone in the background. The tannins are firm and a bit drying. The finish expresses bitterness, strong acidity and notes of small red fruits with a hint of bitterness.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Roger & Didier Rimbault 2020 Sancerre

The wine has a pale ruby color. The nose is fragrant and tasty. It expresses notes of ripe fruit with a touch of roasted fruit: roasted red cherry, strawberry, roasted raspberry, a hint of crushed blackcurrant and blueberry. We also find slight notes of roasted meat, smoke, white pepper, as well as dried rose, violet and hints of thyme, which appear on the second nose. The palate is enveloping, juicy and fruity. The attack is open and offers a certain concentration, even a slight sweetness. We find the flavors of wild strawberry, ripe morello cherry, roasted morello cherry, crushed fresh raspberry, a touch of blackcurrant, as well as a hint of smoke, white pepper, flowers (dried rose, violet) and aromatic herbs (thyme, dried mint in the background). The finish is persistent and chiseled, with notes of red fruits and a slight bitterness. Good concentration, precision, a certain roundness in the mouth and nice acidity. The tannins are structured and enveloped.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)



Loire red wines

Roger & Didier Raimbault, Vieilles Vignes 2020 Sancerre

The wine has a pale ruby color. The nose offers concentration, while remaining subtle, complex and precise. It expresses notes of fresh wild strawberry, strawberry jam, red cherry, raspberry coulis, elderberry and red currant, associated with minty freshness and delicate spicy notes (liquorice, nutmeg), as well as just a hint of rosemary and fresh flowers (violet, rose petals). The palate is silky and enveloping, with melted tannins, ripe fruity flavors, slightly sweet and balanced by a beautiful acidity. We find notes of juicy morello cherry, wild strawberry, roasted red cherry, ripe raspberry, as well as a touch of wild blackberry, associated with a hint of dark chocolate, liquorice, nutmeg and flowers (violet, peony). Good persistence in the mouth. A gourmet, fleshy, but fresh and harmonious wine.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Domaine de Chézatte, Chante Merle 2019 Sancerre

The wine has a pale ruby color. The nose is delicate, reserved, but offers a certain complexity as well as airiness. It expresses notes of red cherry juice, fresh morello cherry, crushed raspberry, strawberry and red currant jelly, combined with notes of violet, dried rose petals, as well as herbaceous (dried mint, rosemary) and spicy touches (liquorice, cloves). On the palate, the wine is airy, juicy on the attack, but a little tight in the mid-palate. It offers flavors of strawberry, raspberry, fresh red currants, a touch of bitterness from cranberries, as well as fine floral (rose, violet), herbaceous (rosemary, dried mint) and spice notes in the background (liquorice), a touch of white pepper. The tannins have a fine texture, but a little tight. The acidity is lively, and the finish is fresh and tangy. A wine of freshness and precision.

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

Château La Rabotine 2022 Sancerre

The wine has a pale ruby color. The nose is tangy, fruity, lively and offers a certain concentration. It expresses notes of small red fruits (strawberry, red cherry, raspberry, cranberries), a touch of dried aromatic herbs (thyme, bay leaf) and a slight peppery note. The palate is juicy and tangy. It expresses notes of bigarreau cherry, cranberry, cranberries (with a very subtle bitterness in the background) and crushed raspberry, as well as a peppery and herbaceous touch in the background. The tannins are fine and light, more perceptible on the finish. The finish offers freshness, liveliness, crunchy acidity and a certain bitterness. A fruity, tangy and chiseled wine.

14.5/20 (88/100)

Château La Rabotine 2020 Sancerre

The wine has a pale ruby color. Rather discreet on the nose, it expresses a certain concentration and complexity. We find notes of fresh red cherry, dried cranberries, raspberry, strawberry and red currant, floral aromas of dried rose, wild flowers and violet, as well as a touch of white pepper, ground cumin and of dried rosemary, with a slight note of roasted meat and smoke in the background. On the palate, the wine offers juiciness and ripe fruity notes. It expresses the flavors of red cherry (with a touch of morello cherry), strawberry, crushed raspberry, cranberry juice, red currant, as well as a hint of white pepper, dried wild flowers, ground cumin and smoke in the background. The tannins are fine, well structured. Beautiful acidity which brings tension and a chiseled structure to the wine. The finish is persistent, with an expressive note of tart red cherry and a fine smoky note. A fresh and precise wine, with a certain concentration and good length.

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

Château La Rabotine, Terres de Droux 2020 Sancerre

The wine has a pale ruby color. The nose is refined and delicate. It offers tension, a fine concentration and a certain complexity: we find aromas of fresh wild strawberry, dried strawberry, raspberry, red cherry, elderberry and cranberries, associated with notes of minerality (wet stone); slightly ferrous touch, spices (white pepper, cloves, a fine touch of liquorice), dried wild flowers, as well as a touch of smoke and cocoa in the background. The palate is structured and firm, but balanced by a juicy fruitiness. We find notes of wild strawberry, red cherry, dried strawberry, cranberries, crushed raspberry, as well as melted and integrated spicy and woody notes (liquorice, clove, ground cumin, white pepper), a touch smoke in the background, as well as delicate floral (dried rose, wild flowers) and mineral (wet stone) notes. The finish is precise, juicy and fruity, with a slight bitterness of tannins. The acidity is salivating, but supple and pleasant. Good structure, flesh and balance.

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

Matthias et Emile Roblin, Origine 2020 Sancerre

The wine has a pale ruby color. The nose offers aromas of fresh red fruits (red cherry, wild strawberry, red currant, crushed raspberry), roasted red cherry, a touch of dried cherry, associated with notes of liquorice, white pepper, as well as a floral touch of rose, lily and a herbaceous touch of mint and tomato leaf in the background. We also find slightly smoky and meaty notes. The palate is gourmand, fruity, juicy, slightly smoky on the attack. It also expresses the flavors of bigarreau cherry, strawberry, crushed

raspberry, red currants and a fine bitterness of cranberries, associated with floral (rose, a touch of violet), herbaceous (a touch of tomato leaf and wild mint in the background) and slightly spicy (white pepper). The tannins are a bit grippy in the mid-palate, but have a fine texture. The finish is tangy, fresh, salivating, sapid and quite persistent. A wine with beautiful freshness, structure and accuracy.

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

Matthias et Emile Roblin, Grande Côte de la Vallée 2019 Sancerre

The wine has a pale ruby color. The nose is concentrated, refined and complex. The first nose combines floral (violet, dried rose, a touch of iris) and herbaceous (dried thyme, bay leaf) notes, which are complemented in the second nose by juicy and slightly sweet notes of ripe morello cherry, red cherry, wild strawberry, red currant jelly and crushed blueberry, as well as spicy touches of liquorice, white pepper, nutmeg, smoke and roasted cherry. The palate is full and juicy, but refined, subtle and silky. It expresses the flavors of ripe red cherry, morello cherry, wild strawberry, raspberry coulis, redcurrant jelly, crushed blueberry as well as fresh rose, iris, liquorice, cloves and touches sweetened with cocoa, or even cherry in chocolate. There is also a nice freshness, brought by a slight bitterness and mentholated notes on the finish. The tannins are very fine, velvety and supple, but at the same time structured. The finish is persistent and offers freshness and a crunchy and pleasant acidity. A gourmand and balanced wine.

Score : 16.25+/20 (93/100)

SAINT-NICOLAS DE BOURGUEIL

Dumnacus Vignerons, 2021 Saint-Nicolas de Bourgueil

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is fragrant, gourmand, but reserved and delicate. It expresses notes of red cherry, crunchy strawberry, tangy raspberry and elderberry, combined with fine notes of crushed blueberry, dried mint, tomato leaf, as well as a delicate spicy note (white pepper, cloves in the background). We also find fine floral notes (dried violet) in the background. On the palate, the wine offers a fruity, juicy and straight attack. It expresses notes of tart red cherry, a hint of crushed blackcurrant, fresh raspberry, strawberry, as well as the acidity and slight bitterness of cranberries, associated with herbaceous (tomato leaf, dried mint), floral (violet) touches and a fine spiciness, which completes the bouquet (white pepper, nutmeg, oregano and its smokiness). Beautiful acidity, which brings a lot of freshness. The finish is rather persistent and juicy. A straight, fruity, gourmand wine, with lots of vivacity.

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

Vignoble de la Jarnerie, Cuvée Angèle 2022 Saint-Nicolas de Bourgueil

(organic) The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity, with slight purple reflections. The nose is fragrant, gourmand and juicy. It expresses notes of wild strawberry, crushed raspberry, red cherry and a touch of blueberry, combined with notes of lily of the valley, lily and violet, as well as a herbaceous touch of rosemary. On the palate, the wine is chiseled, straight and fresh. It expresses notes of tart red cherry, fresh raspberry, garnet, cranberries with a slight bitterness, as well as floral touches of lily and violet, combined with a herbaceous hint. Acidity is salivating and lively. Simplicity, freshness and juiciness. The tannins are very supple.

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

Vignoble de la Jarnerie, Concerto 2021 Saint-Nicolas de Bourgueil

The wine has a ruby color, of medium intensity. The nose expresses fruit, gourmandise and a fine spiciness. We find notes of juicy red cherry, crunchy strawberry, red currants, elderberry, as well as a touch of crushed blackcurrant and juniper berries, associated with sweet spices (white pepper, liquorice) and a pleasant minty note and a hint of blackcurrant bud, which appear after aeration. On the palate, the wine is supple, juicy and offers fluidity (in the good sense) and an elegant airiness. It also offers roundness, notes of fresh and tangy fruits (red cherry, raspberry, cranberries, strawberry, blackcurrant), herbaceous freshness (blackcurrant leaf, mint), a very delicate spiciness (liquorice, white pepper), a lively and salivating acidity, as well as fine, but perceptible tannins. A refined wine, with freshness and liveliness.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Vignoble de la Jarnerie, Improvisation 2020 Saint-Nicolas de Bourgueil

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is reserved, discreet. It expresses notes of red cherry, strawberry, raspberry, crushed garnet seeds, blackcurrant, blueberry, with a fine note of morello cherry jam in the background, a mineral touch (wet stone), dried wild flowers, liquorice and white pepper. On the palate, the wine is fruity and offers a certain roundness, fine but structured tannins and a salivating acidity, rounded by a fruity, rather persistent finish. We find flavors of red cherry, fresh raspberry, red plum, a hint of blackcurrant, as well as fine notes of black pepper, liquorice, dried wild flowers and a slight minerality. A lively and chiseled wine, with a certain concentration.

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

Loire red wines

Domaine Les Caves du Plessis, Vieilles Vignes 2022 Saint-Nicolas de Bourgueil

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is gourmand and juicy: it expresses aromas of tangy fresh red fruits (fresh raspberry, strawberry, red currant, bigarreau cherry), as well as a touch of violet and a very discreet hint of hay in the background. In the mouth, there is roundness and gourmandise, a beautiful freshness and a lively acidity. The wine expresses flavors of raspberry, bigarreau cherry, crunchy strawberry, red currant, a touch of wild flowers, a tangy note of fresh blackcurrant and a slight bitterness on the finish. A refined, precise and refreshing wine, silky and low in tannin.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Domaine Les Caves du Plessis, Réserve Stephane 2020 Saint-Nicolas de Bourgueil

The wine has a bright ruby color. The nose offers a beautiful fruity substance, gourmandise and a slight sweetness of aromas. It expresses notes of wild strawberry, raspberry coulis, crushed blackberry, stewed red cherry, a fine touch of chocolate with mint, delicate notes of sweet spices (clove, liquorice, a hint of nutmeg), as well as floral aromas of rosehip and cherry blossom and a very light note of toasted hazelnut in the background. On the palate, the wine is concentrated, but airy at the same time. It expresses notes of wild strawberry, roasted red cherry, raspberry coulis, morello cherry, a touch of blackberry, as well as toasted notes (hazelnut), cocoa, sweet spices (liquorice, clove, nutmeg) wrapped by fruit. The tannins are velvety, ample, but fine and integrated. Beautiful acidity and length on the palate, with juiciness, fruity freshness and floral notes on the finish. A wine that offers elegance and controlled power.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Estelle & Rodolphe Cognard, Cuvée « Les Malgagnes » 2021

Saint-Nicolas de Bourgueil

(organic) The wine has a bright ruby color. The nose offers concentration, gourmandise and a certain complexity: it expresses notes of wild strawberry, crushed raspberry, red cherry, morello cherry, red currant jelly as well as a touch of blackcurrant, associated with fine spicy notes (crushed black pepper berries, cumin in the background), herbaceous hint (dried grass, dried mint in the background) and a bouquet of wild flowers. The palate is airy, juicy and fruity: it expresses flavors of strawberry, red cherry, red currants and crushed raspberry, combined with subtle notes of rose petals, dried grass and white pepper. There is freshness, lightness, fine but present tannins, a nice acidity and persistence on the palate, with a slight bitterness. A refined and gourmand wine.

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

Domaine de la Cotelleraie, Pigeur Fou 2022 Saint-Nicolas de Bourgueil

(organic) The wine has a bright ruby color with purple reflections. The nose is pure, fruity and juicy. It expresses notes of strawberry, raspberry, red cherry, a touch of morello cherry and blackcurrant, as well as subtle floral notes of violet and lilac. The palate is airy, fluid and light (in a good sense), not very tannic. It expresses notes of juicy strawberry, crushed raspberry, blueberry, morello cherry and red cherry, as well as a touch of violet, wild flowers and a very fine hint of blackcurrant leaf. Good acidity, juiciness, roundness and gourmandise. A pleasant and easy-to-drink wine.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Domaine de la Cotelleraie, Les Perruches 2021 Saint-Nicolas de Bourgueil

(organic) The wine has a deep ruby color. The nose is silky, juicy and ripe. It offers notes of sweet wild strawberry, crushed raspberry, roasted red cherry, fresh bigarreau cherry, morello cherry and blackcurrant, combined with fresh touches of mint, blackcurrant leaf, and a subtle floral bouquet (lily, violet) and a hint of liquorice and cut grass in the background. The palate is juicy, airy, with velvety and fine tannins. It expresses flavors of tart red cherry, morello cherry, wild strawberry, raspberry, crushed blueberry and blackcurrant, combined with notes of crushed mint, blackcurrant leaf, violet and lily; as well as a touch of liquorice and ground cumin in the background. Good length, with fresh, integrated acidity and good bitterness.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Nathalie et David Drussé, Nature de Loire, Sans Sulfites 2022

Saint-Nicolas de Bourgueil

(organic) The wine has a deep ruby color, with purple reflections. The nose is bright, very fruity and juicy. It expresses notes of ripe red cherry, crushed morello cherry, wild strawberry, wild blueberry, as well as violet, cherry blossom and the slightly sweet aroma of peony. The palate offers flavors of tangy fruits (red cherry, raspberry, crunchy strawberry, blueberry, cranberries), softness of ripe morello cherry, a floral touch of peony and violet, a lively salivating acidity, as well as a hint of cut grass. The tannins are fine, well structured and enveloped, thanks to the juiciness and fruity freshness of the wine. The finish is tangy and juicy, but with a certain firmness of tannins in the beginning.

Score : 14.5/20 (88/100)



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Loire red wines

Nathalie et David Drussé, Les Graviers 2022

Saint-Nicolas de Bourgueil

(organic) The wine has a deep ruby color, with purple reflections. The nose offers concentration, fresh fruit, as well as a fine minerality. It expresses notes of red cherry, red currant, raspberry, blueberry, blackcurrant (in the background), as well as herbaceous notes of blackcurrant leaf, cut mint, violet, rose petals and cherry blossom. The palate is airy, and offers fluidity and lightness. We find the juicy flavors of tart red cherry, morello cherry, crushed raspberry, blueberry, raspberry, blackcurrant (in the background), as well as blackcurrant leaf, violet, fresh wildflowers and cut grass. The finish expresses liveliness, salivating acidity and a slight bitterness (in the background). The tannins are a little grippy, but fine.

Score : 14.5+/20 (88/100)

Nathalie et David Drussé, Vieilles Vignes 2021

Saint-Nicolas de Bourgueil

(organic) The wine has a bright ruby color. The nose is delicate and reserved, but offers concentration and good fruity concentration. It expresses notes of morello cherry, tart red cherry, crushed raspberry, roasted red cherry, blackcurrant, dried strawberry, blackberry (in the background), associated with touches of mint chocolate, cut rosemary, rose and violet petals, as well as a hint of liquorice and nutmeg in the background. On the palate, the wine is juicy, round, but straight and fresh. It expresses notes of red cherry, morello cherry, red currant, crushed raspberry, as well as violet, cut rosemary, dried mint and a hint of blackcurrant in the background. The tannins are firm, but enveloped by the juiciness of the fruits and a salivating acidity. The finish is rather persistent and tangy.

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

Nathalie et David Drussé, Leroy de Restigné 2022

Saint-Nicolas de Bourgueil

(organic) The wine has a bright ruby color with purple reflections. The nose is concentrated and offers juicy fruitiness. It expresses the aromas of morello cherry, wild strawberry, raspberry coulis, crushed blackcurrant, blueberry, as well as a pronounced but delicate herbaceous notes: hay, dried thyme, blackcurrant leaf. We also find notes of flowers (violet, cherry blossom) and a touch of liquorice in the background. The palate is chiseled, tangy and offers accuracy, concentration and powdery, but firm tannins. It expresses notes of tart blackcurrant and red cherry, raspberry, red currant, a fine bitterness of cranberries, as well as notes of crushed raspberry, violet, wild flowers, dried grass and thyme in the background. The acidity is salivating and fresh. The finish is persistent and fruity, with notes of tart red cherry, crushed raspberry and a slight bitterness. The tannins are a little dry in the mid-palate. Good structure, freshness and a certain concentration.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Maison Audebert et Fils - Vignoble de la Contrie 2020

Saint-Nicolas de Bourgueil

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is bright, fragrant and gourmand. It expresses pure fruity aromas (red cherry, wild strawberry, raspberry, a touch of crushed blackcurrant and wild blackberry), combined with a hint of violet, cut grass and mint syrup in the background. The palate is juicy and silky, with slightly dry, but fine tannins. We find flavors of wild strawberry, crushed raspberry, tart red cherry, blackcurrant and a tannic touch of wild plum, combined with notes of violet, blackcurrant leaf and hay on the finish. The acidity is lively, salivating and balances well the dry side of the tannins, which is expressed at the end of the palate. Good persistence on the fruit and a slight bitterness.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Domaine du Mortier, Les Sables 2022

Saint-Nicolas de Bourgueil

(organic) The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is discreet, essentially fruity and slightly floral. It expresses notes of fresh strawberry, raspberry, red currant, red cherry and crushed blueberry, combined with a touch of violet and dried cornflower. On the palate, the wine is supple, airy, full of finesse and lightness. The tannins are very fine and practically imperceptible. We find flavors of raspberry, fresh strawberry, red cherry, red currant, violet and a touch of rose petals. Beautiful crunchy and refreshing acidity. Good persistence with a very slight bitterness. A pleasant, delicious and easy-to-drink wine.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Domaine du Mortier, Les Graviers 2021

Saint-Nicolas de Bourgueil

(organic) The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity, with purple reflections. The nose offers a pure fruity expression, with floral and herbaceous touches. We find notes of red cherry, strawberry, crushed raspberry, dried red cherry, wild plum, as well as wild mint, violet, lily and a hint of rosemary. On the palate, the wine offers freshness, fluidity (in a good way) and juiciness. It expresses notes of tart red cherry, strawberry, raspberry, a touch of blueberry on the finish, as well as notes of violet, lily, wild mint and a very discreet spicy hint of nutmeg. The tannins are fine and discreet. Beautiful acidity, which combines with a delicate bitterness on the finish. A fresh, juicy and delicious wine, with a certain substance on the palate.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Domaine du Mortier, Dionysos 2020

Saint-Nicolas de Bourgueil

(organic) The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity, with purplish reflections. The nose is fragrant, straight and offers ripe fruit, a mineral touch and concentration. It expresses notes of wild strawberry, crushed raspberry, roasted red cherry, red currants, a hint of blackcurrant and blueberry, as well as a fine floral bouquet (violet, rosehip, lily, dried cornflower), a touch hay and wet stone in the background. On the palate, the wine offers a concentrated and juicy fruity substance, as well as well-structured, firm, but fine tannins. It expresses notes of sweet wild strawberry, raspberry coulis, fresh red currant, red currant jelly, as well as a touch of blackberry, morello cherry, violet, lily, a sweet touch of peony, as well as as the freshness of dried mint and rosemary in the background. The finish is savoury, fruity and gourmand, with refreshing acidity and a beautiful tannic structure.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Estelle & Rodolphe Cognard, Cuvée Estelle 2022

Saint-Nicolas de Bourgueil

(organic) The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity, with purplish reflections. The nose offers freshness, purity and a fragrant floral bouquet. It expresses notes of juicy red cherry, fresh strawberry, raspberry, elderberry, combined with notes of cherry blossom, violet and a sweet touch of peony, as well as a hint of blackcurrant leaf, wild mint and white pepper in the background. On the palate, the wine offers juiciness, gourmandise and airiness, as well as a well-built tannic structure, but refined and not drying. We find notes of crushed red cherry, morello cherry, strawberry, raspberry coulis and a fine floral bouquet (cherry blossoms, violet, peony), as well as a touch of blackcurrant leaf and liquorice in the background. The finish is juicy, gourmand and fruity. A fine, slightly grippy tannic side brings structure and salivating acidity – freshness and liveliness.

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

Estelle Cognard, Ma Cuvée d'Or 2022

Saint-Nicolas de Bourgueil

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is refined, fragrant and offers a certain complexity, as well as a concentrated bouquet of red fruits. It expresses notes of red cherry, gariguetto strawberry, wild raspberry, elderberry and red currants, combined with notes of dried blackcurrant, violet, dried rose petals, as well as fine spicy hints of liquorice, white pepper and nutmeg. We also see notes of fresh grass and wild mint in the background. On the palate, the wine is round and gourmand. It offers a ripe fruity bouquet, with a slight sweetness. We find notes of wild strawberry, ripe red cherry, morello cherry, wild raspberry, a hint of crushed blackcurrant, as well as floral notes of rose, violet and peony, associated with a touch of mint syrup and nutmeg in the background. The tannins are structured, but fine. Beautiful length and a tangy frame which brings liveliness. A fresh, pleasant and gourmand wine.

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

Estelle & Rodolphe Cognard, Les Malgagnes 2020

Saint-Nicolas de Bourgueil

(organic) The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose offers precision, a beautiful fruity expression and a fine spiciness. It expresses notes of fresh strawberry, dried strawberry, raspberry, roasted red cherry and crushed blackcurrant, combined with notes of nutmeg, ground cumin, liquorice stick, as well as touches of dried mint, wild rose and violet. On the palate, the wine is straight, chiseled and concentrated. It expresses tangy notes of morello cherry, raspberry, red cherry, blackcurrant, as well as touches of elderberry, rose petals, violet, liquorice, dried mint and cumin in the background. The finish is ample, fleshy, but straight, thanks to a structure of firm tannins and salivating acidity. Good length, with the spiciness and savouriness of the wine.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Wilfried & Samuel Mabileau, Vieilles Vignes 2022

Saint-Nicolas de Bourgueil

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose offers tangy fruit and juiciness. It expresses notes of wild strawberry, crushed raspberry, tart red cherry, a touch of blackcurrant and morello cherry, as well as delicate notes of peony and violet. The palate is precise and fruity, with a certain concentration. We find flavors of crushed raspberry, wild strawberry, red cherry, a hint of morello cherry, violet and peony, as well as a slight touch of white pepper in the background. The finish has a medium persistence, but offers a nice acidity and juiciness. The tannins are fine, slightly grippy, with a slight bitterness on the finish.

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

Wilfried & Samuel Mabileau, La Belle du Domaine 2022

Saint-Nicolas de Bourgueil

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is tangy, fresh and offers bright fruity aromas. It expresses notes of strawberry, crushed raspberry, red cherry and blueberry, as well as a touch of violet and hay in the background. The palate is airy, light and tangy, with very little tannic. It mainly expresses fruity notes of strawberry, red cherry, crushed raspberry, a touch of cranberries, as well as violet and cut grass in the background. The finish is moderately persistent and expresses lively acidity. An accessible and easy-drinking wine.

Score : 14+/20 (87/100)

Loire red wines

Frédéric Mabileau Vigneron « Les Coutures » 2020 Saint-Nicolas de Bourgueil

(organic) The wine has a pale ruby color. The nose is refined and offers delicacy and complexity. We find integrated notes of sweet spices (clove, nutmeg, a slight note of liquorice), fresh tobacco, a discreet touch of undergrowth, dried flowers (rose, violet), dried mint, enveloped by fruity aromas of strawberry, dried red cherry, raspberry coulis, morello cherry, creamy blackcurrant, as well as light hints of toast and cocoa in the background, which appear after aeration. The attack on the palate is silky and fruity, supported by a firm tannic structure in the mid-palate. The wine expresses the flavors of wild strawberry, dried red cherry, fresh morello cherry, creamy blackcurrant, a delicate spiciness (clove, cumin, nutmeg), notes of dried flowers (rose petals, violet, lily) and a hint of fresh tobacco and hay in the background. Beautiful acidity, the finish is persistent and gourmand.

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

Frédéric Mabileau Vigneron « Les Rouillères » 2022 Saint-Nicolas de Bourgueil

(organic) The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose offers finesse, freshness and aromas of tangy fruits: red cherry, raspberry, cranberry and blackcurrant, combined with fine touches of violet, cut grass and white pepper in the background. The palate is fresh, tangy and juicy, with a delicate bitterness on the finish. It expresses notes of fresh blackcurrant, morello cherry, raspberry, cranberry, as well as a sweet touch of wild blackberry and notes of violet, blackcurrant leaf and crushed mint in the background. The tannins have a fine texture and good hold. The finish is quite persistent, tangy, slightly tannic, with good bitterness. Nice acidity. A straight and frank wine.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Domaine de la Lande 2022

Saint-Nicolas de Bourgueil

(organic) The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is discreet, essentially fruity. It expresses notes of wild strawberry, red cherry, morello cherry, raspberry and crushed blueberry, combined with a touch of rose and violet petals. The palate is juicy, straight and offers bright fruit, a certain roundness and a fairly firm tannic structure. It expresses notes of tart red cherry, morello cherry, crushed raspberry, fresh strawberry, as well as violet and cut grass. The tannins are slightly bitter and grippy on attack, balanced by salivating acidity and a juicy finish. A gourmand wine, with a certain structure.

Score : 14.5+/20 (88/100)

Hervé Morin, Elégance 2022

Saint-Nicolas de Bourgueil

The wine has a deep ruby color, with purple reflections. The nose is fragrant and offers concentration, juiciness and a slight sweetness of fruit. It expresses notes of crushed morello cherry, wild strawberry, raspberry coulis, blackberry, a touch of morello cherry jam, blackcurrant, as well as peony, violet, blackcurrant leaf and a hint of wild mint. On the palate, the wine is airy, fruity, but also has a fine and well-built tannic structure. It expresses notes of juicy morello cherry, wild strawberry, red cherry, crushed raspberry, blackcurrant, violet, rose petals, blackcurrant leaf and cut grass in the background. Beautiful salivating and refreshing acidity. Good persistence with a hint of bitterness.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Agnès & Xavier Amirault, Le Fondis 2020

Saint-Nicolas de Bourgueil

(biodynamic) The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is fragrant, gourmand and offers complexity and depth. It expresses notes of ripe, slightly sweet fruit (juicy blackberry, blackcurrant with a hint of crème de cassis, fresh morello cherry, morello cherry jam, wild strawberry, raspberry coulis). On the second nose, we find notes of dried mint, mint syrup, wild flowers, violet, as well as a fine touch of white pepper, damp leaves and fresh tobacco, as well as a smoky touch of oregano in the background. The palate is velvety, savoury, with lots of fruit. It expresses notes of wild blackberry, fresh morello cherry, crushed blackcurrant, raspberry and wild strawberry, combined with flavors of dried mint, wild flowers, violet, liquorice and nutmeg which appears at the end of mouth. The tannins are fine, but firm and structured. The finish is persistent, tangy and lively. Beautiful freshness on the palate and gourmandise on the nose.

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

François Hersard, Coteaux de la Gardière, Franc Soir 2022

Saint-Nicolas de Bourgueil

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is fruity and delicious, with a slight sweetness: it expresses the aromas of wild strawberries, raspberry coulis, crushed blueberries, a touch of morello cherry and crème de cassis, combined with notes of violet, peony and with a very light touch of mint syrup. The mouth is open, silky and savoury, not very tannic (the tannins have a very fine texture). We find the flavors of red cherry jam, morello cherry, crushed blueberry, wild strawberry and raspberry, complemented by delicate herbaceous touches (blackcurrant leaf in the background) and floral (violet, dried rose petals, peony in the background). The finish is rather persistent and expresses the tannic structure a bit more than the mid-palate, as well as a delicate bitterness, but remains juicy, gourmand and fruity. Beautiful fresh and pleasant acidity. An accessible and pleasant wine.

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

Domaine de la Noiraie, Les 7 lieux-dits 2022

Saint-Nicolas de Bourgueil

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose offers a certain complexity, accuracy and expresses a precise but integrated spiciness, associated with tangy fruits and a fine minerality (gravel, limestone note). On the first nose, we find notes of coriander seeds, cumin seeds, and even a slight touch of smoke in the background. Then, we smell the aromas of wild strawberry, red cherry, red currant, fresh raspberry and dried raspberry, blackcurrant, as well as notes of dried mint, blackcurrant bud, violet and lilac. On the palate, the wine is airy and fruity, with a fine spiciness in the background. It expresses notes of tangy black fruits (blackcurrant, a touch of blueberry), associated with touches of red cherry, strawberry and raspberry, a fragrant floral bouquet (violet, rose, lilac) and a herbaceous hint (wild mint, blackcurrant leaf) in the background, which with a crunchy acidity brings liveliness and freshness. The tannins are melted and delicate. The finish has an average persistence.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Domaine de la Chopinière du Roy, Sous la Robe par Dames du Roy 2021

Saint-Nicolas de Bourgueil

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is slightly smoky at first, but savoury, fruity and refined. It expresses notes of wild strawberry, red cherry, blackcurrant, raspberry and blueberry, combined with a fragrant floral bouquet (violet, cornflower, lily, cherry blossom) and herbaceous notes (dried mint, a touch of oregano, and blackcurrant leaf). The palate is airy and silky. It expresses gourmand fruity notes (crisp strawberry, raspberry, red cherry, blackcurrant, blueberry), a floral bouquet (violet, cornflower, rose petals) and a herbaceous touch (blackcurrant leaf, mint, oregano). The tannins are soft and fine. Beautiful freshness and acidity. Gourmand and precise finish.

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

François Hersard, Coteaux de la Gardière, Cuvée Centenaire 2020

Saint-Nicolas de Bourgueil

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is floral and fruity, with a pleasant mineral background. It expresses notes of crunchy strawberry, crushed raspberry (or roasted raspberry), red cherry, blackcurrant and crushed blueberry, combined with a smoky touch of oregano, a hint of dried mint and a fragrant floral bouquet (violet, rosehip, lilac). On the palate, the wine is delicious and fruity, with a sweet touch on the attack and a nice tangy structure on the finish. It expresses the flavors of wild strawberry, raspberry coulis, red cherry jam, morello cherry and crushed blueberry, combined with notes of rosehip, violet and a sweet touch of peony, as well as touches of wild mint, oregano and tea leaf. The finish is savoury, pleasant and juicy, with a nice salivating acidity.

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



Loire red wines

Domaine des Vallettes, Événement 2020

Saint-Nicolas de Bourgueil

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose offers concentration, Gourmandise, juicy and ripe fruit, with a touch of sweetness. It expresses notes of black fruits (blackberry, morello cherry, blueberry jam, creamy blackcurrant), red fruits (red currant jelly, crushed raspberry, wild strawberry), as well as a delicate refreshing herbaceous hints (wild mint, bud blackcurrant, rosemary, even pine needles) and fine notes of sweet spices (clove, ground cumin), as well as a floral touch (violet, lilac) in the background. The palate offers gourmandise and lots of freshness. It expresses chiseled flavours of tangy fruits (red cherry, raspberry, fresh red currant), as well as notes of black fruits (fresh blackcurrant, blueberry), flowers (violet, cornflower, lily) and a fine spicy structure at the end of the palate (ground cumin, cloves). The tannins have a fine and silky texture. The finish expresses fruity roundness balanced by a beautiful salivating acidity.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Le Clos du Vigneau, Daurange 2017

Saint-Nicolas de Bourgueil

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity, with light garnet reflections. The nose is aromatic and expresses distinct tertiary notes at the beginning (undergrowth, dried tobacco, dry tea leaf, mushrooms and wet leaves/dried flowers in the background). We then find some minerality (wet stone), spiciness (grated nutmeg, ground cumin, cloves) and floral notes (dried rose, dried fly). The fruits on the nose are mainly dried (dried strawberry, dried red cherry, dried blackcurrant), but we also see notes of roasted red cherry, wild plum and fresh wild blackberry, with a hint of morello cherry in the background. The palate is refined and complex, enveloping and structured. It expresses more fresh fruity notes (ripe morello cherry, strawberry, bird cherry), complemented by notes of dried blackcurrant, dried red cherry and dried raspberry, by a tasty framework of sweet spices (ground cumin, cloves, a touch of cinnamon and cocoa), and a floral bouquet (dried rose, dried violet). The tannins have a fine grain, but also power and structure. Beautiful acidity and good persistence, which reveals some tertiary notes (tea leaf, tobacco, undergrowth).

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

Sylvain Bruneau, Les Pentes 2022

Saint-Nicolas de Bourgueil

(organic) The wine has a bright ruby color. The nose is reserved at first and requires aeration. It then expresses notes of red cherry, fresh raspberry, crunchy strawberry, blackcurrant and crushed blueberry, combined with herbaceous notes of blackcurrant leaf, crushed mint, as well as a touch of peony and violet. The palate is juicy, fruity and savoury, slightly spicy. We find notes of crushed raspberry, wild strawberry, crushed red cherry, blueberry and a hint of blackcurrant, associated with notes of violet, peony, blackcurrant leaf and dried mint in the background. Beautiful tannic structure: the tannins are firm, but have a fine texture and not drying. The finish is tangy, gourmand and fresh, with medium persistence. A well-constructed and straightforward wine.

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

Sylvain Bruneau, Les Hauts Frogers 2021

Saint-Nicolas de Bourgueil

(organic) The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is reserved at first and requires aeration. Then, it offers concentration and depth: it expresses notes of juicy blackcurrant, blueberry, morello cherry, wild blackberry and wild plum, complemented by aromas of red fruits (red cherry in jam, wild strawberry, raspberry coulis), as well as subtle notes of sweet spices (clove, nutmeg), a toasted touch in the background and floral (violet, dried rose) and herbaceous notes (dried mint). The palate is straight and chiseled: it offers a tanginess of red fruits (red cherry, raspberry, strawberry, red currant), complemented by notes of black fruits (blackcurrant, morello cherry, wild plum), a fine spiciness (clou de clove, liquorice, nutmeg) and floral touch (dried rose, violet). The tannic structure is melted and well-constructed. Beautiful lively and refreshing acidity. Good persistence on the finish, with notes of blackcurrant leaf and dried mint. Juiciness and precision.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Sylvain Bruneau, L'Ecllosion, Vieilles Vignes 2021

Saint-Nicolas de Bourgueil

(organic) The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is a little closed and requires aeration. It then expresses notes of fresh strawberry, red cherry, raspberry, cranberries, associated with notes of dried strawberry, blackcurrant, dried violet, a touch of bergamot tea, liquorice, nutmeg, pepper white and undergrowth in the background. On the palate, the attack is a little reserved. In the mid-palate, the wine expresses notes of tangy red fruits (raspberry, crunchy strawberry, red cherry), associated with notes of blackcurrant, blueberry, violet, peony, dried rose, as well as some spiciness in the background (cumin, cloves). The tannins are firm, a little dry, balanced by a salivating acidity on the finish. Good persistence, on fruit and a fine spiciness.

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

BOURGUEIL

Cave Robert & Marcel, Cornélius 1831 2020

Bourgueil

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is concentrated, fruity and very ripe, even a bit sweet. It expresses notes of wild blackberry, blackcurrant (even crème de cassis), wild strawberry, morello cherry jam, fresh morello cherry, as well as subtle notes of sweet spices (liquorice, grated nutmeg, cumin, cloves, a hint of toasted vanilla in the background), roasted (mild coffee), dried flowers and herbs (violet, dried rose petals, fresh tobacco, dried mint). The palate offers a firm tannic structure and lively acidity, which balances the dryness of young tannins. The flavors are less sweet and more tangy: we find notes of red cherry, raspberry, strawberry, fresh red currant, morello cherry and a hint of blackcurrant, associated with fresh notes of blackcurrant leaf, mint, cut grass, as well as notes of liquorice, ground cumin, cloves, violet and rose petals. Good persistence in the mouth, on the tanginess of red cherry and a hint of vanilla in the background. A structured and chiseled wine.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

David et Nathalie Drussé, Constellation 2022

Bourgueil

(organic) The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is reserved at first, but opens after aeration. It expresses notes of wild strawberry, fresh blueberry, raspberry, red cherry, blackcurrant, as well as herbaceous touches of blackcurrant leaf, wild mint, as well as floral notes of violet and lily. The palate offers precision, a beautiful expression of fruit, tanginess and well-structured tannins, with a fine texture. We find the flavors of wild strawberry, raspberry coulis, morello cherry, tart red cherry, redcurrant jelly, blackcurrant, associated with the herbaceous freshness of blackcurrant leaf, wild mint and fresh grass, as well as as well as delicate floral touches of violet and rose petals. A beautiful acidity brings energy and liveliness to the wine. The finish is fruity and juicy, with a nice concentration of fruit and a slightly dry, but velvety tannins.

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

Bertrand & Vincent Marchesseau, Utopie 2021

Bourgueil

(organic) The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is delicious and very fruity. It expresses notes of wild strawberry, red cherry, morello cherry, blackcurrant, raspberry, combined with a touch of violet, blackcurrant leaf and tea in the background. The palate is juicy, savoury and reflects the fruity character of the aromas. It expresses the flavors of fresh strawberry, raspberry, tart red cherry, morello cherry and blackcurrant, with a herbaceous touch of blackcurrant leaf and a hint of violet in the background. The tannins are well structured, but not dry. A lively acidity brings juiciness and lightness to the wine. The finish is rather persistent, with a touch of cranberries and a slight bitterness in the background. A gourmand and accessible wine.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Maison Audebert et Fils, Domaine du Grand Clos 2020

Bourgueil

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose offers a fleshy, but refined fruitiness, with delicate spicy and savoury notes. It expresses the aromas of blackberry, crushed blackcurrant (even crème de cassis), wild strawberry, morello cherry, raspberry coulis, redcurrant jelly and red cherry, associated with light notes of nutmeg, cumin, as well as floral touches of rose, violet and lilac and a herbaceous hint of blackcurrant leaf and mint syrup. The palate is juicy, fruity and gourmand. It reflects the fruity aromas of the nose (blackcurrant, blackberry, morello cherry, wild plum) and tanginess of red fruits (red cherry, raspberry). We also find a touch of cranberries and a slight bitterness in the mid-palate. The tannins are structured and firm, but balanced with the chiseled profile of the wine. Beautiful fresh and salivating acidity. The finish is persistent, sapid and savoury. A structured and balanced wine.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Estell & Rodolphe Cognard, Cuvée «Les Tuffes» 2021

Bourgueil

(organic) The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is silky, racy, with precise mineral notes, associated with juicy fruity matter. It expresses the aromas of wild strawberries, wild blueberries, red currants, elderberry, raspberry coulis, a mineral, limestone and clay touch, a very delicate note of white pepper, as well as a pleasant herbaceous hint (wild mint, blackcurrant leaf in the background) and fine floral notes (wild flowers). On the palate, the wine is straight, with an attack expressing its racy tannic structure, even a bit tight and slightly bitter. Then, the tangy fruity notes (red cherry, strawberry, crushed raspberry, crushed blueberry) and a fresh and salivating acidity balance the tannic structure. We also find notes of fresh morello cherry and crushed blackcurrant, cut wild mint and fresh field flowers, as well as a touch of pepper in the background. A refined wine, with a gourmand nose, a beautiful structure and acidity on the palate, good persistence and a chalky and racy minerality.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Loire red wines

Estell & Rodolphe Cognard, Cuvée «Les Tuffes» 2020 Bourgueil

(organic) The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is concentrated, fleshy, but refined. It expresses notes of ripe morello cherry, dried red cherry, wild strawberry, redcurrant jelly and crushed blueberry, combined with touches of sweet spices (liquorice, white pepper, nutmeg), flowers (iris, lily, rose petals), as well as a fine mineral framework (limestone) and a herbaceous touch (cut wild mint). On the palate, the wine is fleshy, juicy and enveloping, while remaining straight, fresh and chiseled. The attack on the palate expresses well-structured tannins, a bit grainy, but not drying, limestone mineral notes, which combine in the mid-palate with flavors of dried black fruits (dried blackcurrant, dried morello cherry), red ripe fruits (strawberry, crushed raspberry, red cherry), flowers (rose petals, dried cornflower) and a herbaceous touch of wild mint as well as a hint of white pepper in the background. Beautiful fresh, but supple acidity, softens a slight bitterness and the structure of tannins. The finish lingers with notes of dried red fruits. A straight wine, with firm structure, balanced by beautiful fruitiness and complexity.

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

Estell & Rodolphe Cognard, Cuvée «Caudalies» 2020 Bourgueil

(organic) The wine has a bright, deep ruby color. The nose is fleshy, textured, with freshness and concentration. It expresses notes of juicy and tangy black fruits (blackcurrant, blueberry, morello cherry), combined with sweet notes of crushed wild strawberry, raspberry coulis and ripe red cherry. On the second nose we find fine spicy notes (liquorice, nutmeg, white pepper), herbaceous freshness (wild mint, blackcurrant leaf) and a floral bouquet in the background (rose, violet). The palate is ample, silky and ripe. The attack offers roundness, concentration and expresses notes of crushed blackcurrant, wild blackberry, ripe morello cherry, wild strawberry and ripe red cherry (even with a slight hint of maceration). In the mid-palate, we find a fairly powerful and firm tannic structure, but at the same time fine and enveloped, thanks to a concentrated fruitiness. We also find floral notes of iris and rose petals, a herbaceous touch of blackcurrant leaf and wild mint, as well as a fine spiciness (liquorice, white pepper, cloves). The finish is savoury, persistent and completes the bouquet with notes of cocoa and a slight bitterness. Beautiful crunchy acidity which brings liveliness to the wine. A racy and refined wine, with controlled power and good length.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Thomas Pichet, Domaine du Petit Bondieu 2022 Bourgueil

(organic) The wine has a deep ruby color with purplish reflections. The nose is delicious, fruity, with subtle touches of jam. It expresses notes of red cherry jam, morello cherry, wild strawberry, crushed raspberry, blackcurrant, as well as blackcurrant leaf, violet and a hint of liquorice. The palate is tight and firm on attack. The mid-palate is juicy and fruity: we find notes of tart red cherry, blackcurrant, cranberries, raspberry and crunchy strawberry, accompanied by a touch of violet and a herbaceous hint of crushed blackcurrant leaf, as well as a slight bitterness. A salivating acidity balances the firmness of the tannins. The finish is moderately persistent. The tannins are grippy.

Score : 14/20 (86-87/100)

Domaine Anselles, Rencontre 2022 Bourgueil

(organic) The wine has a deep ruby color, with purplish reflections. The nose is juicy, bright and purely fruity. It expresses notes of crushed morello cherry, strawberry, raspberry coulis, a touch of blackberry, crushed blackcurrant (or crème de cassis), wild mint and violet. The palate is expressive and juicy. It expresses the flavors of stewed red cherry, fresh morello cherry, strawberry, raspberry, crushed blueberry and mint in the background. The finish is chiseled, tangy and fruity, with a touch of violet on the finish and a slight bitterness. A young wine, with light aromas of fermentation, but structured and gourmand.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Domaine Anselles, Conversation 2020 Bourgueil

(organic) The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is fragrant and savoury. It initially expresses light notes of roast and smoke (even a bit meaty), which are complemented after aeration by the aromas of ripe morello cherry, red cherry, wild strawberry, raspberry coulis, red currant jelly, as well as spicy notes of white pepper, liquorice, grated nutmeg and floral touches of violet and infused rose petals. There is also a slight herbaceous touch of white tea. The mouth opens with gourmandise and bright flavors of fresh fruit. It expresses notes of red cherry, morello cherry juice, wild strawberry, raspberry coulis, red currant jelly, sweet spices (liquorice, nutmeg, clove), flowers (fresh rose, violet) and a hint of wild mint. The tannins are fine and silky, but present and structured. Beautiful length in the mouth, crunchy acidity, roundness and gourmandise. A pleasant and fresh wine.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Domaine Anselles, Rencontre 2020 Bourgueil

(organic) The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The wine is discreet on the nose and requires aeration. It then expresses juiciness, fruit and gourmandise: we find aromas of red cherry, crushed raspberry, blueberry, morello cherry and elderberry, associated with touches of thyme and violet. On the palate, the wine is fresh, fluid (in a good way), delicious, with fine tannins. It expresses the flavors of red cherry, morello cherry, crushed blueberry, fresh strawberry and raspberry, combined with a herbaceous touch of blackcurrant leaf and thyme, as well as a note of rose and violet in the background. The acidity is lively and fresh. The finish is rather persistent, with a touch of salinity. A wine of freshness and fruit, but with good structure.

Score : 14.5+/20 (88/100)

Domaine Anselles, Conversation 2022 Bourgueil

(organic) The wine has a deep ruby color with purple reflections. The wine is closed to the nose and requires aeration. It expresses concentration, a certain depth and the fleshiness of ripe black fruits: morello cherry, wild blackberry, crushed blackcurrant (even crème de cassis in the background), as well as wild strawberries, fresh raspberries and red currant jelly. There is also a touch of rose, violet, cherry blossom, as well as a very delicate spiciness (ground nutmeg and cumin). On the palate, the wine is juicy, silky, full, but fresh. The flavors are expressive and slightly sweet (without adding sweetness to the wine), with a fine hint of fermentation. We find notes of crushed morello cherry, tart red cherry, crushed blackcurrant, redcurrant jelly, raspberry coulis, as well as violet, rose petals and sweet spices (nutmeg, a touch of liquorice). The finish offers a warm side, even a little cocoa and pepper. The tannins are structured and still need to round out, but have a fine texture. Beautiful acidity, the finish is gourmand, tasty and persistent. To see after a few years in bottle.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Clos de l'Abbaye 2022 Bourgueil

The wine has a ruby color with purplish reflections. The nose is gourmand, fresh and fruity. It expresses notes of strawberry, crushed raspberry, tart red cherry, red currant, with a touch of crushed blackcurrant and blackcurrant leaf in the background, combined with a touch of rose petals. The palate is juicy, round and offers expressive fruity flavors (strawberry, crushed raspberry, fresh bigarreau cherry and jam, a touch of blueberry), associated with a touch of pepper, cloves (or cocoa in the background) and notes of hay and dried wildflowers. The tannins are fine, a little grippy, but enveloped. The finish is a little firm, but gourmand, and juicy, with fresh acidity and good length.

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

Maison Jamet, Un coup de Breton 2021 Bourgueil

The wine has a pale ruby color. The nose is reserved, a little closed, but more aromatic after aeration. It mainly expresses notes of fresh fruit (strawberry, morello cherry, raspberry, crushed red currant, a touch of blackcurrant in the background), as well as a floral touch in the background (violet). The palate is fluid, juicy, not very tannic. It expresses notes of tangy fresh fruits (strawberry, raspberry, blackcurrant, red cherry), associated with a peppery and floral touch. Beautiful salivating acidity, the finish is rather persistent, on fruits and fine tannins. Lightness, purity of fruit and gourmandise.

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

Château de Minière, Rouge de Minière 2021 Bourgueil

(organic) The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is aromatic, tangy and herbaceous. It expresses notes of bigarreau cherry, raspberry, crunchy strawberry, crushed blueberry and blackcurrant, combined with integrated notes of cut grass, mint leaf and rose, as well as a very fine touch of pepper white. On the palate, the wine expresses lightness, fluidity and juicy fruity notes, associated with touches of white pepper and flowers (wildflowers, dried rose). The tannins are fine and delicate. Beautiful acidity, the finish is fruity and juicy. An airy, gourmand wine with a low level of tannins, easy-to-drink.

Score : 14.5+/20 (88/100)

Domaine Guilon, Authentique 2020 Bourgueil

(organic) The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is precise, fruity and ripe. It expresses notes of strawberry, red cherry, crushed raspberry, fresh blueberry, combined with notes of violet, cut grass, dried rose and tea, with a fine minerality in the background, and a delicate peppery note. On the palate, the wine is chiseled, straight, even firm. It expresses notes of tangy red fruits (bigarreau cherry, raspberry, red currant, cranberries), combined with slight spicy touches of white pepper and liquorice, as well as cut grass and wild flowers. The finish is tangy, juicy, with a touch of bitterness and grippy tannins, as well as a powdery touch on the finish.

Score : 14.5+/20 (88/100)

Loire red wines

Domaine Guilon, Candide 2022

Bourgueil

(organic) The wine has a ruby color with purple reflections. The nose is aromatic, gourmand, open and fruity. It expresses notes of red cherry, ripe wild strawberry, red currant, crushed raspberry, associated with notes of dried aromatic herbs (thyme, wild mint in the background) and touches of fresh flowers (rose, iris), as well as a very delicate minerality and a spiciness (white pepper, cloves). The palate offers purity of fruit, a firm and slightly dry tannic structure, as well as juiciness and liveliness. It expresses notes of red cherry, raspberry, wild strawberry, red currant, a hint of cranberries and blackcurrant, as well as a hint of dried mint, iris and minerality (gravel) in the background. The tannins have a medium grain, a little dry. The finish is quite persistent, with a touch of bitterness and a salivating acidity.

Score : 14.5+/20 (88/100)

Frédéric Mabileau, Les Racines 2021

Bourgueil

(organic) The wine has a pale ruby color. The nose has a subtle and complex. It expresses notes of fresh herbs (thyme, cut oregano, wild mint) and flowers (violet, lilac, dried rose) at the first nose, fine spicy notes (nutmeg, clove, liquorice stick), associated with juicy and gourmand fruity notes (fresh strawberry, bigarreau cherry, red currant, morello cherry, blueberry in the background). On the palate, the attack is aromatic, enveloping and fresh. It expresses the tangy fruity notes (raspberry, red cherry, a touch of cranberries), which combine in the mid-palate with notes of fresh blueberry, herbs (thyme, wild mint) and spices (white pepper, nutmeg) and a savoury touch of liquorice, violet and dried rose on the finish. The tannins are fine and delicate, but structured. Good length and refreshing acidity. Gourmandise and complexity.

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

Le Coudray la Lande, Vieilles Vignes 2018

Bourgueil

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity with light garnet reflections. The nose is concentrated and complex. The first nose expresses notes of dried flowers and herbs: rose, peony and dried mint, as well as tertiary notes of wet leaves and undergrowth. Then we find the spicy aromas of liquorice, grated nutmeg, ground cumin and a touch of vanilla seeds, as well as infused green tea leaf. The aromas of the fruits that appear next are concentrated, even slightly sweet, but fresh at the same time, thanks to a touch of chocolate with mint, which is found in the background. We also smell notes of crushed wild strawberries, raspberry coulis, crushed blackcurrant, a hint of prunes and fresh red currant. The palate is melted, silky, fragrant and complex. The attack combines notes of sweet spices (liquorice, cumin, a hint of cinnamon and grated nutmeg) and fruits (black cherry jam, crushed wild strawberries, raspberry coulis, red currant jelly, red plum blackberry, crushed blackcurrant). Then, we find notes of undergrowth with a touch of mushrooms, flowers and dried herbs (rose, peony, mint). Beautiful length with cocoa notes, refreshed by a salivating acidity. The tannins have a velvety texture and a certain power. A complex and refined wine, which has evolved gracefully.

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

Domaine Guilon, Grand Mont 2020

Bourgueil

(organic) The wine has a bright ruby color. The nose offers concentration, fruitiness and spiciness, as well as a nice freshness. It expresses notes of liquorice, cinnamon (in the background), nutmeg, white pepper, cocoa, blackcurrant, crushed blueberry, morello cherry, red cherry and strawberry, as well as touches of mint, rosemary, violet, rosehip, as well as a slight note of garnet in the background. The palate offers a juicy, tangy and fresh attack, but a drying side of firm, slightly rough tannins. We find flavors of morello cherry, strawberry, crushed raspberry, blackcurrant, associated with notes of cocoa, white pepper, liquorice, as well as touches of herbs and dried flowers (rosemary, rose, violet). The finish is fruity, tangy and persistent, with a nice salivating acidity, which softens the tannins and juicy notes of morello cherry and blackcurrant.

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

Domaine de L'Oubliée, Tenue de Soirée 2020

Bourgueil

(organic) The wine has a deep ruby color. The nose is fresh and fruity, with fine herbaceous touches in the background. It expresses notes of raspberry, blueberry, compote red cherry, crushed blackcurrant and strawberry, combined with notes of violet, lily, dried mint and thyme in the background. The palate is fresh and airy. It expresses the flavors of strawberry, crushed raspberry, ripe red cherry (even morello cherry), wild blackberry, crushed blueberry and blackcurrant, associated with notes of dried mint, violet, lily, as well as a touch of dried rose and fresh tobacco. The tannins are firm, but not drying. Beautiful salivating acidity, the finish is quite long. Freshness and accuracy in the mouth.

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

Domaine de L'Oubliée, Notre Histoire 2020

Bourgueil

(organic) The wine has a deep ruby color. The nose is reserved and requires aeration. It then expresses notes of small black and red fruits (blueberry, raspberry, red currant, strawberry, red cherry, a touch of blackcurrant), flowers (violet, lily, rose petals), as well

as a fine touch of liquorice, white pepper and cumin. The palate is juicy, gourmand, even with a slight sweetness in the flavors. It expresses notes of crushed strawberry, red cherry jam, raspberry coulis, ripe red currant, as well as notes of liquorice, dried mint, violet, liquorice and cumin in the background. The tannins are firm, grippy in the mid-palate, but fine and balanced by a salivating acidity. The finish is quite persistent, tasty and finely spicy, with a touch of wild blackberry in the background. Structure and gourmandise.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Jérôme Delest, Le 20 rouge aux lèvres 2020

Bourgueil

The wine has a pale ruby color. On the nose, it offers notes of small, tangy red and black fruits (red cherry, raspberry, cranberry, blackcurrant), combined with fresh touches of cut grass and flowers (violet, elderflower). On the palate, the wine is airy, not very tannic and offers fluidity and lightness. It expresses the tangy flavors of crunchy strawberry, raspberry, elderberry and cranberries, complemented by a fine hint of pepper (white pepper), herbaceous (fresh grass) and floral (violet). Good acidity, a slight bitterness and a slight dryness on the finish (medium persistence). A tangy and chiselled wine.

Score : 14+/20 (87/100)

Jérôme Delest, Rouge Lubi 2021

Bourgueil

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose offers juiciness and a certain concentration. It expresses notes of blackcurrant, blueberry, raspberry, red cherry with a maceration side, as well as floral touches of violet, rose petals, a hint of white pepper, hay and dried wild flowers. On the palate, the wine is straight, fruity and juicy. It expresses notes of red cherry, raspberry, cranberries, a touch of blackcurrant and blueberry, as well as notes of blackcurrant leaf, violet, liquorice and hay in the background. The acidity is crunchy and with a slight bitterness which adds freshness on the finish. The tannins are structured, firm, a little grainy. Good length on the fruit and a herbaceous hint.

Score : 14.5/20 (88/100)

Jérôme Delest, Rouge Lubi 2019

Bourgueil

The wine has a deep ruby color. The nose offers a nice concentration of fruit as well as a precise and refreshing herbaceous notes (menthol). We find aromas of blackcurrant, wild plum, crushed raspberry, wild strawberry, red cherry, as well as wild mint, liquorice, violet, rose petals and lilac. The palate is firm, tangy and chiseled, with grippy and dry tannins on the finish. We find the flavors of tart raspberry, crunchy strawberry, tart red cherry, blackcurrant, cut grass, mint, violet and lilac. A lively acidity helps soften the dry side of the tannins, but the finish remains tight and slightly bitter.

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

Domaine de la Chevalerie, Noms d'Oiseaux 2019

Bourgueil

(biodynamic) The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose offers concentration and substance, as well as some jamminess of the fruit. It expresses notes of crushed strawberry, red cherry jam, morello cherry with kirsch in the background, crushed blueberry and elderberry. We also find notes of dried mint, liquorice in the background, a hint of violet and lilac. The palate is concentrated, warm and offers a fine sweet and jamminess of the fruit. We find notes of morello cherry, morello cherry jam, roasted red cherry, crushed blackcurrant (or crème de cassis), ripe red currants and raspberry coulis, associated with notes of mint syrup and flower of elderberry, violet and a very slight note of nutmeg. The tannins are fine and silky. Beautiful acidity and persistent finish. A gourmand and fleshy wine, with a lovely freshness.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Amirault Vignerons, Clos de la Gaucherie 2021

Bourgueil

(organic) The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose offers subtlety and a fine mineral side. It expresses notes of raspberry, tart red cherry, blueberry, blackcurrant and wild strawberry, combined with touches of blackcurrant leaf, wild mint, a hint of liquorice, violet and rose petals. The palate is chiseled and tangy. It expresses notes of crushed blackcurrant, blueberry, raspberry, red cherry, crunchy strawberry, as well as violet, rose petals, wild mint, blackcurrant leaf, a touch of liquorice and a fine hint of chalky finish. The tannins are well structured, a little grippy. Beautiful salivating acidity, juiciness and a delicate bitterness on the finish.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Domaine Raguenières, Les Baiges 2020

Bourgueil

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is fruity and fresh. It expresses notes of tart red cherry (with a fine hint of maceration), crushed raspberry, blackcurrant, red currants, as well as a spicy touch of white pepper and nutmeg. We also find fine floral notes of violet, dried rose, a sweet side of peony in the background, as well as a hint of mint syrup. The palate is gourmand, juicy and fruity. It expresses the flavors of crushed strawberry, raspberry coulis, stewed red cherry, crushed blackcurrant, as

Loire red wines

well as violet, dried rose petals, peony, liquorice and mint syrup in the background. The tannins are fine and enveloped. The acidity is fresh and salivating. Good persistence with notes of red cherry jam and peony.

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

Domaine Roillus, Vieilles Vignes 2020

Bourgueil

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose expresses freshness, fruit and a fine floral bouquet. We find notes of crushed raspberry, fresh strawberry, tart red cherry, red currant, blueberry, as well as wild mint, liquorice, violet, lilac and fresh tobacco in the background. The palate is chiseled, fresh, juicy and structured, with fine tannins, but drying on the attack. We find notes of raspberry, crunchy strawberry, tangy red cherry, a fine bitterness of cranberries, tangy blackcurrant, as well as notes of wild mint, blackcurrant leaf and violet. The finish is fruity, round and gourmand, with a beautiful fruitiness which helps balance the tannic structure. Beautiful acidity and a fine, gourmand and warm note of cherry jam on the finish.

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

Simon Remy Vigneron, Nez-ssance 2021

Bourgueil

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is reserved at first, but after aeration it offers concentration, juiciness and some complexity. It expresses notes of wild strawberry, red cherry, wild blackberry, crushed blueberry, raspberry, cherry jam, as well as mint syrup, fresh peony, violet, lilac, cut rosemary and blackcurrant leaf in the background. The palate is chiseled and offers freshness, precision and gourmandise. The tannins are young and tight, a little dry, but quite fine. We find the flavors of fresh strawberry, red cherry, red currant, raspberry, associated with notes of violet, peony and rose petals, as well as a hint of mint syrup and liquorice in the background. Beautiful acidity and a slight bitterness on the finish, associated with the juiciness of the fruits.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Cathérine & Pierre Breton, Nuit d'Ivresse 2021

Bourgueil

(organic) The wine has a ruby color with slight purple reflections. Noses are rather reserved. After aeration, it expresses notes of small, tangy red and black fruits (blackcurrant, blueberry, raspberry, red currant, red cherry), cut mint, blackcurrant leaf and violet. On the palate, the wine is airy, light and fruity. It expresses notes of red cherry, red currant, crushed raspberry, blackcurrant, as well as blackcurrant leaf, wild mint, a hint of violet and cut grass. The tannins are dry in the mid-palate. The finish is moderately long, tangy and salivating. An airy, simple and fruity wine.

Score : 14+/20 (87/100)

Domaine des Ouches, Igoranda 2020

Bourgueil

The wine has a deep ruby color. The nose offers concentration and ripe fruit. It expresses notes of roasted red cherry, morello cherry, raspberry, crushed blackcurrant, strawberry, as well as floral touches of violet, iris and rose petals. There is also a sweet note of cherry jam, crème de cassis, as well as mint syrup and blackcurrant leaf. The mouth is straight, precise and fresh. It expresses notes of tart red cherry, raspberry, cranberries, crushed blackcurrant, as well as violet, rose petals, blackcurrant leaf and cut grass. The tannins are tight and dry on attack. The finish is juicy, tangy, rather persistent, with a delicate mineral note of dry stone and a herbaceous touch. A chiselled wine, straight and firm, with beautiful freshness and structure.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Domaine des Ouches, Les Clos Boireaux 2020

Bourgueil

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity with slight purplish reflections. It is discreet on the nose and requires aeration. The nose then expresses notes of crushed raspberry, wild strawberry, blackcurrant, blueberry, tart red cherry, associated with notes of wild mint, a smoky touch of oregano, violet, peony and rose petals. We also find a fine spiciness (liquorice, cumin, cloves) and roasting (a hint of toasted hazelnut). The mouth is silky and concentrated. It expresses notes of ripe blackcurrant (even crème de cassis), fresh morello cherry, red cherry jam, crushed raspberry, redcurrant jelly and fresh redcurrants, associated with notes of dried wild mint, liquorice, cumin, cloves, with a hint of fresh tobacco, cocoa and toasted hazelnut. There are also touches of violet and dried rose. The tannins are structured and firm, dry on the attack and mid-palate, but fine. The finish offers notes of sweet spices, a sweet hint of cocoa and kirsch cherry, refreshed by a lively acidity. Beautiful, gourmand and fresh persistence.

Score : 15.75/20 (91-92)

Domaine de la Lande Prestige 2018

Bourgueil

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose offers subtlety, delicacy and complexity. There are notes of fresh fruit, as well as integrated tertiary notes. The nose expresses in particular notes of crushed blackcurrant, dried morello cherry, fresh wild strawberry, blueberry and wild raspberry, complemented by delicate notes of undergrowth (or even slightly - mushrooms), black tea leaf, tobacco, dried peony, dried rosé, violet, cornflower. We also find spiciness in the background: notes of liquorice, ground cumin and nutmeg, as well as a very slight note of toast and dried mint. On the palate, the wine expresses controlled power, a warm side of alcohol and notes of very ripe fresh fruit, refreshed by good bitterness and salivating acidity. We find the flavors of crushed blackcurrant, a slight tannic side of wild plum, a touch of morello cherry jam, wild strawberry and crushed raspberry, combined with notes of undergrowth, tobacco, dried mint, dried rose petals, violet, ground cumin and nutmeg. The finish is persistent, gourmand with a good bitterness. The tannins are melted and soft.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Domaine Nau, Les Brunetières 2020

Bourgueil

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity with light garnet reflections. On the nose, it offers a savoury and delicate spiciness, enveloped by a tangy but ripe fruity notes. We find notes of ground cumin, clove, nutmeg on the first nose, and fruity aromas afterwards: wild strawberry, red cherry, blackcurrant, blueberry and raspberry, as well as a fine limestone minerality and floral touches (violet, iris) and dried mint. The palate is fresh, concentrated and straight. On the attack, it expresses notes of wild strawberry, morello cherry, red cherry, raspberry coulis and blackcurrant, combined with a fine spicy (liquorice, nutmeg, ground cumin) and floral (violet, iris, dried rose) notes. The mid-palate is warm and sapid, and expresses a velvety tannic structure and lively acidity. The finish is persistent, with good bitterness and cocoa notes in the background. A balanced and gourmand wine.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Domaine de la Noiraie Grand Mont 2019

Bourgueil

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity with light garnet reflections. The nose is delicate, fruity and subtly spicy. It expresses notes of wild strawberry, dried red cherry, chocolate morello cherry, wild blackberry, blueberry, blackcurrant and raspberry coulis, combined with notes of liquorice, cumin, grated nutmeg, with a touch of toast and vanilla, as well as refreshing aromas of wild mint, cut rosemary, a floral bouquet (violet, wild rose, elderflower, lily) and a touch of mineral and tobacco in the background. The palate is juicy, ample, with a frank and enveloping attack. It expresses notes of morello cherry, crushed raspberry wood strawberry, redcurrant jelly, blackcurrant and roasted red cherry, associated with notes of sweet spices (nutmeg, liquorice, clove), fresh tobacco and flowers (dried rose, violet, lily). The tannins are fine, well structured, firm and sapid, with a good bitterness, which appears on the finish. Beautiful acidity, which brings structure and freshness to the wine. Complexity, gourmandise and controlled concentration.

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

Domaine de Vallettes Vieilles Vignes 2019

Bourgueil

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity, with light garnet reflections. The nose first expresses notes of roasted fruit with a fine sweetness. We find the aromas of crushed strawberry, raspberry coulis, ripe morello cherry, red cherry jam, roasted red cherry and blackberry, combined with notes of liquorice, clove, cinnamon and vanilla in the background, as well as floral notes of peony and violet and a touch of chocolate (cocoa, mint chocolate). The palate is juicy, silky and fresh. It expresses more notes of fresh fruit (wild strawberry, morello cherry, raspberry, blackberry), associated with a touch of roasted red cherry, some spiciness (liquorice, clove, nutmeg) and a hint of vanilla) and floral notes (violet, fresh rose, iris). The tannins are firm, a little dry in the mid-palate, but fine. The finish expresses a lively, refreshing acidity and a touch of bitter cocoa, chocolate cherry and dried mint in the background. Beautiful persistence and fruitiness, freshness and gourmandise.

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

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Loire red wines

CHINON

Dumnacus Vignerons, 2020

Chinon

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is aromatic, concentrated and offers a certain complexity. It expresses notes of morello cherry, black plum, crushed blackcurrant, dried raspberry, strawberry, red currants, combined with notes of sweet spices (liquorice, white pepper, a touch of clove) and toasted notes in the background, as well as floral notes (violet, dried rose, cherry blossoms). On the palate, the wine is juicy, concentrated and fruity, with firm but fine tannins and an expressive and pleasant spiciness. It expresses notes of ripe morello cherry, wild strawberry, black plum, crushed blackcurrant and raspberry coulis, as well as slightly sweet flavors of toasted vanilla, dark chocolate, and chocolate cherry, complemented by notes liquorice, cloves and a delicate floral bouquet (violet, cherry blossom). Beautiful tannic structure, a touch of bitterness and a lively acidity which returns in a juicy and rather persistent finish. A straight wine, with substance and power.

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

Sauvion, Dilection, Vieilles Vignes 2020

Chinon

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity with very light garnet reflections. The nose is precise, delicate and fragrant. It first expresses a fine minerality (chalk, limestone, wet stone), which are then complemented by notes of sweet spices (cinnamon, liquorice, a touch of star anise and vanilla), flowers (wildflowers, violet, lily), aromatic herbs (dried mint, rosemary) and minty chocolate in the background. On the palate, the wine is silky, round and enveloping. The attack is sweet and fruity, it offers notes of roasted red cherry, morello cherry, wild plum, wild strawberry, which are then completed by notes of cinnamon, dark chocolate with mint, liquorice, white pepper, bay leaf, juniper berries (in the background), dried rose, wild flowers and violet. The tannins have a fine texture, but young and a little rough. The acidity is salivating and lively, it gives the wine freshness and softens the tannins. Good length on the fruit.

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

Domaine de Noiré, Caractère 2018

Chinon

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity, with very light garnet reflections. The nose is refined and delicate, even a little reserved (but it is better expressed after aeration). It expresses the aromas of dried blackcurrant, crushed blueberry, morello cherry, fresh strawberry and raspberry coulis, combined with touches of crushed mint leaf, tobacco, a fine spiciness of liquorice and white pepper, as well as as well as delicate tertiary notes of undergrowth and mushrooms. We also find an elegant floral bouquet in the background (violet, lilac). The palate offers delicacy, gourmandise and complexity, as well as fleshy fruit. It expresses notes of crushed blackcurrant, crushed strawberry, ripe raspberry, wild blackberry and crushed morello cherry, combined with fine spicy (liquorice, nutmeg, white pepper), floral (violet, lilac, dried wild flowers) and herbaceous (tobacco, dried mint), as well as delicate tertiary touches of undergrowth, leather in the background and mushrooms. The tannins are structured and firm, but very silky and enveloped. The acidity is lively, but supple. Beautiful length in the mouth which adds notes of black pepper and a mineral touch (dry stone) to the bouquet, as well as a hint of cocoa.

Score : 16.25+/20 (93/100)

Domaine de Noiré, Soif de tendresse 2022

Chinon

The wine has a deep ruby color with purple reflections. The nose offers precision, freshness, fruit and gourmandise. It expresses notes of fresh strawberry, crushed raspberry, red cherry, blackcurrant and blueberry (in the background), combined with notes of crushed mint, violet and peony. The palate offers juiciness, lots of fresh fruit and airiness. It expresses the flavors of crushed strawberry, raspberry coulis, crushed blueberry and red cherry, combined with notes of violet, dried peony, blackcurrant leaf (in the background) as well as a very slight touch of ground cumin. background. A fine minerality and a beautiful freshness on the finish, thanks to a lively acidity, which complements a warm side of roasted fruit, which we see at the end of the palate. The tannins are a little grippy on the finish, but enveloped by a juicy fruity substance and a nice acidity.

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

Domaine de L'R, Les 5 Eléments 2020

Chinon

The wine has a brilliant ruby color, of medium intensity. The nose is reserved and requires aeration. It then expresses notes of strawberry, red cherry, raspberry, red currant, a touch of blueberry and blackcurrant, associated with notes of fresh tobacco, infused tea leaf, dried wild flowers, as well as a hint of undergrowth and liquorice. The palate offers juiciness, precision and a certain roundness on the attack, which develops

in the mid-palate, frank and tangy, and a rather persistent finish, on tangy fruits and a fine bitterness. We find notes of crunchy strawberry, raspberry, tangy red cherry, blackcurrant, a tannic touch of wild plum, as well as notes of fresh tobacco, fresh tea leaf, a touch of undergrowth and dried wild flowers. The acidity is salivating and lively.

Score : 14.5+/20 (88/100)

Domaine de L'R, Le Canal des Grands Pièces 2022

Chinon

The wine has a bright ruby color, with purple tints. The nose is gourmand, very fruity and juicy. It expresses aromas of crushed ripe red cherry, morello cherry, red currant, elderberry, combined with notes of peony, juniper berries, as well as a hint of hay. The palate is tangy and straight. It expresses the flavors of red cherry, red currant, cranberries, crushed raspberry, combined with a touch of blackcurrant, peony (in the background) and cut grass. The acidity is lively and salivating. The tannins are grippy and slightly bitter. The finish is moderately persistent, tangy.

Score : 14.5/20 (88/100)

Domaine de L'R, Les Folies du Noyer Vert 2021

Chinon

The wine has a bright ruby color, of medium intensity. The nose expresses notes of tangy red and black fruits: bigarreau cherry, crushed raspberry, blueberry, a touch of blackcurrant, combined with floral and herbaceous aromas of dried rose, lilac, violet and cut thyme. On the palate, the wine is chiseled, tangy, with a firm, slightly dry tannic structure. We find flavors of tart red cherry, red currant, cranberries, crushed raspberry and blackcurrant (in the background), combined with a hint of violet and cut grass. The finish expresses crunchy acidity, a touch of crushed red cherry and a slight bitterness.

Score : 14.5+/20 (88/100)



Coudray Montpensier, Gaudéamus, Cuvée d'excellence 2019

Chinon

The wine has a deep ruby color, with light garnet reflections. The nose is fragrant, gourmand and offers concentration and complexity. It expresses notes of crushed blueberry, blackcurrant, crushed strawberry, red cherry, morello cherry, as well as fresh tobacco, crushed mint, violet, dried rose and wild flowers. We also find notes of sweet spices (liquorice, white pepper, nutmeg) and wet leaves in the background. On the palate, the wine is silky, gourmand and complex. It expresses notes of dried red cherry, fresh morello cherry, crushed blueberry, dried strawberry, raspberry coulis and roasted red cherry, associated with notes of fresh tobacco, dried violet, dried rose and lilac (in the background), as well as notes of liquorice, grated nutmeg, white pepper and damp leaves. The tannins are velvety and melted. Beautiful acidity and persistence with notes of sweet spices and dried red fruits, with a good bitterness in the background. A gourmand and complex wine.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Nicolas Paget, Les Quinquenays 2020

Chinon

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose offers concentration, subtlety and freshness. It expresses notes of wild strawberry, red cherry jam, fresh morello cherry, raspberry coulis, redcurrant jelly, red plum in the background, blueberry and blackcurrant, combined with fresh notes of wild mint, blackcurrant leaf, cut rosemary, as well as a touch of liquorice, cumin and an elegant floral bouquet (violet, rose petals, iris). The palate is precise and chiseled, with a firm tannic structure, see drying on the finish, balanced by salivating acidity and juicy fruits. It expresses notes of tangy fruits (blackcurrant, raspberry, red cherry), associated with notes of wild strawberry, morello cherry, sweet spices (liquorice, cumin, nutmeg), dried mint, as well as a floral touch (violet, peony) and chocolate in the background. Good persistence, with lively acidity and good bitterness.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Château de La Grille 2020

Chinon

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is gourmand, it offers a warming but fine spiciness, as well as ripe and juicy fruit. It expresses the aromas of wild strawberries, wild blackberries, morello cherry jam, fresh morello cherries, blueberries and raspberry coulis, combined with notes of sweet spices (liquorice, cloves, grated nutmeg, ground cumin), flowers (violet, peony), as well as a fine touch of vanilla and a freshness of menthol. On the palate, the wine offers suppleness and gourmandise of fruit, as well as savoury notes of sweet spices, roasted fruit and smoked meat. We find in particular the flavors of roasted red cherry, crushed blackcurrant, roasted raspberry, raspberry coulis, wild strawberry, morello cherry, as well as liquorice, toasted cumin seeds, cloves, toast, smoked and roasted meat in the background. There are also floral (peony, dried rose) and herbaceous (dried mint, tobacco) touches. The tannins are silky, with a beautiful structure. The acidity is lively and salivating, but supple, good length and concentration in the mouth.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Loire red wines

Clo' Clotilde Pain, Sans Froufrou 2022 Chinon

(no added sulphites) The wine has a deep ruby color, with purple reflections. It expresses juiciness, bright fruit and lots of freshness. We find notes of crushed red cherry, morello cherry, wild strawberry, raspberry, crushed blueberry, blackcurrant, as well as a touch of violet, wild rose and a hint of blackcurrant leaf. The palate is juicy, fragrant, fruity and fresh. The tannins are grippy, a little dry, but quite fine and balanced by a crunchy acidity and a juicy fruity substance on the finish. We find flavors of morello cherry, crushed red cherry, blackcurrant, strawberry and raspberry, with a touch of violet and blackcurrant leaf in the background. The finish is chiseled, on the racy tannic structure, moderately persistent. A gourmand and structured wine.

Score : 14.5+/20 (88/100)

Clo' Clotilde Pain, Rouge 2022 Chinon

The wine has a bright ruby color. The nose is fragrant and offers pleasant herbaceous and floral notes. It expresses aromas of wild mint (even menthol), violet, wild rose and blackcurrant leaf, harmoniously enveloped in the aromas of black fruits (blackcurrant, blueberry, morello cherry) and red fruits (strawberry, raspberry) and highlighted by a limestone mineral touch. The palate is juicy, round and fluid, with a tannic finish (with grippy, but fine tannins). It expresses notes of blackcurrant, crushed blueberry, strawberry, morello cherry and raspberry, as well as a floral touch of violet, wild rose, iris and a fine herbaceous touch (blackcurrant leaf, wild mint). The acidity is lively and salivating. The finish is fruity, moderately persistent and expresses a delicate bitterness.

Score : 14.5+/20 (88/100)

Clo' Clotilde Pain, Prends Moi ! 2022 Chinon

The wine has a bright ruby color, of medium intensity. The nose is fruity, slightly sweet, with fragrant floral aromas. It expresses notes of wild strawberry, morello cherry, blackcurrant, crushed raspberry, blueberry, as well as a touch of violet, rose, lily of the valley and a hint of minerality (limestone). There are also herbaceous notes of blackcurrant leaf and dried mint. On the palate, the wine offers a silky attack and a beautiful concentration of fruit. It expresses flavors of strawberry, crushed raspberry, roasted red cherry, blackcurrant, morello cherry and the tannic touch of wild plum, as well as notes of blackcurrant leaf, dried mint, violet and rose. The finish expresses the drying structure of the tannins, but also a lively acidity and juiciness, which soften it. A racy, lively and gourmand wine.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Clo' Clotilde Pain, Sans Dessus, Sans Dessous 2020 Chinon

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose offers concentration, ripe fruit, as well as fine spicy and floral aromas. We find notes of blackcurrant, blueberry, morello cherry, as well as a sweet touch of wild strawberry, raspberry coulis and crushed red currant, associated with notes of dried mint, liquorice, nutmeg, pepper white and blackcurrant leaf, as well as floral notes (violet, wild rose, lily). The palate offers power, well-structured and fine tannins, as well as the roundness of ripe fruits (morello cherry, blackberry, blackcurrant, strawberry, raspberry coulis), a fine floral bouquet (violet, rose, peony), herbaceous (dried mint, black tea in the background, blackcurrant leaf) and spicy notes (liquorice, cumin). The finish is quite persistent, concentrated and fruity, with a touch of chocolate in the background, firm but silky tannins and a nice acidity.

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

Clo' Clotilde Pain, Secrets d'Alcôve 2020 Chinon

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose offers a lot of freshness and a fine and precise mineral (limestone) framework. We also find notes of wild strawberry, raspberry, red cherry, a touch of cranberries, blackcurrant and blueberry, associated with fresh notes of crushed mint, blackcurrant leaf (see tomato leaf, which brings freshness and green hints), as well as violet, wild rose and lilac. We also feel a slight spicy touch (liquorice, ground coriander seeds). The palate expresses the accuracy, straightness and juiciness of ripe fruit, combined with a beautiful salivating acidity and structured, but silky tannins. We find notes of strawberry, crushed raspberry, morello cherry, red cherry jam, blueberry and fresh blackcurrant, as well as floral notes of violet, rose petals and lily. The finish is refined and persistent, with notes of juicy fruit, sweet spices and a touch of chocolate cherry in the background.

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

Nicolas Paget, Les 4 Ferrures 2022 Chinon

(organic) The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is refined and offers concentration, fruit, freshness and a fine spiciness in the background. It expresses notes of wild strawberry, raspberry, red cherry, morello cherry, as well as a touch of liquorice, violet, lily and dried mint. The palate expresses controlled power, ripe fruit with a slight sweetness, as well as fine and velvety tannins, accompanied by a beautiful acidity. It expresses notes of wild strawberry, crushed morello cherry, red cherry jam, red currant jelly, as well as a sweet touch of wild blackberry, chocolate cherry and a touch of freshness, thanks to notes of wild mint, liquorice and an elegant floral scent (violet, wild rose). The finish is savoury, round and persistent, slightly chocolatey. A very gourmand and pleasant wine.

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

Maison Audebert et Fils, Les Perruches 2020 Chinon

The wine has a deep ruby color. The nose offers concentration, ripe fruit and a fine spiciness. It expresses notes of roasted red cherry, juicy morello cherry, strawberry, raspberry coulis, blueberry, red currant jelly and crushed blackcurrant, combined with notes of liquorice, nutmeg, cloves and a fine toasted touch in the background, as well as notes of dried mint, violet, peony, dried rose and wild flowers. The palate expresses a delicate smokiness at the beginning. Then, we find notes of strawberry, raspberry coulis, crushed blackcurrant, morello cherry, roasted red cherry, violet, peony, liquorice, cumin, dried mint and lilac, with a fine toasted touch in the background. The finish expresses firm tannins, a little drying, but enveloped in ripe and generous fruity notes, as well as in a chocolate note, which brings sweetness. Beautiful salivating acidity, which balances the firmness of the wine on the finish. A well-constructed, straight, powerful and fleshy wine.

Score : 16.25+/20 (93/100)

Domaine de la Commanderie, Sélection Vieilles Vignes 2020 Chinon

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose expresses slightly meaty and smoky notes at the beginning, which then become fruity and floral. We find in particular the aromas of violet, lily, iris, red cherry, wild strawberry, crushed raspberry, red currant, blackcurrant, as well as blackcurrant leaf and white pepper. On the palate, the wine is juicy, fluid and airy. It expresses notes of red cherry, raspberry, strawberry, fresh red currant, blackcurrant, combined with notes of violet, rose petals and blackcurrant leaf. The tannins are very fine and melted, almost imperceptible. The finish is fresh and tangy. A pleasant, easy-drinking wine.

Score : 14.5+/20 (88/100)

Domaine de la Commanderie, Renaissance, Assemblage de deux terroir 2020 Chinon

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is delicate, but offers concentration, freshness and a fine peppery hint. It expresses notes of strawberry, crushed raspberry, blackcurrant, red currant, as well as a touch of pepper (black pepper), liquorice and cumin, combined with hints of violet, fresh cornflower, peppermint and blackcurrant leaf. On the palate, the wine is fresh, airy and juicy. It expresses notes of red cherry, fresh red currant, strawberry, crushed raspberry, combined with notes of blackcurrant leaf, white pepper, peppermint, violet and cornflower. Beautiful acidity, a fine but assertive tannic structure. Good persistence.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Domaine de la Commanderie, Tradition, Elevé en barriques 2018 Chinon

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The first nose is woody and spicy: it expresses distinct notes of toasted oak, crushed vanilla pod, caramel (a touch of toasted coconut in the background), as well as aromas of sweet spices (liquorice, cloves, a touch of cinnamon) and a beautiful fruity matter. We also find notes of wild strawberry, red cherry jam, morello cherry, raspberry coulis, blackcurrant and redcurrant, as well as hints of fresh tobacco, violet, dried rose, tea and a fine touch of leather and undergrowth in the background. On the palate, the wine is enveloping, juicy and fresh. It expresses notes of fresh red cherry, fresh morello cherry, wild strawberry, raspberry coulis, crushed blackcurrant, as well as peppermint, liquorice, cloves, a touch of roasting (toasted oak, caramel, toasted vanilla), flowers (violet, dried rose) and tobacco. Tannins are melted and fine, but assertive. Beautiful acidity, liveliness and good persistence on the finish.

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



Loire red wines

Domaine de la Commanderie, Secret de Famille, Edition Limitée 2020

Chinon

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The first nose is woody and spicy: it expresses distinct notes of toasted oak, crushed vanilla pod, caramel (even a touch of toasted coconut in the background), as well as aromas of sweet spices (liquorice, cloves, a touch of cinnamon) and a beautiful fruitiness. We also find notes of wild strawberry, red cherry jam, morello cherry, raspberry coulis, blackcurrant and red currant, as well as notes of fresh tobacco, violet, dried rose, tea and a fine touch of leather and undergrowth in the background. On the palate, the wine is enveloping, juicy and fresh. It expresses notes of fresh red cherry, fresh morello cherry, wild strawberry, raspberry coulis, crushed blackcurrant, as well as peppermint, liquorice, cloves, a touch of torrefaction (toasted oak, caramel, toasted vanilla), flowers (violet, dried rose) and tobacco. The tannins are melted and fine, but assertive. Beautiful acidity, liveliness and good persistence on the finish.

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

Domaine de la Commanderie, Les Battereaux 2018

Chinon

The wine has a deep ruby color. The nose is fragrant and woody at the beginning: it expresses notes of toasted oak, a sappy and resinous touch (pine sap), toasted hazelnut, which develop towards notes of sweet spices: liquorice (even star anise), toasted vanilla, cinnamon, ground nutmeg as well as juniper berries and pink pepper berries. The fruity bouquet is pleasantly refined; it combines notes of fresh red cherry, dried red cherry, morello cherry, fresh blackcurrant and dried blackcurrant, raspberry coulis and wild strawberry. We also find a fine floral touch: notes of violet, rose, peony and dried wildflowers, as well as a herbaceous hint of dried mint, Earl Gray tea and fresh tobacco. The tertiary notes of undergrowth and wet leaves are very subtle and appear in the background. On the palate, the wine is silky, enveloping and melted, with refined and complex flavors. It expresses notes of fresh wild strawberry, dried red cherry, morello cherry, fresh blackcurrant, dried blackcurrant, wild blackberry, combined with delicate woody and spicy notes (toasted oak, grilled vanilla, toasted hazelnut, cloves of clove,

nutmeg, liquorice), with a floral and herbaceous touch (violet, rose, dried cornflower, tobacco, dried mint, black tea). The finish is persistent, sapid, juicy and fresh, thanks to a salivating acidity. There are also notes of undergrowth and damp leaves. Beautiful tannic texture: firm, yet delicate and velvety.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Domaine de la Commanderie, La Vallée du Roi 2020

Chinon

The wine has a pale ruby color. The nose is refined, complex and elegant. It expresses delicate notes of sweet spices (liquorice, crushed coriander seeds, cumin, cloves, a subtle touch of toasted vanilla), flowers (violet, fresh rose, lilac), a herbaceous touch (wild mint, leaf blackcurrant, black tea with red fruits, a touch of fresh tobacco), as well as a beautiful refined fruity substance: notes of dried red cherry, juicy morello cherry, dried blackcurrant, wild blackberry, raspberry coulis and wooden strawberry. On the palate, the wine is airy and harmonious. It expresses notes of fresh blackcurrant, crushed blueberry, wild blackberry, morello cherry, dried red cherry, raspberry coulis and wild strawberry, combined with fine notes of sweet spices: coriander seeds, clove, liquorice and vanilla (in the background), as well as delicate and enveloped notes of flowers (violet, fresh rose, dried rose petals) and herbs (blackcurrant leaf, tobacco, wild mint). The finish is savoury and persistent, full of finesse and freshness. The tannins are structured and fine. Beautiful salivating acidity and a touch of dried mint on the finish.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)



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Bourgogne

CÔTE DE NUITS

Maison Louis Latour 2018

Morey Saint-Denis

The wine has a pale ruby color, with slight garnet reflections. The nose is refined, complex and offers a rich variety of aromas. On the first nose, we find a floral bouquet, which combines fresh flowers (a touch of violet, cornflower and elderberry) with dried field flowers, as well as fine notes of development (mushrooms, undergrowth, wilted flowers). Then, we find ripe and dried red and black fruits (dried raspberry, fresh wild strawberry, tart red cherry, fresh and dried, a touch of fresh blueberry and blackberry), as well as spicy and woody notes (liquorice, pepper white, ground cumin, cloves, toasted), complemented by a herbaceous freshness (crushed mint, rosemary) and a fine note of graphite in the background. On the palate, the attack is very juicy, gourmand and fruity. The wine expresses flavors of sweet wild strawberries, ripe raspberries, wild blackberries (in the background), blueberries and tart red cherries. In the mid-palate we find elegant woody (a touch of vanilla, toast, coffee with milk) and spicy (cumin, clove) notes, as well as touches of fresh flowers (peony, cornflower). The tannins are fine and silky, but well structured. Beautiful refreshing acidity, quite persistent finish, with subtle tertiary notes, which reflect the complexity on the nose. A balanced, complex and refined wine.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Domaine Heresztyn-Mazzini 2022 - Vieilles Vignes

Gevrey-Chambertin

(Organic) The nose is fruity and offers a certain concentration in control, precision as well as depth. We find notes of pulpy cherry, crushed blackcurrant, blackberry and concentrated strawberry associated with touches of violet, plum blossom, liquorice stick as well as hints of tobacco, a subtle hint of cardamom. and cloves. The palate is fruity, tangy, balanced and offers a beautiful freshness, good definition, gourmandise, precision, suppleness as well as a supporting minerality. On the palate this wine expresses notes of fresh raspberry, fresh blackberry and slight notes of violet associated with touches of small fresh/ripe red fruits associated with hints of mocha, toasted notes as well as a subtle hint of sweet blond tobacco, saline and with a discreet hint of good bitterness. Good length. Tannins offer a little softness. A fine chew on the finish/persistence.

Score : 16.25+/20 (93/100)

Domaine Heresztyn-Mazzini 2022 – Premier Cru Les Millandes

Morey-Saint-Denis

(Organic) The nose is elegant, aromatic and offers complexity, a little power, depth as well as a beautiful finesse of the grain. There are notes of pulpy boysenberry, fleshy strawberry and slight notes of cornflowers associated with touches of liquorice stick, spices as well as a hint of pepper and a fine hint of camphor (in the background). The palate is mineral, nicely balanced and offers freshness, suavity, suppleness, gourmandise, beautiful finesse, purity, beautiful definition, beautiful energy as well as a little melodiousness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/fresh cherry, small juicy/fresh red fruits and small notes of cornflower associated with touches of blackcurrant, hints of liquorice stick, sappy as well as a discreet hint of minerality racy. A subtle firmness on the finish/persistence.

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

Domaine Heresztyn-Mazzini 2022 – Vieilles Vignes

Chambolle-Musigny

(Organic) The nose is fruity, elegant and offers a beautiful elegant, fine, relatively powerful and airy grain. We find notes of wild blackberry, wild strawberry and slight notes of Cubeb pepper associated with delicate touches of violet, plum as well as discreet hints of almost cardamom. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, a tangy structure, minerality, suavity, precision as well as tension. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackcurrant, tangy violet plum and small notes of small creamy (but tangy) red fruits associated with touches of toast, fine hints of chocolate as well as hints of toasted hazelnut. Good length. Sapidity and gourmand finish. Sincerity and gourmandise.

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

Domaine Heresztyn-Mazzini 2022 - Clos Village

Gevrey-Chambertin

(Organic) Beautiful fine, elegant, airy nose which offers a beautiful floral/fresh flower side. There are notes of Bigarreau cherry, violet and small notes of liquorice stick associated with touches of crushed violet plum as well as fine hints of fresh blond tobacco. The palate is fruity, elegant, racée, tense, airy, delicate and offers a nice

juiciness as well as a nice juicy/bright fruit. On the palate this wine expresses notes of fresh cherry, juicy/pulpy purple plum and small notes of cornflower associated with touches of liquorice stick, toasted notes and a discreet hint of chocolate.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Domaine Heresztyn-Mazzini 2022 - Vieilles Vignes, Cuvée Les Jouises

Gevrey-Chambertin

(Organic) The nose is fruity and offers a beautiful purity, a beautiful definition of the fruit, depth, a slight creaminess as well as a beautiful elegance and grain fineness. We find notes of raspberry, pulpy wild blackberry and slight notes of crushed red fruits associated with a touch of Bigarreau cherry, hot sap, hints of nutmeg as well as a subtle hint of fresh pepper and toast. The palate is fruity, elegant, balanced and offers juiciness, suavity, a tangy frame, minerality, beautiful energy, richness, creaminess (with airiness) as well as a nice little side coating and a discreet smokiness in its fat. A nice little airiness of the grain. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/ juicy cherry, pulpy/juicy raspberry and small notes of creamy blackberry associated with sappy touches, toasted notes, chocolate as well as delicate hints of sweet spices. Tannins are elegant, supple and sapid. The finish is stretchiness and soft.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Domaine Heresztyn-Mazzini 2022 – Vieilles Vignes, Cuvée Les Songes

Gevrey-Chambertin

(Organic) Beautiful elegant, captivating nose, nicely built and offers depth, a spiciness as well as a velvety and intense grain. We find notes of nutmeg, fresh pepper and slight notes of racy minerality associated with touches of crushed blackberry, small concentrated red fruits as well as hints of saffron, cardamom and toasted notes.

The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, a tangy frame, freshness, harmony, purity, finesse, a nice definition, a nice roundness, suavity, a coating touch, gourmandise, a floral side, a pretty airiness in the power of its grain as well as a certain richness. A nice sapidity/salinity in the background. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, pulpy blackcurrant and small notes of almost roasted-juicy cherry associated with touches of blond tobacco, vanilla, racy minerality as well as fine hints of chocolate. Tannins are sapid, gourmand and soft. There is a subtle sappy hint on the persistence and a fine chew.

Score : 17.5/20 (95/100)



Domaine Henri Magnien

Gevrey-Chambertin

The nose is fruity, elegant and offers harmony as well as a fine concentration. There are notes of pulpy cherry, raspberry leaf and slight notes of crushed plum associated

with hints of violet and liquorice stick. The palate is nicely fresh, mineral, balanced, harmonious, delicate, racy and offers fat, roundness, a nice volume, a nice melted tannic structure as well as airiness in its substance. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy raspberry, cherry and small notes of pulpy/juicy plum associated with touches of cornflowers, fresh liquorice as well as toasted hints and a subtle sappy hint on the finish/persistence. Good work on the good bitterness. A subtle chew on the persistence.

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

Domaine Henri Magnien – Vieilles Vignes 2022

Gevrey-Chambertin

Nice elegant, airy nose, nicely delicate and which offers a fine airy intensity. It reveals notes of bright cherry, pulpy/juicy plum and small notes of small concentrated red fruits associated with hints of lily as well as a discreet hint of lilac and a hint of fresh liquorice. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, suavity, freshness, a good definition, tanginess, precision as well as tension. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy cherry, juicy purple plum and small notes of cornflower associated with a touch of lily as well as discreet hints of racy minerality. Sapidity. Discreetly saline finish. Good length and nice persistence.

Score : 16.25+/20 (93/100)

Domaine Henri Magnien – Champierri 2022

Gevrey-Chambertin

Beautiful spicy, racy nose which offers fine controlled power as well as good definition. There are notes of violet, spices and small notes of wild blackberry associated with touches of fresh/juicy raspberry as well as hints of lilac, toasted notes and a fine hint of nutmeg. The palate is beautifully fruity, supple, elegant, racy, gourmand and offers an tangy structure. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/fresh blueberry,

Bourgogne

Bigarreau cherry and small notes of bright plum associated with touches of juicy/fresh raspberry as well as hints of nutmeg, toast, a subtle hint of liquorice and toast. Tannins are supple and sapid. Beautiful persistence.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Domaine Heresztyn-Mazzini 2022 – La Perrière Gevrey-Chambertin Premier Cru

(Organic) The nose is elegant, fruity, frank, precise and offers a nice definition, purity, a racy minerality as well as a certain small power and concentration. There are notes of purple plum, cherry and slight notes of spices associated with touches of nutmeg as well as hints of toasted hazelnut. The palate is mineral, balanced and offers minerality, precision, tension, gourmandise, juiciness, a nice concentration, a nice textured touch, silkiness as well as a smoky fatness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy cherry, creamy blackberry and small notes of crushed strawberry associated with touches of cornflowers, toast, chocolate and toasted hazelnut. Tannins are elegant, soft and delicious. Beautiful finesse and elegance. Nice tannic structure. Delicacy!

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

Domaine Heresztyn-Mazzini 2022 - Les Goulots Gevrey-Chambertin Premier Cru

(Organic) The nose is elegant, fruity, velvety and offers a certain intensity of finesse as well as a beautiful finesse and a spiciness. We find notes of violet, Cubeb pepper and slight notes of roasted cherry associated with touches of small crushed red fruits, hints of small blue fruits, racy minerality as well as a subtle/delicate hint of toast. A very discreet hint of creamy fruit. The palate is fruity, textured, velvety and offers juiciness, suavity, suppleness, a slight creaminess, a tangy structure, gourmandise, a slight richness, a nice tension as well as a nice stretchiness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy cherry, creamy raspberry and small notes of purple plum associated with touches of toast, chocolate as well as a subtle sappy hint (in the background). Good length and very nice persistence.

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

Domaine Heresztyn-Mazzini 2022 - Les Champonnets

Gevrey-Chambertin Premier Cru

(Organic) Nice flowery nose which offers fine power/intensity as well as a nice depth of grain and power. We find notes of purple plum, pulpy cherry and slight notes of fairly ripe small fruits (see roasted-fresh) associated with touches of cornflower, lily as well as hints of blond tobacco and a subtle hint of Vanilla bourbon. The palate is mineral, juicy, elegant, delicate, gourmand and offers beautiful definition, suavity, roundness, suppleness as well as a tangy structure. A nice volume with flavor and finesse. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy blackberry, violet and pulpy cherry associated with touches of juicy roasted raspberry, hints of sweet blond tobacco as well as hints of nutmeg, discreet hints of flowers/sap and a subtle hint of sweet spices. Nice chewiness and a subtle hint of chocolate on the persistence.

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

Domaine Henri Magnien – Les Champaux Gevrey-Chambertin Premier Cru

Beautiful flowery, elegant nose, very discreetly tight and which offers fine richness as well as fine straightness. It reveals notes of Bigarreau cherry, fresh/pulpy blueberry and small notes of violet associated with touches of raspberry leaf, delicate (and pretty) hints of spices as well as a fine hint of fresh blond tobacco and cloves. The palate is beautifully structured, balanced, delicate (and powerful at the same time) and offers a beautiful racy identity, brightness, a tangy structure, suppleness, precision, silkiness as well as gourmandise. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy blackberry, cornflowers and small notes of bright raspberry associated with touches of bright roasted small fruits as well as delicate toasted hints, vanilla and a discreet hint of toasted hazelnut (in the background). Tannins are mellow.

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

Domaine Henri Magnien – Estournelles Saint Jacques Gevrey-Chambertin Premier Cru

The nose is mineral, fresh, tense and precise. It reveals notes of juicy/fresh blackberry, juicy/fresh cassis and small notes of small juicy roasted fruits associated with touches of cornflowers, chocolate as well as fine hints of toast and an imperceptible hint of coffee (in the background). The palate is elegant, delicate, juicy, precise, airy and offers a beautiful touch, roundness as well as a nice racy minerality. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, juicy/pulpy blackcurrant and small notes

of fresh raspberry associated with delicate hints of lily, rose as well as discreet hints of liquorice, toasted and a fine hint of grilled/roasted. A very nice marked minerality. Tannins are fine, precise and textured. Presence of an imperceptible sappy hint in the background/on the persistence.

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

Domaine Henri Magnien - Lavaux Saint-Jacques Gevrey-Chambertin Premier Cru

The nose is racy and offers a certain concentration, precision, a frank side as well as spices. It reveals notes of violet, blackberry and small notes of fresh cherry associated with touches of lilac as well as fine hints of camphor, cloves and a discreet hint of fresh blond tobacco. The palate is nicely juicy, fresh, elegant and offers fat as well as beautiful suppleness and roundness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, pulpy/juicy cassis and small notes of bright cherry associated with touches of violet, small bright fruits as well as fine toasted hints and roasted notes. Tannins are supple and fresh. Beautiful touch, harmonious and delicate in its concentration.

Score : 18/20 (96/100)

Domaine Henri Magnien – Les Cazetiers 2022 Gevrey-Chambertin Premier Cru

Beautiful spicy, velvety, delicate nose which offers a certain intensity as well as an « sense of detail ». There are notes of violet, bright/quite ripe violet plum and small notes of lilac, lily associated with discreet hints of pepper. Beautiful aromatic palette on the discreetly roasted-juicy fruit. The palate is fruity, balanced and offers juiciness, suavity, suppleness, freshness, a nice definition, a beautiful creaminess in freshness as well as a beautiful minerality. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, roasted cherry and small notes of cornflowers associated with touches of bright fruit (raspberry, etc.), toasted hints as well as discreet hints of tonka bean, a hint of liquorice and a subtle hint of good bitterness.

Score : 18/20 (96/100)

Domaine Henri Magnien – 4 Caractères

Gevrey-Chambertin Premier Cru

Beautiful full nose which offers energy, deepness, a certain power, precision as well as width. We find notes of small, quite ripe (but juicy) red fruits, sap and small notes of blackberry associated with touches of lilac, zan, a discreet hint of cardamom as well as a subtle hint of nutmeg and spices. The palate is beautifully structured, elegant, supple, fresh, juicy, gourmand and offers energy, tension, finesse, precision, harmony as well as a beautiful matter. On the palate this wine expresses notes of crushed blackberry, roasted cherry and small notes of sap associated with

touches of cornflower, lilac as well as hints of liquorice, small roasted fruits, discreet hints of cardamom, a subtle hint of tobacco and a very discreet saline/savoury hint. A complete, elegant wine made in a richer style than previous ones. Tannins are mellow and elegant. Beautiful persistence. One of the great Bourgogne Cuvée to follow!

Score : 18/20 (96/100)

Domaine Henri Magnien Ruchottes-Chambertin Grand Cru

The nose is fresh, elegant, captivating, delicate, coated and offers purity. We find notes of bright blackberry and small notes of bright raspberry associated with touches of violet, fresh flowers as well as discreet hints of almost green cardamom. The palate is beautifully juicy, fresh, elegant, round, supple, aromatic, deep and offers purity as well as a fine smokiness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy cassis, juicy/fresh violet plum and small notes of small roasted red fruits associated with delicate touches of lily, vanilla, toasted notes and a discreet hint of nutmeg. Tannins are supple and delicious. A subtle chewiness on the finish. Beautiful persistence. Superb freshness!

Score : 17.25+/20 (95/100)

Domaine Gaston & Pierre Ravaut, 2021

Côte de Nuits-Villages The wine has a pale ruby color. The nose is aromatic, fruity, woody and spicy. It expresses notes of ripe strawberry, roasted red cherry, morello cherry, fresh red currants, red currant jam, as well as notes of torrefaction (toasted hazelnut, toasted bread, a touch of coffee), toasted wood, sweet spices (cloves, white pepper, cumin) and a hint of liquorice (or even star anise) in the background. There is also a touch of dried aromatic herbs and cornflower. On the palate, the wine is supple, silky and juicy. It offers fine and delicate tannins and a fresh and tangy fruity bouquet. It expresses the flavors of tangy bigarreau cherry, fresh raspberry, strawberry, fresh



Bourgogne

red currants and tangy blackcurrant, associated with herbaceous notes (fresh lemon thyme, a touch of blackcurrant leaf in the background), spicy (clove, white pepper, a hint of liquorice) and lightly smoked. The finish is persistent, with tangy notes of red cherry. A refined wine, with lots of freshness and lively acidity.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Domaine Henri Magnien – Queue de Harend, Clos François Thurot Monopole 2022 Côte de Nuits-Villages

The nose is fruity, precise and offers a pulpy finish. We find notes of blackberry, violet, lily and small notes of small crushed fruits associated with touches of roasted red cherry as well as fine hints of spices and a very discreet sappy hint. The palate is nicely mineral, fresh, elegant, chiseled and offers a certain delicacy, fat, tension as well as precision. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy blackberry, pulpy/juicy raspberry and small notes of purple plum associated with touches of lily, liquorice stick as well as hints of toasted/chocolate. Tannins are soft and delicious. Good length. A fine chew on the finish.

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

Domaine Stéphane de Sousa – 2020 Hautes-Côtes de Nuits

The nose is fruity and offers a certain gourmandise, elegance as well as a creamy side. There are notes of blackberry cream, violet and slight notes of crushed strawberry associated with touches of cornflower, liquorice as well as a discreet hint of chocolate. The palate is fruity, well-balanced and offers juiciness, a beautiful freshness as well as gourmandise. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy cherry, bright strawberry and slight notes of creamy blackberry associated with touches of racy minerality and toasted/nutmeg. Tannins are supple and suave. Good length. Fine chewiness and beautiful juiciness!

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Manuel Olivier 2020 Nuits-Saint-Georges

The wine offers a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is concentrated and textured and offers depth and juiciness. It expresses a rich and ripe fruity bouquet: we find notes of wild strawberry, wild blackberry, morello cherry, red cherry jam, crushed blueberry as well as a hint of black plum, associated with notes of sweet spices (liquorice, chanterelle, nutmeg), cocoa, mild coffee, toast, flowers (rose, violet, lily, lilac) and herbs (cut wild mint, thyme, bay leaf). On the palate, the wine is enveloping and structured at the same time. The attack is round, juicy with fresh fruit (crushed raspberry, wild strawberry, red cherry, a hint of red plum, blueberry and wild blackberry), in the mid-palate we find sweet spices (liquorice, cumin, a touch of ground pepper, nutmeg and cinnamon), flowers (rose, violet, lily) and herbs (wild mint and a very delicate hint of tomato leaf which brings a refreshing touch and adds some complexity to the wine). The tannins are a bit grippy, but fine and controlled. Good length with notes of toast and roasted spices, with a salivating acidity. A structured, complex wine with good aging potential.

Score : 16.75+/20 (94/100)

Domaine Guy & Yvan Dufouleur, Vieilles Vignes 2021 Nuits-Saint-Georges

The wine has a pale ruby color. The nose is precise and gourmand: it offers an expressive but subtle spiciness, as well as tangy and fresh fruity notes. We find in particular the aromas of strawberry, raspberry, fresh bigarreau cherry, roasted red cherry, cranberries, a fine floral touch (lily, cornflower, a hint of dried peony) and spicy (clove, white pepper, cumin). On the palate, the wine offers juiciness, a fine power of silky but structured tannins, as well as a certain roundness of fruit, which balances this structure. There is sapidity, a savory touch of roasted meat and smoke, associated with notes of sweet spices (white pepper, nutmeg, cloves) as well as a fresh and airy fruitiness (notes of strawberry, red cherry, raspberry, cranberries and red currants) and a floral bouquet (dried rose, lily, peony). The finish is persistent, with lively acidity, a slight bitterness and juicy red fruits.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Domaine Guy & Yvan Dufouleur, Les Creux-Fraîches Eaux 2021 Nuits-Saint-Georges

The wine has a pale ruby color. The nose is subtle and discreet, very floral and elegant, with a fine herbaceous hint. It first expresses notes of fresh rose, lilac, violet and cherry blossom, which are combined with notes of wild mint and rosemary, as well as delicate spicy touches of liquorice, cloves, roasted coriander seeds, a fine toasted and smoked side. We also find notes of fresh fruit: strawberry, red cherry, raspberry, red plum and red currant. On the palate, the wine is chiseled, tangy and offers a lot of freshness and salivating acidity. It expresses notes of crunchy strawberry, bigarreau cherry,

cranberries, red currants, raspberry, as well as herbaceous (mint), spicy (nutmeg, liquorice, cloves) and floral (fresh rose, cherry blossom) notes. The finish is tangy, juicy and airy, with notes of red fruits and a slight bitterness. The tannins have a fine, but firm texture. A refined wine, with lots of vivacity and freshness.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Domaine Guy & Yvan Dufouleur, Aux Saint-Julien 2021 Nuits-Saint-Georges

The wine has a pale ruby color. On the nose, it offers freshness and concentration, a ripe fruit, as well as savoury touches of sweet spices, smoke and roasted meat in the background. The aromas are quite expressive, and at first nose, we first find the aromas of clove, cumin, white pepper, liquorice, dried flowers (dried rose petals and cornflower) a herbaceous hint of dried mint, as well as airiness and fine fruitiness (wild strawberry, dried strawberry, red cherry, raspberry, red currant), a herbaceous touch of dried mint, as well as a toasted and smoky note in the background. On the palate, the wine is chiseled and tangy. It first expresses notes of sweet spices (liquorice, cloves, white pepper, cumin), dried rose and cornflower, roasted red cherry, a hint of toast and smoke, which then complement each other with notes of fresh strawberry, raspberry, red currants, cranberries and cut mint. The finish is persistent and expresses notes of roasted red fruits, a smoky touch as well as good bitterness and salivating acidity. The tannins are firm, a bit grippy. Good structure, energy and liveliness.

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

Domaine Guy & Yvan Dufouleur, Les Poulettes 2021 Nuits-Saint-Georges Premier Cru

The wine has a pale ruby color. The nose is velvety, textured and juicy. It expresses notes of ripe red cherry, wild strawberry, raspberry coulis and a touch of crushed blueberry, combined with a delicate aroma of violet, cornflower, lily, as well as touches of sweet spices (nutmeg, liquorice, white pepper), toast and smoke (in the background). On the palate, the wine offers a more pronounced savoriness, as well as notes of roasted red fruits, balanced by a salivating acidity. We find notes of fresh red cherry, roasted red cherry, raspberry coulis, wild strawberry and crushed blueberry, as well as floral touches of violet and cornflower and a fine spiciness in the background (liquorice, nutmeg, white pepper). The tannins are well structured: fine, but have a certain power. Beautiful juiciness and sapidity in the mid-palate, the finish is persistent and fresh, with a good bitterness.

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

Domaine Guy & Yvan Dufouleur, Les Crots 2021 Nuits-Saint-Georges Premier Cru

The wine has a pale ruby color. The nose is discreet and requires aeration. It then expresses concentration, fleshy fruit, even slightly sweet, but fresh. We find notes of morello cherry, black plum, cherry and chocolate with mint, wild strawberry, raspberry coulis, cornflower, fresh wild flowers, rose petals, associated with spicy and roasted notes, delicate and integrated (liquorice, cloves, a touch of black pepper, smoke and toasted hazelnut), as well as a note of bay leaf and fresh tobacco. On the palate, the attack is juicy and airy, concentrated and fruity, with a note of torrefaction and smoke in the background. The wine also expresses flavors of tangy but ripe red fruits (red cherry, strawberry, raspberry, a hint of garnet juice and red currant, as well as a tangy touch of blackcurrant), complemented by notes of sweet spices (liquorice, cloves), smoke, and a touch of roasted meat, which appear in the finish. We also find notes of dried rose, cornflower, toast and roasted aromatic herbs. Good concentration, finesse and airiness associated with a certain richness. The tannins are fine, with a touch of bitterness. Good length, on spices, a touch of salinity and a good level of acidity.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Domaine Guy & Yvan Dufouleur, Clos des Perrières 2021 Nuits-Saint-Georges Premier Cru

The wine has a pale ruby color. The nose is discreet and reserved – the wine requires aeration. Then it expresses notes of ripe red fruits, with a fine tangy touch (raspberry, strawberry, bigarreau cherry, red plum), blueberry and crushed blackcurrant, associated with herbaceous aromas of rosemary, dried thyme in the background and touches of flowers (violet, wildflowers, cornflower, cherry blossom in the background), sweet spices (nutmeg, cloves, liquorice in the background). The palate is chiseled and offers precision, freshness, fruit as well as a certain concentration and complexity. It expresses notes of strawberry, tart red cherry, raspberry, crushed blackcurrant, red currant, as well as floral touches of fresh violet, cherry blossom, a fine spiciness (clove, nutmeg, liquorice in the background) and an herbaceous touch on the finish. The acidity is strong and salivating. The tannins are integrated and fine. A lively, incisive and tangy wine. Good persistence on the palate.

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

Bourgogne

Manuel Olivier 2021

Vosne-Romanée

The wine has a pale ruby color. The nose is precise and pronounced and expresses a lot of spices: cloves, ground nutmeg, a fine touch of cinnamon and vanilla in the background and crushed pepper seeds. The fruity substance is concentrated, ripe and elegant. We find the aromas of crunchy wild strawberry, juicy raspberry, red cherry, crushed blueberry, redcurrant jelly and morello cherry, which are complemented by notes of roasted coriander seeds, dried bouquet garni, dried mint, as well as floral touches (rose petals, peony, dried field flowers) and smokiness. On the palate, the wine is tasty and complex. It mainly expresses non-fruity notes (spicy, floral, herbaceous) which dominate the fruitiness at the beginning. We find in particular the flavors of crushed coriander and pink pepper seeds, ground cumin, cloves, roasted bouquet garni, liquorice, wild flowers and dried peony. In its fruitiness we find notes of roasted red cherry, crushed wild strawberry, red currants, raspberry and elderberry. The tannins are well structured, quite firm and slightly grippy, but enveloped thanks to the juicy and round finish, as well as a salivating acidity. A wine with a certain power, but elegant and refined.

Score : 16.75+/20 (94/100)

Manuel Olivier, Les Damaudes 2021

Vosne-Romanée

The wine has a pale ruby color. The nose is subtle, but concentrated and complex. The first nose expresses a delicate, but precise floral aroma (rose, violet, peony, field flowers, cornflower), associated with savoury notes of aromatic herbs (dried thyme, wild mint), spices (ground cumin, crushed seeds of coriander, liquorice), as well as a smoky touch of bergamot and Earl Gray black tea. We then find red fruits (red cherry, cranberries, wild strawberries, raspberries) and black fruits (blueberry, morello cherry), completed by a touch of chocolate with mint and coffee. The palate is ample, enveloping and juicy. The attack offers notes of ripe fruit (red cherry, strawberry, raspberry, cranberries, blueberry, wild blackberry), associated with savory notes (roasted meat, smoke), spicy (ground cumin, liquorice, roasted coriander seeds), herbaceous (roasted bouquet garni, dried mint) and floral (dried rose petals, iris, cornflower) which then develop. The tannins are round, fine and enveloped. Good length, with lots of sapidity, which continues with generous but elegant smoky and fruity notes, with a slight bitterness and a nice acidity. A refined and complex wine, with delicacy and gourmandise.

Score : 17.5/20 (95/100)

Domaine Heresztyn-Mazzini 2022

Clos Saint-Denis Grand Cru

(Organic) Beautiful elegant nose, nicely racy, nicely complex and which offers delicacy in its intensity. We find notes of blackberry, small ripe wild red berries and slight notes of violet associated with touches of fresh liquorice, sap and fine hints of fresh pepper, a discreet hint of saffron and infusion. The palate is nicely mineral, fresh, elegant, delicate, nicely racy, deep, precise and offers delicacy, a coating touch, charm, subtlety in its intensity as well as precision. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, fleshy cherry and small notes of juicy/pulpy blueberry associated with touches of small red berries, hints of chocolate, toasted notes as well as a discreet hint of nutmeg, and liquorice. Nicely marked by juicy roasted red fruits. Tannins are sapid and discreetly firm.

Score : 18/20 (96/100)

CÔTE DE BEAUNE

Manuel Olivier, Les Epenottes 2021

Beaune

The wine has a pale ruby color. The nose is slightly restrained at the beginning, but expresses juicy fruity notes and a fine spiciness later. We find the aromas of fresh and roasted raspberry, wild strawberry, wild blackberry, red cherry, combined with a touch of chocolate with mint, cocoa and sweet spices (liquorice, cumin, vanilla and cinnamon in the background). The nose also expresses a fragrant floral bouquet with notes of peony, violet and cornflower, completed by a touch of mint in the background. The palate is chiseled, tasty and sapid. The attack first expresses notes of smoked meat, crushed coriander seeds, pepper and roasted bouquet garni, combined with a juicy fruitiness (red cherry, strawberry, raspberry, cranberries, crushed wild strawberries and red currants), as well as dried flowers (dried rose petals, dried peony, dried cornflower). The tannins are well structured and fine. Beautiful length with freshness, offered by a lively acidity and an enveloping fruitiness.

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

Vincent & Gabriel Fournier & Fils 2021

Beaune

The wine has a pale ruby color. The nose is fruity, fleshy, with a hint of sweetness. It expresses notes of wild strawberry, roasted raspberry, roasted red cherry, fresh red cherry, as well as wild blueberry, associated with subtle notes of dried mint, rosemary,

wild flowers, peony, as well as with a touch of sweet spices (vanilla, cinnamon, white pepper). On the palate, the wine offers fluidity and airiness, as well as fruit notes, with a tangy touch (fresh raspberry, bigarreau cherry, blueberry, a hint of blackcurrant, strawberry). We also find notes of sweet spices (vanilla, cloves, cumin), a touch of smoked meat in the background and floral and herbaceous notes (dried rose, peony). The tannins are firm, structured, but quite fine. Nice length on the palate, fresh and gourmand, with a nice acidity.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Château de Meursault 2020

Beaune-Fèves Premier Cru

The wine has a ruby color, moderately deep. The wine is aromatic, gourmand and expresses spiciness and notes of torrefaction at first nose. We find in particular the aromas of roasted meat (even with a very subtle touch of smoked meat), which then evolve towards spicy notes of cumin, grated nutmeg, cloves, liquorice, as well as notes of torrefaction (toast, coffee). There is also a beautiful fruitiness (ripe wild strawberry, red cherry, a touch of blackcurrant, raspberry, red currant) and an elegant floral bouquet (cornflower, lily). On the palate, the wine offers fluidity (in a good way), juiciness and elegance. It expresses the flavors of juicy and gourmand red fruits on the attack (red cherry, crunchy strawberry, raspberry, red plum, red currant) and tasty notes of smoke, roasted meat and roasted bouquet garni in the middle and finish. We also find notes of ground cumin, black pepper, toast, cloves, cornflower and lily with a fine sweet touch of vanilla (in the background). The tannins are delicate and melted. The finish offers a slightly sweet touch of crushed strawberries, accompanied by good acidity. A silky and delicate wine.

Score : 16.25+/20 (93/100)

Château de Meursault 2020

Beaune Les Cent-Vignes Premier Cru

The wine has a ruby color with very light garnet reflections. The nose is savoury and spicy: it expresses notes of torrefaction (ground coffee, toasted almond), roasted meat, cloves, liquorice (even star anise), as well as a refined bouquet of fresh flowers (violet, peony, lily). We also find the herbaceous freshness of wild mint, oregano and thyme, enveloped in a juicy fruitiness (tart red cherry, wild blackberry, blueberry, raspberry, crunchy strawberry). On the palate, the wine is ample, but refined, juicy and gourmand. It expresses notes of fresh and crushed strawberry, ripe raspberry, red cherry, blueberry, red currant, associated with notes of fresh mint, cut thyme, oregano, violet, lily, peony. In the middle and end of the palate, we find spicy notes (vanilla, liquorice, clove, cumin) and a hint of torrefaction (coffee, toasted oak) side. The tannins are delicate, fine. Good persistence and a good level of acidity. A fine and gourmand wine.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Château de Meursault, Les Trois Joursaux 2020

Beaune-Grèves Premier Cru

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is fragrant, fresh and floral: it expresses refined notes of field flowers, rosehip, cornflower and cherry blossom, associated with subtle herbaceous notes (dried mint, cherry leaf, cut thyme, leaf of laurel). Then, the wine offers aniseed notes (liquorice which develops towards star anise), sweet spices (clove, nutmeg, pink pepper) and crunchy red and black fruits (red cherry, raspberry, wild strawberry, blueberry, wild plum). On the palate, the wine offers juiciness and freshness. It expresses notes of crunchy bigarreau cherry, red currants, fresh strawberry, raspberry, roasted red cherry, combined with menthol notes, liquorice, spices (black pepper, cumin, cloves), as well as with touches of toasted oak, sweet coffee, roasted meat, bouquet garni and dried flowers (cornflower, wildflowers). The tannins are firm, a little rough, but enveloped and not drying thanks to ample fruitiness and a good level of acidity. The finish is long, with a pleasant smokiness.

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

Château de Meursault 2020

Beaune-Toussaints Premier Cru

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is fragrant and complex. It expresses notes of fresh flowers (rosehip, cornflower, rose, lily), herbs (wild mint, cut rosemary, a fine smokiness of oregano), sweet spices (liquorice, cumin, a touch of fennel seeds, white pepper, vanilla), as well as toasted with a very light note of caramel and toasted hazelnut. Fruitiness and juiciness, freshness and aromatics: the nose expresses notes of blueberry, wild blackberry, crunchy strawberry, red cherry and red currant with a hint of crushed blackcurrant and blackcurrant leaf. On the palate, the wine offers roundness and juiciness with a certain richness and a fine smokiness in the background. The attack is ample, tasty, fruity and fleshy. It offers notes of ripe red and black fruits (red cherry, morello cherry, strawberry, raspberry, crushed blueberry and blackberry in the background), which evolve into notes of vanilla, white pepper, cumin, chocolate with mint, thyme and oregano in the middle and finish. The tannins are well structured and fine, enveloped by a fruitiness and a salivating acidity. The finish is persistent, with notes of dried flowers (cornflower, violet, rose) and a fine spiciness and smokiness. A complex and refined wine.

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

Bourgogne

Edmond Cornu & Fils, Les Bons Ores 2021 Chorey-Lès-Beaune

The wine has a pale ruby color. The nose is fragrant and savory: it expresses the distinct notes of cloves, ground cumin, crushed pepper seeds, liquorice, a touch of vanilla as well as smoked meat in the background. We also find aromas of wild strawberry, red cherry, morello cherry, raspberry and blueberry, combined with floral touches of fresh cornflower and rose, as well as a hint of mint. On the palate, the wine is airy, supple and light (in a good way). It expresses notes of wild strawberry, red cherry, raspberry, morello cherry, associated with floral notes (cornflower, violet), light spicy touches (nutmeg, crushed pepper seeds, liquorice), toasted (toasted hazelnut) and smoke. The tannins are well structured, fine and velvety. A gourmand and supple wine, on fruits and with a lovely freshness on the palate.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Domaine Henri Magnien – La Coutière 2022 Aloxe-Corton Premier Cru

Beautiful delicate nose, full and which offers a certain pulpiness as well as richness in control/precision. We find notes of violet, saffron and small notes of very slightly roasted small red fruits associated with touches of small blue fruits, cornflower and a very discreet hint of zan. The palate is fruity and offers suavity, a tangy structure, juiciness, suppleness, purity, tension, precision as well as a certain gourmandise. The palate is fruity, well-balanced and offers juiciness, suavity, a tangy structure, suppleness, elegance, tension, precision, harmony, a beautiful minerality as well as gourmandise. On the palate this wine expresses notes of blueberry, small juicy/fresh red fruits and small notes of flowers (lily, violet) associated with toasted touches, star anise as well as a subtle sappy hint and a very discreet roasted hint. Tannins are gourmand and relatively soft. Beautiful, easy-drinking and gourmand aftertaste.

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

Domaine de la Galopière 2021 Aloxe-Corton

The wine has a pale ruby color. The nose offers pronounced aromas of spices (clove, nutmeg, white pepper) and dried herbs (bay leaf, mint, thyme), combined with notes of wild flowers, cornflower and peony. The fruits on the nose are juicy and fresh: we find notes of raspberry, strawberry, red cherry and red currant, as well as a touch of blueberry. On the palate, the wine is open and gourmand. It expresses notes of aromatic herbs and roasted spices (roasted bouquet garni, toasted cumin seeds), combined with notes of fruit (roasted red cherry, morello cherry, strawberry, crushed blueberry), and a slight touch of roasted meat and smoke. The tannins offer power and a firm, but supple texture. The finish is persistent, fruity and gourmand, with a nice freshness and good acidity.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Edmond Cornu & Fils, Vieille Vigne 2021 Aloxe-Corton

The wine has a pale ruby color. The nose is open, precise, with lots of fruit and a pleasant tanginess. The first nose is round, slightly sweet and expresses notes of morello cherry, red cherry jam, fresh wild strawberry, crushed raspberry and blueberry, associated with floral notes (fresh cornflower, lily), a herbaceous touch (menthol, wild mint, fresh thyme), as well as a hint of citrus (bergamot in Earl Gray tea) in the background. There are also aromas of integrated and refined sweet spices (liquorice, see star anise, cloves, nutmeg, a hint of vanilla), as well as a hint of torrefaction (sweet coffee, toasted hazelnut). On the palate, the wine offers a ripe, expressive fruity texture, with a fine sweetness of jammed fruits and sweet spices. It expresses the flavors of morello cherry, red cherry jam, wild strawberry, crushed raspberry and crushed blueberry, combined with notes of liquorice, clove, nutmeg, vanilla, as well as a touch of toasted hazelnut, cocoa and caramel in the background. The finish offers roundness, ripe and sweet fruit, as well as more expressive spicy notes than in the mid-palate (notably vanilla, cloves, as well as cocoa). Beautiful acidity and a refined, velvety texture of tannins. An open, gourmand and delicate wine.

Score : 15.5/20 (91/100)

Agnès Paquet, Les Hoz 2021 Auxey-Duresses

The wine has a pale ruby color. The nose is refined, delicately floral and fruity. It expresses tangy notes of cranberries, raspberry, bigarreau cherry, red currant and elderberry, combined with notes of cherry blossom, rosehip, violet and rose. There are also hints of fine, integrated spices: white pepper, ground cumin, nutmeg, cloves and liquorice, complemented by notes of fresh tobacco and bay leaf. On the palate, the wine offers suppleness and roundness, as well as melted and fine tannins. The flavors are fruity and juicy, very gourmand. We find notes of ripe wild strawberry, red cherry, red currant, crushed raspberry, associated with floral touches of rose, cherry blossom and rosehip, as well as very delicate spicy hints (clove, nutmeg, liquorice). The finish is persistent, adding notes of bay leaf and a very slight hint of toast to the bouquet. Beautiful acidity, lots of finesse and gourmandise.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Domaine Gaston & Pierre Ravaut, 2021 Aloxe-Corton

The wine has a pale ruby color. The nose offers concentration, ripe fruit and elegance. It expresses notes of juicy morello cherry, bigarreau cherry, wild strawberry, raspberry coulis, wild blackberry (in the background), complemented by subtle notes of sweet spices (liquorice, cloves, grated nutmeg), as well as delicate touches of aromatic herbs (dried oregano, fresh thyme) lilac, toasted almond and curry (after aeration). On the palate, the wine offers energy, lots of fruit and a refined spiciness. It expresses notes of fresh bigarreau cherry, morello cherry, raspberry, wild strawberry, tangy red plum and juicy blueberry (in the background), as well as delicate and integrated spicy and woody touches. We find notes of cumin, liquorice, cloves, a hint of toast as well as notes of roasted aromatic herbs (thyme and rosemary) and fresh oregano. The tannins are fine and velvety, but structured. The acidity is lively and salivating, and gives a beautiful energy to the wine. Good length, on the tanginess of fruits and a smoky touch of oregano and curry. Good aging potential.

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

Domaine Gaston & Pierre Ravaut 2020 Aloxe-Corton

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose offers concentration and depth. It expresses notes of juicy morello cherry, wild blackberry, roasted bigarreau cherry, strawberry, blueberry jam and raspberry coulis, combined with notes of sweet spices (liquorice, nutmeg, white pepper, a hint vanilla), menthol, lilac, cornflower and a fine touch of torrefaction (toast, ground coffee) in the background. On the palate, the wine offers lots of fruit, juiciness and great concentration, all in finesse. It expresses notes of roasted bigarreau cherry, morello cherry, strawberry, raspberry coulis, tangy blackcurrant, red currants, as well as delicate floral (lilac), spicy (white pepper, cumin, clove) and toasty notes (toasted almond, toasted bread in the background). The finish is long and complex, with tangy notes of red cherry, combined with a smoky and herbaceous touch (oregano). The acidity is lively and fresh. The tannins are well structured: fine, but quite powerful. Good aging potential.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Château de Meursault, Les Maréchaudes 2020 Aloxe-Corton Premier Cru

The wine has a medium deep ruby color. The nose is gourmand, fragrant, ripe and slightly sweet. It expresses notes of wild strawberry, red cherry, crunchy wild blackberry, raspberry, redcurrant jelly, black plum (in the background) and fresh red currants. We also find a fairly pronounced spiciness (black pepper, ground cumin, grated nutmeg, a touch of vanilla and liquorice), associated with herbaceous notes (dried mint, cut wild mint, roasted thyme, fresh bay leaf, tobacco) and floral (fresh field flowers, cornflower, lily, lilac). On the palate, the wine is round, gourmand, with a certain power and an attack on ripe fruit, which then develops towards roasted, slightly meaty and spicy notes. We find flavors of red cherry, morello cherry, wild blackberry, fresh wood, blueberry, wild black plum, ground cumin, clove, vanilla, as well as herbaceous and floral notes of dried mint, thyme, oregano, lily and cornflower. The finish is long, slightly smoky and toasty, with fine notes of coffee and dark chocolate. The tannins have a fine grain and a firm structure. The salivating acidity brings freshness and liveliness.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Maison Louis Latour 2021 Auxey-Duresses

The color is bright, pale ruby. The nose offers bright aromas of ripe red fruits, with a touch of sweetness (wild strawberry, juicy red cherry, red currants) and a tanginess of raspberry and cranberries. The bouquet develops after aeration and expresses distinct but integrated spicy notes (ground clove, cumin, white pepper, liquorice stick), associated with delicate woody touches (sweet coffee, toast, vanilla in the background with a very slight hint of coconut). We also find floral (fresh cornflower, elderflower) and herbaceous (roasted thyme, dried mint) aromas which add to the complexity of the wine. On the palate, the attack is silky, round, fruity and gourmand. We find the flavors of ripe red fruits (wild strawberry, juicy red cherry, raspberry, red currant), a fine spiciness of white pepper, cloves and cinnamon, combined with a touch of toast and coffee. The tannins are melted, very fine, present especially at the end of the palate. Beautiful length with a salivating acidity integrated into the roundness of the fruity material. A wine of delicacy and gourmandise, well structured and balanced.

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

Domaine Bader-Mimeur, Château de Chassagne-Montrachet 2021 Chassagne-Montrachet

The wine has a pale ruby color. The nose is fragrant and gourmand. It expresses notes of fleshy red and black fruits (wild strawberry, bigarreau cherry, morello cherry, wild blackberry, red currant), associated with herbaceous (wild mint, rosemary), spicy (liquorice stick, a hint of vanilla, cumin), floral (peony, lily) touches, as well as a hint of balsamic. On the palate, the wine first expresses savory (roasted meat, smoke) and spicy (liquorice,

Bourgogne

white pepper, nutmeg) notes, associated with notes of red and black fruits (roasted red cherry, red currant, strawberry, morello cherry), as well as flowers (dried peony, cornflower). The finish is savoury, quite persistent. The body of the wine is delicate, rather light and goes well with the salivating acidity. An aromatic wine, with finesse.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Domaine Bader-Mimeur, Château de Chassagne-Montrachet 2020 Chassagne-Montrachet

The wine has a fairly intense ruby color. The nose is reserved at first and requires aeration. It then offers concentration, juiciness and fleshy fruity aromas: morello cherry, bigarreau cherry, wild strawberry, quetsche plum, wild blackberry. We also find a fine minty side, notes of smoke, vanilla, liquorice, a touch of bitter cocoa as well as fresh flowers (lily, rose, violet). On the palate, the wine offers a firm structure, as well as ripe fruity substance. It expresses notes of juicy morello cherry, red cherry jam, wild strawberry, a touch of blackcurrant and blueberry, as well as spices (liquorice, vanilla, clove), a smoky and floral touch (cornflower, lily). The mid-palate is enveloping, supported by firm, slightly grippy tannins and salivating acidity. The finish is persistent, tannic and fruity.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Maison Louis Latour, Morgeot 2021 Chassagne-Montrachet Premier Cru

The wine has a ruby color, of medium intensity. The nose offers notes of ripe red fruits (wild strawberry, red cherry, raspberry coulis, red currant jam), combined with touches of black fruits (morello cherry, a delicate touch of wild blackberry and tangy black plum), as well as touches of fresh vanilla, grilled hazelnut, toast, flowers (peony, fresh rose petals), roasted aromatic herbs (thyme, bay leaf). On the palate, the wine offers bright fruity flavors (bigarreau cherry, morello cherry, wild strawberry, raspberry coulis, wild blackberry, a fine touch of blackcurrant), fresh herbaceous touches (peppermint, cut rosemary, fresh thyme), delicate woody (toast, a touch of vanilla, clove) and floral (fresh rose petals, violet) notes. Good length, with juicy and tangy fruity notes (red cherry, raspberry), lively acidity and good bitterness.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Domaine Louis Latour, Château Corton Grancey 2018 Corton Grand Cru

The wine has a medium deep ruby color, with garnet reflections on the rim. The nose is fragrant, generous and complex. It expresses notes of juicy and ripe red and black fruits (wild strawberry, bigarreau cherry, morello cherry, blueberry, wild raspberry), fresh flowers (rosehip, cornflower, cherry blossom, rose petals, violet). We also find aromas of torrefaction and sweet spices enveloped and integrated into the fruity bouquet (cinnamon, sweet coffee, liquorice, white pepper, cloves), as well as herbaceous touches (wild mint, oregano, rosemary, bay leaf), and a hint of dark chocolate in the background, as well as a touch of graphite. On the palate, the wine is rich and enveloping, but elegant and refined. The attack is delicious and fruity: it expresses the flavors of very ripe red cherry, wild strawberry, blueberry, wild blackberry (in the background) and crunchy raspberry. We then find notes of sweet spices (cinnamon, toasted vanilla, liquorice, cloves), roasting (mild coffee), dark chocolate (in the background), associated with floral notes of rose, peony, violet and cornflower, as well as a herbaceous freshness of wild mint and rosemary. The tannins are structured and very silky. The acidity is refreshing, well balanced with the substance of the wine. The finish is long, velvety and complex. A deep and elegant wine.

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

Edmond Cornu & Fils 2021 Corton-Bressandes Grand Cru

The wine has a pale ruby color. The nose is reserved, but deep and complex. It offers a beautiful fruity substance, delicate, but concentrated and expresses notes of wild strawberry, ripe wild raspberry, juicy bigarreau cherry, morello cherry, a touch of blackcurrant in the background, cranberry jam and red currants. The spiciness is soft, elegant and refined. The spices (ground cumin, ground cloves, white pepper, a touch of liquorice) appear in the second nose and harmoniously complement the ripe fruit. There is also a powdery touch of bitter cocoa, as well as elegant notes of aromatic herbs and flowers (fresh thyme, bay leaf, dried wild flowers, wild mint, dried rose petals, violet, fresh cornflower). On the second nose, we also see fine touches of toast and heated wood. On the palate, the wine offers richness of flavors, elegance and depth. It expresses the flavors of ripe fruit (bigarreau cherry, morello cherry, strawberry, crushed raspberry, red plum in the background), associated with the sweetness of mint chocolate and cocoa, with a fine spiciness (clove, nutmeg). Grated, liquorice, a fine hint of vanilla in the background) and floral (dried wild flowers, violet, dried rose, peony). The tannins are enveloping, melted, with a velvety texture. The acidity is salivating and lively: with the tannic structure it gives the wine very good aging potential. The finish is persistent and savoury.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Domaine Michel Juillot 2019 Corton-Perrières Grand Cru

The wine has a pale ruby color. The nose is delicate, refined, harmonious and complex. The first nose is floral and subtly herbaceous: it expresses notes of fresh rose, cherry blossom, lilac and dried iris, as well as touches of fresh tobacco, wild mint and cut thyme. On the second nose, we find delicate touches of sweet spices (liquorice, cumin, white pepper, nutmeg, a touch of vanilla), as well as roasted notes (roasted hazelnut, a very delicate note of heated wood, coffee, cocoa). Then, the wine expresses notes of ripe red fruits (wild strawberries, morello cherries, red cherries in jam, crushed raspberries, blueberries). On the palate, the wine offers elegance and finesse. The flavors are delicate, but gourmand and enveloping: we find notes of wild strawberry, juicy morello cherry, redcurrant jelly, crushed raspberry, blueberry, combined with floral touches of iris, violet and lily, as well as a touch of chocolate with mint, fresh wild mint and oregano. In the mid-palate, the wine expresses warming sweet spices (liquorice, vanilla, a touch of cinnamon), torrefaction (roasted hazelnut, sweet coffee) and chocolate. The finish is very long, with lots of flavor and depth. The acidity is salivating, but supple, in harmony with the profile of the wine. The tannins are silky, velvety and fine. A gourmet, elegant and complex wine.

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

Domaine Henri Magnien – Les Grandes Lolières Corton Grand Cru

Beautiful subtle, deep, complex nose which offers power in subtlety, a fine hint of torrefaction as well as a fine velvety sensation. There are notes of quite ripe (but juicy) fruit, violet and a small notes of crushed strawberry combined with touches of star anise, almost a leaf of fresh tobacco and a subtle toasted hint. The palate is nicely gourmand, supple, suave, delicate, airy and offers fine creaminess as well as superb matter. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy blackberry, juicy/tangy plum and small notes of roasted cherry associated with touches of small blue fruits (almost blueberry) as well as hints of liquorice stick, toasted notes, cardamom and a hint of vanilla. A superb freshness! A great wine!

Score : 18.5+/20 (97-98/100)

André Goichot, Les Belles Filles 2022 Pernand-Vergelesses

The wine has a pale ruby color. The nose is warm, juicy, with lots of fruit. It offers aromas of fleshy red and black fruits (fresh red cherry, morello cherry, strawberry, a touch of blueberry and black plum), associated with the freshness of mint, blackcurrant leaf (in the background), cut rosemary, as well as as well as a delicate spicy (liquorice, a hint of vanilla, cumin) and floral (lilac, iris) notes. On the palate, the wine offers airiness, lightness and juiciness, with a pleasant tangy structure and salivating acidity. It expresses the flavors of red cherry, red currant, crunchy strawberry, raspberry and blueberry, combined with notes of white pepper, smoke and roasted aromatic herbs (in the background), as well as a floral touch (iris, lilac). The tannins are fine, velvety. Good length with gourmandise and roasted cherry notes.

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

Maison Patrick Giboulot, Parcelle Les Boutières 2022 Pernand-Vergelesses

The wine has a pale ruby color. The nose is fragrant and refined: it combines notes of juicy red fruits (strawberry, ripe raspberry), fleshy black fruits (morello cherry, blueberry, a touch of black plum) with floral notes (peony, violet), a touch of white pepper, liquorice and smoke with a herbaceous freshness (mint, thyme). There is also a touch of red apple in the background. On the palate, the wine is supple, juicy, generously fruity and airy at the same time. It expresses the flavors of roasted red cherry, fresh morello cherry, blackcurrant (in the background), purple fig, blueberry, blackberry and blue plum, combined with notes of liquorice, white pepper and a touch of vanilla and cinnamon (in the background), as well as a fragrant floral bouquet (peony, iris). The tannins are well structured, fine and enveloped. A pleasant acidity refreshes the fairly persistent and fruity finish.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Maison Patrick Giboulot, Parcelle Les Fichots 2022 Pernand-Vergelesses Premier Cru

The wine has a pale ruby color. The nose offers concentration and juiciness. It expresses notes of fresh and roasted red fruits (fresh red cherry, roasted red cherry, wild strawberry), as well as black fruits (black plum, blackberry, morello cherry); combined with notes of blueberry jam. On the second nose, we find notes of dried herbs (thyme, rosemary, dried mint), a hint of minerality, a fine spiciness (liquorice, vanilla, cloves) and floral bouquet (lilac, fresh peony, rose). The mouth is silky and expressive. It expresses notes of ripe fresh fruit (morello cherry, black plum, blackberry, crushed wild strawberry, raspberry, blueberry), wild flowers, peony, iris, as well as a touch of sweet spices (roasted vanilla, liquorice, cinnamon in the background) and toast. The finish is persistent, with a delicate sweetness of black fruit jam and a touch of vanilla, refreshed by a beautiful acidity. A gourmet, juicy wine, persistent on the palate, complex and deep, while remaining airy.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Bourgogne

Domaine Stéphane de Sousa 2021 Pommard

Beautiful fresh, elegant nose which offers brightness as well as a certain subtlety. It reveals notes of juicy/fresh cherry, pulpy raspberry and small notes of violet associated with touches of pulpy cassis as well as fine hints of star anise and sweet blond tobacco. The palate is nicely juicy, gourmand and offers a tangy structure, minerality, tension as well as precision. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy cherry, bright cassis and small notes of small tangy/juicy red fruits associated with touches of cornflower, liquorice as well as hints of sweet blond tobacco and a discreet hint good bitterness in the background.
Score : 16+/20 (92-93/100)

Domaine Stéphane de Sousa 2020 Pommard

Beautiful elegant, flowery, precise nose which offers a beautiful aromatic palette. It reveals notes of roasted cherry, liquorice and small toasted notes associated with touches of roasted strawberry as well as hints of cornflowers and a discreet hint of vanilla. The palate is fruity, balanced and offers gourmandise, precision, a tangy frame, tension, suavity as well as precision. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/tart cassis, fresh/juicy cherry and small notes of juicy blue plum associated with hints of blond tobacco, racy minerality and a subtle hint of toasted almond. Good length. Nice work on the good bitters in the background/end of the mouth.
Score : 16.25+/20 (93/100)

Château de Meursault, Clos de La Platière 2020 Pommard

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose offers juiciness, density and a fleshy fruitiness. It expresses notes of morello cherry, wild black plum, crushed wild strawberry, fresh and roasted red cherry, red currant jelly and a hint of crushed blackcurrant. There are also notes of chocolate prunes and mint chocolate (in the background), vanilla, cinnamon, liquorice, cloves, toasted oak, smoke and dried flowers (field flowers, cornflower). On the palate, the wine offers a certain richness and fleshy fruity notes (crushed wild strawberries, very ripe red cherries, morello cherries, a touch of wild plums and red currants), spices (vanilla, cinnamon, black pepper, ground cloves), torrefaction (ground coffee, toasted oak) and fresh flowers (cornflower, wildflowers), combined with a touch of menthol and liquorice in the background. The tannins are a bit grainy and grippy, but softened by a salivating acidity and fruitiness. Good length with spicy and smoky notes.
Score : 15.75/20 (91-92/100)

Château de Meursault, Clos de La Platière 2020 Pommard Premier Cru

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity, even deep. The nose offers complexity, a pronounced spiciness, associated with a fruity and floral bouquet. It expresses notes of liquorice (even slightly aniseed), nutmeg, toasted vanilla, ground cumin, coffee, dried flowers (wildflowers, cornflower, rose petals), sweet coffee, fresh hazelnut, of toasted oak, as well as juicy aromas of ripe red cherry (with a fine lactic hint of cherry yogurt in the background), wild strawberry, red currant, blueberry and crushed blackcurrant. The palate offers power and firm, young tannins, dry on the finish, but with a fine texture. The flavors express the youth of the wine: we find notes of juicy and tangy red cherry, red currants, crunchy strawberry, blueberry, black plum, associated with notes of toasted oak, toasted hazelnut, coffee, liquorice, cloves, vanilla and fresh flowers (wildflowers, cornflower), with a touch of prunes in chocolate in the background. The finish is long, spicy and expresses the tannic structure of the wine enveloped in a rich and fleshy fruity substance. The acidity is fresh and well balanced with the profile of the wine. A wine with aging potential, but very young at the moment.
Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Château de Meursault, Clos des Epénots 2020 Pommard Premier Cru

The wine has a deep ruby color. The nose offers concentration and depth. It expresses notes of ripe and dense red and black fruits (morello cherry, red cherry, rosehip, raspberry coulis, wild strawberry, crushed blackcurrant, blackberry and wild blueberry), associated with a pronounced refined spiciness, which adds some complexity to the wine. We find in particular notes of sweet spices (clove, cinnamon, ground dried ginger, cumin), vanilla, liquorice, a woody nuance (toasted hazelnut, toasted oak, coffee), refreshing floral and herbaceous touches (cornflower, lily, violet, mint, rosemary, tea leaf) and a delicate minerality. On the palate, the wine is ample, fleshy, warm and generous. It offers flexibility, thanks to its fruitiness and the firmness of its tannic structure. It expresses the flavors of juicy red cherry, black cherry, crushed wild strawberry, wild plum, raspberry coulis, combined with notes of dried mint, rosemary, vanilla, liquorice, cumin, nails, cloves, white

pepper, as well as fresh flowers (cornflower, peony, wildflowers) with a fine hint of roasted meat and smoke in the background. The tannins are firm, young, a little grainy, but not drying thanks to the fruitiness and the salivating acidity of the wine. The finish is tangy, fresh and persistent. A refined but young wine to keep for several years.
Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Vincent & Gabriel Fournier & Fils 2021 Pommard Premier Cru

The wine has a pale ruby color. The nose is refined, precise and complex. It offers pronounced spicy notes (ground cumin, grated nutmeg, liquorice, cloves), a subtle touch of sweet coffee, fresh flowers (violet, lilac, iris), as well as a juicy fruitiness. We find in particular notes of strawberry, crushed raspberry wood, red cherry, red currant, morello cherry and blueberry, with a touch of mint in the background. On the palate, the wine is fleshy, ample, with a dense fruity substance. It expresses notes of roasted red cherry, juicy morello cherry, wild blackberry, crushed strawberry, raspberry and a hint of blackcurrant, combined with notes of sweet spices (cumin, clove, a touch of liquorice and vanilla), aromatic herbs (roasted bouquet garni, dried mint) and a touch of smoke. The tannins are quite powerful, grippy and give the wine a good structure. The finish is long, gourmand and fruity, with notes of sweet spices and salivating acidity.
Score : 16.25/20 (92-93/100)

André Goichot, La Maladière 2020 Santenay Premier Cru

The wine has a pale ruby color. The nose is tasty, with a pronounced warm spiciness. It expresses notes of ground cumin, ground black pepper, liquorice (or even star anise), crushed coriander seeds, cloves as well as a hint of vanilla in the background. We also find notes of violet, cornflower and dried rose petals, as well as a touch of smokiness in the background. The fruits on the nose are ripe, juicy, with a hint of acidity: we find notes of morello cherry, black cherry, fresh blackcurrant, strawberry, raspberry and blueberry, with a touch of mint and blackcurrant bud in the background. On the palate, the wine is juicy, warm, with complexity and a firm structure of tannins, young and a little grippy. It expresses notes of roasted red cherry, crushed strawberry, juicy raspberry, blueberry, as well as a delicate bitterness of cranberries that we find on the finish. Beautiful enveloping texture, juiciness, and a salivating acidity which softens the tannins. Good balance overall.
Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Domaine Stéphane de Sousa 2021 Volnay

Beautiful elegant, delicate nose which offers deepness as well as a beautiful fine, velvety and airy grain. We find notes of creamy blackberry, crushed strawberry

and small notes of roasted-crushed small fruits associated with touches of toast, cornflowers, fine hints of nutmeg as well as a subtle hint of pepper and spices. The palate is juicy, gourmand and offers tension, precision, a good definition as well as minerality. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy blackberry, creamy raspberry and small notes of crushed cherry associated with touches of cornflowers, chocolate, toasted as well as hints of toasted almond.
Score : 16.25/20 (92-93/100)

Domaine Stéphane de Sousa 2020 Volnay

Nice elegant, full and concentrated nose. It reveals notes of pulpy blackcurrant, crushed strawberry and small notes of small blue fruits associated with touches of small roasted red fruits as well as hints of liquorice stick and a very discreet hint of vanilla. The palate is fruity, well-balanced and offers juiciness, gourmandise, a tangy frame, concentration, a beautiful definition, freshness, a beautiful texture as well as a certain creaminess. On the palate this wine expresses notes of creamy/juicy cherry, crushed redcurrants and small notes of cornflowers associated with touches of blackcurrant as well as hints of toast, chocolate and toasted hazelnut. Tannins are supple and sapid. Presence of a subtle hint of sweet spices, toast and a slight salinity in the background/finish. Sapidity.
Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Château de Meursault, Clos des Chênes 2020 Volnay Premier Cru

The wine has a bright, moderately deep ruby color. The nose is aromatic, warm and ripe: it expresses notes of fresh and roasted red cherry and strawberry, supported by tangy touches of raspberry and blueberry. We also find refreshing herbaceous notes (fresh cut thyme, fresh bay leaf, a smoky touch of oregano), as well as a delicate floral bouquet (fresh cornflower, rosehip), as well as a mineral touch (dry stone), spicy (ground



Bourgogne

cloves, liquorice) and subtly toasted. On the palate, the wine is tasty and offers sapidity and a firm structure, enveloped by a fruity substance, as well as a beautiful freshness. It expresses notes of tart red cherry, blueberry, crunchy strawberry, raspberry, as well as sweet spices (liquorice, a touch of cinnamon, ground clove), dried flowers (cornflower, rose petals) and melted notes of oak and torrefaction (toast, sweet coffee, cocoa), which persist on the finish. The tannins are firm, but velvety, lively acidity and good balance. A gourmand and precise wine.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

CÔTE CHALONNAISE

Vignerons de Buxy, Buissonnier 2022

Mercury

The wine offers a brilliant pale ruby color. The nose is tasty and fragrant. The first nose offers smokiness, notes of roasted meat and delicate spicy touches (cumin, cloves in the background). We then find the aromas of fresh and tangy red fruits (raspberry, red currant, bigarreau cherry, elderberry, a bitter touch of cranberry) as well as a subtle floral aromas (iris, peony, rose petals). There is also a hint of liquorice and mint. On the palate, the wine expresses roundness and offers a juicy and fruity attack, supported by a salivating acidity. The flavors are precise, chiseled and tangy and reflect the aromas that we have on the nose (tart bigarreau cherry, red currant, fresh raspberry, cranberry). At the end of the palate, we find floral touches of peony and iris, a slight spiciness (clove, liquorice). The tannins are melted, enveloped and silky. Good length on the fruit.

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

Château du Cray 2022

Mercury

The wine offers a brilliant pale ruby color. The nose is expressive and offers pronounced spicy and woody aromas: coffee, toast, ground cloves, liquorice as well as a touch of vanilla in the background. It then reveals sweet notes of cocoa, with a refreshing hint of mint in chocolate. The fruity, dense and ripe material: we find notes of juicy black fruits (morello cherry, wild blackberry, crushed blueberry), associated with notes of tangy red fruits (bigarreau cherry, crushed raspberry, strawberry, elderberry) and a fragrant floral bouquet (rose, iris, rosehip, wildflowers). There is also a fine touch of fresh aromatic herbs in the background (cut rosemary, wild mint). On the palate, the attack is open, fruity (even with a slight sweetness) and tasty. It expresses notes of juicy morello cherry, red cherry jam, red currant jelly, wild strawberry, blackberry and blueberry, combined with savory and spicy touches of roasted meat, cumin, cloves, liquorice, as well as cocoa and mint chocolate. We also find notes of flowers (iris, rose, wild flowers). The tannins have good structure and a fine, velvety texture. Good length, fruity and gourmand, combined with a pleasant acidity.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Domaine Laurent Dufouleur, Château Mi-Pont 2022

Mercury

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is fragrant, precise, fruity and spicy, with a slight sweetness. It expresses notes of juicy wild strawberries, crushed raspberries, red cherry jam and morello cherries, combined with touches of sweet spices (ground white pepper, liquorice stick, cloves, vanilla), a touch of smoke and caramelised toasted hazelnut. There is also a floral touch of violet and dried rose, as well as aromatic herbs (mint, rosemary). The palate offers a silky and airy texture, with very fine tannins, as well as fruit and a fine spiciness. It expresses the flavors of wild strawberries, fresh red cherries, morello cherries, crushed raspberries, as well as white pepper, liquorice, a touch of vanilla and toasted notes, as well as flowers and fresh herbs (violet, rose, wild mint). Beautiful salivating acidity, the finish is juicy and fruity, with a delicate bitterness of cranberries.

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

Maison Chanzy, Le Bois Cassien Monopole, 2022

Mercury

The wine has a pale ruby color. The nose is fruity and juicy. It expresses notes of strawberry, fresh raspberry, red currants, bigarreau cherry, a touch of blueberry in the background, as well as subtle spicy notes (ground black pepper, ground cumin in the background, a touch of clove), associated with a herbaceous (oregano) and floral (lily) touch. On the palate, the wine has a refined tannic structure, with delicate and supple tannins. It expresses a beautiful fruity substance: flavors of bigarreau cherry, strawberry, raspberry, a touch of blueberry and blackcurrant in the background, as well as slight spicy (clove, black pepper), herbaceous (oregano) and floral notes (dried flowers) and a hint of toast on the finish. The finish is quite long, juicy and fruity, with good acidity and a delicate refreshing bitterness.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

VIGNOBLE DE CHABLIS ET DU GRAND AUXERROIS

Pascal Bouchard, Les Vieilles Vignes 2018

Irancy

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity, with garnet reflections on the edge. The nose is warm, fruity and offers depth and concentration. It expresses notes of ripe morello cherry, tart red cherry jam, crushed wild strawberry, raspberry, blackberry and black plum, with a very slight hint of prunes in the background. We also find aromas of smoke, spices (nutmeg, white pepper), a beautiful fragrant floral bouquet (cornflower, dried wild flowers, dried rose), as well as a touch of undergrowth, tobacco and a fine touch of truffles in the background. On the palate, the wine is straight, fruity and offers lightness. It combines the flavors of fresh and dried red fruits (dried raspberry, fresh wild strawberry, tangy red cherry, a hint of blackcurrant), sweet spices (black pepper, nutmeg, clove) as well as tertiary notes dried wild flowers, wilted rose, undergrowth, tobacco and mushrooms which reflect the truffle note on the nose. The tannins are melted, but still a little grippy. The finish is quite persistent and offers notes of flowers and dried herbs, as well as a salivating acidity.

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

OTHER BOURGOGNE

Domaine Stéphane de Sousa 2020

Bourgogne Côte d'Or

The nose is fruity, elegant, gourmand and offers a nice fruit as well as a very fine fleshiness. There are notes of crushed cassis, strawberry and slight notes of pulpy small fruits associated with touches of small berries. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, gourmandise, a tangy structure, minerality, beautiful energy as well as freshness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy raspberry, crushed cherry and small notes of fleshy/tangy cassis associated with touches of chocolate as well as fine hints of racy minerality and small tangy berries. Tannins are supple. Good length. Fine chew on persistence.

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

Domaine Stéphane de Sousa 2021

Bourgogne Côte d'Or

The nose is mineral, tense and offers juicy/fresh fruit as well as subtle spice. There are notes of pulpy raspberry, juicy cherry and slight notes of flowers associated with touches of racy minerality and spices. The palate offers beautiful juiciness, tanginess, roundness, a certain fullness, gourmandise, tension as well as precision. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, cherry and small notes of small red berries associated with touches of liquorice stick as well as hints of toast and chocolate. Presence of a very discreet hint of saline and vanilla/toasted in the background/finish.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Domaine Henri Magnien – Pinot Noir 2022

Bourgogne Côte D'Or

The nose is velvety, fresh, aromatic and offers fine depth. There are notes of juicy plum and small pulpy fruits associated with touches of violet as well as hints of lily and a discreet hint of star anise. The palate is fruity, balanced and offers freshness, minerality, a tangy structure, nice definition, tension as well as a certain gourmandise. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/fresh cherry, raspberry and small notes of purple plum associated with touches of violet, liquorice as well as discreet toasted hints. Tannins are supple and fresh. Good length.

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

Domaine Heresztyn-Mazzini – Pinot Noir 2022,

Champ Franc

Bourgogne
(Organic) Beautiful elegant, flowery, aromatic, powerful nose which offers a small spiciness. There are notes of violet, cherry blossom, blackberry and small notes of saffron associated with fine hints of small wild red berries and a hint of pepper. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, a tangy structure, tension, a nice tanginess, a nice energy as well as good definition. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/ juicy cherry, violet and small notes of tangy red berries associated with a touch of tangy/crunchy violet plum as well as hints of toasted/nutmeg and a fine varietal hint (in bottom). Tannins are supple. Good length and suavity.

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



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Bordeaux

BORDEAUX 2020
"ALL YOU NEED IS WINE"

Château Le Tros, Cuvée Spéciale 2020 Bordeaux Supérieur

The nose is nicely fruity and offers a certain concentration, gourmandise as well as a certain pulpiness. The wine benefits from being decanted. It reveals notes of pulpy black cherry, pulpy/quite ripe cassis and small notes of ripe wild strawberry associated with touches of roasted fruit, liquorice as well as hints of violet, blond tobacco, a hint of mocha and an imperceptible hint of black pepper. The palate is fruity, juicy, fresh and offers lovely energy, a certain brightness, fruit, roundness, precision as well as a beautiful tangy structure. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, bright cherry and small notes of cassis associated with touches of juicy-roasted red berries, hints of toast, mocha as well as fine almost balsamic hints, nutmeg and spices. Good length. Chewy/gourmand finish/persistence.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Château Le Tros 2020 Bordeaux Supérieur

The nose is gourmand, fruity, fresh, frank, juicy and offers brightness and a good definition. There are notes of bright boysenberry, bright cassis and small notes of small juicy roasted red fruits associated with touches of star anise as well as a discreet sappy hint and a delicate almost vanilla hint. The palate is fresh, fruity, juicy and offers pulpiness, roundness as well as a gourmandise. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy cherry, roasted/gourmand small fruits and small notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry associated with touches of chocolate, almond and a subtle hint of vanilla. Tannins are gourmand and mellow. A gourmand wine.

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

Château Pierrail – Malbec 2020 Bordeaux Supérieur

Nice spicy, fruity, tense nose which offers a certain intensity as well as some stretchiness. There are notes of small, quite ripe red berries and small notes of small roasted fruits associated with touches of cornflowers, quite ripe blueberry, spices as well as discreet hints of liquorice stick and dark/intense chocolate. The palate is fruity and offers minerality, juiciness, a tangy structure, a good definition, precision, tension, dynamism, freshness as well as a beautiful energy. On the palate this wine expresses notes of small juicy/pulpy red berries, tangy/juicy cassis and small notes of small creamy red fruits associated with touches of minerality/acidity, crunchy cherry as well as hints of spices and roasting/cocoa. Tannins are soft. A fine chew on the finish/persistence.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Château Pierrail – Réserve du Château 2020

Bordeaux Supérieur

The nose is fruity, fresh and offers a certain density/richness of the fruit on the pulpiness as well as a nice brightness and purity of the fruit. It reveals notes of pulpy/bright cassis, black blackberry and small notes of small juicy roasted fruits associated with touches of cardamom, liquorice stick, morello cherry as well as a discreet hint of plum blossom and star anise/iris. The palate offers juiciness, a nice minerality, intensity, a small infusion/darkness side (but in elegance), precision, a beautiful energy as well as a nice frank, fine, powerful and airy grain. The attack offers superb freshness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of morello cherry, juicy/pulpy blackberry and small notes of quite ripe/bright small fruits associated with a touch of roasted fruit, star anise, discreet hints of racy minerality as well as a subtle sappy and toasty hint. Tannins are frank and offer a small chew. The finish is easy-to-drink and sapid.

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

Domaine du Bouscat – Cuvée la Gargone 2020 Bordeaux Supérieur

The nose is fruity, elegant, intense and offers a lovely aromatic palette, precision as well as deepness. We find notes of morello cherry, violet and small notes of bright cassis associated with touches of small juicy roasted red fruits as well as delicate hints of lilac, sweet spices and a subtle hint of blond tobacco. The palate is fruity and offers precision, a mineral/tangy frame, a good definition, precision, tension, a great energy as

well as deepness. Nicely on the fruit. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy cassis, bright morello cherry and small notes of violet associated with touches of bright redcurrants as well as hints of cornflower, nutmeg, a subtle hint of star anise and a very discreet, almost sappy hint (in the background). Tannins are sapid and elegant. Good length. Beautiful freshness and energy.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)



Les Hauts de Naudon de Château Pierrail 2020

Bordeaux Supérieur

The nose is fruity, fresh and easy-to-drink. It reveals notes of ripe cassis, bright strawberry and small notes of small pulpy/fleshy red fruits associated with touches of cherry blossom, gray pepper as well as a discreet hint of fresh nutmeg. The palate is fruity, well-balanced and offers juiciness, a tangy structure, minerality, precision, tension as well as good definition. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy cassis, tangy/pulpy strawberry and small notes of crushed cherry associated with touches of tangy plum as well as hints of nutmeg and toasted almond. Tannins are supple, suave and sapid. Good length. Presence of a discreet hint of good bitterness on the persistence/finish.

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

Les Portes de l'Am... 2020 Bordeaux Supérieur

The nose is elegant, mysterious, deep, harmonious and offers a lovely complexity as well as a certain delicacy in its power. The nose requires concentration, work in the glass in order to taste all its complexity, its elegance. It reveals notes of bright boysenberry, juicy-roasted small red fruits and small notes of juicy/pulpy plum associated with touches of cornflower, liquorice stick as well as a subtle hint of sweet

blond tobacco and a discreet sweetening touch. The palate is fruity, full of control and offers a lovely juiciness, freshness, minerality, a good definition, gourmandise, an elegant/fine power, sincerity, density, substance, richness as well as a lovely purity/brilliance of the fruit. On the palate this wine expresses notes of boysenberry, juicy/pulpy purple plum and small notes of tangy/bright redcurrants associated with touches of flowers as well as fine hints of sweet spices and blond tobacco. Tannins are frank, precise and structured.

Score : 16.25+/20 (93/100)

Domaine du Bouscat – Caduce 2020 Bordeaux Supérieur

The nose is nicely fruity, currently discreetly tight and offers pulpiness, deepness, purity as well as harmony. There are notes of black cherry, violet and crushed strawberry combined with touches of pulpy redcurrant as well as hints of cornflower, star anise and a subtle almost orange hint. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, a tangy frame, minerality, precision, tension, a good definition, a certain gourmandise as well as precision. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, bright raspberry and small notes of blueberry associated with touches of juicy/bright small fruits, cornflowers as well as hints of toast, chocolate and a subtle hint of blond tobacco. Tannins are supple, polished and saline. Good length. Presence of a discreet hint of iodine and a subtle hint of good bitterness in the background.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Château La Verrière La Vigne et l'oiseau 2020

Bordeaux Supérieur

(black label) The nose is elegant, gourmand and offers a certain small power as well as a fine creaminess. There are notes of boysenberry, pulpy raspberry and small notes of small juicy roasted red fruits associated with touches of star anise as well as a subtle hint of pepper and vanilla flowers. The palate is fruity, well-balanced and offers juiciness, freshness, roundness, a slight

stretchiness, a good definition, gourmandise as well as a slight creaminess. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, creamy raspberry and small notes of pulpy strawberry associated with touches of roasted fruit, liquorice stick, vanilla and toasted/chocolate. Tannins are mellow and gourmands. Good length.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Château La Verrière 2020 Bordeaux Supérieur

The nose is juicy, fruity and offers a certain precise concentration as well as a certain brightness of the fruit. It reveals notes of juicy/pulpy raspberry, small pulpy red berries





Bordeaux

and small notes of violet associated with touches of bright fruits as well as fine hints of black tea and violet. The palate is fruity, well-balanced and offers juiciness, suavity, a mineral frame, gourmandise, elegance, a certain concentration/richness of the fruit as well as a beautiful textured and velvety touch. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy raspberry, small pulpy/juicy red fruits and small notes of blackberry associated with touches of cornflower, black tea, fresh nutmeg, racy minerality and fine hints of Bourbon vanilla (in the background). Tannins are mellow and gourmands.
Score : 15.25+/20 (90-91/100)

Ad Vitam 2020 Bordeaux Supérieur

The nose is fruity, elegant and offers lovely energy, power as well as deepness. It reveals notes of pulpy cassis, pulpy/juicy strawberry and small notes of creamy small fruits associated with touches of blueberry, cornflower as well as hints of vanilla, toasted/caramelised and chocolate. The palate is fruity, gourmand, elegant and offers creaminess, juiciness, purity, lovely energy, lovely balance as well as delicacy in its richness/creaminess. Beautiful fresh, ample and beautiful tangy attack. On the palate, this wine has notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, bright raspberry and small notes of small pulpy/tangy red fruits associated with touches of bright cassis as well as hints of chocolate and toasted hazelnut. Good length.

Score : 16.25/20 (93/100)

Belle-Annie 2020 Bordeaux Supérieur

The nose is elegant, fresh and offers a nice brightness of fruit as well as energy. It reveals notes of fresh/bright cherry, small bright red fruits and small notes of juicy/fresh blackberry associated with touches of blond tobacco, lilac, lily as well as a discreet hint of fresh spices, infusion and saffron (in its flowery side). The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, precision, a tangy structure, minerality, a nice definition, fleshiness as well as elegance. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, bright cassis and small notes of fleshy red berries associated with touches of lilac, juicy/fresh cherry, hints of star anise, infusion as well as a delicate hint of toasted hazelnut and almost Bourbon vanilla. Tannins are sapid and fresh. Presence of a hint of good bitterness and almost balsamic on the persistence.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Château Pierrail 2020 Bordeaux Supérieur

The nose is fruity, tangy and offers a certain concentration/richness as well as a beautiful tanginess which marks the terroir. There are notes of boysenberry, small bright black fruits and small notes of quite ripe redcurrants associated with hints of spices, morello cherry and a discreet toasted hint. The palate is fresh, mineral, fruity and offers a beautiful acidity, precision, tension, gourmandise, a fine straightness as well as a nice energy. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/tangy cherry, pulpy redcurrants and small notes of bright cassis associated with touches of violet, a hint of camphor, a lovely racy minerality as well as fine torrefaction/toast. Good work on the good bitterness.

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

Château Freyneau – Cuvée Traditionnelle 2020 Bordeaux Supérieur

The nose is fruity (a ripe and tangy fruit), discreetly tight and stretchiness. There are notes of small, juicy roasted red fruits, tangy raspberry and small notes of fresh, juicy cassis associated with touches of lily and fresh liquorice.

The palate offers freshness, juiciness, minerality, a good definition, tension, precision, a tangy structure, a stretchiness as well as airiness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy blackberry, pulpy raspberry and small notes of juicy/tangy small fruits associated with touches of violet, lily as well as hints of minerality and chocolate.

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

Château Haut Sorillon 2020 Bordeaux Supérieur

The nose is fruity and offers a fine concentration. The wine needs to be decanted. We find notes of pulpy Boysenberry, pulpy-juicy cassis and small notes of roasted cherry associated with touches of blond tobacco, liquorice as well as a subtle hint of saffron (on

its floral side) and sweet spices. The palate is juicy, fresh and offers minerality, a good definition, a certain precision, a mineral frame, a certain gourmandise as well as a fine straightness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/fresh blackberry, juicy/fresh raspberry and small notes of cassis associated with touches of violet, lily, cardamom as well as hints of toasted almond and a hint of chocolate. Tannins are supple and fresh. Good length. A little powdery cocoa side on the finish which brings gourmandise.

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

Château Haut-Tellas 2020 Côtes de Bordeaux

(Organic) The nose is fruity, elegant and offers purity as well as pulpiness. It reveals notes of pulpy blackberry, pulpy cassis and small notes of quite ripe wild strawberry associated with delicate touches of roasted fruit as well as hints of mocha, liquorice stick and a discreet hint of almond. The palate is juicy, elegant, delicate, gourmand and offers purity, a good quality of the fruit, airiness in its richness/pulpiness of the fruit as well as a small roasted-juicy side (which brings a lot of gourmandise). On the palate this wine expresses notes of roasted cherry and pulpy/juicy raspberry associated with touches of liquorice, chocolate as well as hints of roasted fruit, a hint of torrefaction and delicate hints of sweet spices. A beautiful chew on the finish. Gourmandise!

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

Château Reignac de Tizac 2020 Bordeaux Supérieur

The nose offers a small concentration as well as a certain deepness. There are notes of black blackberry, small tangy black berries and small notes of morello cherry associated with touches of balsamic, liquorice, a hint of black pepper and a very discreet

hint of spices. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, suavity, a tangy structure, a certain density, precision as well as a certain silkiness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, small creamy black berries and small notes of roasted cherry associated with touches of liquorice as well as fine hints of balsamic, almost black tea and mocha/cocoa. Good length. Precision, juicy-roast fruit and gourmandise!

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Fougue de Château Saincrit 2020 Bordeaux Supérieur

The nose is fruity and offers a fine power/concentration, purity as well as airiness. It reveals notes of pulpy/juicy cherry and small notes of pulpy raspberry associated with touches of small crushed red fruits, violet as well as a subtle, almost fresh balsamic hint. The palate is nicely juicy, fruity, elegant, easy-to-drink and offers gourmandise as well as a nice acidity and brightness of the fruit. On the palate this wine expresses notes of

bright/juicy raspberry, cherry and small notes of bright/juicy blueberry associated with a touch of cassis as well as almost mocha hints. Tannins are discreetly marked.

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

Utopie Château Saincrit 2020 Bordeaux Supérieur

The nose is fruity, juicy. It is nicely marked by juicy/ripe cherry and small notes of juicy/pulpy strawberry. There are also some touches of blackberry and a discreet hint of nutmeg. The palate is juicy, pulpy and offers a juicy/tangy structure, gourmandise, precision, tanginess as well as a slight creaminess. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy raspberry, cherry and small notes of juicy strawberry associated with a fine touch of bright cassis, violet and vanilla. Tannins are discreetly marked and tight. Good length.

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

Château Recougne 2020 Bordeaux Supérieur

The nose is fruity and offers a relatively powerful and slightly tight grain. It reveals notes of pulpy black cherry, pulpy strawberry and small notes of small, almost roasted red fruits associated with juicy touches as well as hints of liquorice stick and a subtle hint of blond tobacco. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, freshness, a beautiful energy as well as a tangy structure. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, bright cherry and small notes of small juicy/bright red berries associated with toasted touches, nutmeg as well as a subtle hint of chocolate. Tannins are supple and sapid. An iodine/sapid hint. Good length.

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





Bordeaux

Perles Noires 2020 Bordeaux Supérieur

The nose is fruity and offers a nice pulpy/bright fruit, a certain intensity as well as deepness. It reveals notes of bright black cherry, pulpy strawberry and small notes of small crushed red fruits associated with delicate hints of roasted fruit as well as fine hints of cornflowers and liquorice. The palate is juicy, fruity, well-balanced and offers a juicy/tangy structure, a small creaminess, gourmandise as well as a beautiful definition. On the palate this wine expresses notes of crushed redcurrants, blueberries and small notes of pulpy cassis associated with touches of pulpy/juicy strawberries as well as hints of liquorice. A fine chew on the finish.

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

Vol Libre – Cabernet Franc 2020 Bordeaux Supérieur

Nice elegant, delicate nose which offers a melodiousness as well as purity (of the fruit). This wine needs to be decanted. There are notes of cornflower, roasted cherry and small notes of blueberry associated with small touches of liquorice as well as a discreet hint of nutmeg. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, a tangy structure, minerality, a good definition as well as precision. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy blueberry, fresh/juicy raspberry and small notes of cornflowers associated with touches of sweet blond tobacco and almond. The finish becomes tighter and tighter. Tannins are discreetly marked. Good length. A fine chew. Presence of a subtle hint of chocolate and good bitterness on the finish/persistence.

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

Vol Libre – Merlot 2020 Bordeaux Supérieur

(No Sulfites) The nose is fruity. The wine needs to be decanted. It reveals notes of pulpy/juicy blackberry, cherry and small notes of small fresh/juicy black fruits associated with a touch of liquorice and sweet blond tobacco. The palate is fruity and offers suavity, a mineral structure, a nice definition as well as a certain purity. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy raspberry, juicy/fresh blackberry and small notes of juicy/fresh blueberry associated with a touch of small red fruits as well as hints of liquorice and a discreet hint of chocolate (in the background). Beautiful juicy/tangy black fruits.

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

Grand Vin de Reignac 2020 Bordeaux Supérieur

Beautiful, elegant, precise, complete, well-built nose and offers precision as well as a beautiful, delicate and powerful grain. It reveals notes of blackberry, cornflowers, crushed raspberry and small notes of small blue fruits associated with touches of vanilla, a hint of sweet blond tobacco as well as a subtle hint of roasted cherry and discreet hints of Bourbon vanilla. The palate is fruity, well-balanced, precise, frank, clean and offers minerality, freshness, juiciness as well as tanginess. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy black cherry, juicy/pulpy blackberry and small notes of small roasted red fruits associated with a touch of small bright blue fruits, blond tobacco and a subtle hint of spices. Tannins are supple and sapid. Presence of a subtle saline hint (in the background) and a discreet hint of good bitterness on the finish.

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

Château Recougne – Terra Recognita 2020 Bordeaux Supérieur

The nose is elegant, gourmand and offers a certain power in precision and control. It reveals notes of boysenberry, crushed wild strawberry and small notes of quite ripe small fruits as well as a hint of liquorice stick and a subtle almost aniseed hint. The palate is fruity and offers freshness, juiciness, a nice gourmandise as well as a tangy structure. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy raspberry, crushed strawberry and small notes of bright blackberry associated with a touch of purple violet plum, chocolate, vanilla as well as a toasted hint. Tannins are supple and sapid. Good length. Beautiful juiciness and freshness!

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Petit Pabus 2020 Bordeaux Supérieur

The nose offers a nice definition of the fruit as well as a pulpy/gourmand fruit. It reveals notes of violet, pulpy cherry and small notes of bright cassis associated with touches of small, bright red fruits as well as a hint of saffron (on its flowery side) and a discreet hint of pepper. The palate is fruity and offers suavity, juiciness, freshness, a nice definition, fruit, gourmandise, with a discreet hint of roast (in the background) as well as tanginess. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy cherry, cassis and small notes of bright raspberry associated with a touch of liquorice, roasted fruit and a discreet hint of mocha. Tannins are supple and straight. Good length.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)



Château Pabus 2020 Bordeaux Supérieur

The nose is fruity and offers a slight power as well as a small concentration. There are notes of quite ripe strawberry, crushed cassis and small notes of chocolate associated with touches of sweet blond tobacco as well as fine hints of toasted hazelnut and vanilla. The palate is fruity, harmonious and offers freshness, a nice definition, gourmandise, tension, precision as well as a slight suavity. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, bright raspberry and small notes of small red berries associated with touches of blueberry, liquorice, chocolate and a hint of toast. Tannins are soft and sapid. Good length.

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

Argile de Pabus 2020 Bordeaux Supérieur

The nose is fruity, fresh, gourmand and offers a pretty ripe/pulp/juicy fruit as well as a fine roasted hint. It reveals notes of pulpy blackberry, crushed strawberry and small notes of cornflowers associated with touches of small roasted red fruits as well as discreet hints of fresh blueberry and liquorice. The palate is juicy, fruity and offers gourmandise, precision, suavity, lovely definition, suppleness as well as a melodiousness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/tangy blueberry, bright raspberry and small notes of small bright red berries associated with touches of lily, cornflower, liquorice and a discreet hint of chocolate. Tannins are precise, relatively soft and finely marked.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Balthus 2020 Bordeaux Supérieur

The nose is fruity, elegant, gourmand and offers power in precision (an iron fist in a velvet glove!), density in control as well as deepness. We find notes of black blackberry, violet and small notes of pulpy small black fruits associated with touches of graphite, blueberry, discreet hints of blond tobacco as well as a subtle hint of almost sage and vanilla. The palate is beautifully structured, nicely fresh, gourmand and offers power, a hint of graphite, density in freshness as well as tension in precision/control. An aerial side in its power, full of control. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, cornflower and small notes of bright raspberry associated with touches of small roasted fruits as well as hints of cardamom, Bourbon vanilla, toasted hazelnut and a hint of chocolate. Good length. Chewiness.

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

Clos Saint Anne 2020 Cadillac Côtes de Bordeaux

(90% Merlot) The nose offers a small concentration, a slight power as well as fruit. It reveals notes of small dense red fruits, bright cherry and small notes of roasted fruit associated with touches of racy minerality, fine hints of small blue fruits as well as delicate hints of liquorice and an imperceptible iodized/limestone hint on the background. The palate is juicy, fruity and offers freshness, suavity, a tangy structure, energy as well as a good definition. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/tangy raspberry, small

red berries and small notes of violet associated with touches of bright cassis, hints of racy minerality as well as a subtle floral and sapid hint. Nice, round and gourmand tannins. Good length.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)





Bordeaux

Château Thieuley 2020 Bordeaux Supérieur

The nose is fruity and offers a certain brightness. It reveals notes of pulpy cherry, pulpy raspberry and small notes of pulpy blackberry associated with fine touches of lily as well as a discreet almost fresh pepper hint. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, suavity, a tangy frame, minerality, precision as well as a fine tension. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy raspberry, small juicy/fresh red fruits and small notes of juicy/fresh cassis associated with touches of minerality and a hint of almond. Tannins are finely mellow.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Château Thieuley – Cuvée Francis Courselle 2020 Bordeaux Supérieur

The nose is gourmand and offers a fine concentration, fruit as well as a small toasted. It reveals notes of pulpy cherry, crushed raspberry and small notes of pulpy/juicy cassis associated with toasted touches and almond. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, acidity, energy, a lovely freshness, a good definition, a certain gourmandise as well as a slight straightness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy raspberry, pulpy red berries and small notes of violet associated with touches of small tangy/fresh fruits as well as fine hints of sap, toasted and chocolate. Tannins are supple and sapid. A discreet softness on the finish/persistence.

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

Château de Reignac 2020 Bordeaux Supérieur

The nose is fruity and offers deepness as well as a fine darkness/deepness in elegance. We find notes of black blackberry, lily and small notes of small ripe wild fruits associated with touches of liquorice stick and a very discreet hint of black tea. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, suavity, freshness, a nice roundness, a nice definition, a certain density, a certain concentration as well as a nice racy minerality. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy blackberry, cassis and small notes of blueberry associated with touches of crunchy raspberry, floral hints as well as fine hints of cardamom, cocoa, a subtle hint of camphor and toasted.

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

Château Roquefort 2020 Bordeaux Supérieur

The nose is racy, elegant and finely chiseled. It reveals notes of pulpy blackberry, small pulpy/bright fruits and small notes of racy minerality associated with fine almost graphite hints of nutmeg, cardamom and discreet hints of vanilla. The palate is fruity, well-balanced, chiseled, delicate and offers juiciness, suavity, a fresh/juicy frame, a good definition, gourmandise, energy, precision, a "sense of place" hint, harmony as well as tension. Lovely finesse and energy thanks to the limestone terroir. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/fresh blackberry, small fresh/juicy red fruits and small notes of fresh/bright blueberry associated with touches of cornflower, star anise as well as hints of vanilla. Good length. A good bitterness in the background which contributes to the construction of the mouth. Aromatic purity.

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

Château Roquefort – Grande Cuvée 2020 Bordeaux Supérieur

The nose is fruity, juicy, racy and offers a beautiful roasted-juicy side of the fruit as well as a certain deepness. It reveals notes of roasted raspberry, small pulpy/juicy red fruits and small notes of cornflowers associated with touches of liquorice, racy minerality as well as fine hints of spices and toast. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, suavity, a nice sapid side, precision, tension, balance, a nice freshness as well as some straightness/a frank profile coming from the limestone. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, juicy/pulpy cherry and small notes of small tangy fruits, racy minerality as well as toasted hints, cardamom, toasted almond and a subtle sappy/saline hint. Good length.

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

OTHER BORDEAUX & BORDEAUX SUPERIEUR 2020 & 2021

Château Grand Jean 2020 Bordeaux Supérieur

The nose is spicy/peppery and offers a slight power as well as a certain intensity in its grain. There are notes of creamy boysenberry, crushed strawberry and small notes

of fleshy cassis associated with touches of pepper as well as fine hints of tonka/toasted bean. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, a tangy structure, a good definition, a certain juiciness, a slight freshness as well as tension. On the palate this wine expresses notes of fleshy/juicy blackberry, fleshy cassis and small notes of small, quite ripe wild red fruits associated with small touches of racy minerality as well as a fine hint of tonka bean. Tannins are supple. An easy-to-access wine.

Score : 14.5+/20 (88/100)

Château Lamothe-Vincent – Héritage 2020

Bordeaux Supérieur

(2nd bottle tasted) The nose is fruity and offers a certain small concentration, a fine spiciness as well as freshness. We find notes of blackberry cream, wild strawberry and small notes of small creamy fruits associated with touches of violet, pulpy cherry as well as a fine hint, almost Sichuan pepper. The palate is fruity, balanced and offers freshness, minerality, a tangy frame, tension as well as a certain gourmandise. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, juicy/fresh raspberry and small notes of creamy cassis associated with touches of camphor, chocolate, toasted and pepper/spices.

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

Château Lamothe-Vincent, Le Grand Rossignol – Les Crus 2020

Bordeaux Supérieur

The nose is fruity and offers a fine concentration. There are notes of pulpy cassis and crushed strawberry combined with touches of crushed small fruits as well as hints of violet. The palate is mineral, fresh, racy and offers tension, precision, a tangy structure as well as a discreet (and good work) on the bitterness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, crunchy cassis and small notes of fresh red fruits associated with touches of dried almond and spices/clove. A slightly marked/extracted and slightly tight tannic structure.

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

Château Lafite Monteil – Grande Réserve 2020

Bordeaux Supérieur

The nose is mineral and offers a slightly tight grain as well as a slight power. It reveals notes of fresh blackberry, racy minerality and small notes of fresh pepper associated with small touches of fresh nutmeg, jammy cassis as well as a fine hint of graphite. The palate is mineral and offers freshness, suavity, a slight fat, a tangy structure as well as a fine airiness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy cassis, crushed raspberry and small notes of violet associated with touches of nutmeg, toast and a fine hint of vanilla.

Score : 14.5+/20 (88/100)

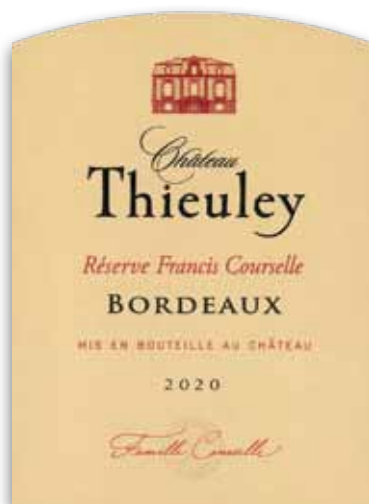
Château D'Anglade – Grande Réserve 2020

Bordeaux Supérieur

The nose is spicy and tight. The wine benefits from being decanted. There are notes of boysenberry, fresh cloves and

small notes of fresh spices associated with a subtle hint of small crushed/jammed red fruits and pepper. The palate is mineral, slightly tight, well-structured and offers a fine juiciness as well as a fine tanginess. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, small crushed fruits and small notes of fleshy/pulpy cherry associated with a touch of violet, a discreet sappy hint, fine hints of spices/fresh pepper as well as with a subtle empyreumatic hint/fresh leather and toasted/chocolate.

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



Bordeaux

Château de Brondeau 2020

Bordeaux Supérieur

The nose offers notes of fresh pepper, fresh leather and small notes of cassis. The palate offers fruit, roundness, a certain fat, a small tension as well as a slight straightness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy cassis, fleshy cherry and small notes of racy minerality associated with touches of dusty touches, fresh spices and a discreet almost rooty hint (in the background). Tannins are finely drying on the finish/persistence.

Score : 13.75/20 (86/100)

Château des Antonins 2020

Bordeaux Supérieur

The nose is fresh and peppery. It reveals notes of fresh cassis, fresh pepper and small notes of ripe wild raspberry associated with almost saline touches, small red fruits as well as a discreet hint of fresh tobacco. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, minerality/a mineral frame, tension, roundness as well as a small fat. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy cassis, pulpy cherry and small notes of flowers associated with touches of fresh pepper, fresh spices and a subtle almost sappy hint. Tannins are discreetly marked.

Score : 14.5+/20 (88/100)

Château Laurence Petite Laurence 2020

Bordeaux Supérieur

Nice fresh nose which offers a certain intensity. There are notes of wild blackberry, fresh pepper and small notes of small ripe wild fruits associated with touches of spices, violet and star anise. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, a tangy frame, minerality, a good definition, precision, a small tension, a pretty juicy/pulpy fruit, gourmandise as well as a fine concentration. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, raspberry and small notes of pulpy wild small fruits associated with a touch of juicy purple plum, cocoa as well as hints of toast, nutmeg, roasting and a subtle almost vanilla hint. Good length.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Château Laurence 2020

Bordeaux Supérieur

Beautiful, precise nose which offers power in control, precision, a certain small intensity as well as deepness. It reveals notes of boysenberry, quite ripe wild strawberry and small notes of almost roasted small fruits associated with touches of Timut pepper, lily as well as fine hints of almost of fresh zest and subtle hints. vanilla pod. The palate is nicely mineral, well-balanced and offers juiciness, a tangy structure, a good definition, a certain tension, precision as well as gourmandise. The attack is fresh, gourmand and offers fullness as well as precision. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, raspberry and small notes of cornflowers, lily associated with touches of crushed redcurrants, a hint of roasted small fruits, toasted hints, chocolate as well as a subtle hint of sage, violet and vanilla. Tannins are soft. Good length. The finish is mellow.

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

Vignobles Raguenot, Symposium 2021

Bordeaux Supérieur

(60% Merlot, 20% Cabernet Sauvignon, 10% Carménère, 10% Malbec) The wine has a deep ruby color. The nose offers freshness, concentration and juiciness. It expresses notes of strawberry, red cherry, morello cherry, blackcurrant, fresh raspberry, dried raspberry, red currant jelly and dried cranberries, combined with notes of integrated sweet spices (liquorice, cloves, cumin, a hint of vanilla), dried mint, blackcurrant bud, violet and dried rose, as well as a hint of coffee and cocoa. The palate is gourmand, expressive and fruity. We find notes of strawberry, juicy raspberry, blackcurrant, blackberry, morello cherry, red cherry jam and red currant jelly, associated with notes of bitter chocolate, roasted cherry, dried mint, violet, dried rose, liquorice, cloves and coffee in the background. The tannins are firm, sapid and powdery, with a fine texture. The finish is quite persistent, warm, with notes of sweet spices (liquorice, a touch of cinnamon, cloves). The acidity is supple, but quite fresh. A well-structured, fleshy and gourmand wine.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Château Roques Mauriac, Damnation 2021

Bordeaux

(85% Cabernet Franc, 15% Merlot) The wine has a deep ruby color. The nose is reserved and requires aeration. It then expresses notes of wild strawberry, blueberry jam, juicy

morello cherry, crushed strawberry, raspberry coulis, associated with fine spicy toches and notes of torrefaction (coffee, liquorice, cloves, a touch of cocoa), blackcurrant leaf, dried mint, violet and dried wildflowers. On the palate, the wine is fleshy and structured. It offers a concentrated fruity flavours and a firm tannic frame, with a fine and velvety texture. We find notes of morello cherry, red cherry jam, roasted red cherry, crushed strawberry, raspberry coulis, blueberry jam, blackcurrant associated with notes of sweet spices (liquorice, clove), flowers (violet, dried rose), as well as a touch of coffee and dried mint in the background. The finish is fruity and sapid. Beautiful acidity and freshness. A fleshy, tasty and gourmand wine.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Château Lacombe Cadiot 2020

Bordeaux Supérieur

The nose offers a certain racy power and offers fine minerality. There are notes of wild cassis, small berries and small notes of crushed redcurrants combined with fine hints of pepper. The palate is mineral and offers juiciness, suavity, a little freshness, a certain minerality as well as tension. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, cherry and small notes of redcurrant associated with fine hints of pepper and a floral/variety hint. Tannins are well-built. Good length.

Score : 14.5+/20 (88/100)

Château Tayet – Cuvée Prestige 2020

Bordeaux Supérieur

The nose is relatively fruity, peppery, spicy and offers a hint of almost vanilla essence.

The palate offers minerality, tension as well as juicy/fresh fruit. It reveals notes of juicy blackberry, raspberry and small notes of strawberry associated with touches of peppermint as well as a discreet hint of vanilla essence. Tannins are racy and structured.

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

Château Vermont, Fusion 2021

Bordeaux

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is fragrant, fruity and gourmand. It expresses notes of wild strawberry, crushed raspberry, red cherry juice and blackcurrant, combined with a floral touch of violet and peony. The palate is practically non-tannic, round, juicy and gourmand. It expresses flavors of tangy fruits (raspberry, red cherry, blackcurrant), sweetness of strawberry, as well as a floral touch of violet and peony. The finish is moderately persistent, but fresh and tangy. A light, easy-drinking wine.

Score : 14+/20 (87/100)

Grand Théâtre, Premium 2021

Bordeaux

The wine has a deep ruby color, with purple reflections. The nose is fruity, juicy and gourmand, with a pleasant tanginess. It expresses notes of red cherry juice, crunchy strawberry, fresh raspberry, blueberry and morello cherry, as well as a touch of white pepper, violet and peppermint in the background. The attack on the palate is round, silky and gourmand. It offers notes of strawberry, morello cherry, juicy raspberry, blueberry, violet, blackcurrant leaf and white pepper. The mid-palate is rather dry and expresses grippy and firm tannins. The finish is moderately persistent, rather tight and closed, but balanced by a lively acidity.

Score : 14+/20 (87/100)

Carré d'As 2021

Bordeaux

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is fruity, gourmand, and offers a certain concentration. It expresses notes of morello cherry, crushed strawberry, roasted red cherry, raspberry coulis, a touch of blackcurrant and blackberry, as well as some spiciness (white pepper, liquorice) and dried wild flowers in the background. The palate is delicious, open and fruity. It expresses the tanginess of red cherry, fresh raspberry and blackcurrant, combined with notes of strawberry, morello cherry, redcurrant jelly, as well as a herbaceous hint of blackcurrant leaf and a spicy touch of liquorice and white pepper. The tannins are barely perceptible, with a light structure. The finish is moderately persistent, a little bitter, but tangy and salivating.

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

Crazy by De Mour 2021

Bordeaux

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is gourmand, fruity and slightly tangy. It expresses aromas of bigarreau cherry, morello cherry, crushed raspberry, strawberry, blackcurrant and cranberries, combined with notes of white



Bordeaux

pepper, liquorice, violet and fresh cornflower. The palate offers airiness, freshness and gourmandise. It expresses notes of fresh red cherry, morello cherry, crushed raspberry, fresh red currant, strawberry and blueberry, combined with notes of violet and cornflower. We also smell a touch of liquorice, but the spiciness is less pronounced than on the nose. The tannins are light, especially noticeable on the finish. Beautiful salivating acidity, the persistence on the palate is medium, slightly bitter, but fresh and fruity. A simple, easy-drinking wine.

Score : 14+/20 (87/100)

Effect by Nokat 2021 Bordeaux

(organic) The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is fruity, juicy and gourmand. It offers notes of strawberry, bigarreau cherry, morello cherry, raspberry, blackcurrant, as well as a touch of peony and violet in the background. The palate is fluid, light and reserved, with tangy notes of red fruits. We find flavors of red cherry, strawberry, raspberry, a touch of blackcurrant and peony. The tannins are imperceptible and the length on the palate is rather short. A simple, fluid wine with a light structure.

Score : 13.5+/20 (85-86/100)

Château de l'Orangerie 2021 Bordeaux

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is gourmand, fruity, juicy. It expresses the aromas of strawberry, crushed raspberry, morello cherry, red plum, blueberry, with a sweet hint of red cherry jam, as well as floral touches of violet and peony, combined with a note of liquorice in the background. The palate is chiseled, even a little tight, but juicy and balanced by a salivating acidity. We find notes of tart red cherry, morello cherry, raspberry, strawberry, red currant and blackcurrant, associated with notes of violet, peony and liquorice (even blackcurrant leaf). The tannins are present, a little dry and bitter, but balanced by a salivating acidity and the freshness of the fruits on the finish. The finish is moderately persistent, tangy, slightly bitter.

Score : 14+/20 (87/100)

Etoile de Lauduc, Malbec 2021 Bordeaux

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is fragrant and offers a certain concentration of fruit and freshness. It mainly expresses notes of black fruits (black plum, morello cherry, blackberry, blueberry), associated with notes of red plum, wild strawberry and crushed raspberry, as well as notes of liquorice, dried mint, violet and dried peony. The palate is more fresh and tangy. It expresses notes of tart red cherry, raspberry, strawberry, red plum, blueberry, black plum, combined with notes of violet, dried peony, dried mint and a touch of blackcurrant leaf. The acidity is refreshing and salivating. The finish is rather persistent and expresses good bitterness and fine tannins. The tannins are fine, subtle and integrated. A fresh and pleasant wine.

Score : 14.5/20 (88/100)

Château La Commanderie de Queyret 2021 Bordeaux Supérieur

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is juicy, fruity and fresh. It expresses notes of tangy red fruits (red cherry, raspberry, strawberry, fresh red currant), associated with notes of blackcurrant and morello cherry, as well as a touch of liquorice, violet, cornflower and blackcurrant leaf. background. The palate is chiseled, juicy and gourmand. We find the tanginess of red cherry, raspberry and red currant, associated with a touch of blackcurrant, strawberry, as well as liquorice, blackcurrant leaf and a floral hint of violet and cornflower. The tannins are fine, enveloped. Beautiful crunchy acidity and a delicate bitterness on the finish. The finish is gourmand, fruity and fragrant.

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

Château Haut Claribès 2021 Bordeaux Supérieur

(100% Merlot) The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is juicy, gourmand, fruity and with a nice freshness. It expresses notes of black plum, red plum, strawberry, crushed raspberry, wild blackberry, as well as a touch of chocolate with mint, cherry in chocolate, clove, cumin, as well as a hint of caramel, toasted vanilla and toasted hazelnut and a hint of dried bay leaf in the background. On the palate, we find distinct but integrated woody notes (cocoa, toasted wood, toasted almond, dried vanilla, caramel). The fruits on the attack on the palate are more tart than on the nose: we first feel the notes of wild strawberry, raspberry and red cherry, which are then completed by the notes of blackberry, black plum, morello cherry, as well as dried liquorice, cloves, cornflower and bay leaf. Beautiful acidity, fresh and salivating. The finish is quite persistent, juicy and gourmand.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Château Vermont 2021 Bordeaux Supérieur

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is aromatic, spicy and woody at first. On the first nose, we find notes of toasted wood, toasted hazelnut, a touch of caramel and toasted vanilla, which combine with the second nose with notes of liquorice, black pepper, dried mint, cornflower and fresh fruit (morello cherry, red cherry, strawberry, raspberry, blackcurrant). The mouth expresses straightness, accuracy, as well as roundness and juiciness. The woody notes are less pronounced on the palate and instead expresses notes of sweet spices (liquorice, cloves, white pepper). We also find notes of fresh morello cherry, roasted red cherry, crushed strawberry, blackcurrant, raspberry coulis, associated with notes of toasted hazelnut and grilled vanilla in the background, as well as a fine touch of cocoa, dried mint and cornflower. The tannins are well structured, very fine and melted. The finish is savoury, round, gourmand, with a supple, but quite fresh acidity and a very subtle bitterness of cocoa in the background. A well-made wine, quite balanced, fleshy and supple.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Château Le Bosquet des Fleurs, Tout est Cyclique 2021 Bordeaux Supérieur

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose offers concentration, gourmandise and aromas of fleshy fruits. We find notes of black plum, blackberry, morello cherry, wild strawberry and raspberry coulis, associated with touches of violet, dried cornflower, dried mint, a very slight earthy note, juniper berries and dried bay leaf. On the palate, the wine is round and enveloping. The tannins are melted and very delicate. We find notes of black plum, red plum, morello cherry, red cherry, wild strawberry and blackberry, associated with touches of dried cornflower, liquorice, dried mint and juniper berries. The acidity is supple, but salivating. Beautiful length with a touch of violet in the background.

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

La Joly 2021 Bordeaux Supérieur

(organic) The wine has a deep ruby color with light purple reflections. The nose is a little reserved and requires aeration. It then expresses notes of black plum, red plum, wild strawberry, blackcurrant, morello cherry and blueberry, which combine in the second nose with notes of liquorice, menthol, dry pine needles, violet, cornflower, as well as very fine spicy and woody notes (clove, toasted almond, dark chocolate with mint). On the palate, the wine is juicy, fruity and expressive. We find notes of morello cherry, red cherry, black plum, red plum, crunchy strawberry, blueberry and blackcurrant, associated with touches of blackcurrant leaf, violet, liquorice, mint chocolate, cloves and dry pine needles. The tannins are well structured, with a certain power and a silky texture. Beautiful lively and salivating acidity. The finish is persistent and gourmand, enveloping, even a little sweet, with notes of roasted cherry and cherry in chocolate.

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

Château Jalousie Beaulieu, Cuvée Le Grand Philippe 2021 Bordeaux Supérieur

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity, with slight purple reflections. The nose is open, purely fruity and gourmand. It expresses notes of red cherry, morello cherry, black plum, blackberry, wild strawberry, raspberry coulis and redcurrant jelly, combined with notes of macerated cherry, dark chocolate, dried mint and violet. On the palate, the wine is expressive, tasty, with lots of fruit and gourmandise. We find notes of wild strawberry, raspberry coulis, black plum, red plum, blackberry, as well as violet, dried mint and violet in the background. The tannins are fine, but well structured. Beautiful salivating acidity, the finish is quite persistent, fruity and slightly bitter.

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

Château Labatut, Grande Réserve 2021 Bordeaux Supérieur

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose offers concentration, tanginess of black fruits, as well as a fine spiciness in the background. It expresses aromas of blackcurrant, wild blackberry and morello cherry, combined with notes of wild strawberry, red cherry and raspberry coulis. We also find delicate touches of liquorice, white pepper, cloves, dried mint and toast in the background. The palate is airy, juicy, fruity and slightly spicy. It expresses the flavors of wild strawberry, crushed raspberry, blackcurrant, morello cherry, wild blackberry, a tangy hint of red cherry, as well as notes of liquorice, white pepper, nutmeg and violet. The acidity is fresh and the tannins are quite fine, but grippy and slightly bitter on the finish. The finish is gourmand, fruity and juicy, moderately persistent.

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

Bordeaux

Château Sainte Barbe 2021

Bordeaux Supérieur

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is fragrant, concentrated and offers depth, a certain complexity as well as a savory spiciness. It expresses notes of smoke, torrefaction (coffee), cocoa and sweet spices on the first nose (cloves, nutmeg, liquorice, a sweet touch of toasted vanilla and cinnamon). We then find the aromas of fleshy red and black fruits (blackberry, black plum, wild strawberry, morello cherry, red cherry, raspberry), with a touch of red cherry jam, a hint of violet, peony and mint. The palate is full, but straight and quite fresh. It expresses the flavors of wild strawberry, fresh morello cherry, tart red cherry, blackcurrant, raspberry, combined with notes of redcurrant jelly, liquorice, coffee nutmeg and vanilla (in the background), as well as a touch of violet and blackcurrant bud. The acidity is lively and salivating. The tannins are fine and well structured. Good length on the tanginess of red fruits and a slight bitterness. Good balance.

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

Château Landereau, Prétige 2021

Bordeaux Supérieur

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The first nose expresses slightly sweet notes of mild spices (vanilla, cinnamon, liquorice, cloves), as well as a peppery and toasted touch (toasted oak, toasted hazelnut). It then expresses notes of red cherry, morello cherry, strawberry, blackcurrant, raspberry and black plum, associated with a floral touch of peony, as well as a hint of tobacco and dried mint in the background. On the palate, the wine is juicy, fruity and gourmand. It expresses notes of roasted red cherry, morello cherry, strawberry, crushed raspberry, black plum, blackberry and blackcurrant, combined with floral notes of peony and violet, as well as a pronounced, but enveloped spiciness (liquorice, cloves, vanilla cinnamon). We also find a touch of toasted wood and toasted hazelnut, especially on the finish. The tannins are melted and velvety, very soft. The finish is gourmand, round and fresh, thanks to a nice acidity.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Château Beau Rivage 2020

Bordeaux Supérieur

The wine benefits from being decanted. The nose offers a spiciness, a slight airiness in its relative power as well as a very slight floral notes. The palate is mineral, coating balanced and offers freshness, fullness, some fat, precision as well as a certain purity. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy blackberry, fresh juicy/fleshy wood and small notes of chocolate associated with touches of toasted hazelnut, pulpy small fruits as well as a hint of violet, iris and discreet hints of sweet spices. The tannins are chewy. Good length.

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

Château Penin, Les Cailloux 2021

Bordeaux Supérieur

The wine has a deep ruby color. The nose is fragrant, racy and precise. It offers a distinct mineral framework (gravels) associated with a beautiful herbaceous freshness and a refined sweetness of ripe fruit. We find notes of fresh morello cherry, red cherry juice, crushed raspberry, strawberry, blackcurrant, blueberry, black plum, as well as fresh wild mint (even menthol), liquorice, vanilla, cloves, as well as a touch of violet, cornflower and rosehip. The palate is tasty, enveloping and fresh, with energy and liveliness, thanks to a salivating acidity. We find flavors of fresh strawberry, red cherry, fresh red currant, crushed raspberry, blackcurrant, blueberry and black plum, as well as floral notes of violet, rose and cornflower. The tannins are fine and delicate, but well structured. The finish is persistent, gourmand and fresh, with a subtle bitterness. Beautiful balance, gourmandise and elegance.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Château de Fontenille 2021

Bordeaux

(100% Malbec) The wine has a deep ruby color with purple reflections. The nose is gourmand, juicy, concentrated and refined. It expresses notes of black plum, blackberry, morello cherry, strawberry, crushed raspberry, associated with notes of wild mint, liquorice, white pepper, as well as touches of violet and cornflower. The palate is juicy, enveloping, but fresh and refined. It expresses notes of black plum, fresh morello cherry, strawberry, raspberry, blackcurrant, blueberry and blackberry, combined with notes of liquorice, wild mint, violet and cornflower. The tannins are a little grainy and grippy, balanced by a salivating acidity. The finish is moderately persistent, but gourmand.

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

Château Lescalle 2020

Bordeaux Supérieur

The nose is a little discreet. It reveals notes of sweet spices, blond tobacco and small notes of crushed wild small fruits associated with a touch of blackberry and vanilla

pod. The palate is mineral and offers juiciness, freshness as well as some tension. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, crushed raspberry and small notes of pulpy cassis associated with a touch of crushed berries, cornflower, lily as well as slight hints of toasted/chocolate. Tannins are supple and sapid.

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

M de Magondeau 2021

Bordeaux

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose offers gourmandise, a certain concentration and a fine spiciness. It expresses notes of morello cherry, wild strawberry, raspberry coulis, redcurrant jelly, a touch of black plum and blackcurrant, as well as light notes of liquorice, white pepper, dried mint and cornflower. The palate is straight, tangy and fresh. It expresses notes of red cherry, raspberry, fresh strawberry, red plum, blackcurrant and morello cherry, combined with delicate notes of liquorice, cornflower and dried mint. The tannins are fine and enveloped. Beautiful crunchy acidity and a fresh and gourmand finish, with a smoky hint in the background. A savoury and pleasant wine.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Château Barreyres 2020

Bordeaux Supérieur

The nose is fruity and offers a slight concentration/richness in its fruit as well as an easy-to-access profile. It reveals notes of black fruit, cassis and small notes of jammy strawberry associated with touches of violet and fresh pepper. The palate is fruity and offers suavity, juiciness, minerality, a juicy frame as well as a beautiful pulp of the fruit. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy cherry, cassis and small notes of bright raspberry associated with a touch of blueberry as well as slight hints of liquorice and gourmand spices. The tannins are melted. Power on the finish/persistence

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

Château Laronde Desormes 2020

Bordeaux Supérieur

The wine benefits from being decanted. It reveals varietal notes, tomato leaves and iris associated with touches of juicy cherry as well as slight hints of fresh spices and a discreet hint of vanilla essence. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, suavity, a mineral frame, a certain tension as well as flowery hints. On the palate this wine expresses notes of tomato leaves, iris, lilies and small notes of tangy small red fruits associated with a hint of nutmeg, spices and a discreet hint of dark chocolate

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

Château La Rame 2021

Bordeaux

The wine has a deep ruby color. The nose offers notes of tangy fresh fruit (red cherry, raspberry, red currant, strawberry, blackcurrant), combined with touches of black plum, cornflower and a hint of mint. The palate is juicy, airy and fragrant. There are lots of fruits (red cherry, strawberry, raspberry, red plum, blueberry, blackcurrant, black plum), minty freshness, as well as a fragrant floral bouquet (peony, cornflower). The tannins are fine, velvety, but well structured. Beautiful crunchy acidity, which brings liveliness to the wine. The finish is moderately persistent, but gourmand and fresh. A juicy and pleasant wine.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Clos la Providence 2020

Bordeaux Supérieur

Beautiful elegant, concentrated nose and offers a small creaminess. It reveals notes of creamy blackberry, creamy strawberry and small notes dark chocolate/cocoa associated with touches of sweet spices, saffron as well as slight hints of crushed cherry, Cubeb pepper and vanilla. The palate is mineral and offers precision, tension, a slight concentration, a certain fullness as well as a beautiful texture. A beautiful aerial character in its richness, delicacy. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy raspberry, crushed cherry and small notes of pulpy/juicy cassis associated with touches of bright small fruits, chocolate, badian, cornflower/lilac as well as a hint of vanilla, nutmeg and toasted. Nice chewy finish. Great gourmandise !

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



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How are Bordeaux wines, in general, in 2020?

First of all, let me say that 2020 is a great vintage! One of the greatest, in my opinion of the last 20 years.

When reading my tasting comments, you shouldn't be surprised to see a number of atypical term associations, sometimes even oxymorons. The wines are often puzzles to describe, they are so complex, they are often the symbiosis of contradictory terms... This is a vintage full of contradictions and richness.

in general, we have wines that are rich but without heaviness, with beautiful balances, powerful but with a certain lightness (not in the sense of thinness) or even with an aerial side ("aerial power"?), density and finesse, without heaviness (and dare I say "density in freshness"), quite ripe fruit/offering a beautiful flesh, a small juiciness but still without heaviness, richness... in finesse, an acidity and a freshness that carries...

The matters are regularly creamy but with an aerial character (again!) And not the heavy side of creaminess. We often find beautiful fleshy mouths. Tannins are often numerous, massive, present but at the same time subtle and polished... even silky. To summarize, we find beautiful tannic structures, powerful but melted/polished. Haut-Médoc

HAUT-MÉDOC

Château La Lagune 2020

Haut-Médoc, Grand Cru Classé

(Organic) The nose is fruity, deep and offers a certain intensity (in deepness and precision), beautiful touch of dry gravels as well as flowery hints. It reveals notes of blackberry, wild raspberry and small notes of small blue fruits associated with touches of cornflower, hints of Cubeb pepper, nutmeg, cumin, grill as well as a subtle hint of saffron and toast. The palate is fruity, balanced, racy, elegant, beautifully balanced and offers juiciness, freshness, a beautiful definition, a tangy/fresh frame, a beautiful tension, precision, intensity, soft texture, a fresh silky touch fresh as well as a certain depth in precision. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, raspberry and small notes of small blue pulpy/juicy fruits associated with touches of cornflower as well as hints of nutmeg and an imperceptible sappy hint in the background (which lengthens the finish). A subtle chew and sapidity in the background.

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

MARGAUX

Château Desmirail 2020

Margaux, Grand Cru Classé

The nose is spicy and offers a fine and relatively intense grain. It reveals notes of fresh pepper, nutmeg and small notes of blackberry associated with touches of fleshy raspberry as well as a hint of crushed redcurrants, liquorice stick and discreet hints of sweet blond tobacco (in the background). The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, minerality, some freshness, a certain tension, fatness, fullness, acidity as well as a fine straightness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy cassis, blackberry and small notes of violet associated with touches of tangy redcurrants as well as a subtle hint almost crunchy cherry, lily and clove. Presence of a subtle varietal hint in the background.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Château Lascombes 2020

Margaux, Grand Cru Classé

The nose is fruity and offers elegance, a certain power, intensity as well as a fine and powerful grain. It reveals notes of blackberry, pulpy cassis and small notes of quite ripe raspberry (almost roasted) associated with touches almost blue fruits, liquorice/zan as well as slight hints of almost colas, lily and pepper. The palate is mineral, balanced and offers freshness, harmony, juiciness, a small fatness, a tangy frame, energy as well as fullness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy blackberry, crushed redcurrants and small notes of pulpy cherry associated with an almost roasted touch as well as hints of violet/lily and liquorice. Solar notes are affirmed but controlled.

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

Château Dauzac 2020

Margaux, Grand Cru Classé

Beautiful elegant, gourmand, fresh and complete nose that offers deepness and darkness, a bit austere (but with elegance), It reveals notes of crushed strawberry, crushed blackberry and small notes of small roasted-fresh fruits associated with

touches of liquorice/badian, violet, hints of crushed small crushed fruits as well as delicate hints of cornflower, liquorice stick as well as discreet almost saline/iodine hint (in the background). The palate is beautifully mineral, fresh and offers a good definition, elegance, purity, a beautiful density, tension as well as a certain precision in concentration. On the palate this wine expresses notes of Bigarreau cherry, bright blackberry and small notes of small bright red fruits (redcurrants...) associated with touches of small roasted fruits, lily, violet as well as hints of chocolate, blond tobacco, vanilla and a subtle hint of toasted hazelnut. The tannins are supple, fresh and elegant. Beautiful finish that carries.

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

Château Kirwan 2020

Margaux, Grand Cru Classé

The nose is fruity, elegant, supple and delicate in its richness of fruit. It reveals notes of crushed raspberry, quite ripe strawberry and small notes of cornflower associated with touches of racy gravels, violet, hints of roasted/crushed fruit as well as hints of chocolate and sweet blond tobacco. The palate is beautifully fresh, mineral and offers fruit, tension, a beautiful electric hint, precision, aromatic purity, a discreetly tight grain, a beautiful acidity as well as a chiseled structure. Just right and mastered. On the palate this wine expresses notes of raspberry, fresh and roasted cherry and small notes of blackberry associated with touches of small ripe fruits, hints of chocolate, toast, nutmeg and discreet hints of vanilla. The tannins are fresh and supple. A very beautiful tannic frame. Beautiful length. Beautiful palatability and sapidity on the finish/persistence.

Score : 17.5/20 (95/100)

Château Giscours 2020

Margaux, Grand Cru Classé

The nose is fruity, elegant and offers racy power, depth as well as a beautiful fine and intense grain. It reveals notes of boysenberry, quite ripe strawberry and small notes of violet associated with touches of nutmeg, camphor, small racy red berries as well as discreet hints of fresh gray pepper, lilac/violet and a subtle hint of blond tobacco. The palate is fruity, balanced, elegant, racy, sincere and offers suavity, juiciness, freshness, purity, depth, a delicate touch, suppleness, finesse in its grain/in its power, a beautiful definition, tension, precision as well as a tangy frame. A beautiful little concentration in its fruit. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, juicy/pulpy raspberry and small notes of fleshy cherry associated with touches of cornflower, badian/liquorice, hints of toast/chocolate, a hint of fleshy blueberry as well as a subtle hint of vanilla. The tannins are elegant, chewy and gourmand. Good length. Beautiful juicy and chewy finish. Salivating/sapid finish. Beautiful and good bitters in the background that raises the finish.

Score : 17.75+/20 (96/100)

Château Prieuré-Lichine 2020

Margaux, Grand Cru Classé

The nose is fruity, gourmand and offers a beautifully controlled concentration and deepness. It reveals notes of quite ripe cassis, wild blackberry and small notes of quite ripe strawberry associated with touches of small roasted-fresh fruits, lilac, violet as well as hints of spices, fresh tobacco and a discreet hint of pepper/spices. The palate is fruity, chiseled and offers juiciness, a tangy frame, minerality, a good definition, a certain fullness, sapidity, gourmandise, depth, a slight hint of darkness, delicacy, subtlety as well as elegance in its intensity/concentration. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/icy cassis, creamy blackberry and small notes of pulpy/juicy raspberry, pulpy/fleshy cherry associated with hints of roasted red fruits-fresh, chocolate, toast as well as a subtle hint of vanilla and a discreet hint of ripe/toasted almond. Presence of a slight hint almost infusion/blackness in the background. Tannins are supple and elegant. Good length. Sapidity on the finish/persistence. So gourmand !

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Château La Ferrière 2020

Margaux, Grand Cru Classé

The nose is fruity, taut, precise and offers a certain intensity, a beautiful harmony, a certain freshness as well as race and power of the grain in finesse. It reveals notes of juicy/pulpy cassis, pulpy wild blackberry and small notes of fleshy strawberry associated with touches of liquorice stick, cherry blossoms as well as a very discreet hint of soft pepper, pulpy blue plum and a subtle hint of fresh blond tobacco. The palate is juicy, fresh, balanced, racy and offers some pulp, a certain purity, a certain gourmandise, precision, a tangy frame, precision, harmony, crunchy/biting as well as a melodiousness. Beautiful juiciness and freshness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, pulpy cassis and small notes of crushed raspberry associated with a touch of pulpy cherry, hints of cornflower, mocha as well as a discreet hint of toast and toasted almond. The tannins are supple and precise. Good length. A discreet hint of mocha and a slight severe side on the finish. Good persistence.

Score : 16.75+/20 (94/100)

The logo features a stylized 'V' icon in gold, followed by the word 'INEXPO' in bold black uppercase letters, and 'ASIA' in gold uppercase letters below it.

VINEXPO

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HONG KONG

28-30 MAY 2024

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Château Palmer 2020 Margaux, Grand Cru Classé

The nose is fruity, elegant, precise, harmonious and offers a beautiful intensity in its fruit, a certain power, a hint of infusion in delicacy, harmony, precision and just the right amount of darkness/density. It reveals notes of pulpy blackberry, fleshy strawberry and small notes of roasted-fresh berries associated with touches of cornflower, strawberry, a hint of blueberry as well as discreet hints of toasted hazelnut and a discreet hint of zan. The palate is fruity, balanced, elegant, beautifully racy/deep and offers juiciness, energy, a slight electric touch as well as a tangy frame. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, tangy cassis, crunchy small fruits associated with touches of small sour red berries, floral hints as well as slight hints of good bitterness, zan, chocolate, nutmeg, a hint of black olive and a subtle hint of black tea. The tannins are supple, sapid and gourmand. A subtle hint of vanilla and colas on persistence.

Score : 19.5/20 (99/100)

Château Margaux 2020 Margaux, Grand Cru Classé

Beautiful elegant, precise nose that offers power, density in elegance/precision, deepness, a hint of darkness, a iodine touch as well as concentration in precision. It reveals notes of boysenberry, quite ripe strawberry and small notes of cornflower associated with touches of roasted-juicy cherry, blueberry as well as hints of gray/fresh pepper, black tea and a hint of toast/soft spices. The palate is fruity, beautifully balanced, racy, delicate and offers a tangy frame, juiciness, a beautiful definition, tension, precision, a nice polished character, a nice textured/silky freshness, pulpiness of the fruit as well as energy. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, fresh cornflower, bright cherry and small notes of bright raspberry associated with touches of herbal tea/black tea as well as hints of roasted-juicy/roasted-fresh fruit, toast, sweet blond tobacco with a subtle hint of toasted almond. A very beautiful quality of tannins, chewy and mellow. Good length. Beautiful brightness of the fruit, juiciness and freshness. A very nice work on bitters on the finish/persistence. Beautiful vivacity on the finish.

Score : 20/20 (100/100)

Château Lascombes 2020 Margaux, Grand Cru Classé

The nose is fruity, elegant and offers the right concentration as well as depth. It reveals notes of bramble cream fresh raspberry and small notes of juicy/ripe small red fruits associated with hints of violet, fresh/juicy roasted small fruits as well as hints of fresh spices as well as a subtle hint of orange peel. The palate is fresh, mineral, balanced and offers concentration as well as a beautiful juicy/fresh fruit. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy blackberry, fresh/juicy raspberry and small notes of small red berries associated with touches of violet, of lilies, slight almost sappy/eucalyptus hint as well as to a discreet hint of chocolate and a very discreet hint almost orange. The tannins are chewy and elegant. A beautiful freshness and minerality.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Château Rauzan-Ségla 2020 Margaux, Grand Cru Classé

Lovely delicate, fresh, supple nose which offers concentration, precision as well as a captivating/mysterious profile. Wine benefits from being decanted. We find notes of boysenberry, small creamy fruits and slight notes of pepper associated with touches of crushed strawberry, star anise, cardamom as well as hints of chocolate, liquorice and a very discreet hint almost minty/aniseed. The palate is nicely juicy, fresh and offers airiness in its creaminess, a delicate acidic structure, richness/creaminess (but all in balance), suavity, density, a small darkness as well as roundness. The attack is round, spherical, fresh and elegant. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy blackberry, creamy blackcurrant and small notes of small roasted-fresh fruits associated with touches of chocolate, star anise, sap as well as hints of black pepper, with a fine hint of fresh violet and a subtle hint of torrefaction. A lovely complete, creamy, racy wine, all in balance, freshness and elegance. Tannins are soft and relatively melted.

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

Château Rauzan-Gassies 2020 Margaux, Grand Cru Classé

The nose is elegant, racy and offers concentration in finesse, a lovely identity/personality as well as precision. We find notes of roasted cherry, violet and small notes of small roasted red berries associated with touches of liquorice stick, lilac, crushed strawberry, hints of coffee, Madagascar pepper (Voatsiperifery), dark chocolate as well as fine hints of cloves, sap and a hint of spices. The palate is fruity and offers freshness, juiciness, a nice burst of fruit, fullness, roundness as well as a nice definition. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy cherry and small roasted red fruits associated with touches of lilac, bright/fresh purple plum, crushed small fruits, chocolate/mocha as well as hints of roasting and with a subtle hint of tobacco. Tannins are elegant, precise, soft and straight. Good length.

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

Château d'Issan 2020 Margaux, Grand Cru Classé

Lovely elegant, delicate nose which offers power in freshness/correctness, a certain power as well as a lovely delicate, racy, frank and fine grain. We find notes of ripe wild blackcurrant, violet and slight notes of morello cherry associated with touches of small roasted fruits, a very discreet hint of blueberry, clove, tobacco as well as a delicate hint of pepper. Sichuan and toasted. The palate is nicely fresh, mineral, balanced and offers a juicy structure, pulpiness, a fine creaminess in minerality, precision, tension as well as a quite "technical" side in its construction. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy blackberry, pulpy/juicy raspberry and small notes of blueberry associated with touches of roasted cherry, nutmeg, crushed small fruits as well as hints of roasting, a subtle hint of star anise, with delicate hints of cornflower, chocolate, vanilla, toast and a discreet hint of graphite in the background. The Cabernet Franc, which is quite discreet in its construction, revives the finish. A small chew at the end of the mouth.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Château Brane-Cantenac 2020 Margaux, Grand Cru Classé en 1855

The wine has a deep ruby color. The nose is subtle, but complex, elegant and refined, even textured. It expresses ripe and concentrated fruit, with finesse: notes of fresh blackcurrant, crème de cassis, fresh morello cherry, wild strawberry, roasted red cherry, raspberry coulis and elderberries, associated with delicate, enveloping spicy and woody notes (crushed vanilla pod, cinnamon, liquorice, white pepper, cumin, roasted coriander seeds, caramelised hazelnut, sweet coffee), as well as a touch of blackcurrant bud, peony, rose and cherry blossom. The palate is silky, deep, fragrant and concentrated. It expresses notes of fresh fruit, with a very delicate touch of jam, wild strawberry, fresh morello cherry, red cherry jam, fresh blackcurrant, crème de cassis, blueberry and crushed raspberry. We also find an enveloped spiciness (liquorice, vanilla, ground cumin, cloves), a touch of roasting (toasted hazelnut, sweet coffee) and an elegant floral and herbaceous bouquet, which is expressed at the end of the palate (violet, rose, dried mint). The finish is persistent and complex: it continues to develop towards notes of bitter cocoa and sweet spices. Beautiful acidity, a touch of bitterness and a firm, but smooth tannic structure. A powerful and deep, yet elegant wine. Very good aging potential.

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

Château Cantenac Brown 2020 Margaux, Grand Cru Classé

The wine has a deep and vibrant ruby color. The nose is fragrant, concentrated and rich, but subtle and refined. It offers notes of fleshy fruit, very ripe, but not overripe, as well as touches of sweet heated spices. We find in particular notes of fresh blackcurrant (and blackcurrant marmalade), morello cherry, crushed wild blackberry, wild blueberry, wild strawberry, associated with a touch of morello cherry jam and prune cream, as well as with a pronounced spiciness, but in harmony with fruitiness – the wine expresses notes of cinnamon stick, toasted vanilla, liquorice, juniper berries and nutmeg, as well as a fine touch of torrefaction and chocolate in the background (coffee, bitter cocoa, toasted almond, mint chocolate). The herbaceous (wild mint, bay leaf, cut rosemary) and floral (violet, fresh rose petals) aromas add complexity and elegance to the wine. On the palate, the wine is velvety, silky, its tannins are melted and very fine, but offer power and structure. Beautiful texture on the palate: enveloping, fleshy, but refined. The flavors are juicy, on ripe fruits and delicate and integrated spicy and woody notes. The wine expresses notes of ripe morello cherry and wild blackberry; blackcurrant, crème de cassis, bigarreau cherry jam, as well as liquorice, cinnamon, toasted vanilla, cloves, toasted hazelnut, mint chocolate and coffee. The finish is floral (we find notes of violet and rose), persistent and ends with notes of chocolate with mint and roasted aromatic herbs. Power in elegance. The wine is slightly reserved and requires aeration.

Score : 17.5/20 (95/100)

Château Boyd-Cantenac 2020 Margaux, Grand Cru Classé

The wine has a deep ruby color. The nose is aromatic, with complexity and substance. The first nose expresses a warm touch and a lot of spices: toasted cumin seeds, grated nutmeg, ground cloves, liquorice, as well as a sweetness of cinnamon and vanilla, associated with a touch of torrefaction (coffee, toasted hazelnut). On the second nose, we find floral notes (peony, violet, wild rose), as well as straightness and a juicy fruitiness: notes of fresh morello cherry, bigarreau cherry, crushed blackcurrant, blueberry and wild blackberry. Delicate herbaceous and resinous notes (blackcurrant leaf, wild mint, pine needles, fresh tobacco). On the palate, the wine is generously fruity (even with a touch of sweetness), with an open and round attack, but a firm tannic structure, a little dry, due to the youth of the wine, and a slight bitterness. The flavors are rich and concentrated, very juicy. We find notes of fresh morello cherry, red cherry jam, fresh crushed blackcurrant, fresh wild strawberry, crushed raspberry, cranberry jam, associated with notes of sweet spices (liquorice, cumin, ground coriander seeds,

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clove; a sweet touch of vanilla and cinnamon), roasted (coffee, hints of caramel and toasted hazelnut), aromatic herbs (wild mint, dried rosemary) and flowers (violet, peony). The finish is long, silky, chocolate, and expresses a lively acidity, which softens the young tannins. Elegance and controlled power.

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

SAINT-JULIEN

Château Langoa-Barton 2020 Saint-Julien, Grand Cru Classé

Beautiful fruity, elegant, delicate nose that offers a beautiful finesse and precision of the grain. Complexity, a multi-layered aromas that requires either decanting or aeration in glass. It reveals notes of roasted strawberry (roast-fresh), pulpy blackberry and small notes of fruit associated with touches of toast, lily, badian as well as a discreet hint of salt/sapide. The palate is fruity, balanced and offers juiciness, a tangy frame, minerality, a beautiful gourmandise, complexity as well as a slight creaminess. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry and crushed redcurrants associated with touches of roasted-juicy red berries as well as slight hints of cornflower, liquorice and a discreet hint of caramelisation. The tannins are supple, gourmand, precise and sapid. Good length. Beautiful juiciness and freshness/minerality.

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

Château Léoville-Barton 2020 Saint-Julien, Grand Cru Classé

The nose is beautifully juicy, fruity and offers deepness, a beautiful race, a certain intensity as well as a beautiful powerful and delicate touch at the same time. Beautiful evolution in the glass. It reveals notes of ripe cassis, morello cherry and small notes of violet associated with touches of roasted berries as well as hints of blond tobacco and almond. The palate is beautifully fresh, juicy, elegant, gourmand and offers a beautiful definition, concentration/precision, deepness, a beautiful energy as well as a roast-juicy side. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, roasted-juicy cherry and small notes of bright raspberry associated with touches of liquorice-fresh, a subtle hint of sap, almost orange zests as well as hints of dark chocolate, toast, saltine and a very discreet grilled hint. Beautiful touch of tannins. A beautiful salinity/sapidity. Beautiful definition, gourmandise and length in the mouth. Beautiful persistence. Superb!

Score : 19/20 (98/100)

Château Léoville Poyferré 2020 Saint-Julien, Grand Cru Classé

The nose is fruity, elegant, straight, racy and nicely clean/precise. It reveals notes of boysenberry, blackcurrant and slight notes of strawberry associated with touches of violet, hints of spices, crushed small fruits as well as a subtle hint of cocoa, racy gravel, saffron (in its floral bouquet) as well as a hint of cardamom. The palate is nicely juicy, fresh, nicely racy and offers a tangy frame, minerality, tension as well as concentration (accurately). Nice gourmand and juicy attack. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy raspberry, bright redcurrants and small notes of blueberry associated with touches of juicy blueberry, strawberry as well as a hint of toast, chocolate, saffron, cardamom, toast and with a subtle hint of Bourbon vanilla. Tannins are elegant, fine, delicate as well as discreetly tight and so elegant! A harmonious, dense wine which offers precise concentration, acidity and freshness.

Score : 18.25+/20 (97/100)

Grand Vin de Léoville Las Cases 2020 Saint-Julien, Grand Cru Classé

The nose is elegant, delicate, racy and offers power and subtlety at the same time. A nice small mysterious, captivating aromatics that invites patience and work in the glass. We find notes of graphite, black cassis and small notes of small juicy roasted red fruits associated with touches of morello cherry, violet, lilac, small wild berries as well as fine hints of tobacco, star anise, discreet hints of clove, a subtle hint of almost pepper/Timut pepper and an imperceptible hint of almost citron in the background. The palate is nicely juicy, elegant, delicate, harmonious and offers tension, precision, a lovely delicate velvety feel, power in control, an almost patinated touch, depth as well as a very pretty tangy structure. The opening takes place slowly. On the palate this wine expresses notes of elegant black cherry, violet, juicy/bright blackberry and small notes of chocolate associated with touches of small tangy red berries, juicy/tangy violet plum as well as hints of blond tobacco, cardamom, toasted hazelnut, discreet hints of star anise, a subtle sappy hint and a discreet hint of iodized gravel. Tannins are elegant, soft and precise. Wine benefits from being decanted. A superb gravelly freshness that carries the tasting.

Score : 19.25+/20 (99/100)

Château Beychevelle 2020 Saint-Julien, Grand Cru Classé

The nose is elegant and offers a certain concentration, a small intensity, depth, a delicate textured touch as well as a certain elegance of darkness. We find notes of morello cherry, small roasted fruits and small notes of racy minerality/graphite associated with touches of small blue fruits, roasted strawberry as well as hints of star anise, spices, discreet hints sappy (in the background) and with a subtle, almost hint of orange. The palate is fruity, balanced, silky and offers a lovely juiciness, a lovely freshness, a lovely energy, purity, a lovely sapidity, a textured touch as well as airiness in its power. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy blackberry, bright/juicy cherry and small notes of bright/tangy small fruits associated with touches of mocha, graphite as well as hints of minerality, salinity, toast, liquorice and Bourbon vanilla. Tannins are elegant, soft and gourmand. A fine chew on the finish/persistence.

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

Château Branaire Ducru 2020 Saint-Julien, Grand Cru Classé

Nice fruity nose, elegant, delicate, silky, supple, textured and which offers a certain depth. We find notes of pulpy wild strawberry, crushed blackberry and slight notes of star anise associated with touches of small fresh roasted fruits, hints of star anise, sweet spices, spices as well as a subtle hint of cloves and toast. The palate is nicely structured, fresh, juicy, bright, textured and offers power, delicacy as well as tanginess. A wine full of balance, full of control. Superb freshness and delicate touch. Finely creamy but juicy matter. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy cherry, bright raspberry and small notes of bright blackcurrant associated with touches of bright blueberry, cherry blossom as well as hints of sweet blond tobacco, cardamom and toasted hazelnut. The finish is finely chalky, tangy and offers a discreet hint of good bitterness (brings gourmandise). Superb persistence!

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

Château Gruaud Larose 2020 Saint-Julien, Grand Cru Classé

Nice rich, dense nose, full of elegance/balance and which offers subtlety, a certain depth, a fine floral bouquet, a captivating profile, a pretty grain as well as a nice sense of detail. A certain creaminess in freshness and precision. A minerality that carries. We find notes of quite ripe (but fresh) wild strawberry, wild blackberry and small notes of small dense wild fruits associated with touches of spices, Cubeb pepper, blond tobacco as well as fine hints. blueberry and vanilla. The palate is fruity, mineral, elegant, gourmand, precise, airy and offers a small concentration, a certain density, a nice finesse of grain, silkiness, a lacy side as well as a nice freshness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy blackberry, small dense black fruits and small notes of racy minerality associated with touches of fresh raspberry, flowers/varietales, hints of small fresh/juicy wild red fruits, hints of mocha, cloves as well as fine hints of toast, hazelnut and sweet spices. Tannins are supple, elegant and nicely blended. A good delicate bitterness in the background.

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

Château Lagrange 2020 Saint-Julien, Grand Cru Classé

Nice full nose which offers concentration, freshness, a nice spiciness, a nice complexity as well as a nice intense, fine and tense grain. We find notes of pulpy blackberry, small dense wild fruits and small notes of roasted-juicy cherry associated with touches of small red fruits, camphor, spices, hints of blond tobacco, pepper, a hint of hint of racy gravel as well as a subtle hint of lily/iris. The palate is fruity, balanced and offers freshness, a nice energy, a tangy structure, tension, precision, a nice energy, a coating sensation as well as a nice salinity/sapidity. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, fleshy/juicy cherry and small notes of violet, iris associated with touches of racy minerality, salinity, blond tobacco, cardamom as well as fine crushed almond hints (in the background). Tannins are velvety, racy and gourmand. Chewy finish/persistence.

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

Château Talbot 2020 Saint-Julien, Grand Cru Classé

The wine has a deep ruby color. The nose is a little reserved, delicate, but offers beautiful complexity, freshness and concentration. It expresses notes of fresh black fruits (wild blackberry, blackcurrant, crushed blueberry), ripe and sweet red fruits (wild strawberry, raspberry coulis), associated with fresh herbaceous notes of wild mint, roasted rosemary, hints of tasty spices (liquorice, cloves, vanilla) as well as a fine hint of torrefaction (caramel, toast, caramelised hazelnut). There is also a touch of crème de cassis and chocolate with mint in the base, combined with a scent of wild rose and violet. The palate is concentrated, but silky and round. It offers juicy and ripe fruity flavors, slightly sweet, but fresh (wild strawberry, fresh morello cherry, red cherry juice, raspberry coulis, fresh blackcurrant, blueberry), associated with a delicate and

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integrated spiciness (vanilla, cloves of clove, liquorice), a hint of dark chocolate, bitter cocoa and coffee, which brings a pleasant bitterness and notes of herbs and flowers (dried mint, rose petals, violet) The tannins have a fine and silky, as well as good hold and a firm structure. The finish is long, complex, juicy and fresh thanks to a nice acidity. Depth and very good aging potential.

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

PAUILLAC

Château Haut-Bages Libéral 2020

Pauillac, Grand Cru Classé

The nose is fruity, elegant and offers a certain racy power (in freshness and delicacy) as well as aromatic purity/purity of the fruit. It reveals notes of juicy/pulpy cassis, pulpy/juicy cherry and small notes of violet associated with touches of small roasted red fruits, jammy raspberry as well as a hint of salinity. The palate is fruity, balanced and offers juiciness, suavity, tension, precision, harmony, a beautiful substance, a beautiful delicate fullness and offers gourmandise in elegance, a certain power as well as airiness in its fullness and structure. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy blackberry, small crushed/quite ripe red fruits and small notes of cornflower associated with touches of roast-fresh, hints of violet, purple plum as well as hints of cornflower, toast/chocolate, almond and a discreet hint of zan. The tannins are supple and racy. Good length. Presence of a hint of salinity and good bitterness on the finish/persistence.

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

Château Pichon Longueville Comtesse de Lalande 2020

Pauillac, Grand Cru Classé

Nice elegant nose, precise that offers power in precision/control, a beautiful textured touch, a beautiful grain, density as well as depth in precision and delicacy. It reveals notes of wild ripe cassis, graphite, wild strawberry and small notes of fresh violet, fresh lilies associated with nice touches of racy minerality, discreet hints of almost fresh sap, camphor, cardamom as well as discreet hints of cornflower and tobacco. The palate is beautifully conducted, elegant, perfectly balanced and offers tension, precision, control, a beautiful freshness, racy minerality, a juicy character, control/precision as well as straightness. A delicate, rich, silky and aerial palate. The palate is dominated by notes of quite ripe/juicy red fruits, pulpy fruits and small notes of cornflower, liquorice/toast. A beautiful work on good bitters. Beautiful persistence.

Score : 19.25/20 (98-99/100)



Château Haut-Batailley 2020

Pauillac, Grand Cru Classé

The nose offers a certain concentration. We find notes of wild blackcurrant and small notes of small, bright black fruits associated with touches of liquorice stick as well as discreet hints of cherry blossom, pepper and spices (nice spicy palette). The palate is fruity, balanced and offers suavity, a nice brightness on the fruit, fullness, roundness as well as delicacy. On the palate this wine expresses notes of bright black cherry, juicy/pulpy purple plum and small notes of roasted red fruits associated with touches of liquorice stick as well as discreet hints of torrefaction/coffee and a subtle hint of tobacco. Tannins are elegant and racy. Good length. There is a subtle hint of good bitterness in the background. Lovely juiciness and freshness.

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

Château Clerc Milon 2020

Pauillac, Grand Cru Classé

Nice fresh, captivating nose, full, melodious and which offers, depth as well as a fine concentration. There are notes of violet, morello cherry and small notes of cornflower associated with touches of vanilla, crushed strawberry as well as hints of saffron, discreet hints of infusion and a subtle hint of torrefaction. The palate is nicely structured and offers freshness, a lovely elegance, depth, creaminess, a lovely texture/creaminess, delicacy, subtlety, lovely definition as well as a lovely airy character. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy blackberry, juicy/fresh morello cherry and small notes of pulpy raspberry associated with a touch of creamy violet plum as well as hints of violet, cardamom, graphite and fresh blueberry/creamy. Tannins are nicely structured, elegant and creamy. Beautiful quality of tannins! A silky side on the finish.

Score : 17.5/20 (95/100)

Château Lynch-Bages 2020

Pauillac, Grand Cru Classé

Nice elegant, precise nose and offers density, depth as well as a nice texture. We find notes of blackcurrant, blueberry and slight notes of graphite associated with touches of morello cherry as well as fine hints of juicy roast fruits and discreet hints of almost orange/zest. The palate is juicy, fresh, elegant and offers sharpness/precision, gourmandise as well as almost airiness in its substance/richness as well as in its power. A nice clean, precise and racy grain. On the palate this wine expresses notes of morello cherry, small roasted-juicy-fresh fruits, morello cherry and small notes of blueberry associated with touches of small, quite ripe/bright red berries, graphite, cardamom as well as fine hints of infusion, camphor, cocoa, toasted almond and almost orange. Tannins are elegant and precise. Good length.

Score : 19/20 (98/100)

Château Pontet-Canet 2020

Pauillac, Grand Cru Classé

Nice spicy nose, intense, precise and which offers some condensation/concentration. We find notes of quite ripe blackcurrant, quite ripe blackberry and small notes of crushed wild strawberry associated with touches of clove, camphor, fresh blond tobacco, fine hints of graphite, hot sap as well as a subtle hint of fresh pepper, iris/lily, dark chocolate/tonka bean and a discreet hint of spices. The palate is nicely fresh, mineral and offers a nice acidity, a superb freshness (which carries), substance, a roasted-juicy character of the fruit, stretchiness, darkness as well as chewiness. A very nice fresh, dynamic attack which offers a discreet saltiness and creaminess. On the palate this wine expresses notes of quite ripe wild blackcurrant, fleshy/pulpy blackberry and small notes of bright raspberry associated with touches of juicy roasted red fruits, cardamom, cloves, tobacco,

chocolate as well as with discreet sappy/almost minty hints (in the background). Tannins are soft and relatively melted. Good length. A nice small chew on the persistence. Superb freshness!

Score : 18/20 (96/100)

Château Pichon Baron 2020

Pauillac, Grand Cru Classé

The nose is nicely juicy, precisely concentrated and offers freshness, depth as well as a fine infusion note. It reveals notes of blackcurrant, small wild red fruits and small notes of morello cherry associated with touches of small blue fruits as well as discreet hints of liquorice, fresh anise and a discreet hint of green cardamom. The palate is nicely juicy, fresh and offers gourmandise, tension, precision as well as a lovely powdery grain, elegant, powerful and delicate at the same time. On the palate this wine expresses notes of black cherry/morello cherry, raspberry and small notes of small juicy/bright black fruits associated with touches of juicy roasted fruits, hints of liquorice stick, blueberry as well as a hint of subtle hint of blueberry, chocolate/mocha, wood and toasted almond. Tannins are soft and elegant. Good length. Beautiful freshness!

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

Château d'Armailhac 2020

Pauillac, Grand Cru Classé

Nice elegant and captivating nose which offers a lovely finesse of grain, a smoky touch, a fine elegant darkness as well as intensity. It reveals notes of graphite, morello cherry and small notes of cornflower associated with touches of blueberry, small roasted fruits as well as hints of smoke, tobacco and a subtle hint of vanilla pod. The palate offers a nice minerality, freshness, a nice gravelly character, a certain concentration, a smoky hint, energy, a fine elegant darkness as well as acidity. On the palate this wine expresses notes of fresh/pulpy blackberry, juicy/fresh blackcurrant and small notes of small roasted red fruits associated with touches of vanilla as well as hints of toast, nutmeg and fine hints of tobacco. Tannins are elegant and soft. Good length. A certain chewiness and a fine powdery touch on the finish/persistence.

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

Château Grand Puy-Ducasse 2020

Pauillac, Grand Cru Classé

The nose is elegant, nicely racy and offers power in control, airiness as well as subtlety in its concentration. We find notes of wild blackberry, wild strawberry and slight notes of Cubeb pepper associated with touches of violet, clove, racy bass as well as a hint of almost infusion and a discreet toasted hint. The palate is nicely fresh, racy and offers juiciness, smoothness, a mineral framework, tension, a small coating texture as well as a melodious/subtle power. On the palate this wine expresses notes of raspberry, juicy/ripe wild currants and small notes of blackcurrant associated with touches of star anise, lily, hints of racy minerality as well as fine hints of camphor, cocoa and toasted. Tannins are supple, precise and racy. Lovely juiciness and freshness.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Médoc & Médoc area Grands Crus Classés

Château Mouton Rothschild 2020

Pauillac, Grand Cru Classé

Nice fresh nose, elegant, complex and which offers power in control/restraint, intensity in precision as well as a very beautiful finesse of the grain. We find notes of Bigarreau black cherry, blackcurrant and small notes of pulpy wild strawberry associated with touches of small, juicy roasted fruits as well as hints of tobacco, violet, graphite and discreet hints of toasted. The palate is nicely juicy, fresh, airy, balanced and offers tension, volume, precision, a nice power in precision/control, depth, a fine darkness/hint of infusion, a nice energy, a small vibrancy as well as a nice fine texture. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy black cherry, purple plum and small notes of juicy/tangy strawberry associated with touches of small juicy roasted red fruits, hints of Bourbon vanilla, blueberry, liquorice/star anise as well as discreet hints of chocolate and toast. Tannins are soft, gourmand and smooth. Very nice quality of melted tannins. Cabernet Franc is very small present in the blend and yet it contributes a lot, particularly on the finish/persistence.

Score : 20/20 (100/100)

Grand Vin de Château Latour 2020

Pauillac, Grand Cru Classé

Nice elegant nose and offers power in flexibility, delicacy, subtlety in its intensity, substance, a fine texture as well as a certain depth. We find notes of violet, bright Boysenberry, star anise and small notes of blueberry associated with touches of Bigarreau cherry, beautiful roasted hints as well as fine hints of sweet blond tobacco, blueberry, vanilla, with a subtle hint of cardamom and an imperceptible almost aniseed/toasted hint. The palate is fruity, balanced, tense and offers juiciness, suavity, a nice definition, a nice tangy structure, a nice energy, purity, a nice guideline, depth, precision, harmony, power in subtlety, intensity in precision/mastery as well as a nice texture. Very pretty delicate substance, creamy, airy and very precise. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, bright cherry and small notes of small juicy black berries associated with a touch of cornflower, lily, fine hints of tonka bean as well as delicate mineral hints, of sweet blond tobacco, with a fine hint of iodine and a discreet hint of toasted almond. A fine chew and a nice sapidity in the background. Tannins are sapid, delicate, supple, precise and racy. Good length and persistence. Superb energy! A beautifully racy, balanced, floral and complete wine. Wine benefits from being decanted.

Score : 20/20 (100/100)

Château Duhart-Milon 2020

Pauillac, Grand Cru Classé

The nose is spicy, elegant, aromatic and offers a fine captivating profile. We find notes of blackberry, quite ripe raspberry and slight notes of morello cherry associated with touches of cornflower, racy minerality (deep gravel), a hint of zan, toasted as well as a subtle hint of camphor and pepper. The palate is nicely fresh, full, balanced and offers precise creaminess, airiness, a nice guideline, a nice racy minerality, precision as well as accuracy. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy blackberry, small bright blue berries and small notes of small, quite ripe red fruits associated with touches of cornflower, lily, hints of racy minerality, hints of chocolate/tonka bean, toast, fresh vanilla as well as a discreet hint of fresh cherry and a subtle almost infusion hint in the background. Tannins are sapid and gourmand. Good length. A fine hint of chocolate on the finish.

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

Château Lafite Rothschild 2020

Pauillac, Grand Cru Classé

Nice spicy, airy nose, nicely racy/rooted in its terroir and which offers contained/controlled power, lovely definition, a certain straightness as well as complexity. There are notes of pulpy wild blackberry, pulpy blackcurrant and slight notes of violet associated with lovely touches of spices, infusion, racy minerality as well as hints of smoke, lily, nutmeg and a subtle hint of clove. The palate is nicely juicy, fresh, airy and offers a nice minerality, roundness, a nice fatness, a nice smoothness with precision, a slight

straightness in its creaminess as well as a nice substance and textured touch. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy cherry, pulpy/fresh blackberry and small notes of fresh violet, cherry blossoms as well as hints of small juicy/fresh red berries, chocolate, tonka bean as well as as well as discreet hints of toasted hazelnut and cloves. Tannins are creamy, fresh and elegant. Lovely creaminess, elegant, airy and delicate.

Score : 20/20 (100/100)

Château Croizet-Bages 2020

Pauillac, Grand Cru Classé

The nose is racy and offers elegance, power in control, tension, precision as well as a fine straightness. We find notes of boysenberry, fleshy Bigarreau cherry and small notes of violet associated with touches of small roasted fruits, lily, pepper as well as discreet sappy hints and a very discreet hint of citron in the background. The palate is juicy and offers minerality, freshness, a slight pulpiness, good definition, a certain juiciness, gourmandise, brightness, power in finesse/elegance as well as lovely roasted hints. Juicy. On the palate this wine expresses notes of roasted cherry, pulpy/juicy raspberry and small notes of juicy/pulpy blackcurrant associated with delicate touches of racy minerality, cedar/fresh sap, star anise as well as fine hints of cloves and spices. Lovely harmony, gourmandise and flavor. Tannins are melted. Small creamy sensation at the end of the mouth/persistence.

Score : 17.5/20 (95/100)

Château Pédesclaux 2020

Pauillac, Grand Cru Classé en 1855

The wine has a deep ruby color with purplish reflections. The nose offers precision, freshness and concentration. It expresses notes of fresh crushed blackcurrant, morello cherry, wild strawberry, blueberry, wild blackberry, red cherry jam, wild plum, associated with notes of mint chocolate, liquorice (see star anise), grated nutmeg, vanilla, chocolate prunes, as well as a touch of caramelised hazelnut, roasted coconut (in the background), dried rose and violet. The palate offers controlled power, an enveloping fruity substance and a persistent and tasty finish, all in harmony and finesse. We find notes of morello cherry, red cherry jam, wild strawberry, wild plum, fresh blackcurrant and blackberry, associated with notes of cut wild mint, menthol, chocolate cherry, liquorice, toasted vanilla, cumin and cloves, as well as a touch of pine needles, violet and fresh cornflower. The tannins are velvety, silky and enveloping. The finish is gourmand and fragrant, with lots of fruit, sweet spices and a fine hint of chocolate. Beautiful acidity which refreshes the whole. A harmonious, complex and deep wine.

Score : 17.5/20 (95/100)

SAINT-ESTÈPHE

Château Cos d'Estournel 2020

Saint-Estèphe, Grand Cru Classé

The nose is elegant, deep, frank, spicy, precise and offers power in freshness, lovely finesse, subtlety in the power of the grain, airiness in its power/concentration. We find notes of pulpy blackberry, pulpy raspberry and small notes of pepper (Timut and black) associated with touches of lily, violet as well as hints of small fresh wild berries, nutmeg, camphor, saffron and discreet hints of vanilla. The palate is fruity, elegant and offers juiciness, smoothness, a mineral structure, good definition, precision, tension, a lovely creaminess in freshness/elegance, precision, a certain gourmandise, a lovely airy character, a sanguine hint as well as elegant/mastery power. On the palate this wine expresses notes of morello cherry, juicy blackcurrant and small notes of small roasted fruits associated with touches of liquorice, sap, flowers (iris, lily) as well as hints of mocha, toast, nutmeg, with discreet hints of racy minerality, with a subtle hint of vanilla and almost saline. Nice persistence and palatability. Beautiful power in finesse, elegance and juiciness. Wine gains a lot from being decanted. A superb marriage between power, finesse and elegance.

Score : 19.75/20 (99-100/100)

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Médoc & Médoc area Crus Bourgeois

MÉDOC

Château Méric 2020

Médoc, Cru Bourgeois

The nose is varietal, offering freshness and a delicate spiciness. There are notes of iris, bulb and small notes of crunchy blackberry, combined with hints of Bigarreau cherry and small crunchy red berries. The palate is mineral, with freshness, juiciness and a mineral structure. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy blackberry, creamy cassis and small notes of raspberry, associated with hints of bulb/root and a subtle varietal touch. Good length.

Score : 14.5/20 (88/100)

Château Moulin de Canhaut 2020

Médoc, Cru Bourgeois

A beautiful, fruity nose with a certain radiance and concentration, a bit aerial as well as with a certain purity of fruit. There are notes of fleshy cassis, roasted red berries and small notes of pulpy/ripe cherry, associated with touches of cornflower, lily, slight hints of badian and a discreet hint of vanilla. The palate is fruity, well-balanced and offers minerality, a tangy frame, energy, vibrancy, gourmandise, finesse, concentration as well as an aerial hint. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of creamy blackberry, crushed cassis and small notes of roasted cherry, associated with touches of small crushed red berries, hints of tonka bean, sweet blond tobacco, as well as a touch of vanilla, nutmeg and an imperceptible varietal hint (on the finish) which adds it peps and dynamism. The tannins are supple and fresh. A subtle hint of chocolate on the persistence.

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

Château Bellerive 2020

Médoc, Cru Bourgeois

The nose is spicy and offers some concentration. It reveals notes of cassis, nutmeg and small notes of pulpy small red fruits, associated with a touch of clove. The mouth is mineral, well-balanced and offers precision, a certain pulpiness and juiciness of the fruit, substance and a slight straightness. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy cherry, small crushed red fruits and small notes of violet/lys, associated with touches of pulpy cassis, nutmeg, cloves and a subtle hint of vanilla. The tannins are supple.

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

Château Haut Barrail 2020

Médoc, Cru Bourgeois

The nose is spicy, with slight concentration and power. It is a bit closed for the moment. It reveals notes of wild cassis, Cuban pepper and small notes of balsamic, associated with a touch of quite ripe small red fruits/red berries and a hint of clove. The mouth is mineral and offers juiciness, with a touch of freshness, a mineral frame, a touch of unctuousity and a fine tension/straightness. In the mouth, this wine expresses notes of crushed cassis, pulpy blackberry and small notes of small crushed red berries, associated with touches of pulpy cherry, violet, liquorice stick as well as a hint of camphor and toast. The tannins are supple. A subtle varietal hint on the finish. Good length.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Château la Roque de By 2020

Médoc, Cru Bourgeois

The nose is fruity and offers a certain power with finesse, precision as well as harmony. It reveals notes of bright wild cassis, crushed blackberry and small notes of wild strawberry, associated with touches of small crushed fruits, camphor as well as blueberry, badian and a subtle hint of sweet blond tobacco. The mouth is fruity, well-balanced and offers minerality, juiciness, energy, an electric touch as well as a tangy frame. In the mouth, this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry and small, crispy/tangy red berries associated with hints of flowers (violet, fresh lily) as well as a hint of racy minerality, fresh blond tobacco and a subtle hint of spice. A little chewy and sapidity on the finish.

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

Château Saint-Christoly 2020

Médoc, Cru Bourgeois

The nose is fruity, racy, well built and offers a certain concentration, a small richness as well as a powerful grain. It reveals notes of small red berries, balsamic and small notes of pulpy cassis associated with touches of iodine/saline gravels as well as a discreet hint of badian and toast. The palate is fruity and offers a tangy frame, precision, energy, dynamism as well as a iodine/saline hint. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, small bright red berries and small notes of crushed raspberry associated with touches of lily/lilac, nutmeg, iodine minerality as well as a subtle hint of almost pulpy redcurrants, chocolate and sweet blond tobacco. Tannins are supple and racy. Good persistence.

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

Château La Valière 2020

Médoc, Cru Bourgeois

The nose is fresh and offers some spiciness. It reveals notes of fresh blond tobacco, nutmeg and small notes of graphite associated with touches of fresh blackberry as well as a subtle hint of pepper. The palate is fruity, a little tight and offers juiciness, energy, a tangy/juicy/fresh fruit, good definition, precision and tension. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/tangy blackberry, juicy/tangy cassis and small notes of small tangy/fresh red berries associated with touches of lily, violet, cardamom as well as a hint of toast/vanilla. Beautiful freshness and tanginess. The tannins are supple. The finish is slightly short.

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

Château Plagnac 2020

Médoc, Cru Bourgeois

The nose is fresh, spicy and mineral. It reveals notes of pulpy/fresh blackberry, fresh blond tobacco and small notes of fresh soft spices, associated with hints of small roasted red fruits, small crushed fruits as well as a hint of zan. The mouth is fresh, balanced and discreetly tight, offering minerality, a fresh/tangy frame, precision and tension. In the mouth, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/fresh blackberry, fresh/pulpy cassis and small notes of cherry, associated with hints of violet, badian, hints of fresh blond tobacco as well as a touch of zan and nutmeg. Beautiful freshness!

Score : 14.5+/20 (88/100)

Château du Perier 2020

Médoc, Cru Bourgeois

The nose is fruity, elegant, precise, racy and offers concentration. It reveals notes of concentrated cherry, bright redcurrants and small notes of plum flower associated with a touch of tangy/fresh raspberry as well as hints of pepper and a subtle hint of cloves. The palate is mineral, balanced and offers freshness, a tangy frame and energy. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/tangy redcurrants, raspberry and slightly pulpy/juicy cherry associated with touches of cornflower, pulpy cassis as well as slight hints of tonka bean and a subtle hint of badian. Tannins are supple and sapid.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Château Tour Castillon 2020

Médoc, Cru Bourgeois

The nose is spicy, slightly tightened and offers tension. It reveals notes of violet, blackberry and small notes of cloves associated with touches of raspberry, bright redcurrants as well as a hint of spices/camphor. The palate is fruity, balanced and offers minerality, juiciness, a tangy frame, tension as well as a certain dynamism. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/fresh cherry, fresh redcurrants and small notes of crunchy cassis associated with touches of violet, lily as well as hints of tonka bean, cornflower and sweet blond tobacco. Tangy and fresh.

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

Château de La Croix 2020

Médoc, Cru Bourgeois

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose offers concentration, a ripe and fragrant fruitiness. It expresses notes of morello cherry, crushed blackcurrant, blueberry, wild strawberry, crushed raspberry, associated with fresh herbaceous touches of crushed wild mint, leaf blackcurrant, bay leaf, thyme, dried pine needles, as well as notes of flowers (violet, rose petals), pine sap and fine spice and woody touches (toast, sweet coffee, liquorice, ground clove). On the palate, the wine offers precision, refined power, as well as expressive and juicy fruity flavors. We find notes of juicy morello cherry, crushed blackcurrant, wild blueberry, blackberry, as well as tanginess of bigarreau cherry and raspberry, associated with notes of wild mint, rosemary, dry pine needles, flowers (violet, wildflowers) and sweet spices (cumin, cloves, liquorice). The tannins are structured, a bit drying on the finish, but have a fine grain. Good acidity and persistence on the palate, expressing fruits and spices. A gaormand wine, with a beautiful structure.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Château Beauvillage 2020

Médoc, Cru Bourgeois

The nose is aromatic, spicy and offers a certain fullness and a slight concentration. It reveals notes of concentrated cassis, crushed boysenberry and small notes of crushed raspberry associated with touches of pepper, star anise, camphor as well as slight hints of cloves and almond. The mouth is fruity, balanced and offers minerality, precision, small fullness, some fatness, energy as well as a tangy frame. In the mouth this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy blackberry, bright cassis and small notes of violet associated with touches of small crushed/jammy red berries as well as hints of lily, sweet blond tobacco, tonka bean and a subtle hint of toasted almond. Tannins are racy. A certain concentration/density.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Médoc & Médoc area Crus Bourgeois

Château Escot 2020

Médoc, Cru Bourgeois

The wine has a deep ruby color. The nose is reserved, but straight, concentrated and juicy. It expresses notes of fresh morello cherry, red cherry juice, crushed blackcurrant, wild strawberry, fresh raspberry and wild blackberry, combined with herbaceous notes of crushed mint, cut rosemary and a hint of sap of pine. We also find an elegant floral bouquet (rose, peony, violet) and a delicate spiciness in the notes of liquorice, vanilla, cumin and cloves, associated with a touch of toasted hazelnut and coffee in the background. On the palate, the wine offers structure and firmness. The tannins are quite fine, but young and drying. The wine expresses flavors of wild strawberry, morello cherry, red cherry, wild plum and cranberries, combined with notes of black pepper, liquorice, cloves, dried mint and dried flowers (violet, rose), as well as a touch of toasted hazelnut and roasted bouquet garni in the background. The finish expresses a salivating acidity, which softens the tannins.

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

Château des Granges d'Or 2020

Médoc, Cru Bourgeois

The nose is spicy, peppery, a little tight and offers a certain power as well as intensity. It reveals notes of pepper, cloves and small notes of pulpy cherry associated with touches of jammy redcurrants as well as a hint of camphor and fresh leather. The palate is mineral, balanced and offers freshness, some tension, fluidity, a tangy frame as well as a slight tightness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, sweet blond tobacco and small notes of spices/cloves associated with touches of fresh tobacco as well as a hint of cardamom and a subtle hint of mocha (in the background). Tannins are supple.

Score : 14.5+/20 (88/100)

Château Mareil 2020

Médoc, Cru Bourgeois

The nose is fresh and floral. It reveals notes of blackberry, lilac and small notes of crushed red berries associated with a touch of fresh lily. The palate is mineral and offers freshness, fluidity and a tangy frame. On the palate this wine expresses notes of violet, lily and small notes of fresh cherry associated with touches of fresh/pulpy redcurrants as well as hints of fresh blond tobacco and spices/cloves.

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

Château Pontey 2020

Médoc, Cru Bourgeois

The nose is spicy and offers a slightly tight grain as well as tension. It reveals notes of wild blackberry, cloves and small notes of fresh spices associated with touches of small fresh/pulpy wild berries as well as hints of fresh pepper and a hint of fresh leather. The palate is fruity, a bit tight, spicy and offers freshness, minerality, a fresh frame, tangy, tension, a certain precision as well as a tangy finish. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy cherry, pulpy/tangy redcurrants and small notes of violet associated with touches of cornflower, violet as well as hints of nutmeg, fresh spices and a discreet hint of tobacco.

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

Château Haut-Maurac 2020

Médoc, Cru Bourgeois

The nose is mineral, fresh and offers a slight power. It reveals notes of juicy/fresh redcurrants, raspberry and small notes of fresh cassis associated with a touch of fresh cherry and slight hints of fresh lilac and fresh pepper. The palate is fruity and offers a tangy frame, precision, energy, freshness, minerality as well as a certain tension. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/fresh blackberry, tangy/pulpy redcurrants and small notes of crushed raspberry associated with touches of saline/iodine minerality as well as hints of fresh flowers, a subtle hint of toast and an imperceptible varietal hint in the background (on the finish/brings peeps). Suppleness.

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

Château Haut-Maurac 2020

Médoc, Cru Bourgeois

The nose is mineral, fresh and offers a slight power. It reveals notes of juicy/fresh redcurrants, raspberry and small notes of fresh cassis associated with a touch of fresh cherry and slight hints of fresh lilac and fresh pepper. The palate is fruity and offers a tangy frame, precision, energy, freshness, minerality as well as a certain tension. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/fresh blackberry, tangy/pulpy redcurrants and small notes of crushed raspberry associated with touches of saline/iodine minerality as well as hints of fresh flowers, a subtle hint of toast and an imperceptible varietal hint in the background (on the finish/brings peeps). Suppleness.

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

Château Labadie 2020

Médoc, Cru Bourgeois

The nose is fruity and offers a fine concentration as well as a certain explosion of fruit. It reveals notes of crushed strawberry and crushed redcurrants associated with a touch of cassis and slight hints of liquorice. The palate is mineral, balanced and offers juiciness, freshness, tension as well as certain juiciness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy blackberry, juicy/pulpy raspberry and small notes of pulpy/juicy cherry associated with mineral touches and vanilla. Beautiful freshness! The tannins are fresh and chewy.

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

Château Les Anguilleyes 2020

Médoc, Cru Bourgeois

The nose is spicy with a toasted finish as well as a slight hint of peppermint. It reveals notes of crushed blackberry and small notes of cherry and crushed strawberry. The palate is mineral and offers acidity/tangy frame. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, cherry and small notes of redcurrants associated with slight hints of violet as well as discreet hints of spices. Tannins are supple. Good length.

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

Château Le Bourdieu 2020

Médoc, Cru Bourgeois

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The first nose expresses distinct woody notes (toasted oak, toasted almond, a touch of pine sap), as well as a pronounced spiciness (liquorice, clove, nutmeg). We then find a floral bouquet (violet, cornflower), as well as fresh fruit (strawberry, raspberry, red cherry, morello cherry, blueberry, blackcurrant) and a slight sweetness of redcurrant jelly. The palate is chiselled, fresh and juicy. It expresses flavors of strawberry, red cherry, raspberry, blackcurrant, fresh red currant and blueberry, as well as pronounced woody and spicy notes (liquorice, clove, nutmeg, a touch of vanilla, toasted almond, toasted oak). The tannins have a fine texture, as well as a firm structure. The acidity is salivating and refreshing. Pleasant tanginess, gourmandise and juicy persistence.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Château Vieux Robin 2020

Médoc, Cru Bourgeois

The nose is spicy and offers a floral/pistil side. It reveals notes of flowers, cassis and small notes of crushed redcurrants associated with a slight hint of liquorice. The palate is mineral, balanced and offers freshness, a certain tension as well as precision. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/fresh cassis, flowers (cornflower, etc.) associated with touches of redcurrants as well as discreet mineral hints and a subtle hint of vanilla/toast. A subtle chew in the background/on the finish. The tannins are chewy.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Château Panigon 2020

Médoc, Cru Bourgeois

The nose is aromatic, fruity and offers elegance. It reveals notes of cherry, fresh flowers (violet, rose) and small notes of pulpy cassis associated with touches of roasted strawberry as well as hints of sap, iodine and liquorice. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, suavity, a mineral frame as well as tanginess. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy blackberry, pulpy raspberry and small notes of bright cherry associated with touches of violet, blueberry as well as floral and liquorice hints. The tannins are sapid and gourmand. A beautiful sapid wine, fruity and gourmand.

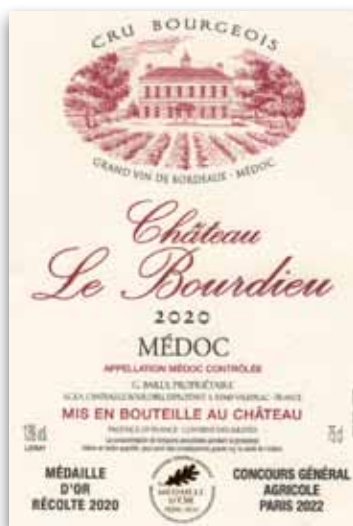
Score : 15.25+/20 (90-91/100)

Château Vernous 2020

Médoc, Cru Bourgeois

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is fleshy, fruity and savoury, with a spicy, slightly sweet and caramelised hint. It expresses notes of juicy and ripe red fruits (wild strawberry, morello cherry), a jammy touch (raspberry and cherry jam) and fleshy red fruits (blackberry, crushed blackcurrant), associated with hints of sweet spices (liquorice, vanilla powder, cinnamon in the background, cloves), roasting (mild coffee, caramelised hazelnut), as well as a touch of chocolate with mint and peony in the background. The palate is airy, fresh and silky. It offers juiciness, a ripe fruitiness and a slight tanginess. We find notes of red cherry, morello cherry, strawberry, fresh raspberry, blackcurrant and blackberry in the background, combined with sweet spices (liquorice with a hint of star anise, vanilla, clove, cinnamon in the background), with a subtle floral bouquet (peony, cornflower) and a delicate note of chocolate with mint. The finish offers tanginess, fruitiness and a pleasant bitterness, especially in the tannins, well constructed and firm. Beautiful acidity and persistence on the palate. Gourmandise and freshness.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)





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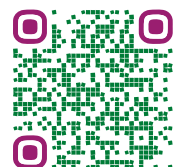
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Médoc & Médoc area Crus Bourgeois

HAUT-MÉDOC

Château Moulin de Blanchon 2020

Haut-Médoc, Cru Bourgeois

The nose offers a slight power, a small concentration of fruit as well as a slight spiciness. It reveals notes of boysenberry, wild strawberry and small notes of small pulpy red berries associated with touches of violet, Cuben pepper, fresh lily as well as a subtle hint of toast. The palate is mineral and offers fruitiness, freshness, a mineral frame, a slight tension as well as a tannic frame slightly tightened and discreetly marked. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, raspberry and small notes of crushed berries associated with touches of zan as well as a hint of violet/lilac, camphor and a subtle hint of cardamom.

Score : 14.5+/20 (88/100)

Château Martin 2020

Haut-Médoc, Cru Bourgeois

The nose is spicy. It reveals notes of pepper, cloves and old wood associated with touches of lily. The palate is relatively fresh and offers fullness. It reveals notes of pulpy cassis, pulpy cherry and small notes of spices, blond tobacco associated with a subtle hint of badian.

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

Château La Fon du Berger 2020

Haut-Médoc, Cru Bourgeois

The nose is spicy and offers a slight power as well as a small concentration. It reveals notes of boysenberry, pepper and small notes of fresh nutmeg associated with touches of ripe cherry, violet as well as a hint of camphor and incense. The palate is mineral and offers fruitiness, a small juiciness, a mineral frame as well as a slight fluidity. On the palate this wine expresses notes of fresh blackberry, small pulpy/fresh red berries and small notes of fresh blond tobacco associated with touches of nutmeg and spices. The tannins are grainy and a bit extracted.

Score : 14.5/20 (88/100)

Château de Cartujac 2020

Haut-Médoc, Cru Bourgeois

The nose is fruity and offers a certain richness and a small pulp. It reveals notes of fleshy cassis, creamy strawberry and small notes of violet associated with touches of bright Bigarreau cherry as well as slight hints of almost blueberry and cornflower. The palate is fruity, balanced and offers acidity, a certain gourmandise, a tangy frame as well as juiciness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, juicy/pulpy cherry and small notes of bright redcurrants associated with touches of racy minerality as well as hints of tonka bean, badian and a subtle almost saline hint. The tannins are supple. Salinity in the background.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Château Beau Secret 2020

Haut-Médoc, Cru Bourgeois

The nose is fruity, fresh, tense and offers a good definition as well as energy. It reveals notes of blackberry, wild raspberry and small notes of cornflower associated with touches of small wild red berries, hints of cloves, nutmeg as well as a discreet hint of pepper and spices. The mouth is fruity, flattering/easy to access and offers and offers a tangy frame and freshness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of fresh/pulpy raspberry, bright redcurrants and small notes of fresh cherry associated with touches of badian, lily as well as hints of spices and a subtle saline/iodine hint in the finish/on persistence. A nice sapidity.

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

Château Tour du Haut Moulin 2020

Haut-Médoc, Cru Bourgeois

The nose is fruity, aromatic and offers a certain intensity as well as a slight airiness. It reveals ripe cassis, bergamot and small notes of nutmeg associated with touches of small roasted red fruits, slight hints of pepper as well as a discreet hint of violet and cloves. The palate is fruity, balanced and offers minerality/a mineral frame, good definition, juiciness, a tangy frame as well as sapidity. In the mouth this wine expresses notes of plump/juicy cherry, bright cassis and small notes of pulpy raspberry associated with touches of lily, violet as well as saline hints and sweet blond tobacco. Freshness/minerality.

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

Château d'Arcins 2020

Haut-Médoc, Cru Bourgeois

The nose is aromatic and offers a slight intensity, a very slight powdery touch as well as a fine and elegant grain. It reveals notes of violet, blackberry and small notes of nutmeg associated with touches of cloves as well as slight hints of toast and vanilla.

The palate is fruity and offers minerality, fatness, precision, some straightness as well as a good definition. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, tangy redcurrants and small notes of pulpy cherry associated with touches of bright cassis, hints of badian as well as a subtle saline and a very discreet hint of vanilla in the background. Tannins are well-built. Presence of saline and good bitterness on the finish/persistence.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Château de Braude 2020

Haut-Médoc, Cru Bourgeois

The nose is spicy. It reveals notes of cassis, flowers and small notes of pulpy cherry associated with touches of blackberry as well as a discreet hint of nutmeg. The palate is juicy, fruity and offers a certain gourmandise, a slight unctuousity of the fruit as well as a nice acidity that bears. Vivacity. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/tangy blackberry, juicy/bright cherry and small notes of redcurrants associated with touches of violet, hints of blueberry, toast as well as a subtle hint of almond. The tannins are gourmand.

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

Clos La Bohème 2020

Haut-Médoc, Cru Bourgeois

The nose is spicy and offers fruit. It reveals notes of pulpy cherry, blackberry and small notes of blueberry associated with touches of pulpy cassis, crushed berries as well as a subtle hint of Timut pepper. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, suavity, a mineral frame, acidity, fullness as well as some fatness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, cherry and small notes of bright raspberry associated with touches of nutmeg, sweet blond tobacco as well as a subtle floral hint and discreet hints of vanilla flowers (in the background). The tannins are frank and racy. Good length. The persistence is savoury and gourmand.

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

Château Beaumont 2020

Haut-Médoc, Cru Bourgeois

The nose is fruity and juicy. It reveals notes of wild strawberry, small roasted red fruits and small notes of blackcurrant associated with touches of small roasted fruits, small creamy blue fruits, vanilla as well as discreet hints of toast. The palate is beautifully delicate, gourmand, silky and offers fullness, freshness, roundness, smoothness, a small fatness as well as a nice definition. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy blackcurrant, bright Boysenberry and small notes of small red berries associated with touches of toast, almond as well as a hint of torrefaction, cocoa and discreet hints of vanilla. Good length. Fine powdery tannins.

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

Château Lacour Jacquet 2020

Haut-Médoc Cru Bourgeois

Beautiful deep ruby color. On the nose, the wine initially expresses meaty and roasted notes which disappear after aeration. We then find the aromas of fresh wild strawberries, crushed garriguetta strawberries, red cherries, morello cherries, crushed blackcurrants, as well as a tangy touch of blood orange. On the second nose, the wine also expresses fresh notes of menthol and fresh and roasted aromatic herbs (thyme, cut rosemary), associated with a fine smoky, toasted and spiciness (star anise, clove). On the palate, the wine offers lots of fruit and juiciness. We find the flavors of crunchy morello cherry, roasted red cherry, wild strawberry, crushed blackcurrant and red currant, combined with spicy (clove, a hint of cumin) and herbaceous notes (thyme, rosemary, bay leaf, mint). The tannic structure is straight and firm, but silky. The finish is persistent, fruity and juicy, slightly chocolatey, with a beautiful freshness of herbaceous notes, a salivating acidity and a slight bitterness.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Château Saint Ahon 2020

Haut-Médoc, Cru Bourgeois

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is a bit reserved at first, but subtle and refined. It expresses notes of roasted red cherry, morello cherry, creamy blackcurrant, wild strawberry, raspberry coulis, redcurrant jelly, as well as roasted aromatic herbs (thyme, rosemary), dried mint, violet, lily and a fine smoky and spicy notes (liquorice, nutmeg). The palate is juicy, enveloping and fresh. The tannic structure is firm and its texture is a bit grainy (the wine needs time to round out), but the roundness of the fruity substance and the sweet notes of wild strawberry, morello cherry, creamy blackcurrant, cherry roasted red wine and raspberry coulis soften it. The palate also expresses a fine spiciness (nutmeg, cloves, liquorice), a touch of toasted hazelnut and cocoa, as well as notes of violet and cornflower. Beautiful acidity and freshness on the quite persistent finish.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Médoc & Médoc area Crus Bourgeois

Château du Cartujac 2020

Haut-Médoc Cru Bourgeois

(Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Petit Verdot) The wine has a deep ruby color. The nose is very fragrant and refined and offers precision and freshness. It expresses the tangy and fresh notes of juicy morello cherry, wild blackberry, blackcurrant, quetsche plum, blueberry, combined with a touch of crushed wild strawberry, which adds sweetness to the nose. We also find distinct aromas of crushed mint leaf, even menthol and rosemary, a fine spiciness (liquorice, cloves, pink pepper berries and juniper) and roasted (heated wood in the background, toasted hazelnut), as well as a floral touch (lily, violet) in the background. On the palate, the wine offers delicacy and gourmandise, combined with a firm structure and fine but powerful tannins. The flavors are juicy, fruity on the attack (wild strawberry, blackcurrant, morello cherry, red cherry, a hint of wild blackberry and wild plum), and develop towards sweet spices (liquorice, clove, a touch of vanilla) and fresh flowers (violet, iris). The finish is persistent, with nice acidity and energy. A well-structured wine, which needs time to round out the slightly drying tannins on the finish.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Château Le Monteil d'Arsac 2020

Haut-Médoc, Cru Bourgeois

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The first nose expresses pronounced aromas of roasted meat, smoke and roasted bouquet garni. The second nose expresses more fruity and spicy aromas: roasted red cherry, morello cherry, crushed strawberry, raspberry coulis, crushed blackcurrant and blueberry, associated with notes of ground white pepper, nutmeg, cloves, toasted vanilla and liquorice. We also find floral touches of violet, dried cornflower and iris, with a fine hint of coffee in the background. The palate is precise, straight and offers juiciness and freshness. It expresses notes of fresh blueberry, blackcurrant, juicy morello cherry, blackberry, roasted red cherry, as well as smoke, heated wood (in the background) and sweet spices (clove, coriander seeds, liquorice). We also find fine touches of ground coffee, dried flowers (cornflower and wildflowers) and fresh tobacco in the background. The tannins are structured, young, a little grippy, but enveloped thanks to a beautiful concentration and fruitiness of the wine. A beautiful acidity and a delicate bitterness bring freshness to the wine. Nice persistence on the palate with sweet spices.

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

Château Haut-Beyzac 2020

Haut-Médoc, Cru Bourgeois

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The first nose is warm, savoury, spicy and expresses notes of sweet heated spices (liquorice stick, cloves, pepper seeds, coriander seeds), as well as roasted bouquet garni, dried mint, as well as a woody notes (smoked, toasted wood) and liquorice in the background. Then, we smell notes of ripe fruit (morello cherry, wild black plum, blackcurrant, wild strawberry, prune cream, morello cherry jam), combined with a sweet hint of chocolate cherry, caramel and peony. On the palate, the wine is concentrated, with sapidity, straightness and a generous fruity substance, associated with a pronounced spiciness. It expresses the flavors of morello cherry, blackcurrant, wild plum, wild strawberry, morello cherry jam, combined with notes of vanilla, liquorice, nutmeg, cloves, as well as floral touches (violet, rose), herbaceous (fresh tobacco, pine needles) and a savory hint, a bit sweet with cocoa and mint chocolate in the background. The finish is long and sapid, with notes of chocolate cherry, sweet spices and a good level of acidity. The tannins are enveloped and fine. A wine with substance and structure.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Château de Gironville 2020

Haut-Médoc, Cru Bourgeois

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is expressive, aromatic and offers fresh herbaceous notes at the beginning, combined with a savoury touch of sweet spices. We find notes of crushed wild mint, rosemary, liquorice (even star anise), ground nutmeg and cloves. Then, the nose expresses delicate floral notes of violet and cornflower, associated with a precise and fresh fruitiness: notes of blueberry, blackcurrant, morello cherry, tangy bigarreau cherry, wild plum, as well as a delicate hint bitter cocoa and mint chocolate in the background. On the palate, the wine is concentrated, juicy, even warm: the attack offers richness, roundness and a ripe and slightly sweet fruitiness (wild plum, a touch of prunes, morello cherry, roasted red cherry, raspberry coulis, wild strawberry), combined with notes of sweet spices (liquorice, cumin, cloves), dark chocolate, as well as a refreshing touch of mint and dried pine needles. The tannins are enveloping and have a velvety texture, as well as good structure. The acidity is lively and refreshing. The finish is persistent, fruity and gourmand.

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

Château Tour Saint Joseph 2020

Haut-Médoc, Cru Bourgeois

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose offers a tanginess, precision and freshness of fruits. It expresses notes of juicy fruits (wild blackberry, crushed blackcurrant, morello cherry, wild strawberry, redcurrant jelly, crushed raspberry), with a fine touch of balsamic in the background, a delicate spiciness (liquorice, white pepper, ground cumin), as well as floral and herbaceous touch (violet, cornflower, dried rose, dried mint) and a hint of torrefaction (toasted almond, toasted wood). The palate is airy and precise: the attack offers juiciness, freshness, delicacy. The mid-palate is a bit restrained and tangy. We find notes of tangy fruits (morello cherry, raspberry, red currant, blackcurrant, crunchy strawberry), peppermint, cornflower, violet, as well as a hint of liquorice, white pepper and toasted almond in the background. The tannins have a fine texture, but are a little rough. Beautiful salivating acidity, the finish is quite persistent, gourmand and savoury, with a fine peppery note, a hint of torrefaction and a delicate bitterness.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Château Haut-Logat 2020

Haut-Médoc, Cru Bourgeois

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose expresses pronounced woody notes, spices, as well as an enveloping fruitiness. We find notes of toasted wood, toasted hazelnut, toasted vanilla, as well as caramel and a touch of coconut in the background. It also expresses ripe and tangy fruit (morello cherry, red cherry, raspberry, strawberry, wild blackberry, blueberry), associated with delicate and savoury spicy notes (liquorice, nutmeg, ground clove), a fine floral bouquet (dried rose, dried cornflower, peony) and mint. On the palate, the wine offers precision, gourmandise and an enveloping sensation, with a silky and fine texture of tannins. We find the flavors of crushed strawberry, wild blackberry, crushed blackcurrant, raspberry, morello cherry and red cherry, associated with a delicate herbaceous touch of blackcurrant leaf, which brings freshness to the wine, with enveloped notes of sweet spices (liquorice, ground nutmeg, clove), a hint of fresh rose and cornflower, as well as a slight woody hint, less perceptible, than on the nose (toasted wood, toasted hazelnut). The finish expresses a slight bitterness, a drying touch of tannins, softened by a salivating acidity. Sapidity and freshness.

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

LISTRAC-MÉDOC

Château Donissan 2020

Listrac-Médoc, Cru Bourgeois

The nose is fruity and offers a small power. It reveals notes of crushed raspberry, pulpy cherry and small notes of cassis associated with touches of violet as well as slight hints of soft spices. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, a tangy frame, minerality as well as a lively acidity that leads the tasting. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/tangy cherry, juicy/tangy redcurrants and small notes of raspberry associated with touches of lily as well as blackberry hints. A lot of freshness and tanginess.

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

Château Cap Leon Veyrin 2020

Listrac-Médoc, Cru Bourgeois Supérieur

The wine has a deep ruby color. The nose is silky, fragrant, subtly spicy. It expresses notes of sweet spices (vanilla, liquorice, cinnamon stick, ground cumin), and lots of fleshy fruits, even jammy after aeration (fresh morello cherry, macerated cherry, black plum with a slight touch of prunes, blackberry, blackcurrant, crème de cassis, wild strawberry). We also find notes of dark chocolate, mint chocolate, cocoa, roasted hazelnut, a touch of coffee, roasted bouquet garni and dried wild flowers (cornflower, wildflowers). On the palate, the wine is concentrated, firm, with a solid structure of tannins (a little dry in the mid-palate). The flavors are rich and juicy: we find notes of morello cherry, blackcurrant, wild plum, wild strawberry, macerated cherry, as well as of torrefaction (sweet coffee, toasted hazelnut) and spiciness (liquorice, cumin, clove). The finish is persistent and sapid, it offers juiciness, fresh acidity, as well as a fine touch of cocoa.

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

MOULIS-EN-MÉDOC

Château Duplessis 2020

Moulis-en-Médoc, Cru Bourgeois

The nose is fresh and offers fruit as well as some deepness. It reveals notes of fresh cassis, lily/violet associated with discreet hints of small crunchy red berries. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, energy, freshness, a certain crunch as well as an tangy/juicy frame. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/fresh raspberry, small crunchy red berries and small notes of crunchy cassis associated with touches of lily/fresh violet as well as discreet hints of chocolate. Tannins are supple and fresh.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Médoc & Médoc area Crus Bourgeois

SAINT-ESTÈPHE

Château Tour Saint-Fort 2020

Saint-Estèphe, Cru Bourgeois

The nose offers power, freshness, a certain harmony as well as a fine and relatively intense grain. It reveals notes of pulpy cherry, bright cassis and small notes of violet associated with touches of cornflower, liquorice as well as a discreet hint of pepper. The mouth is fresh, mineral and offers fruitiness, juiciness, some fatness, fullness as well as a small suavity. In the mouth this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, juicy/pulpy raspberry and small notes of bright cherry associated with touches of cornflower, liquorice, salinity as well as a subtle hint of soft spices/cloves (in the background). Tannins are racy. Good persistence.

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

Château Tour de Pez

Saint-Estèphe, Cru Bourgeois

The nose is spicy. There are notes of crushed raspberry, wild blackberry and slight notes of sweet pepper associated with fine touches of clove. The palate is fruity, balanced and offers juiciness, a tangy frame, energy, a slight creaminess as well as a slight tension. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy raspberry, bright redcurrants and small notes of juicy/pulpy blueberry associated with touches of liquorice, vanilla, star anise and a subtle hint of toast. Good length.

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

MÉDOC

Château Noaillac 2020

Médoc, Cru Bourgeois Supérieur

The nose is spicy, racy and offers elegance, a certain deepness and a beautiful finesse. There are notes of bright cassis, fresh/pulpy raspberry and small notes of ripe red fruits/red berries, associated with touches of racy minerality, violet as well as hints of sweet blond tobacco, lilac and an imperceptible hint of Cuben pepper. The mouth is fruity, well-balanced, and offers minerality, a fresh frame, good definition, a certain juiciness, elegance, harmony, some tension with finesse as well as a certain richness/sunny side to the fruit, but balanced. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/fresh cherry, crushed raspberry and small notes of violet, associated with a touch of bright blueberry, quite ripe/fresh small red fruits, hints of violet, lilac and graphite, as well as a discreet hint of soft spices, fresh blond tobacco and a subtle, almost saline touch (on the finish). The tannins are chewy and racy. Harmonious and gourmand.

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

Château Poitevin 2020

Médoc, Cru Bourgeois Supérieur

The nose is fruity, elegant, racy and offers fullness, a beautiful velvety touch, a fine grain as well as some richness in freshness and control. It reveals notes of bright cassis, violet and small notes of cherry in kirsch, associated with hints of roasted small fruits, pepper as well as a hint of nutmeg and lilac. The mouth is mineral, well-balanced and offers freshness, a tangy frame, precision, a slight airiness as well as a beautiful finesse of grain. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy blackberry, crushed raspberry and small notes of bright cherry, associated with hints of violet, lily, hints of nutmeg, as well as a discreet hint of fresh blond tobacco and liquorice stick. The tannins are supple, fresh and racy. A beautiful wine, gourmand and precise!

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

Château La Branne 2020

Médoc, Cru Bourgeois Supérieur

The nose is toasted and offers a slight power of the grain. It reveals notes of toast, cloves and a small note of pulpy raspberry associated with touches of boysenberry as well as hints of pepper, small quite ripe red fruits and a hint of sweet blond tobacco. The mouth offers minerality, freshness, good definition, a certain juiciness, a mineral frame, tension, fullness and a small concentration. In the mouth this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy blackberry, concentrated raspberry and small notes of violet associated with touches of purple plum, small crushed red berries as well as hints of sweet blond tobacco and a hint of almond. The tannins are supple. Sapidity and a slight salinity on the finish.

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

Château Fleur La Mothe 2020

Médoc, Cru Bourgeois Supérieur

The nose is racy and offers some power as well as a fine, velvety and powerful grain. It reveals notes of blackberry, violet and small notes of cherry associated with

touches of strawberry as well as hints of pepper and a subtle hint of spices. The mouth is mineral and offers precision, suppleness, some fatness, fullness as well as a certain gourmandise. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy blackberry, fleshy/juicy cherry and small notes of crushed redcurrants associated with touches of violet, iris as well as hints of sweet/fresh spices and a subtle hint almost lilac and fresh spices. A subtle hint of chocolate in the background.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Château Fleur La Mothe 2020

Médoc, Cru Bourgeois Supérieur

The nose is racy and offers some power as well as a fine, velvety and powerful grain. It reveals notes of blackberry, violet and small notes of cherry associated with touches of strawberry as well as hints of pepper and a subtle hint of spices. The mouth is mineral and offers precision, suppleness, some fatness, fullness as well as a certain gourmandise. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy blackberry, fleshy/juicy cherry and small notes of crushed redcurrants associated with touches of violet, iris as well as hints of sweet/fresh spices and a subtle hint almost lilac and fresh spices. A subtle hint of chocolate in the background.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Château Peyrat-Fourthon 2020

Médoc, Cru Bourgeois Supérieur

The nose is fresh and offers a certain intensity as well as a small freshness. It reveals notes of crushed cassis, flowers and small notes of pulpy strawberry associated with slight mineral hints as well as discreet gourmand/sweet hints. The palate is fruity, balanced and offers juiciness, brightness and a certain gourmandise. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy cherry, bright strawberry and small notes of tangy cassis associated with touches of violet, tonka bean as well as discreet hints of toast. The tannins are chewy and gourmand.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Château Castera 2020

Médoc, Cru Bourgeois Supérieur

The nose is fruity, fresh, racy and offers some spices. It reveals notes of pulpy Morello cherry, pulpy blackberry and small notes of flowers/pistil associated with touches of berries in kirsch, sap and spices. The palate is juicy, fruity and offers minerality, a good definition, a certain juiciness, gourmandise as well as a small tension. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, violet, redcurrants and small notes of crunchy small red fruits associated with touches of saffron/flowers/pistil and a subtle hint of spices. Tannins are sapid and racy. Presence of a hint of bitterness on persistence.

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

Château Saint-Hilaire 2020

Médoc, Cru Bourgeois Supérieur

The nose is fruity, racy and offers a small concentration as well as a delicate spiciness. It reveals notes of candied raspberry, kirsch cherry and small notes of pulpy cassis associated with touches of violet, blueberry as well as hints of liquorice and a hint of saffron/spices. The palate is fruity, balanced and offers juiciness, suavity, a beautiful freshness, gourmandise, sapidity, fullness as well as a certain width. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy cherry, bright cassis and small notes of bright redcurrants associated with touches of cornflower, small blue fruits, liquorice as well as a subtle hint of vanilla. Sapidity in the background. Good length. Beautiful freshness and definition of the fruit.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Château Preuillac 2020

Médoc, Cru Bourgeois Supérieur

The wine has a deep ruby color. The nose is reserved and requires aeration. It then expresses finesse, complexity and beautiful concentration. We find notes of fresh blackcurrant, blackcurrant jam, morello cherry, wild strawberry, red cherry juice, red currants and fresh cranberries, associated with notes enveloped in sweet spices (liquorice, cloves, nutmeg), as well as fine herbaceous touches (dried mint, blackcurrant leaf) and floral notes (violet, cornflower, rosehip), as well as a hint of toast and vanilla in the background. On the palate, the wine is firm and structured, but balanced by juiciness and salivating acidity. It expresses notes of tart red cherry, fresh strawberry, crunchy raspberry, morello cherry, fresh blueberry and blackcurrant, combined with a warm and enveloped spiciness (liquorice, clove, grated nutmeg, a hint of cinnamon and vanilla which appear at the end of the mouth), as well as fine floral notes (violet, cornflower). Good spicy and sapid persistence. A gourmand and structured wine.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Médoc & Médoc area Crus Bourgeois

HAUT-MÉDOC

Château Cissac 2020

Haut-Médoc, Cru Bourgeois Supérieur

The nose is fruity, elegant and offers a delicate power as well as a subtle concentration. There are notes of concentrated cassis, crushed wild strawberries, and small notes of pulpy/fleshy cherry, associated with hints of lily, fresh balsamic, as well as a discreet touch of fresh nutmeg and an almost subtle note of white flowers. The palate is fruity and offers mineral notes, juiciness, a tangy frame, concentration, a slight density, richness, and fullness. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/tangy redcurrants, pulpy cassis, and small notes of tangy cherries, associated with hints of cornflower, lilac, as well as hints of racy mineral, cardamom, Tonka bean, and toast. The tannins are supple, sapid, powerful, and racy. Good persistence.

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

Château Paloumey 2020

Haut-Médoc, Cru Bourgeois Supérieur

(Organic) The nose is spicy and offers a little power, good definition, a certain purity, a bit aerial as well as a slight velvety touch. It reveals notes of boysenberry, bright raspberry and small notes of small bright blue fruits, associated with a touch of Bigarreau cherry, camphor and soft spices. The mouth is fruity, well-balanced and offers minerality, freshness, fat, fullness, a bit aerial, good volume as well as a good guideline. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy cherry, pulpy blackberry and small notes of violet, associated with touches of bright red berries, torrefaction, cardamom as well as slight hints of fresh flowers and vanilla. Good length.

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

Château Bernadotte 2020

Haut-Médoc, Cru Bourgeois Supérieur

The nose is spicy, gourmand and offers a good definition, elegance, a velvety touch in its power and a fine as well as an elegant grain. It reveals notes of boysenberry, bright cassis and slightly pulpy/bright cherry associated with touches of violet, lily, soft pepper as well as hints of nutmeg and a subtle hint of vanilla pod. The palate is fruity, well-balanced, well-built and offers minerality, a little freshness, acidity, a certain gourmandise as well as a tangy frame. On the palate this wine expresses notes of small tangy red berries, fresh/juicy cherry and small notes of tangy/fresh blackberry associated with touches of violet, lily, hints of fresh pepper as well as a discreet hint of toasted almond and toast. The tannins are supple and well-built. Precision and finesse combined with a solar side, freshness and some airiness.

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

Château du Moulin Rouge 2020

Haut-Médoc, Cru Bourgeois Supérieur

The nose is fruity and offers a small concentration on the fruit as well as a slight power. It reveals notes of crushed cassis, concentrated strawberry and small notes of concentrated redcurrants associated with touches of lily, badian as well as a subtle hint of soft spices. The palate is fruity and offers freshness, minerality, a fresh/mineral frame, a good definition, a certain juiciness as well as a small radiance of fruit. On the palate this wine expresses notes of fresh/bright cherry, bright redcurrants and small notes of cornflower associated with touches of cassis, hints of badian, racy minerality and a subtle hint of almost bergamot and salinity.

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

Château Bel Air Gloria 2020

Haut-Médoc, Cru Bourgeois Supérieur

The nose offers fresh fruit, minerality and some beautiful racy side. It reveals notes of fresh cherry, small ripe red fruits and small notes of violet associated with touches of spices. The palate is fruity, balanced and offers juiciness, a beautiful freshness, energy as well as a mineral frame. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy cherry, raspberry and small notes of pulpy/juicy berries associated with touches of liquorice stick, hints of spices as well as a subtle floral hint (in the background) and fresh blond tobacco. Tannins are supple and fresh. Good persistence. Good work on good bitterness.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Château Beaumont 2020

Haut-Médoc, Cru Bourgeois Supérieur

The nose is racy and offers a slight power. It reveals notes of fresh violet, spices and small notes of blackberry associated with slight touches of black pepper and fresh leather. The palate is fruity and offers a good definition, fullness, juiciness, freshness, tension as well as a certain precision. On the palate this wine expresses notes of bright/gourmand cherry, bright cassis and small notes of cherry blossoms associated with touches of berries as well as hints of spices, toast, chocolate and a hint of toasted almond. Tannins are supple and round. Good length.

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

Château Lamothe-Bergeron 2020

Haut-Médoc, Cru Bourgeois Supérieur

The nose is racy, tense and offers a fine concentration as well as a fine and tense grain. We find notes of wild blackcurrant and racy minerality associated with touches of small red berries, fresh pepper as well as a hint of spices and a very discreet hint of clove. The palate is juicy, suave, fresh and offers minerality, a nice texture, roundness with finesse, a tangy structure as well as precision. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, juicy/pulpy redcurrants and small notes of pulpy cherry associated with touches of mocha/cocoa, blueberry as well as hints of toast, vanilla and a subtle hint of toasted almond. Good length. There is a subtle sappy hint in the background which brings gourmandise. Tannins are supple.

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

Château Dillon 2020

Haut-Médoc, Cru Bourgeois Supérieur

The nose is finely tight and tense. It benefits from being carafed. It reveals notes of blackberry, fresh pepper and small notes of saffron associated with touches of ripe cherry as well as discreet hints of badian. The palate is fruity and offers pulpiness/juiciness, energy as well as a slight electric hint. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy blackberry, juicy/pulpy cherry and slightly tangy/juicy redcurrants associated with touches of violet, gravels as well as discreet hints of toast/almond. Tannins are sapid.

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

Château Meyre 2020

Haut-Médoc, Cru Bourgeois Supérieur

(Organic) The nose is fruity, well-built and offers a certain purity of fruit. It reveals notes of wild cassis, pulpy blackberry and small notes of wild strawberry associated with touches of sweet blond tobacco and badian. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, suavity, a mineral frame, good definition, precision, a certain silkiness as well as purity. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy cherry, bright cassis and small notes of cherry blossoms associated with touches of small bright red fruits, hints of badian, sweet blond tobacco as well as a discreet hint of lilac and spices.

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

Château Larose Perganson 2020

Haut-Médoc, Cru Bourgeois Supérieur

The nose is fruity and offers spiciness, a small concentration as well as quite ripe fruit. There are notes of blackberry, crushed blackcurrant and slight notes of roasted strawberry associated with touches of cornflower, sweet blond tobacco and discreet hints of vanilla. The palate is juicy, tangy, gourmand, finely tight and offers tension, precision as well as concentration. On the palate this wine expresses notes of bright redcurrants, bright blackcurrant and small notes of small crushed red fruits associated with touches of vanilla, toast as well as a hint of chocolate. Tannins are supple. Good length.

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

Château Peyrabon 2020

Haut-Médoc, Cru Bourgeois Supérieur

The wine has a deep ruby color. The nose offers lots of fruit and gourmandise. It expresses notes of wild strawberry, morello cherry, blackcurrant, wild blackberry, raspberry coulis, combined with notes of vanilla, liquorice stick, cloves, as well as a fine touch of juniper and ground nutmeg in the background. We also find notes of pine needles, violet and dried mint, as well as a touch of coffee and toasted almond in the background. On the palate, the wine offers a beautiful fruitiness, concentration and freshness. It expresses notes of fresh morello cherry, fresh blackcurrant, blackberry, wild plum, wild strawberry and crushed blueberry, combined with notes of liquorice, vanilla, cloves, ground coffee, cocoa, toasted almond, as well as touches of aromatic herbs (dried mint, bouquet garni), violet and dried wild flowers. The tannins are firm and give a solid structure to the wine, without being drying, thanks to a lively salivating acidity. Good length on fruit and gourmandise. A structured wine, but already accessible.

Score : 16.5+/20 (93/100)

Château Bibian 2020

Haut-Médoc, Cru Bourgeois Supérieur

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The first nose is woody and spicy: it expresses notes of heated wood, toast, toasted bread, toasted almond, black pepper, liquorice, ground cumin and clove. Then, we find notes of morello cherry, roasted red cherry, blackcurrant, blackberry, wild plum, as well as a touch of peony, lily, mint chocolate and pine needles. On the palate, the wine reflects the nose and expresses notes of toasted almond, ground clove, cumin, black pepper and liquorice, supported by a fresh but concentrated fruity substance. We find in particular the flavors of morello cherry, blackcurrant, wild strawberry, macerated red cherry, crushed raspberry, complemented by a sweet touch of chocolate cherry, cocoa and vanilla, with a fine note of peony in the background. The tannins are firm, structured, but not drying thanks to high acidity. A precise, straight wine, with energy, structure and gourmandise.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Médoc & Médoc area Crus Bourgeois

LISTRAC-MÉDOC

Château Lestage 2020

Listrac-Médoc, Cru Bourgeois Supérieur

The nose offers a slight gourmandise, with soft spices as well as a fine, intense grain. It reveals notes of pulpy blackberry, crushed strawberry and small notes of badian, associated with touches of soft spice, redcurrant as well as a subtle hint of lily and salinity. The palate is fruity, well-balanced and offers minerality, freshness, gourmandise, fullness, pulpiness, suppleness, radiance (of the fruit) and a delicate airiness. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy cherry, crushed redcurrant and small notes of bright cassis, associated with a slight hint of violet, plum, saline/iodine minerality as well as a touch of fresh blond tobacco. The tannins are racy.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

MARGAUX

Château Mongravey 2020

Margaux, Cru Bourgeois Supérieur

The nose is racy, spicy and offers a certain intensity and a good definition. It reveals notes of crushed cassis, wild blackberry and small notes of pepper associated with touches of crushed red berries, hints of badian, pepper as well as slight hints of roasted cherry and discreet saline hints. The palate is fruity, fresh, lively and offers juiciness, suavity, a beautiful acidity, gourmandise as well as brightness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, tangy/bright blueberry and small notes of bright raspberry associated with touches of liquorice, small liquorice berries, small bright red berries, saline gravels, cardamom and a slight hints of nutmeg. The tannins are supple and chewy. Beautiful gourmandise and sapidity in the background. Beautiful tangy, sapid and electric persistence.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

SAINT-ESTÈPHE

Château de Côme 2020

Saint-Estèphe, Cru Bourgeois Supérieur

(Organic) The nose is floral, almost pistil. It reveals notes of cornflower, pistil and small notes of bright small red fruits associated with a hint of liquorice. The palate is mineral and offers freshness, a certain tension, a certain precision as well as a certain brightness/juiciness of the fruit. On the palate this wine expresses notes of violet, pistil and small notes of juicy cherry associated with touches of juicy berries as well as a hint of cornflower, badian and a subtle hint of toast/chocolate. The tannins are supple and racy. A hint of good bitterness on the finish/persistence. Some chew.

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

Château Tour des Termes 2020

Saint-Estèphe, Cru Bourgeois Supérieur

The nose is fresh, racy and offers intensity, a certain power as well as a small frank side. We find notes of wild strawberry, small ripe wild red fruits and slight notes of racy minerality associated with touches of violet, blackcurrant, gunflint as well as discreet hints of gray pepper and nutmeg. The palate is fruity and offers freshness, minerality, good definition, precision as well as a tangy/mineral structure. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, juicy/pulpy raspberry and small notes of pulpy cherry associated with touches of racy minerality as well as hints of blueberry, chocolate, toasted hazelnut, graphite as well as well as fine hints of Bourbon vanilla. A good job on the good bitters (discreet, in the background). Presence of a hint of dark chocolate and a chewiness on the persistence.

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

Château Lafitte Carcasset 2020

Saint-Estèphe, Cru Bourgeois Supérieur

The nose is fruity and offers racy power as well as a certain small intensity of the grain. There are notes of violet, lily and slight notes of boysenberry associated with touches of small crushed red fruits as well as hints of zan and nutmeg. The palate is fruity and offers freshness, tanginess, energy, good definition as well as a certain tension. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy blackberry, juicy raspberry and small notes of juicy/tangy redcurrants associated with touches of fresh blond tobacco, zan as well as discreet hints of cloves and nutmeg. The finish becomes tighter. Tannins are fine and racy. Tasty finish/persistence.

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

HAUT-MÉDOC

Château de Malleret 2020

Haut-Médoc, Cru Bourgeois Exceptionnel

The nose is fruity and offers a certain intensity, a small power, a certain gourmandise as well as a certain depth. It reveals notes of cassis, blackberry and small notes of bright cherry associated with touches of small crushed red fruits as well as hints of badian and spices. The palate is fruity, balanced, racy and offers precision, tension, a certain gourmandise, a nice silky material as well as elegance. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy blackberry, juicy cassis and small notes of raspberry associated with touches of Bigarreau cherry as well as discreet hints of toast/vanilla and a discreet hint of chocolate. The tannins are supple and chewy. A fine saline hint on the finish/persistence.

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

Château du Taillan 2020

Haut-Médoc, Cru Bourgeois Exceptionnel

The nose is spicy, aromatic and offers a certain richness/concentration as well as a stretchiness. It reveals notes of wild blackberry, crushed cassis and small notes of roasted cherry associated with hints of violet, liquorice stick as well as a discreet hint of gray pepper. The palate is fruity, balanced and offers minerality, matter, freshness, width, gourmandise, power as well as tension. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy blackberry, crushed strawberry and small notes of bright cassis associated with touches of small roasted fruits, toast/grill as well as slight hints of cardamom and vanilla. The tannins are supple and sapid. Good length. The finish is sapide and gourmand.

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

Château Arnauld 2020

Haut-Médoc, Cru Bourgeois Exceptionnel

Nice nose, delicate in its concentration and which offers breadth, airiness in its power as well as a voluptuousity. It reveals notes of violet, ripe/fleshy blackcurrant and small notes of roasted cherry associated with touches of cornflower, crushed small fruits as well as delicate hints of sage, anise, sweet spices, racy minerality and fine hints of blond tobacco. The palate is fruity, well balanced and offers juiciness, smoothness, gourmandise, a certain precision, tension as well as airiness in its substance and in its concentration. On the palate this wine expresses notes of creamy blackberry, pulpy redcurrants and small notes of bright strawberry associated with touches of lily, cornflower, star anise as well as hints of racy minerality, blond tobacco and a discreet toasted note. Tannins are melted. Good length. Presence of a fine chew at the end of the mouth/persistence.

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

Château Belle-Vue 2020

Haut-Médoc, Cru Bourgeois Exceptionnel

The wine has a deep ruby color. The nose is elegant, finely spicy and woody, with lots of freshness and concentrated fruity aromas. It firstly expresses a pronounced minty note, complemented by aromas of liquorice, nutmeg, cloves, crushed coriander seeds, toasted vanilla and chocolate. We also find gourmand and juicy fruity notes: wild strawberry, morello cherry, roasted red cherry, redcurrant jelly, fresh blackcurrant, blueberry, wild plum, as well as a fragrant floral bouquet (violet, cornflower, lily) and a hint of torrefaction

INVITATION

VertdeVin

MAGAZINE & WEBSITE FOR WINE & SPIRITS LOVERS

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 2024
Tuesday, February 13th 2024 (7pm to 9pm)
at Hôtel Mercure Paris Vaugirard
(Porte de Versailles)

Médoc Crus Bourgeois

(toasted hazelnut). The palate is gourmand, enveloping, with a slight sweetness, while remaining fresh and refined. It expresses the flavors of wild strawberry, creamy blackcurrant, roasted red cherry, fresh morello cherry, raspberry coulis, as well as minty chocolate, liquorice, cloves, toasted vanilla, seeds of coriander, violet, cornflower and lily. There is also a fine touch of blackcurrant leaf which adds a lovely freshness to the bouquet. The tannins are structured, but silky and sapid. Beautiful crunchy acidity and a lingering and gourmand finish. A generous wine, but refined and elegant.

Score : 16.5+/20 (93/100)

Château Cambon La Pelouse 2020 Haut-Médoc, Cru Bourgeois Exceptionnel

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose first expresses smoky and slightly meaty notes, which disappear after aeration. Then we find the aromas of wild strawberry, morello cherry, raspberry coulis, roasted red cherry, blackcurrant, blueberry jam and crème de cassis, associated with notes of wild mint, blackcurrant bud, liquorice, cloves, ground cumin, violet, dried cornflower, as well as a touch of roasting (toasted hazelnut, toasted bread, mild coffee). The palate is precise, fresh and straight. It expresses notes of fresh blackcurrant, morello cherry, red cherry, redcurrant jelly, wild strawberry and wild blackberry, combined with elegant spicy (liquorice, toasted vanilla, clove, grated nutmeg), floral notes (fresh violet, fresh cornflower) and a hint of torrefaction (mild coffee, toasted hazelnut). The finish is gourmand, juicy, with nice acidity and liveliness. The tannins are polished, fine, a bit grippy, but integrated. Beautiful savoury and gourmand persistence.

Score : 16.5+/20 (93/100)

SAINT-ESTÈPHE

Château Le Crock 2020 Saint-Estèphe, Cru Bourgeois Exceptionnel

The nose is elegant, precise, deep, complex, aerial and offers a beautiful finesse, power and delicacy in its grain. It reveals notes of small black berries, Madagascar pepper and small notes of cardamom associated with touches of cooked cassis, hints of Morello cherry/almost roasted, slight hints of camphor, saffron flowers as well as a subtle hint of lilac and spices. The palate is elegant, racy, fruity and offers freshness, fullness, a certain precision, a tangy frame, creaminess, airiness as well as delicacy in its depth. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy blackberry, pulpy black cherry and small notes of flowers (violet, cornflower) associated with touches of badian, camphor as well as delicate hints of Bourbon vanilla. Tannins are supple and precise. A small part of Cabernet Franc in the blend (7%) brings a lot of delicacy and suppleness. Beautiful persistence. Good work on good bitterness.

Score : 16.75+/20 (94/100)

Château Ormes de Pez 2020 Saint-Estèphe, Cru Bourgeois Exceptionnel

The nose is elegant, frank and offers a certain power as well as a fine solid/frank expression (but in control). It reveals notes of boysenberry, morello cherry and small notes of small, quite ripe/juicy black berries associated with fine hints of small roasted fruits as well as discreet hints of star anise, cardamom and a very discreet hint, almost sappy (in the background). The palate is juicy, fruity and offers tanginess, gourmandise, freshness as well as good definition. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, small black berries and small notes of morello cherry associated with touches of violet, camphor, racy minerality as well as fine hints of small roasted red berries, tobacco, cardamom and a subtle hint of toasted almond. Tannins are elegant and soft. Good length. A quick tip on persistence.

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

Château Lilian Ladouys 2020 Saint-Estèphe, Cru Bourgeois Exceptionnel

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is reserved at first, but gains from being aerated. It then expresses notes of wild strawberry, crushed strawberry, cherry, raspberry, creamy blackcurrant, morello cherry, cherry yogurt, blackberry and blueberry jam, combined with subtle spicy notes (liquorice stick, clove, ground nutmeg, a sweet touch of cinnamon and vanilla), roasted (toasted hazelnut, caramel in the background), wild mint, chocolate cherry and flowers (violet, peony, cornflower). The palate is enveloping and silky, with a soft and velvety, but assertive tannic structure, and a beautiful acidity. It expresses the flavors of wild strawberry, morello cherry, red cherry jam, creamy blackcurrant, redcurrant jelly, mint chocolate, macerated cherry in chocolate, as well as delicate and integrated notes of sweet spices (liquorice, grated nutmeg, cloves, toasted vanilla), of torrefaction (mild coffee, toasted hazelnut), dried mint and flowers (violet, iris, cornflower). The finish is long, gourmand, with lots of fruit and a fine touch of cocoa in the background. A gourmand, complex and elegant wine, accessible from its youth, but capable of evolving for years.

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



Médoc & Médoc area

MÉDOC

Château La Tour de By 2020

Médoc

The nose is mineral, fresh, racy and offers a nice fine and tense grain. It reveals notes of boysenberry, small bright berries and small notes of violet associated with hints of clay, liquorice stick as well as a subtle hint of spices and a very discreet sappy hint. The mouth is mineral and offers freshness, juiciness, a tangy frame, a slight tension, precision, suavity and a certain gourmandise. In the mouth this wine expresses notes of pulpy boysenberry, pulpy/juicy cherry and small notes of bright cherry associated with touches of violet/lily, badian as well as a subtle sappy hint and a very discreet hint of fresh spices. Good length. Freshness, juiciness and suppleness on the finish.

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

Château Tour de By – Cuvée Héritage 2020

Médoc

The nose is fruity and offers a certain creaminess/richness, power and a beautiful intensity in its grain. It reveals notes of creamy blackberry and bright small black fruits associated with touches of purple plum, small crushed red berries as well as a hint of roasted cherry, Cuben pepper and a subtle hint of nutmeg. The mouth is mineral, balanced and offers suavity, freshness, some fatness, precision, a certain concentration/density in precision as well as some straightness. All in control. In the mouth, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy cassis, juicy/fresh raspberry and small notes of violet associated with touches of small ripe red fruits as well as hints of cornflower, nutmeg and a subtle hint of sweet blond tobacco. The tannins are chewy, gourmand and well-built. A slight chew on the finish/persistence. Good length.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Vieux Château Landon 2020

Médoc

The nose is fruity, fresh and offers a slight richness. It reveals notes of bright cassis, violet and small notes of pulpy strawberry associated with touches of Madagascar pepper as well as a hint of vanilla/toast and an almost imperceptible hint of camphor on the finish. The mouth is fruity and offers minerality, a precise frame and a slight tension. In the mouth this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, violet and small notes of fresh raspberry associated with a touch of small bright red berries, lilac as well as hints of sweet blond tobacco, a slight vanilla hint on the finish and a very discreet hint of clove.

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

Clos Manou 2020

Médoc

The nose is fruity and offers a small concentration. It reveals notes of small bright wild red berries and small notes of spices associated with touches of Bigarreau cherry, zan as well as almost a subtle hint of toast and balsamic. The palate is mineral, balanced and offers freshness and a mineral frame as well as tension. On the palate this wine expresses notes of fresh blackberry and small pulpy/fresh wild red berries associated with touches of violet, fresh blond tobacco, a hint of zan, a subtle hint of cherry Bigarreau and chocolate. The tannins are supple and sapid. Salinity on the finish (brings gourmandise).

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

Villa Carmin 2020

Médoc

The nose is fruity and offers a flowery bouquet. It reveals notes of concentrated blackberry, ripe/fresh red berries and small notes of violet associated with a touch of lily, gray pepper as well as a discreet hint of lilac and spices. The palate is mineral and offers freshness, tension, a slight fatness, a mineral frame and a slight fluidity. On the palate this wine expresses notes of fresh/pulpy blackberry, pulpy cassis and small notes of small red berries associated with touches of iris, violet as well as hints of fresh nutmeg, racy minerality and a subtle hint of fresh spices.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Château L'Or des Terres 2020

Médoc

(without added sulfites) The nose is spicy and offers freshness, a certain power as well as a fine grain. It reveals notes of fresh pepper, small red berries and small notes of fresh balsamic associated with a slight hint of violet/iris and a discreet hint of badian. The palate is fruity and offers minerality, a little freshness, some fatness, some tension, energy, precision as well as a discretely tight structure. On the palate this wine expresses notes of violet, lily and small notes of tangy/fresh redcurrants associated with touches of cornflower, small tangy/fresh fruits as well as hints of fresh nutmeg and balsamic. Tannins are finely tightened and extracted. Presence of a sapid touch on persistence/aftertaste.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Domaine de La Pigotte 2020

Médoc

(Organic) The nose is fruity and offers a beautiful aromatic palette as well as gourmandise. It reveals notes of crushed cherry, violet, fleshy plum and small notes of small roasted red fruits associated with slight hints of liquorice and chocolate. The palate is mineral, balanced and offers juiciness, freshness, gourmandise, precision as well as an aerial side in the pulp of the fruit. On the palate this wine expresses notes of crushed redcurrants, pulpy cherry and small notes of strawberry associated with touches of pulpy/juicy plum as well as slight hints of flowers. The tannins are supple and sapid/saline. Good length.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Château Campillot 2020

Médoc

The nose is fruity, racy and offers a slight concentration as well as a small salinity. It reveals notes of ripe strawberry, blackberry and small notes of crushed berries associated with salinity/iodine touche as well as slight hints of spices. The palate is fruity, balanced and offers juiciness, suavity, a mineral frame, good definition as well as sapidity. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, raspberry and small notes of slightly fleshy/juicy cherry associated with a touch of violet as well as slight hints of iodine and spices. Good length.

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

Château Livran 2020

Médoc

The nose is fruity and offers a small flowery side as well as harmony. It reveals notes of juicy/pulpy cassis, Bigarreau cherry and small notes of iodine associated with touches of small fresh-roasted fruits. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, a tangy frame, minerality, juiciness, a certain small tension as well as precision. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy cherry, pulpy/juicy raspberry and small notes of violet associated with touches of nutmeg as well as a subtle hint of fresh spices and a very discreet varietal hint (in the background). The tannins are supple and sapid. Presence of a subtle hint of torrefaction in the background.

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

Château Taffard de Blaigneau 2020

Médoc

The nose is fresh, racy and offers fruit as well as a delicate flowery touch. It reveals notes of fresh violets, lilies and small notes of fresh small red fruits associated with a hint of crunchy cassis as well as a slight hint of cumin. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, suavity, a beautiful enrobing texture, fullness, precision and a certain delicacy. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy cherry, blueberry and small notes of small bright red fruits associated with floral touches as well as slight hints of cardamom, spices and a subtle hint of cumin. The tannins are racy. Presence of a very discreet hint of chocolate in the background. Freshness!

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

Château les Ormes Sorbet 2020

Médoc

The nose is fruity and offers a certain racy power, precision as well as a feeling of tension. It reveals notes of blackberry, pulpy raspberry and small notes of small roasted red fruits associated with a hint of cornflower, fresh pepper and a subtle sappy hint. The palate is supple, smooth and offers tension as well as accuracy. The attack is dynamic/energetic. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, bright cherry and small notes of tangy blueberry associated with a touch of raspberry as well as slight sappy hints, saffron and nutmeg. The tannins are supple and racy. Presence of a hint of toast and good bitterness on the finish.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Château L'Ecrin de Couleys 2020

Médoc

The nose is elegant, fruity and offers a nice fresh-flowery bouquet, depth as well as a certain intensity. It reveals notes of cherry, violet and small notes of iris associated with touches of crushed cassis, pulpy strawberry as well as slight hints of camphor, fresh sap and discreet hints of badian. The palate is fruity, balanced and offers juiciness, suavity, a mineral frame, good definition, some precision as well as tension. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, bright cherry and small notes of violet/lily associated with touches of crunchy raspberry, sappy as well as a subtle hint of roasted fruit and badian. The tannins are supple, fresh and racy. Palatability.

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

Médoc & Médoc area

Château Lartigue 2020 Médoc

The nose offers concentration, depth as well as a good definition. It reveals notes of pulpy cherry, crushed raspberry and small notes of blackberry associated with slight hints of violet, badian as well as a very discreet hint of fresh spices/sap. The palate is fruity, balanced and offers juiciness, a mineral frame, energy, tanginess as well as a good work on good bitters. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy cherry, juicy/pulpy raspberry and small notes of cornflower associated with touches of iris/saffron, crushed redcurrants as well as hints of badian and toast/toasted almond. The tannins are elegant and chewy. Good length. A beautiful freshness!

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

Château Potensac 2020 Médoc

The nose is fruity and offers a certain concentration as well as a certain controlled power. It reveals notes of bright cherry, dense wild strawberry and small notes of blackcurrant associated with touches of violet, small touches of juicy plum as well as discreet hints of liquorice. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, a tangy/juicy frame, gourmandise, pulpiness, suppleness, a fine velvety-freshness, controlled power, a certain purity as well as a nice definition of the fruit. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy cherry, bright raspberry and small notes of small red berries associated with a touch of blackcurrant as well as hints of liquorice stick and an imperceptible almost spice/sage hint. Tannins are supple, elegant and racy. Good length. A very discreet soft finish/persistence.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

G d'Estournel 2020 Médoc

The nose is spicy, fresh, chiseled, aromatic and offers a lovely varietal freshness. There are notes of fresh blackcurrant, iris, fresh pepper and slight notes of eucalyptus associated with touches of cornflower, small bright blue berries as well as discreet varietal hints. The palate is nicely fresh, mineral, gourmand and offers a nice textured grain as well as tension. The attack is fresh, frank, elegant and opens to a crescendo. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, small bright/juicy blue berries and small notes of juicy cherry associated with touches of juicy/fresh small fruits, varietal hints, lily as well as discreet hints of chocolate/cocoa and fine hints of fresh blond tobacco/fresh almond. A lively, fresh, elegant and easy-drinking wine. There is a hint of bitterness from the dark chocolate/mocha in the background.

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

Les Vignerons d'Uni-Médoc, Le Grand Art 2020 Médoc

Medium deep ruby color with slight garnet reflections. The nose is expressive and firstly reveals pronounced woody, spicy and roasted notes: toast, sweet coffee, vanilla and heated oak, cinnamon. We also find aromas of juicy black fruits: morello cherry, blackcurrant, blueberry, as well as very ripe red fruits (crushed strawberry, red cherry). There's also a refreshing touch of chocolate with mint in the background. The palate expresses more freshness and fruit. In the attack, we find notes of tart red cherry, juicy morello cherry, fresh blackcurrant, blueberry and crunchy strawberry, while spicy and woody flavors appear in the finish (toast, vanilla, a light touch of cinnamon and caramel, toasted oak). The tannins are grippy, but rounded by a salivating acidity and a fresh fruitiness. The finish is medium long, but juicy, fruity and spicy. A wine with structure and freshness, slightly dominated by wood.

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

Les Vignerons d'Uni-Médoc, Simply Médoc 2020 Fruité Médoc

(60% Merlot, 40% Cabernet Sauvignon): Medium deep ruby color. The nose is warm, ripe and gourmand. It expresses notes of fresh black fruits (blackcurrant, black plum), crushed and candied red fruits (crushed strawberry, red cherry jam), accompanied by a sweet touch of blackcurrant cream and a very subtle note of chocolate in the background. On the second nose, we also see the aroma of Tagada strawberry, associated with the freshness of chocolate with mint. On the palate, the wine is round, gourmand, with grainy tannins, but not drying in the mid-palate. We find ripe and slightly tart black fruits (blackcurrant, black plum, morello cherry), sweetness of strawberry, as well as light herbaceous notes (blackcurrant leaf) and a touch of pepper. The finish is tight, tannic, with a slight bitterness. A firm wine, but quite accessible.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Les Vignerons d'Uni-Médoc, Simply Médoc 2020 Corsé Médoc

(70% Merlot, 30% Cabernet Sauvignon): Beautiful ruby color. The nose is juicy, open and essentially fruity. It first expresses notes of ripe red cherry, tangy blackcurrant,

blueberry, and morello cherry which are then completed by a floral touch of violet, a fine herbaceous touch of blackcurrant leaf and a peppery note. The palate is fluid, juicy, gourmand, and reflects the fruity expression on the nose. The tannins are fine and accompanied by a salivating acidity. The finish is moderately long, with a slight bitterness. A fruity, light and accessible wine.

Score : 14.5+/20 (88/100)

Château Moulin de la Rivière 2020 Médoc

Medium deep ruby color. The nose is warm, enveloping, with a hint of sweetness. It expresses notes of very ripe morello cherry, morello cherry jam, crushed blackcurrant, wild strawberry, damson plum and wild blackberry, combined with refreshing touches of blackcurrant bud and crushed mint. We also find a fine floral side (violet) in the background and delicate spicy notes (clove, cinnamon). The palate is open, juicy, with lots of fruit on the attack: tart red cherry, morello cherry, crunchy blackberry, blueberry, fresh strawberry. In the mid-palate, the wine expresses fine spicy (clove, nutmeg) and toasted notes. The finish is moderately long and expresses more the tight tannic structure of the wine, associated with a nice acidity. A wine with good structure, at the same time juicy and accessible.

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

Esprit de Preuillac 2020 Médoc

The wine has a deep ruby color. The nose offers juiciness, freshness and gourmandise. It expresses notes of fresh blackcurrant, morello cherry, raspberry, strawberry, blueberry and red cherry, associated with a fragrant floral bouquet (violet, fresh rose, cornflower), as well as a spicy touch of liquorice, nutmeg, ground white pepper and wild mint. The palate is chiselled, fresh and juicy. It expresses notes of tart red cherry, strawberry, red currant, raspberry, blackcurrant and morello cherry, combined with notes of wild mint, blackcurrant leaf, liquorice, nutmeg and flowers (violet, peony). The tannins are firm, a little dry at the beginning, balanced by a lively acidity. Good persistence on the tanginess.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Château Bernon 2020 Médoc

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is fleshy, ripe and fruity. It expresses notes of morello cherry, wild strawberry, crushed raspberry, blackcurrant jam, compote red cherry, as well as notes of dried mint, liquorice, clove, violet and cornflower. On the palate, the attack is airy and juicy, but the mid-palate is a little tight. The tannins are grippy, but have a fine texture. We find flavors of blackcurrant, strawberry, crushed raspberry, redcurrant jelly, morello cherry and stewed red cherry, associated with notes of liquorice, clove, violet, dried mint, violet and cornflower. The finish is gourmand and warm, refreshed by a nice acidity.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Château Amour 2020 Médoc

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is fresh and tangy. It offers notes of juicy red fruits (strawberry, raspberry, red cherry), combined with notes of morello cherry, peony, violet, blackcurrant leaf and liquorice in the background. The palate offers precision, a lively acidic structure, notes of fresh red fruits (strawberry, cherry, raspberry, red currant), tangy blackcurrant, violet, liquorice and blackcurrant leaf in the background. The tannins are fine and silky, quite subtle. The finish is rather persistent, with a warming touch of ripe fruit, some bitterness and a nice acidity. A gourmand and airy wine.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Château Cailloux de By 2020 Médoc

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose offers concentration and a fine sweetness of ripe fruit. It expresses notes of wild strawberry, red cherry jam, morello cherry, blackcurrant, black plum and blackberry, associated with notes of fresh tobacco, liquorice stick, clove, cornflower, vanilla and a slight touch of toasted almond in the background. The palate is supple, but fresh and chiseled. It expresses notes of tangy fruit in the attack (red cherry, raspberry, blackcurrant), then complemented by notes of strawberry, morello cherry and blackberry, as well as a fine spiciness (liquorice, vanilla, clove), a hint of torrefaction (toasted hazelnut), and floral notes on the finish (violet, cornflower). The finish is sapid and fruity and ends with pleasant flavours of sweet spices (cloves, cinnamon). Beautiful enveloping tannic structure, with a silky texture. The acidity is fresh and pleasant. A pleasant and balanced wine.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Médoc & Médoc area

Château La Tour de By, Cuvée Beau Rivage de By 2020

Médoc

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. It has a nice juicy and fruity nose, with a subtle spiciness. It expresses notes of blackcurrant, wild blueberry, red cherry, morello cherry, strawberry, red plum and crushed raspberry, combined with distinct and fragrant notes of liquorice and menthol, as well as a touch of violet, cornflower and fresh rose and a hint of vanilla, cloves and toasted almond in the background. The palate is silky and gourmand, but straight and structured, with firm but fairly round tannins and lively acidity. We find the flavors of strawberry, crushed raspberry, blackcurrant, blueberry, red cherry and morello cherry, associated with notes of violet, cornflower, dried mint, liquorice, cloves and a hint of toast in the background. Beautiful gourmet and persistent finish, with lots of fruit and liveliness.

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

La Gloire du Paysan, Famille Saintout 2020

Médoc

(Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Petit Verdot) The wine has a deep ruby color with purple reflections. The nose is fragrant, fruity and offers density and gourmandise. It expresses notes of ripe black fruits (blackcurrant, wild blackberry, morello cherry, a tangy touch of blueberry), the roundness and sweetness of red fruits (wild strawberry, red cherry in jam), as well as a delicate spiciness and pleasant aromas of crushed vanilla pod and liquorice stick, as well as a hint of toast in the background. We also find elegant herbaceous and floral touches (violet, wild mint, lily). On the palate, the wine is juicy and fresh: it offers flavors of tart red cherry, fresh blackcurrant, blueberry, strawberry and raspberry, complemented by spicy notes of liquorice, white pepper, as well as a smoky and floral touch (violet). The finish is persistent and offers energy and refreshing acidity. The tannins have a fine grain, slightly drying on the finish. A gourmand wine, fruity, with a firm structure.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Château du Perier 2020

Médoc

(Cabernet Sauvignon Merlot) The wine has a deep ruby color. The nose is spicy and savory, with subtle notes of roasted meat and smoke in the background that disappear after aeration. It expresses notes of juicy morello cherry, wild blackberry, black plum (in the background), red cherry jam, wild strawberry and elderberry, accompanied by elegant floral notes (violet, fresh cornflower, iris) as well as with a touch of sweet spices (vanilla, liquorice, cloves, white pepper), dried mint, sweet coffee and bitter cocoa. On the palate, the attack is open, fruity and round: it expresses the flavors of strawberry, bigarreau cherry, morello cherry, blackcurrant, blueberry, which combine with spicy notes of white pepper, liquorice and cloves. The tannins are a bit grainy, but integrated thanks to a salivating acidity which brings liveliness to the finish. Good persistence on the fresh flavors of dried mint and violet, with a delicate bitterness of bitter cocoa in the background. Good balance overall and good structure.

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

Les Vignerons d'Uni-Médoc, Esprit d'Estuaire 2020

Médoc

The wine has a deep ruby color. The nose is warm and offers concentration and a fleshy fruitiness. It expresses notes of blackcurrant, morello cherry, wild strawberry, raspberry coulis, associated with notes of smoke, dried herbs (mint, rosemary), flowers (cornflower, wild flowers) as well as a touch of smoke, vanilla and minerality (rock, gravel). On the palate, the wine offers a juicy and fruity attack, as well as firm tannins, drying on the finish. It expresses notes of tangy black fruits (blackcurrant, blueberry, morello cherry), wild strawberry, bigarreau cherry, as well as mint and dried thyme, combined with smoky and slightly peppery notes. A good level of acidity softens a dry finish, with a slight bitterness.

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

La Fleur des Aubiers 2020

Médoc

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is reserved, discreet, but more expressive after aeration. It offers notes of morello cherry, red cherry, crushed blackcurrant, crushed fresh raspberry, as well as menthol and floral aromas (peony, violet), with fine spicy touches, complementing the fruit (liquorice, nutmeg, ground black pepper, clove). On the palate, the wine is airy, tangy, with lightness and freshness and fruit. It expresses the flavors of fresh fruit (red cherry, morello cherry, blackcurrant, crushed raspberry, wild blackberry), associated with floral notes (violet, peony) and toasted and spicy touches which appear at the end of the palate (coffee, a hint of vanilla, liquorice, cloves). The tannins have a fine grain and a supple texture and a certain firmness. The finish is quite persistent, with good acidity and a hint of chocolate. A gourmand and pleasant wine.

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

Château les Gabriaux 2020

Médoc

The wine has a deep ruby color, with purple reflections. The nose is fragrant, silky, juicy and offers a certain sweetness of ripe fruits and sweet spices. It expresses notes of morello cherry, red cherry jam, redcurrant jelly, crushed blueberry and fresh blackcurrant; associated with tasty notes of clove, nutmeg, liquorice, as well as a touch of freshness, brought by the floral scents of rose and violet and a touch of blackcurrant bud. There is also a fine touch of chocolate with mint and toasted hazelnut in the background. On the palate, the wine is juicy and offers lots of fruit, combined with a fine floral hint, notes of torrefaction and spiciness. It expresses the flavors of fresh morello cherry, bigarreau cherry, crushed raspberry, blackcurrant and wild blackberry, as well as notes of blackcurrant bud, wild mint and violet. The notes of torrefaction and spices (coffee, liquorice, cloves, roasted hazelnuts in the background) are enveloped and delicate. The tannins are firm, a bit grippy. The finish is moderately persistent, with light herbaceous notes and good bitterness. Beautiful salivating acidity.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Château Noillac Préstige 2020

Médoc

The wine has a deep ruby color. The nose is refined, and offers freshness and accuracy. It expresses notes of crushed blackcurrant, morello cherry, wild plum, blueberry jam, blackberry and wild strawberry, combined with touches of wild mint, menthol, liquorice, star anise, gray pepper, as well as with notes of wild thyme, dry pine needles, dried flowers (dried wildflowers, dried rose petals, dried cornflower) and a fine hint of torrefaction (mild, toasted coffee). On the palate, the wine is gourmand, open and expressive. It offers flavors of morello cherry, roasted red cherry, wild strawberry, crushed raspberry and blackcurrant, combined with a touch of smoke, toasted wood and sweet spices (liquorice, cinnamon, cloves, grated nutmeg), as well as dried herbs (dried mint, bay leaf, dried rosemary) and flowers (dried cornflower, dried rose petals). The tannins are well-structured and fine. The finish offers a rich fruitiness, refreshed by a nice acidity. A warm, rich and gourmand wine, with a certain freshness.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Céleste, Le Temple de Tourteyron 2020

Médoc

The wine has a deep ruby color, with purple reflections. The nose offers lots of freshness and juiciness of ripe fruit, with a pleasant tangy touch. It expresses notes of juicy wild blackberry, crunchy black plum, ripe morello cherry, crushed raspberry and strawberry, combined with notes of violet, lily, wild mint, rosemary, as well as a subtle spiciness (liquorice, ground black pepper, coriander seeds, cloves neck), as well as touches of roasted bouquet garni and ground coffee in the background. After aeration, we find a subtle resinous note of pine sap and fresh pine needles. On the palate, the wine offers a fruity and airy attack, juiciness associated with structured tannins, a bit grippy, but with a fine texture. The flavors are generously fruity, but fresh, combined with a salivating acidity. The wine expresses notes of morello cherry, tart red cherry, raspberry, wild strawberry, blackcurrant, as well as minty and resinous notes of pine sap, pine needles, wild mint, a delicate spiciness (liquorice, clove) and a floral touch (violet, lily). The finish is fruity and offers notes of very ripe black plum, as well as a good bitterness. A balanced and pleasant wine.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Loudenne Le Château 2020

Médoc

The nose is fruity, fresh and offers minerality, a certain/small concentration, a finely tight grain as well as a slight sensation of tension. It reveals notes of pulpy cassis, small ripe red fruits and small notes of roasted-fresh small fruits associated with touches of violet, liquorice/zan stick, graphite, toasted as well as hints of racy minerality, fresh pepper, sap and a subtle hint of roasted almond. The palate is fruity, well-balanced, mineral and offers juiciness, suavity, a tangy frame, energy, a nice saline character, a discreet powdery touch on the background as well as tension. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy blackberry, juicy cassis and small notes of fleshy/juicy raspberry associated with touches of fresh roasted small red fruits as well as hints of racy minerality, tonka bean, cardamom, toasted almond and a subtle hint of graphite. Tannins are elegant and discreetly powdery. Good length. Beautiful freshness!

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



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Médoc & Médoc area

HAUT-MÉDOC

Domaine Andron 2020

Haut-Médoc

The nose offers concentration, a small richness, deepness and a slight spiciness. It reveals notes of creamy cassis, crushed strawberry and small notes of crushed raspberry associated with touches of balsamic, toasted hazelnut, chocolate as well as a hint of graphite and a discreet hint of Sichuan pepper. The mouth is fruity, balanced and offers freshness, minerality, a fresh/tangy frame, concentration, a certain density as well as a rich and slightly tightened grain. On the palate this wine expresses notes of creamy cassis, concentrated cherry and slightly crushed strawberry associated with touches of cornflower, graphite, mocha as well as a subtle hint of sweet blond tobacco and torrefaction. The tannins are supple and sapid. A concentrated, woody wine that has retained freshness and balance.

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

Château Les Gravelles Renaissance 2020

Haut-Médoc

The nose is spicy, racy and offers elegance as well as a beautiful fine and elegant grain. It reveals notes of pulpy blackberry, violet and slightly crushed strawberry associated with touches of badian, cornflower as well as slight hints of graphite and vanilla. The palate is fruity and offers minerality, freshness, a tangy frame, energy as well as a good definition. On the palate this wine expresses notes of tangy/juicy cassis, pulpy/fleshy redcurrants and small notes of tangy/juicy cherry associated with touches of violet, cornflower as well as slight hints of vanilla, graphite and a subtle hint of sweet blond tobacco. Tannins are polished. Presence of a subtle hint of liquorice stick.

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

Château de Cassana 2020

Haut-Médoc

The nose is spicy, fresh and offers intensity, a fine grain as well as a small spiciness. It reveals notes of blackberry, cloves and small notes of Madagascar pepper associated with touches of lily, small roasted red fruits as well as hints of sweet blond tobacco and vanilla. The palate is discreetly tight and offers fruit, minerality, juiciness, a tangy frame, precision, a beautiful energy as well as some linearity. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/tangy redcurrants, juicy/fresh cherry and small notes of crunchy cassis associated with a touch of roasted berries, a hint of vanilla, violet, mocha as well as a hint of cloves. The tannins are racy and supple. Presence of a hint of cocoa on the finish/persistence.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Château Labat 2020

Haut-Médoc

The nose is spicy and offers an empyreumatic hint. It reveals notes of clove, fresh leather and small notes of pulpy blackberry associated with touches of bright cherry as well as a hint of badian. The palate is mineral, spicy and offers freshness as well as tension. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/fresh cassis, fresh blackberry and small notes of strawberry cherry associated with a touch of small fresh/pulpy berries as well as hints of cornflower and badian. Tannins are supple.

Score : 14/20 (86-87/100)

Château Caronne Ste Gemme 2020

Haut-Médoc

The nose is fruity and offers a slight concentration, a slight power as well as a small precision. It reveals notes of fresh blackberry, camphor and small notes of pepper associated with touches of bright black cherry as well as a hint of blueberry, jammy redcurrants, a subtle hint of badian and pepper. The palate is fresh, mineral, discreetly tight and offers some tension, energy as well as a tangy frame. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy blackberry, bright cassis and slightly crushed redcurrants associated with a touch of bright cherry as well as hints of lily, nutmeg, a subtle hint of blond tobacco (in the background) and discreet hints of toast. Tannins are supple.

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

Nuance de Dillon 2020

Haut-Médoc

The nose is spicy, with a hint of vanilla and offers a very discreet musky note. It reveals notes of blackberry and small notes of crushed blueberry associated with touches of cornflower as well as slight hints of sweet blond tobacco and small flowers. The palate is fruity, balanced and offers freshness, minerality, a certain tension/precision and a flattering profile. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy cherry, juicy cassis and small notes of strawberry associated with touches of violet, hints of small red fruits as well as a hint of saffron and sweet blond tobacco. Tannins are sapid.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)



La Demoiselle d'Haut-Peyrat 2020

Haut-Médoc

The nose is flowery and offers juiciness as well as some minerality. It reveals notes of juicy cassis, violet and small notes of small bright red fruits associated with touches of pepper and nutmeg. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, suavity, a mineral frame, a certain acidity as well as tension. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/tangy blackberry, juicy cassis and small notes of juicy/fresh cherry associated with touches of violet, bright berries as well as slight hints of badian. The palate tightens. The tannins are discreetly firm.

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

Château La Peyre – Cuvée Prestige 2020

Haut-Médoc

The nose is spicy. It reveals notes of crushed cassis, spices and small notes of black pepper associated with a very discreet varietal hint. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, a mineral frame, material, a certain gourmandise as well as a discreet tight feeling. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy blackberry, fleshy/crushed plum and small notes of violet associated with touches of pulpy cherry as well as hints of toast, tonka bean and slight hints of spices. Tannins are chewy. Good length.

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

Château Mille Roses 2020

Haut-Médoc

(Organic) The nose is flowery, fruity and offers a certain small richness/gourmandise. It reveals notes of fresh strawberry, lily and small notes of pistil associated with touches of fresh small red fruits, rose as well as discreet hints of nutmeg. The palate is fruity, balanced and offers minerality, a beautiful acidity, gourmandise as well as a nice bright fruit. On the palate this wine expresses notes of Morello cherry, juicy/bright cassis and small notes of roasted/fresh small red fruits associated with touches of toast/nutmeg as well as hints of chocolate. Tannins are supple and silky. Good length.

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

Haut-Médoc de Giscours, Grande Réserve 2020

Haut-Médoc

The nose is racy and offers controlled power as well as a certain intensity. It reveals notes of fresh pepper, spices, blackberry and small notes of strawberry associated with touches of Morello cherry as well as hints of violet and racy minerality. The palate is fruity, balanced and offers juiciness, a tangy frame, minerality, good definition, precision as well as freshness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, juicy raspberry and small notes of juicy cherry associated with touches of juicy/pulpy cassis as well as hints of chocolate, toast and hints of cornflower. Good length.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Médoc & Médoc area

Château Devise d'Ardilley 2020

Haut-Médoc

(Organic) The nose is fruity, fresh and offers a certain power/concentration. It reveals notes of pulpy wild cassis, fleshy red fruits and small notes of cornflower associated with touches of crushed fruit, liquorice as well as discreet hints of vanilla/hazelnut. The palate is fruity, balanced and offers juiciness, minerality, freshness, a certain tension as well as precision. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy blackberry, juicy/pulpy raspberry and small notes of crushed strawberry associated with touches of roasted fruit, hints of badian, camphor, toasted as well as a subtle hint of sweet blond tobacco. Tannins are sapid and supple. Good length.

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

Château Braude Fellonneau 2020

Haut-Médoc

The nose is fruity and offers a fresh peppery note as well as saline hint. It reveals notes of pulpy wild strawberry, pulpy cherry and small notes of fresh/tangy blueberry associated with touches of toast, sweet blond tobacco as well as a subtle hint of vanilla. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, suavity, a mineral/tangy frame, a certain gourmandise, some airiness in its material, width, suppleness as well as sapidity. On the palate this wine expresses notes of fleshy/juicy cherry, bright/tangy redcurrants and small notes of raspberry associated with touches of juicy/tangy blackberry as well as hints of vanilla and toast. Beautiful freshness and gourmandise. Beautiful acidity that leads the tasting.

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

Le Haut-Médoc de Dauzac 2020

Haut-Médoc

The nose is fruity and offers a certain power, concentration as well as a certain richness of the fruit. It reveals notes of crushed blackberry, crushed strawberry and small notes of jammy cassis associated with touches of small roasted fruits, racy minerality as well as discreet hints of nutmeg, cardamom and liquorice. The palate is fruity, balanced and offers minerality, freshness, good definition, precision, a tangy frame as well as a small roast-fresh side. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy cherry, cassis and small notes of creamy blackberry associated with touches of small roasted-fresh red berries as well as hints of cornflower, liquorice stick, cardamom and a subtle hint of chocolate/tobacco. Tannins are well-built. Good length. Beautiful freshness, juiciness, brightness and gourmandise. A touch of good bitterness on persistence.

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

Château Verdignan 2020

Haut-Médoc

The nose is fruity and offers a roasted hint as well as some small power. It reveals notes of roasted cherry, quite ripe strawberry and small notes of cornflower associated with touches of badian, Timut pepper as well as slight sappy hints and spice in the background. The palate is fruity, balanced and offers juiciness, suavity, a mineral frame, a good definition, a certain freshness, a small power, silky as well as gourmandise/sapidity. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/bright cherry, violet and small notes of bright cassis associated with touches of small roasted fruits as well as hints of liquorice, nutmeg and toast. The tannins are racy and slightly chewy. Good length. Presence of a slight sapid hint in the background/on persistence.

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

Château Coufran 2020

Haut-Médoc

The nose is fruity, elegant, racy and offers good maturity. It reveals notes of Morello cherry, blackberry and small notes of wild strawberry associated with touches of flowers/violet as well as a slight hint of infusion, saffron and badian. The palate is fruity, supple, mineral, sapid, gourmand and offers a slight tangy frame, a certain small tension as well as a grain discreetly tight and stretchiness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy black cherry, violet and small notes of roasted raspberry associated with touches of small ripe red fruits, liquorice stick, vanilla as well as slight hints of racy minerality and soft spices. The tannins are supple and sapid. Good length.

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

Château Bel Orme de Tronquoy Lalande 2020

Haut-Médoc

The nose is fruity and offers concentration, a certain intensity as well as a little freshness. It reveals notes of black cherry, violet and small wild red berries associated with slight touches of pepper and a hint of spices. The palate is fruity and offers minerality, freshness, tension, a certain precision as well as a tangy frame. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy raspberry, juicy/pulpy cherry and small notes of juicy cassis associated with touches of violet, cornflower as well as slight hints of liquorice stick and spices. The tannins are gourmand and supple.

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

L'Orme de Rauzan-Gassies 2020

Haut-Médoc

The nose is beautifully on the fruit and gourmand. It reveals notes of kirsched cherry, spices and small notes of small quite ripe red fruits associated with slight hints of bright fruits, sage and spices. The palate is fruity, balanced and offers juiciness, suavity, a tangy frame, tension, precision as well as a beautiful tanginess. On the palate this wine expresses notes of kirsched cherry, violet and small juicy/pulpy blackberry associated with touches of roasted red berries as well as hints of badian, fresh pepper and a subtle hint of blond tobacco. The tannins are supple and racy. Pretty freshness!

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Château Soudars 2020

Haut-Médoc

The nose is racy and offers a certain power and intensity. It reveals notes of cherry, violet and small notes of small quite ripe wild fruits associated with a hint of roast, nutmeg and a discreet hint of pepper. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, suavity, minerality, a good definition, a mineral frame, precision as well as a nice purity of the fruit. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, violet and small notes of bright cherry associated with a touch of bright cassis as well as hints of pepper and saffron. Freshness!

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Château Doyac 2020

Haut-Médoc

The nose is spicy and offers a slight power, a bit aerial as well as a powerful and fine grain. It reveals notes of wild cassis, wild strawberry and small notes of pepper associated with touches of spices as well as a hint of kirsched fruit and nutmeg. The palate is fruity, balanced and offers juiciness, minerality, a certain freshness, tension, precision, harmony as well as airiness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy cherry, violet, juicy/fresh cassis and small notes of cornflower associated with touches of racy minerality as well as a hint of badian. Tannins are well-built.

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

Château La Tonnelle 2020

Haut-Médoc

The nose is fruity, racy and offers a slight tension/concentration. It reveals notes of wild blackberry, violet and small sappy notes associated with touches of small roasted red fruits, saffron and soft spices. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, suavity, a mineral frame, good definition, precision, sapidity as well as palatability. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy blackberry, juicy/fresh cherry and small notes of flowers associated with touches of saffron, spices as well as a slight hint of sage (in the background). Tannins are supple and sappy.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Château Lamothe Cissac 2020

Haut-Médoc

The nose offers fruit, some race and minerality. It reveals notes of pulpy blackberry, violet and small notes of graphite associated with touches of small crushed wild red fruits and fresh blond tobacco/spices. The palate is fruity, mineral, juicy and offers freshness as well as palatability. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/fresh blackberry, juicy/fresh raspberry and small notes of juicy/bright cherry associated with touches of sap/pine needles, saffron, spices, racy minerality as well as a subtle hint of toast and good bitterness (in the background). The tannins are gourmand. Good length.

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

Château Corconnac 2020

Haut-Médoc

The nose is fresh, racy and offers a certain intensity as well as a fine and powerful grain. It reveals notes of wild cassis, violet, wild raspberry and small notes of pepper and graphite/camphor. The palate is fruity, balanced and offers juiciness, suavity, minerality, a good definition as well as a palatability/brightness of the fruit. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy cherry, juicy raspberry and small notes of violet associated with a touch of blackberry as well as slight hints of nutmeg and fresh blond tobacco. Good length.

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

Château Tour du Goua 2020

Haut-Médoc, Cru Artisan

The nose is fruity and offers a certain intensity and a beautiful racy grain. It reveals notes of raspberry, bright blackberry and small notes of pulpy strawberry associated with touches of badian and a hint of cumin/spices. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, suavity as well as a mineral frame. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy cherry, raspberry and small notes of juicy/fresh purple plum associated with a touch of blackberry, liquorice as well as a mineral hint. The tannins are supple and racy.

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

Médoc & Médoc area

Château Romefort 2020

Haut-Médoc

The nose is fresh, sappy and racy. We find notes of blackberry, violet and slight notes of small ripe red fruits associated with fine sappy/variety touches and a discreet hint of zan. The palate is fresh, mineral and offers fruit as well as a tangy structure. The attack is fresh. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/fresh blackberry, juicy/fresh raspberry and small notes of juicy/fresh blackcurrant associated with touches of toast/mocha as well as floral hints. Tannins are supple. A wine that is fruity and easy to access.

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

Château de Lauga 2020

Haut-Médoc, Cru Artisan

The nose offers a spicy/peppery hint, a quite ripe fruit and discreetly polished. It reveals notes of wild raspberry, spices/cloves and small notes of ripe cassis associated with touches of pepper and tobacco. The palate is fruity and offers a beautiful minerality, freshness, a certain small fatness and a slight tangy frame (in the background). On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy cherry, small juicy/quite ripe red fruits and small notes of violet associated with touches of clove, nutmeg as well as a subtle hint of tobacco. Good length. Presence of a subtle hint of good bitterness in the background.

Score : 14.5+/20 (88/100)

Château de Villegeorge 2020

Haut-Médoc

The nose is fruity and offers purity as well as a beautiful elegant, gourmand and pulpy fruit. A bomb of fruit! It reveals notes of bright raspberry, bright Morello cherry and small notes of small pulpy red fruits associated with a touch of blue fruits, badian, blond tobacco and a subtle hint of pepper. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, suavity, a mineral frame, tanginess, gourmandise, tension as well as precision. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy cherry, bright cassis and small notes of small bright red berries associated with touches of small blue fruits, iris as well as a hint of anise/licorice and an imperceptible hint of sap. The tannins are chewy. A slight chew and a good work on the good (and discreet) bitter. A nice gourmand wine!

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Château Maucamps 2020

Haut-Médoc

Wine benefits from being decanted. The nose offers soft spices, a little power, slight concentration as well as a touch of austerity. It reveals notes of wild cassis, cornflower and small notes of small quite ripe/bright red fruits associated with a touch of iris, pepper and discreet hints of nutmeg. The palate is fresh and offers juiciness, suavity, good definition, a tangy frame, tension, a lot of gourmandise as well as precision. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, bright cassis and small notes of bright strawberry associated with touches of small roasted-juicy red fruits as well as slight hints of badian, soft spices with a delicate hint of vanilla/chocolate.

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

Brulière de Beychevelle 2020

Haut-Médoc

The nose is juicy, fresh and offers a certain intensity. There are notes of boysenberry, pulpy raspberry and slight notes of small, quite ripe wild fruits associated with touches of licorice stick and torrefaction. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, freshness, minerality, a tangy structure, precision as well as tension. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy black cherry, juicy/pulpy raspberry and small notes of small red berries associated with touches of fresh blond tobacco, mocha and a fine sappy hint in the background. Good length.

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

Iris Pourpre de Desmirail 2020

Haut-Médoc

The wine has a deep ruby color. On the nose, it expresses gourmandise, concentration and delicacy. We find the aromas of wild blackberry, blackcurrant (even a touch of crème de cassis in the background), wild strawberries, raspberry coulis, fresh crushed blueberries as well as blueberry jam, combined with a refined and subtle spiciness, which highlights the fruitiness and the juiciness of aromas. There is a fine aroma of cinnamon, toasted vanilla, ground cloves, licorice, as well as a touch of cocoa, mint chocolate and fresh almond, combined with a hint of fresh tobacco, dried pine, rose and cornflower needles. In the mouth, the wine is melted, round and enveloping. The attack is silky, fruity and expresses notes of ripe fruit (blackcurrant, wild blackberry, juicy morello cherry, wild strawberry and blueberry). We then find notes of sweet spices (licorice, cumin, a fine touch of cinnamon and vanilla), cocoa, fresh tobacco, pine needles and flowers (cornflower, a touch of violet), as well as wild mint. The tannins are present, structured, but fine. The finish is persistent, savoury, with a nice acidity and a touch of good bitterness. An elegant, accessible wine, with complexity and controlled power.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Château Julien 2020

Haut-Médoc

(55% Merlot, 45% Cabernet Sauvignon) The wine has a deep ruby color. The first nose offers elegant floral, herbaceous and spicy aromas, then complemented by a juicy, even slightly sweet, fruitiness. It expresses notes of violet, peony and lily, combined with a touch of wild mint, liquorice, clove, ground cumin, as well as integrated woody aromas (toast, heated wood, caramel). We also find notes of sweet ripe fruits: morello cherry, red cherry jam, red currant jam, crushed blackcurrant, wild strawberry, wild blackberry. On the palate, the wine is more closed, with a solid tannic structure and grippy tannins on the finish. The wine expresses the flavors of morello cherry, tart red cherry, blackcurrant, crunchy strawberry, associated with savory notes of smoke, roasted aromatic herbs (roasted bouquet garni), dried mint, as well as touches of toasted vanilla, caramel, and heated wood in the background. The finish is persistent, with notes of torrefaction, roasted meat and ripe red fruits, with a hint of chocolate in the background. A good level of acidity refreshes the whole and softens grippy tannins. A structured and fleshy wine.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Les Vignerons d'Uni-Médoc - Château Grand Moulin 2020

Haut-Médoc

Deep, brilliant ruby color. The nose is aromatic, precise, tangy, with dominant woody and spicy notes, which are then completed by a fragrant floral bouquet. We find the aromas of red cherry, crushed blackcurrant, fresh blueberry, crunchy strawberry, touches of vanilla, coconut, cinnamon and cloves pronounced, but enveloped by the fruitiness, as well as delicate touches of peony and violet. The palate offers sapidity, gourmandise and a warm spiciness. It expresses notes of morello cherry, red cherry jam, crushed blackcurrant, toasted notes, sweet coffee, dried vanilla as well as roasted aromatic herbs (thyme, rosemary) and roasted red fruits. The finish is warm, enveloping, gourmand, with a hint of dark chocolate, black plum and prune in chocolate in the background. Beautiful material and structure, roundness and gourmandise. The tannins are a bit drying on the finish.

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



Médoc & Médoc area

Les Vignerons d'Uni-Médoc - Château Moulin de la Mothe 2020

Haut-Médoc

The wine has a deep ruby color. The nose is fleshy, spicy and slightly chocolatey. It expresses in particular the notes of fresh and macerated morello cherry, juicy wild strawberry, red currants, raspberry coulis and black plum (which is slightly reminiscent of prunes), associated with a touch of chocolate with mint, liquorice, white pepper, cloves, as well as a herbaceous touch of blackcurrant leaf and vanilla in the background. On the palate, the wine offers freshness, airiness and tanginess. It expresses the flavors of tangy bigarreau cherry, crunchy blackcurrant, wild strawberry, morello cherry and fresh black plum, combined with spicy notes (white pepper, cloves, a touch of liquorice), a savoury touch of roasted meat, as well as aromatic herbs (roasted thyme and bay leaf) and smoke. The tannins are fine, but firm and a bit grippy. The finish is quite persistent and offers a juicy fruitiness, combined with good acidity.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Château Pey Mallet 2020

Haut-Médoc, Cru Artisan

Beautiful shiny ruby color. The nose offers complexity, a bouquet of ripe fresh fruits and a very fine jammy hint, which adds a warming aroma to the nose, as well as integrated woody and spicy notes. It expresses aromas of morello cherry in chocolate, cherry jam, crushed blackcurrant, fresh wild strawberry, red currants, as well as prune in chocolate and grape skin (in the background). We also find delicate herbaceous (dried thyme, bay leaf, mint) and spicy touches (nutmeg, cloves), as well as a hint of violet and roasted meat in the background. The palate is juicy, enveloping and fruity. The attack offers a bouquet of ripe red and black fruits (morello cherry, strawberry, red cherry, blue plum, red currant, crushed blackcurrant), which combine with menthol and spicy notes in the mid-palate (dried mint, cinnamon, clove). The finish is rather persistent, slightly chocolatey, with fine notes of dried aromatic herbs (thyme, bay leaf), juicy and gourmand. The tannins are firm, but fine and silky. Good balance between tannic structure and lively acidity. A balanced and well-built wine.

Score : 15.75 91-92

Château Larrivau 2020

Haut-Médoc

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is subtle, elegant and complex. It expresses pleasant fruity notes (ripe morello cherry, wild strawberry, red cherry, sweet raspberry, wild blackberry, blackcurrant, see crème de cassis). The woody and spicy notes are refined and delicate: we find aromas of cocoa, toasted hazelnut, sweet coffee, vanilla pod, liquorice and cloves which complete the fruity bouquet without dominating it. There are also light floral notes in the background (rose, lily, fresh cornflower). On the palate, the wine is airy, delicate with a beautiful freshness and acidity. It offers silky, fine-grained tannins and a juicy and enveloping fruitiness. The flavors are ripe and fresh: we find notes of crunchy morello cherry, wild strawberry, red cherry, wild blackberry, blueberry, as well as a delicate spiciness (vanilla pod, clove, liquorice). Integrated. Good persistence which completes the palate with floral notes (cornflower, rose).

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Château Tour Bel-Air, Prestige 2020

Haut-Médoc, Cru Artisan

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The first nose expresses tasty notes of roasted meat and smoke, which evolve towards sweet spices and ripe fruit after aeration. We find the aromas of vanilla, cloves, a hint of cinnamon, liquorice and green pepper, toasted almond, associated with the freshness of cut mint, as well as notes of fruit (blackcurrant, blueberry, morello cherry, strawberry, bigarreau cherry) and flowers (cherry blossom, cornflower). On the palate, the wine offers tension and juiciness. It expresses notes of tangy red cherry, juicy morello cherry, strawberry, blackcurrant and blueberry, combined with touches of fresh flowers (cornflower, a hint of peony), as well as a fine spiciness (white pepper, liquorice, cloves). The mid-palate is fruity and ample, as well as the finish, quite persistent and fragrant (especially with notes of flowers and aromatic herbs). Beautiful tannic structure, powerful, but fine and not astringent. Beautiful acidity in harmony with the profile of the wine. A gourmand, but structured wine, with aging potential.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Château Sénéjac 2020

Haut-Médoc

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. It offers a lovely, discreet but elegant nose, with notes of ripe fruit (red cherry, strawberry, raspberry, morello cherry, blackcurrant; wild blackberry, wild plum), sweet spices (liquorice, nutmeg, clove, a touch of vanilla), torrefaction (coffee, caramelised hazelnut), cocoa and flowers (violet, peony), all in balance. The palate is gourmand, enveloping, juicy, with a fine sweetness of ripe fruit. It expresses notes of wild strawberry, morello cherry, red cherry jam, blueberry jam, creamy blackcurrant and raspberry coulis, associated with notes of liquorice, mint chocolate, red cherry with chocolate, clove, vanilla (in the background), as well as

fragrant floral notes (violet, cornflower, peony, rose in syrup). The tannins are very fine, soft and well structured. The finish is long, with pleasant notes of cocoa and sweet coffee, balanced by a nice acidity. A harmonious, elegant and gourmand wine.

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

Château Moutte Blanc 2020

Haut-Médoc, Cru Artisan

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is savoury, spicy and slightly smoky at the opening. It expresses notes of wild strawberry, blackcurrant, morello cherry, raspberry coulis, crushed blueberry, as well as liquorice, clove, nutmeg, combined with a touch of blackcurrant leaf, mint wild, minty chocolate, a fragrant floral bouquet (rose, iris, cornflower, violet) and a mineral hint (graves) in the background. The palate is gourmand, juicy, airy and very fruity. It expresses notes of wild strawberry, morello cherry, cherry jam, crushed blueberry, creamy blackcurrant, raspberry coulis, as well as a touch of chocolate with mint, liquorice, cloves, cocoa, violet, iris and dried rose. The tannins are structured, grippy in the mid-palate, but fine and melted. Beautiful acidity and savoury persistence on the palate. A gourmand and fleshy wine.

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

Château Lanessan 2020

Haut-Médoc

The wine has a deep ruby color. It is reserved at the beginning and benefits from aeration. The nose expresses a savoury, but refined spicy notes (notes of clove, liquorice, gray pepper, cinnamon, vanilla and coriander), enveloped in juicy and concentrated fruity aromas: we find in particular the notes of wild strawberry, raspberry, morello cherry, blackcurrant, blackberry, wild plum and roasted red cherry. There is also a fine floral bouquet (violet, peony, cornflower) and a delicate herbaceous touch (dried mint, blackcurrant bud). The palate offers concentration and depth, all in elegance. It expresses notes of wild strawberry, roasted red cherry, raspberry coulis, redcurrant jelly, fresh blackcurrant, wild blackberry and morello cherry, combined with notes of dried mint, violet, cornflower, as well as as well as an elegant woody and spicy hints (notes of liquorice, clove, nutmeg, cinnamon, toasted hazelnut and cocoa). The tannins are well-structured, silky and fine. The finish offers beautiful acidity, persistence and gourmandise. Good aging potential.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Villa Romefort, Les Sables Noirs 2020

Haut-Médoc

The wine has a deep ruby-purple color. The nose is fragrant, deep and concentrated, it offers a beautiful fruity substance and complexity. It expresses the aromas of blackcurrant, wild blackberry, wild strawberry, elderberries, blueberry, a light note of prune cream, combined with fine spicy touches of liquorice, nutmeg, cloves, toasted hazelnut, smoke (even a little meaty), as well as aromatic herbs (roasted thyme, bay leaf, a touch of wild mint) and flowers (violet, peony), with a fine resinous and chocolatey note in the background. On the palate, the wine offers freshness, precision and juiciness. It expresses the flavors of fresh morello cherry, bigarreau cherry, red currant, elderberries, raspberry and crunchy strawberry, combined with sweet spices (liquorice, cloves, nutmeg, a hint of vanilla), fresh flowers (rose petals, violet, peony) and fine touches of torrefaction (toasted almond, sweet coffee). The tannins are a little rough, but balanced by a lively acidity. The finish is rather persistent and offers roundness and freshness. A balanced and gourmand wine, elegant, very fruity and subtly mineral.

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

Château Bertrand Braneyre, Vieilles Vignes 2020

Haut-Médoc

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is dense, fragrant and offers a fleshy fruitiness, complemented by warm spicy notes. It expresses precise, straight aromas, with a pleasant tanginess: wild strawberry, morello cherry, red cherry, blackcurrant, cranberries, blueberry, combined with touches of vanilla, cinnamon, liquorice (see star anise), cloves, a freshness of wild mint and pine needles, flowers (violet, peony), as well as a fine mineral note (gravel, wet stone) in the background. On the palate, the wine is chiseled and tangy. It expresses notes of fresh fruit (bigarreau cherry, blackcurrant, raspberry, wild strawberry, cranberries), spices (liquorice, black pepper, a touch of vanilla), wild mint, violet and peony, with a herbaceous touch of blackcurrant leaf. The tannins are grippy. On the finish, the wine presents a high and salivating acidity, as well as tangy notes of red fruits (bigarreau cherry, cranberries, blackcurrant), with a touch of bitterness.

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

Médoc & Médoc area

MOULIS-EN-MÉDOC

Château Branas Grand Poujeaux 2020

Moulis-en-Médoc

Beautiful fruity nose, concentrated (but elegant) which offers power, control and precision as well as a beautiful stretchiness. We find notes of boysenberry, roasted wild raspberry and small notes of, quite ripe fruits associated with delicate touches of tonka beans, toast, nutmeg as well as a faint hint of flowers, delicate hints, almost sappy, of badian and a subtle hint of pepper. The mouth is mineral, well-balanced and offers juiciness, precision, a tangy frame, minerality, tension, a beautiful definition (and fullness) delicately (delicacy) as well as richness. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy blackberry, wild ripe/fresh raspberry and to a lesser extent of crushed small fruits, associated with touches of badian, tonka beans, fresh berries, iodine/saline gravels as well as an imperceptible sappy hint and torried hazelnut. A lot of harmony, elegance, and precision. Tannins are supple, sapid and gourmand. Very good persistence. A discreet chewy on the persistence. A lovely and great wine, congratulations!

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

Château Granins Grand Poujeaux 2020

Moulis-en-Médoc

The nose is fruity, ripe and offers a certain concentration/deepness, a fine hint of darkness/ink and lovely fruit. There are notes of violet, wild small fruits, camphor, and small notes of crushed redcurrants, combined with hints of quite ripe cherry, pepper, nutmeg and a subtle hint of graphite and almost saline gravel. Fruity and well-balanced on the palate, with minerality, a tangy/mineral frame, tension, precision, a certain gourmandise, a beautiful sapidity and verticality. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of juicy wild blackberry, wild fruits/berries and, and small notes of saline gravels, combined with hints of camphor, toast, small berries, juniper and a touch of pepper and vanilla. The tannins are supple and sapid. Beautiful minerality and freshness.

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

Château Caroline 2020

Moulis-en-Médoc

The nose is spicy, fresh and offers a little delicacy as well as a fine grain, a fresh and relatively intense texture. It reveals hints of crushed redcurrants, roasted cherry and small notes of juicy blackberry, associated with cloves, fresh tobacco as well as a subtle hint of fresh pepper. The mouth is fruity and offers freshness, juiciness, fullness, a slight fatness as well as a tangy frame. In the mouth, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy redcurrants, violet and small notes of blue fruits, associated with touches of crunchy/tangy cherry as well as a subtle hint of iris, zan and chocolate (in the background). Beautiful dynamism on the good bitters. The tannins are well-built. A slight hint of salt in the background.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Château La Garricq 2020

Moulis-en-Médoc

The nose is fruity, gourmand, full and offers a slightly coating quality. It reveals notes of dense blackberry, quite ripe cassis and small notes of roasted red fruits, associated with touches of cornflower, badian as well as slight hints nutmeg and a very discreet hint of vanilla. The mouth is fruity and offers freshness, minerality, a fresh/mineral frame, fullness, a certain energy as well as a discreetly tight tannic frame. In the mouth, it expresses notes juicy/pulpy blackberry, raspberry and small notes of fleshy cherry notes associated with hints of cornflower, badian as well as slight hints of rose and a subtle hint of spices. Good length.

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

Château Maucaillou 2020

Moulis-en-Médoc

The nose is spicy, a bit aerial and offers ripe fruit. It reveals notes of pulpy blackberry, crushed cassis and small notes of crushed raspberry, associated with hints of badian, cloves as well as slight hints of fresh tobacco and a very discreet hint of spice. The mouth is fresh, well-balanced, mineral and offers a slight fatness, a tangy frame, tension, precision, energy as well as a slight straightness. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy cherry, pulpy/juicy cassis and small notes of violet,

associated with hints of clove, nutmeg as well as slight hints of small tangy/juicy red berries and a touch of toast. Good length. Freshness!

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

Château Dutruch Grand Poujeaux 2020

Moulis-en-Médoc

The nose is spicy and offers a certain concentration as well as a slight complexity. It reveals notes of Morello cherry, violet and small notes of small roasted red berries associated with touches of badian, almost badian and discreet hints of nutmeg/sweet spices. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, suavity, freshness, fullness, a certain fatness as well as a tangy frame. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, cornflower and small notes of Morello cherry associated with touches of tangy raspberry as well as hints of liquorice stick, violet and sweet spices. The tannins are supple, gourmand and racy. A certain chew on the finish/persistence.

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

Château Pomeys 2020

Moulis-en-Médoc

The wine benefits from being decanted or aerated in glass. It reveals notes of spices, small ripe fruits and small notes of patina associated with a hint of pepper, dried orange zest as well as slight hints of undergrowth and pepper. The palate is fruity and offers minerality, freshness, a certain tension as well as precision. It reveals notes of Morello cherry, small dried red fruits and small notes of violet associated with a touch of pepper, a slight patinated touch and a discreet hint of undergrowth and a very discreet hint of pepper.

Score : 14.5+/20 (88/100)

L'Impression de Mauvesin Barton 2020

Moulis-en-Médoc

The nose is fruity, gourmand and offers pulpy as well as slight creamy notes. It reveals notes of creamy blackberry, quite ripe raspberry and small notes of small red fruits associated with slight hints of violet as well as discreet hints of almond. The palate is fruity, balanced and offers juiciness, a tangy frame, minerality as well as a small fat. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/bright cassis and juicy/bright cherry associated with touches of almond as well as slight hints of violet, racy minerality and a discreet hint of fresh liquorice. Beautiful freshness and juiciness.

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

Château Mauvesin Barton 2020

Moulis-en-Médoc

The nose is fruity and offers a slight creaminess as well as a very slight power. It reveals notes of cassis, cornflower and small notes of crushed strawberry associated with touches of liquorice and toast/caramelisation. The palate is fruity and offers a beautiful freshness, a small creaminess, gourmandise, pulp as well as a slight fatness/fullness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of crushed raspberry, pulpy cherry and small notes of cassis associated with touches of violet, cornflower as well as hints of racy minerality, slight hints of toast and chocolate. The tannins are supple and gourmand. A beautiful wine, juicy and fresh. Presence of a discreet hint of salinity/sapidity on the finish/persistence.

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

LISTRAC-MÉDOC

Château Fonréaud 2020

Listrac-Médoc

The nose is fruity, elegant, gourmand and offers a well-balanced and fine richness. It reveals notes of crushed cassis, crushed strawberry and small notes of small creamy fruits, associated with hints of violet, lily as well as slight touches of sweet blond tobacco and a subtle hint of fresh/ripe almond. The mouth is fruity, well-balanced and offers freshness, minerality, a juicy/tangy frame, good definition, a certain gourmandise as well as a slight creaminess. In the mouth, this wine expresses notes of creamy cherry, crushed cassis and small notes of fresh flowers, associated with a touch of small tangy/crispy fruits as well as a hint of rose, racy minerality, slight vanilla hints and sweet blond tobacco. Beautiful sapidity/salinity.

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



Médoc & Médoc area

Château Saransot-Dupré 2020

Listrac-Médoc

The nose is elegant, aerial and racy and offers delicacy in its small power, a certain deepness as well as a fine grain. It reveals notes of boysenberry, violet and small notes of cornflower associated with touches of small roasted red fruits as well as a hint of pistil and nutmeg. The palate is mineral and offers precision, tension, airiness, good dynamism, good work on good bitters as well as a slight mineral frame. On the palate this wine expresses notes of blackberry, small tangy red berries and small notes of wild raspberry associated with touches of flowers, pistil as well as slight hints of racy minerality. Presence of a discreet hint of chocolate on the persistence.

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

Château Fourcas Dupré 2020

Listrac-Médoc

The nose offers a certain power, a little concentration, fruit, pulp as well as a certain purity. It reveals notes of pulpy raspberry, bright cherry and small notes of bright small blue fruits associated with touches of liquorice stick as well as a hint of lily and nutmeg. The palate is fruity, balanced and offers juiciness, suavity, a mineral frame, good definition, purity, suavity, fatness as well as airiness/stretchiness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy cherry, juicy/pulpy cassis and small notes of flowers associated with touches of crushed raspberry and hints of liquorice stick and vanilla. The tannins are racy. Good length. Brightness of the fruit in the mouth.

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

Château Fourcas-Hosten 2020

Listrac-Médoc

The nose is elegant and offers harmony, energy, a certain vivacity, a good definition as well as purity. It reveals notes of bright wild cassis, star anise and small notes of flowers/iris associated with touches of small red berries, hints of racy minerality, camphor as well as discreet hints of fresh soft spices and saffron. The palate is beautifully juicy, beautifully fresh, balanced and offers minerality, race, precision, purity, an enveloping/enrobing sensation, a tangy frame (in the background), energy as well as a beautiful delicate and silky substance. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy cherry, bright raspberry and small notes of pulpy/bright blackberry associated with mineral touches, hints of sweet blond tobacco, almond, nutmeg/fresh spices as well as slight hints of camphor and sap. Tannins are sapid and sappy. Good length. A slight chew on the finish/persistence.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Château Martinho 2020

Listrac-Médoc

(Organic) The nose is spicy and offers concentration, a certain intensity, an intense grain as well as a discreet polished touch. It reveals notes of Morello cherry, spices and small notes of dried blackberry associated with touches of small ripe red fruits as well as a hint of truffle/undergrowth. The mouth is mineral. On the palate this wine expresses notes of fresh blackberry, pulpy/juicy raspberry and small notes of cherry associated with touches of undergrowth, truffle as well as a point almost undergrowth.

Score : 13.75/20 (86/100)

MARGAUX

Mongravey 2020

Margaux

The nose offers gourmandise, fruit and a certain richness in balance as well as a slight spiciness. It reveals notes of crushed blueberry, crushed strawberry and small notes of pepper and small notes of pulpy/bright cherry associated with touches of liquorice as well as a subtle hint of violet/soft spices. The palate is fruity, balanced and offers juiciness, suavity, a certain richness of the fruit as well as fleshy. On the palate this wine expresses notes of fleshy/juicy raspberry, pulpy/fleshy redcurrants and small notes of tangy fruits associated with a touch of violet, tangy cassis as well as hints of chocolate and toast. The tannins are sapid and gourmand. Beautiful tanginess and stretchiness on the finish/persistence.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Château La Bessane 2020

Margaux

The nose is fruity and offers a slight creaminess as well as a small racy minerality. It reveals notes of crème de cassis, boysenberry and small notes of violet associated with touches of sweet blond tobacco and a subtle hint of vanilla. The palate is fruity and offers fullness, minerality, freshness as well as a certain delicacy. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/ripe cassis, violet and small notes of tangy redcurrants associated with touches of small crushed fruits/small blue fruits as well as hints of liquorice stick, fresh pepper, varietals and vanilla.

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

La Sirène de Giscours 2020

Margaux

The nose is fruity, ripe and offers freshness. It reveals notes of ripe/fresh cassis, cherry and small notes of violet associated with touches of cornflower, pepper as well as hints of graphite and nutmeg. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, suavity, a fresh/tangy frame, a good definition, a certain tension as well as precision. A ripe/juicy/bright fruit. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, juicy/pulpy cherry and small notes of bright redcurrants associated with touches of cornflower/violet, hints of graphite, cardamom, a subtle hint of blueberry (in the background) as well as slight hints of nutmeg and toast. The tannins are supple and racy. Good length.

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

Le Margaux du Château de Malleret 2020

Margaux

The nose benefits from being decanted. It reveals notes of blackberry, spices and small notes of crushed/jammed fruits associated with touches of nutmeg as well as hints of blond tobacco/spices. The palate is mineral, silky, aerial, delicate and offers a certain concentration/richness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of concentrated blackberry, fresh strawberry and small notes of liquorice associated with touches of small berries, chocolate as well as hints of cornflower and vanilla. The tannins are chewy and gourmand. A subtle chew/a slight chew on the finish/persistence.

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

Labastide Dauzac 2020

Margaux

Beautiful nose on ripe/intense red fruits and racy minerality (gravel-clay). It reveals notes of pulpy/ripe cherry, raspberry and small notes of violet associated with touches of crushed cassis as well as slight hints of cornflower, liquorice stick and discreet hints of soft spices. The palate is fruity and offers freshness, a beautiful juiciness, gourmandise, a beautiful definition as well as a tangy frame. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, bright cherry and small notes of bright redcurrants associated with touches of small blue fruits, liquorice as well as slight hints of mocha and a subtle hint of black olive (in the background). The tannins are supple and racy.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Charmes de Kirwan 2020

Margaux

The nose is fresh, racy, chiseled and offers a fresh spiciness. It reveals notes of blackberry, raspberry and small notes of gray pepper associated with touches of cassis, small touches of Morello cherry as well as hints of fresh spices and a very discreet touch of fresh leather. The palate is fruity and offers precision, tension, a beautiful acidity, a fresh/tangy frame as well as a good definition. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/tangy blackberry, bright cassis and small notes of Morello cherry associated with touches of crunchy/bright strawberry as well as hints of violet, fresh gravels and a subtle hint of Cubeb pepper in the background. The tannins are supple, fresh and taut. Beautiful freshness and minerality.

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

Château Siran 2020

Margaux

The nose is fruity, well-built and offers a certain small concentration, precision as well as harmony. We find notes of wild strawberry, lily and slight notes of pepper associated with touches of fleshy wild blackberry, small pulpy red fruits/pulpy cherry as well as hints of blond tobacco, nutmeg, lilac and racy minerality. The palate is fresh, racy, clean and offers juiciness, smoothness, a mineral framework, tension, precision, acidity, a lovely energy, a slight smoothness, a beautiful structure as well as a nice mastery. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy cherry, raspberry and small notes of juicy/pulpy blackcurrant associated with floral touches, hints of blond tobacco, star anise, chocolate, fine hints of minerality as well as with a discreet sappy and toasted/vanilla hint. Tannins are sapid and gourmand. Good length. Good job on the good bitters. Nicely sapid, especially on the finish.

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

Château Moutte Blanc 2020

Margaux, Cru Artisan

The nose is fruity, gourmand and offers a small hint of torrefaction and toast. It reveals notes of crushed strawberry, pulpy blackberry and small notes of toast associated with touches of roasted berries, vanilla as well as a hint of pepper and cornflower. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, a tangy frame, minerality, good definition, gourmandise as well as precision. On the palate this wine expresses notes of cassis, roasted cherry and small notes of violet associated with touches of cornflower, roasted berries, salinity as well as a slight hint of pepper and a discreet hint of good bitterness. The tannins are chewy. A slight chew on the finish/persistence.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Médoc & Médoc area

Château La Gurgue 2020

Margaux

The nose is fruity, fresh and a bit incisive. It reveals notes of boysenberry, fresh wild strawberry and small notes of pulpy cherry associated with slight touches of violet, saffron as well as slight hints of fresh spices and a subtle hint of cumin. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, a mineral frame, acidity, energy as well as a lively side of the wine. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/fresh cherry, juicy/fresh cassis and small notes of cherry associated with touches of violet, cornflower, with hints of liquorice stick and a discreet hint of juicy purple plum and a slight hint of nutmeg/toast. The tannins are melted. Good length.
Score : 15.5/20 (90-91/100)

Confidences de Prieuré-Lichine 2020

Margaux

The nose is fruity and offers a certain chewiness as well as a small richness and fleshy fruit. It reveals notes of fleshy/juicy cassis, fleshy/juicy raspberry and small notes of ripe red berries/crushed associated with touches of violet, nutmeg as well as discreet hints of soft spices (which come to coat and bring gourmandise). The palate is beautifully juicy, enrobed and offers freshness, a certain chew, gourmandise, precision, a tangy frame, a little depth as well as fullness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy cherry, fleshy cassis and small notes of violet associated with touches of small roasted red fruits as well as hints of vanilla and toast. The tannins are supple and gourmand. A slight hint of good bitterness in the background and cocoa. A gourmand wine!
Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Alter Ego de Palmer 2020

Margaux

The nose is fruity, gourmand and offers a nice concentration in finesse, power and intensity (while maintaining precision and mastery). It reveals notes of pulpy cassis, fresh and roasted cherry and small notes of cornflower associated with touches of bright redcurrants, hints of blue fruits as well as slight hints of Cubeb pepper, lilac, with a discreet hint of toast and a very discreet hint almost minty/sappy. The palate is fruity, balanced, beautifully conducted and offers a tangy frame, tension, precision, a beautiful energy as well as a slight electric touch. On the palate this wine expresses notes of Bigarreau cherry, pulpy/juicy cassis and small notes of bright redcurrants associated with slight touches of blueberry, hints of small tangy/crunchy red fruits as well as a delicate hint of black tea, soft spices and a subtle hint of vanilla. Good length. Beautiful quality of tannins and tannic frame. The tannins are elegant, precise and polished. A beautiful freshness and energy. A nice work on good bitterness.
Score : 17+/20 (94-95/100)

Pavillon rouge du Château Margaux 2020

Margaux

The nose is elegant, racy and offers power in precision, a nice elegant grain, some race, intensity, control as well as some depth. It reveals notes of black blackberry, cassis and small notes of camphor associated with touches of small roasted-fresh red fruits as well as touches of small bright fruits, violet and a discreet hint of saffron. The palate is fruity, balanced and offers juiciness, a tangy frame, tension, precision, beautifully textured as well as a beautiful acidity. A beautiful grain finely powdered and velvety at the same time. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/tangy blackberry, juicy/tangy cassis and small notes of bright/tangy redcurrants associated with touches of cornflower, violet, blueberry as well as hints of herbal tea, toast, nutmeg and discreet hints of tonka/chocolate bean. The tannins are supple, elegant, racy and nicely fresh. Good length. Beautifully fresh, juicy and elegant. Good length and persistence.
Score : 17.5/20 (95/100)

Ségla 2020

Margaux

The nose is fresh and offers a certain small concentration as well as a fine, jagged and finely tight grain. We find notes of Boysenberry, chocolate and small notes of small pulpy/roasted red berries associated with fine hints of vanilla, lilac and a hint of infusion. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, a tangy frame, minerality, good definition, precision, tension, a lovely freshness, precision, sharpness, a certain purity, a small creaminess as well as a very discreetly tight grain. On the palate this wine expresses notes of creamy blackberry and small roasted red berries associated with touches of vanilla, chocolate as well as a fine violet note on the finish. Presence of a hint of cocoa in the background. Nice creamy finish.
Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Gallen de Château Meyre 2020

Margaux

(Organic) The nose is fruity and offers a certain depth as well as a small concentration. It reveals notes of roasted cherry, pulpy strawberry and small notes of violet associated with touches of bright berries, a slight hint of juicy purple plum, discreet hints of spices as well as a slight hint of infusion and pepper. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness,

suavity, a mineral frame, freshness, a small tension, precision as well as a beautiful minerality almost iodized. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy cherry, juicy/pulpy raspberry and small notes of juicy small blue fruits associated with a touch of cassis and slight varietal hints, sweet blond tobacco and vanilla. The tannins are supple and racy. A good work on the good bitters.

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

Aurore de Dauzac 2020

Margaux

The nose is fruity and offers a certain racy power, a beautiful racy grain as well as a good definition. It reveals notes of cassis, racy minerality (dry gravels) and small notes of violet associated with touches of Bigarreau cherry, hints of small roasted-fresh red berries as well as slight hints of blond tobacco, vanilla and a discreet hint of toasted almond. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, a tangy frame, minerality, a beautiful brightness, energy, a slight creaminess as well as a good work on the good bitterness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of Morello cherry, blackberry and small notes of small ripe red berries associated with touches of small roasted fruits, blueberry, slight hints of mocha, tonka bean, cardamom and slight hints of toasted hazelnuts. The tannins are supple. Beautiful persistence, especially on a good bitterness.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Château La Tour de Bessan 2020

Margaux

The nose is aromatic, frank and offers power. It reveals notes of boysenberry, Morello cherry and small notes of wild berries associated with touches of violet, pepper, anise and spices. The palate is fruity, balanced and offers juiciness, freshness, minerality, a good definition, a certain precision, sapidity as well as some tension. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, Morello cherry and small notes of violet associated with touches of pepper and a hint of racy minerality, sap as well as a discreet hint of blond tobacco. Tannins are racy and sappy.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Château Piche-Leibre 2020

Margaux

The wine benefits from being decanted. It reveals notes of spices, camphor and small notes of wild cherry associated with touches of dried flowers, pepper as well as a very discreet hint of pepper. The palate is fruity and offers minerality, a fresh frame, juiciness as well as a certain small fluidity. On the palate this wine expresses notes of black cherry, pulpy black cassis and small notes of violet associated with a touch of roasted red berries, purple plum as well as a hint of cardamom, camphor, torrefaction and graphite. A certain darkness in the mouth.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Château Monbrison 2020

Margaux

The nose is fruity and offers depth, a certain concentration of fruit as well as a certain silky/textured touch. It reveals notes of black cherry, concentrated cassis and small notes of blackberry associated with touches of strawberry as well as slight hints of liquorice/zan stick and cardamom. The palate is fruity and offers suavity, juiciness, freshness, a certain minerality, tension as well as a concentration in precision. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, concentrated cassis and small notes of raspberry associated with touches of crushed cherry, hints of zan, blond tobacco and a subtle hint of cardamom and toast/torrefaction. Tannins are supple and silky. Good length

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

Château Bellevue de Tayac 2020

Margaux

The nose offers a certain power, a certain intensity, minerality, a flowery bouquet as well as a beautiful grain. It reveals notes of concentrated cassis, pistil/violet and small notes of saffron associated with touches of strawberry as well as hints of liquorice stick and a very discreet hint of pepper. The palate is fruity, balanced and offers juiciness, suavity, freshness, good definition, some tension, precision and concentration. On the palate this wine expresses notes of blackberry, concentrated cassis and small notes of notes of morello cherry/roasted cherry associated with touches of iris/lilac as well as hints of camphor, tobacco and slight hints of spices (camphor, cloves, etc.) in the background.

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

Château Larruau 2020

Margaux

The wine is best decanted. The nose is spicy, frank, incisive and offers a small power. It reveals notes of wild blackberry, wild cassis and small notes of pepper associated with touches of lily, spices as well as discreet hints of tobacco. The palate is fruity, balanced and offers minerality/a mineral frame, tension, a certain small concentration, a slight blackness/austerity as well as a quite ripe fruit (even roasted). On the palate this wine expresses notes of quite ripe cherry,

Médoc & Médoc area

small red fruits and small notes of crushed small black berries associated with touches of graphite, black pepper, infusion as well as a hint of clove. The tannins are finely marked.

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

S de Siran 2020

Margaux

The nose is spicy, flowery and offers a fine racy minerality (in the background). We find notes of violet, lilac and small notes of small juicy red berries associated with hints of mineral and pepper. The palate is juicy, mineral and offers a certain brightness of the fruit, tension as well as minerality. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy cherry, juicy/pulpy redcurrants and small notes of raspberry associated with a hint of small juicy/fresh black berries, violet, lily as well as fine hints of toast, cardamom and a subtle hint of cocoa (in the background). Tannins are supple and racy. Presence of a saline hint. Good job on the good bitters.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Château Deyrem Valentin 2020

Margaux

Nice elegant, precise nose which offers a certain purity, a small concentration as well as a nice depth of precision/control. We find notes of boysenberry, pepper and wild strawberry associated with touches of small ripe wild red fruits, hints of lily, Timut pepper as well as a discreet hint of small roasted fruits (bring gourmandise) and zan. The palate is juicy, suave, fresh, charming and offers lovely definition as well as a tangy structure. Nice mineral attack, suave and gourmand. On the palate this wine expresses notes of fleshy/juicy blackberry, bright cherry and small notes of tangy blueberry associated with touches of small roasted red fruits, liquorice, toasted/chocolate as well as a hint of vanilla and subtle hints of saline/iodized gravel. Tannins are soft and sapid. Good length and definition.

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

Gassies 2020

Margaux

The nose is mineral, chiselled, elegant, harmonious, appetizing and offers a touch of infusion as well as a certain delicacy. There are notes of roasted cherry. It reveals notes of roasted cherry, crushed strawberry and slight notes of blackberry associated with touches of Bourbon vanilla, star anise as well as hints of blond tobacco/sweet spices. The palate is juicy, fresh and offers minerality, tension, finesse in its power, a nice melted tannic structure, gourmandise, a nice balance as well as a nice touch. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy blackberry, fleshy cherry and small notes of crushed blackcurrant associated with touches of small roasted red berries as well as hints of Bourbon vanilla, fine hints of sweet blond tobacco and a touch of torrefaction. Nice substance! Smoothness, freshness, energy and juiciness.

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

Blason d'Issan 2020

Margaux

The nose is fresh, elegant, racy and offers power in finesse as well as a lovely finesse and race of grain. It reveals notes of wild blackberry, pulpy/ripe cassis and small notes of cornflower associated with touches of roasted cherry as well as hints of lilac, a delicate hint of vanilla and an imperceptible hint of nutmeg. The palate is nicely mineral and offers freshness, precision, a certain tension, minerality, good definition, a certain gourmandise, a small fat as well as smoothness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy blackberry, pulpy/juicy cassis and small notes of bright raspberry associated with touches of small roasted red fruits as well as hints of roasting, mocha and cardamom. Tannins are soft and sapid. Good length.

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

Château Marcus 2020

Margaux

The wine has a deep ruby color, with purplish reflections. The nose is textured and offers concentration, depth and ripe fruitiness. It expresses notes of wild strawberry, wild blackberry, raspberry coulis, morello cherry, cherry in kirsch and black plum (or even prunes in the background), associated with notes of cocoa, dark chocolate with mint, fresh tobacco, dried rose, violet, wild flowers and peony, as well as a fine spiciness (ground nutmeg, liquorice, white pepper) and enveloped woody notes (fresh oak, toasted wood, almond toast, mild coffee). The mouthfeel is velvety, silky, textured and ample. It offers gourmandise, a beautiful fruitiness, fleshy and ripe, but quite fresh, thanks to a salivating acidity. We find notes of wild blackberry, crushed blackcurrant (with a hint of crème de cassis), wild strawberry, raspberry coulis, wild black plum and morello cherry, combined with a touch of peppermint, chocolate and mint, with a delicate floral bouquet (fresh rose, fresh peony, violet, wild flowers) and a tasty and enveloped spiciness (clove, ground nutmeg, cumin, liquorice). The tannins are tight and firm, a bit grippy in the mid-palate, but quite fine. The finish is persistent, savoury and gourmand. Precision, freshness, balance and sapidity.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Baron de Brane 2020

Margaux

The wine has a deep ruby color. The nose offers complexity, ripe fruit, concentration, and at the same time – freshness and finesse. It expresses notes of fresh blackcurrant, morello cherry, wild strawberry, crushed raspberry, wild plum, red cherry, wild blackberry, as well as refreshing and refined touches of pine needles, eucalyptus, a wrapped spiciness (liquorice, cumin, cloves, a touch of vanilla), as well as a hint of caramelised hazelnut, toasted wood, sweet tobacco, peony and violet. On the palate, there is controlled and elegant power, finesse, and harmony. The wine opens on the palate with juicy and ripe fruitiness and a melted and velvety texture of tannins. We find the flavors of fresh morello cherry, wild blackberry, fresh blackcurrant (with a hint of crème de cassis), wild plum, red cherry jam, wild strawberry and raspberry coulis, combined with notes of liquorice, ground cumin, cloves, vanilla (in the background), menthol, dried mint, as well as toasted hazelnut, fresh tobacco, cornflower and violet. A silky, supple, open wine, but complex and structured. All in finesse and harmony. The finish is gourmand and persistent.

Score : 16.75+/20 (92-93/100)

Margaux de Brane 2020

Margaux

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is gourmand, concentrated and warm, even jammy. It expresses notes of ripe blackcurrant (see blackcurrant jam), roasted red cherry, chocolate morello cherry, wild strawberry and raspberry coulis, associated with notes of sweet spices (cinnamon, clove, liquorice), torrefaction (mild coffee, toasted hazelnut), as well as dried mint, blond tobacco and dried cornflower. The palate is fleshy, ample and round, with very fine and melted tannins, as well as a supple, but quite refreshing acidity. We find notes of morello cherry, morello cherry jam, blackberry, wild strawberry, roasted red cherry, blackcurrant jam, as well as mint chocolate, liquorice, cloves and cinnamon, combined with a touch of cornflower and iris in the background. The finish is persistent, enveloping, generous and gourmand. A rich and robust wine, but with a certain finesse.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

La Croix de Boyd-Cantenac 2020

Margaux

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose expresses a pronounced and savoury spiciness, enveloped in a juicy fruity substance. We find notes of grated nutmeg, clove, liquorice and white pepper, combined with aromas of strawberry, morello cherry, crushed blackcurrant, blueberry and red cherry, as well as a touch of pine, cocoa, violet and dried rose sap. The palate is gourmand, juicy and supple. It expresses notes of ripe fruit (morello cherry, blackcurrant, wild strawberry, blackberry), red cherry jam, as well as mint chocolate, chocolate cherry, liquorice, vanilla, toasted hazelnut, cornflower and rose in the background. The middle and end of the palate are fleshy and warm, even slightly jammy. The tannins are well structured, quite powerful, but fine. The acidity is supple, but refreshing. Good persistence in the mouth. A gourmand and fleshy wine.

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

Château Haut-Breton Larigaudière 2020

Margaux

The wine has a deep ruby color. The nose is fragrant and tasty, with lots of spices. We find the aromas of liquorice, ground cumin, cloves, grilled vanilla, nutmeg, wrapped in ripe fruit (morello cherry, red cherry, wild strawberry, blackcurrant, blackberry). There are also delicate notes of violet, cornflower, blackcurrant bud and pine needles in the background. On the palate, the wine is round, gourmand and juicy. It expresses the flavors of wild strawberry, morello cherry, crushed blackcurrant, wild blackberry and redcurrant jelly, combined with spicy notes of liquorice, fresh vanilla, cloves, as well as a floral touch of violet, fresh cornflower and peony. The tannins are structured, slightly grippy in the mid-palate, but fine and silky. The finish is long, gourmand and juicy, with a pleasant acidity and a touch of dark chocolate in the background.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Château Haut-Breton Larigaudière, Le Créateur 2020

Margaux

(100% Cabernet Sauvignon) The wine has a deep ruby color. The nose is fragrant, straight and offers accuracy and complexity. It expresses notes of wild strawberry, morello cherry, fresh blackcurrant, crème de cassis, blueberry, blackberry and wild plum, combined with notes of liquorice, clove, nutmeg, ground cumin, as well as fine floral (violet, cornflower, rosehip) and herbaceous (blackcurrant bud, dried mint) notes. The palate is chiseled, juicy and fruity, with a delicate spicy and herbaceous hints. It expresses notes of wild strawberry, fresh morello cherry, red cherry jam, blackcurrant, blackberry and crème de cassis, combined with notes of liquorice, vanilla, cloves, ground cumin, wild mint, blackcurrant bud, as well as a touch of fresh cornflower and violet in the background. The tannins are structured and firm (the wine needs time to round them out). The finish is persistent, gourmand and juicy, with notes of ripe fruit and a hint of mint. Beautiful substance and structure, potential, but the wine seems closed at the moment.

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

Médoc & Médoc area

Initial de Desmirail 2020

Margaux

The wine has a brilliant ruby color, with slight purple reflections. On the nose, it offers delicacy, depth, a slight sweetness, even a velvety texture. The nose is reserved, but refined and complex: it expresses notes of blackcurrant, crème de cassis, blackberry, morello cherry (see a fine touch of amarena cherry), raspberry jam and wild strawberry. The spiciness is enveloped and refined, not very pronounced: we feel the aromas of cumin, grated nutmeg, liquorice (associated with a touch of star anise), vanilla, clove, as well as a hint of freshness offered by herbaceous and floral notes of wild mint, rosemary, violet and cherry blossom. The woody notes are very subtle (toasted hazelnut, cocoa, coffee). On the palate, the wine is ample and open (the attack is fruity and tasty), but fresh and straight. It expresses notes of fresh blackcurrant, blackberry, blueberry, morello cherry, wild strawberry and red cherry, associated with herbaceous and resinous notes (wild mint, dried pine needles), floral (cherry blossom, violet, rose petals) and spicy touches, which return at the end of the mouth (vanilla, cinnamon, nutmeg, cloves). The tannins are powerful, but have a fine texture, and are softened by a lively acidity. Good persistence in the mouth, long and complex. A wine to keep, elegant and silky.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

SAINT-JULIEN

Château La Bridane 2020

Saint-Julien

The nose is fresh, spicy and relatively discreet/closed. It reveals notes of boysenberry, crushed raspberry and small notes of gray pepper associated with touches of liquorice, concentrated small fruits as well as a hint of soft spices. The palate is mineral, balanced and offers freshness, a mineral/juicy frame as well as a slight tension. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy cherry, small juicy/pulpy red berries and small notes of cassis associated with touches of lily, peony as well as a hint of liquorice.

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

Château Teynac 2020

Saint-Julien

The nose is racy, mineral and offers a certain delicacy. It reveals notes of quite ripe strawberry, crushed raspberry and small notes of pulpy cassis associated with delicate hints of infusion and camphor. The palate offers juiciness, a certain fatness as well as fluidity. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy cherry, raspberry and small notes of black berries associated with touches of violet, hints of camphor as well as a subtle hint of black tea, sweet spices and a very discreet hint of cloves.

Score : 14.5+/20 (88/100)

Moulin de La Rose 2020

Saint-Julien

The nose offers notes of violet, pulpy cassis and small notes of wild small berries associated with touches of black pepper, roasted berries as well as a hint of cardamom. The palate is mineral, balanced and offers freshness, a small tension, a certain fluidity and a fresh frame. On the palate this wine expresses notes of black cherry, juicy/fresh wild small black fruits and small notes of roasted red fruits associated with a touch of black tea, racy minerality, spices/camphor and slight hints of toast. Tannins are sapid. Good length.

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

La Fleur Lauga 2020

Saint-Julien, Cru Artisan

The nose is fruity and offers a small power and a slight concentration. It reveals notes of black cherry, lily, flowers and small notes of roasted fruits associated with an almost balsamic touch and discreet hints of liquorice stick. The palate is fruity and offers freshness, tension, minerality as well as a certain precision. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, bright morello cherry and small notes of bright small red berries associated with a touch of blueberry, lily as well as hints of cardamom, spices and pepper. Good length. Tannins are supple and fresh. Presence of a hint of torrefaction in the background.

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

Château la Bridane 2020

Saint-Julien

The wine has a deep ruby color. The nose is fragrant, warm, spicy and offers concentration and depth, as well as freshness. It expresses notes of fresh blackcurrant, crème de cassis, juicy morello cherry, wild strawberry, bigarreau cherry and blueberry jam. We also find a lot of spices, harmoniously integrated into the fruity bouquet: vanilla, cinnamon, liquorice, cloves, grated nutmeg, a delicate touch of aromatic herbs (bouquet garni - thyme, bay leaf and rosemary, as well as wild mint) and flowers (cornflower, violet, dried rose petals). On the palate, the wine offers a generous and fresh fruitiness, which envelops straightness and a firm structure of tannins. The attack is juicy, with

lots of fresh fruit (morello cherry, wild strawberry, red cherry, blackcurrant, blueberry), an elegant spiciness (cloves, grilled vanilla, liquorice) and floral bouquet (violet, dried rose petals), as well as a fresh herbaceous hint in the background. Beautiful acidity and a persistent and complex finish, which adds notes of dark chocolate and sweet coffee to the bouquet. A complex, deep wine with good aging potential.

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

La Réserve de Léoville Barton 2020

Saint-Julien

The nose is fruity and offers a slight concentration/power, depth as well as a slight freshness. It reveals notes of ripe wild cassis, juicy/quite ripe wild red fruits associated with touches of crushed red fruits, salinity as well as hints of toasted and sweet spices. The palate is juicy, fresh, gourmand and offers a beautiful definition, a beautiful juiciness, salinity as well as a beautiful mineral frame. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/fresh cassis, juicy/fresh raspberry and small notes of violet associated with touches of dense wild black fruits, graphite as well as hints of racy minerality and a subtle hint of toasted hazelnut. Good length.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

M de Moulin Riche 2020

Saint-Julien

The nose is fruity and offers gourmandise, a fine creaminess as well as a nice pulpiness. It reveals notes of pulpy strawberry, pulpy redcurrants and small notes of violet associated with touches of blackberry as well as hints of star anise, cornflower as well as delicate hints of sweet spices. The palate is nicely juicy, fruity, gourmand and offers elegance, precision, freshness, depth, a small stretchiness as well as a certain brightness of the fruit. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, bright Bigarreau cherry and small notes of pulpy/juicy small fruits associated with touches of chocolate, toasted as well as a hint of sweet spices and a discreet hint vanilla. Tannins are mellow. Nice grain of tannins. Nice small chew and gourmandise. Good length and persistence.

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

Château Moulin Riche 2020

Saint-Julien

Nice fruity nose, elegant and which offers gourmandise as well as a nice pulpiness/brightness of the fruit. There are notes of pulpy/juicy cherry, small red fruits (slightly roasted) and small notes of blueberry associated with touches of sweet spices. The palate is nicely juicy, fruity, elegant and offers gourmandise, tension, precision as well as a juicy and delicate structure. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy raspberry, bright redcurrants and small notes of bright blueberry associated with touches of blueberry, chocolate, toast as well as a subtle almost toasted hint and spices. Tannins are soft, nicely sapid and offer a nice small chew. Good length and persistence. Beautiful freshness and lovely juiciness! There is a hint of toast/cocoa on the persistence.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Pavillon de Léoville Poyferré 2020

Saint-Julien

The nose is fruity, elegant and offers fine concentration, depth and harmony. It reveals notes of creamy blackberry, bright raspberry and small notes of roasted cherry associated with touches of small blue fruits as well as hints of sweet spices, fresh pepper and a discreet hint of black tea. The palate is fruity, juicy, precise, clean and offers freshness, a tangy structure as well as a nice brightness and precision of the fruit. In the mouth this wine expresses notes of juicy/bright raspberry, fresh/juicy cherry and small notes of blueberry associated with a touch of juicy/fresh purple plum, hints of chocolate/cocoa and a varietal hint (in the background). Tannins are supple and sapid. Good length. Good length. Pretty gourmandise and brightness. Nicely soft and chewy on the finish (brings gourmandise).

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Connétable Talbot 2020

Saint-Julien

The wine has a deep ruby color. The nose is savoury and aromatic. It firstly expresses notes of smoke and roasted meat, which evolve towards sweet spices after aeration (roasted vanilla, liquorice, cinnamon, nutmeg). We also find notes of ripe and dense black fruits (crushed blackcurrant, blueberry, morello cherry, wild plum), red fruits (wild strawberry, raspberry jam), flowers (lily, dried cornflower, a touch of iris) and dried aromatic herbs (dried mint, rosemary). The mouth is silky and round. It offers fruity, slightly sweet (blackcurrant, crème de cassis, wild strawberry, raspberry jam), spicy (cinnamon, vanilla, liquorice), chocolate (cocoa, dark chocolate) and floral (violet, fresh cornflower) notes. The tannins are melted, velvety and very fine, while providing a beautiful structure to the wine. The finish is persistent, sweet and chocolatey, refreshed by a touch of chocolate with mint and a round, but fresh acidity.

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

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Clos du Marquis 2020

Saint-Julien

The nose offers density, substance, fleshiness, a certain richness of fruit as well as a small depth. It reveals notes of crushed raspberry, small roasted red fruits and small notes of morello cherry associated with touches of violet, dense boysenberry as well as hints of racy minerality and discreet hints of spices. The palate is nicely fresh, mineral, racy and offers precision, substance, a certain darkness in freshness as well as a certain power while delicacy and nobility. On the palate this wine expresses notes of black cherry, juicy/pulpy blackberry and more slightly pulpy/juicy raspberry associated with touches of fresh blueberry, chocolate, racy minerality, star anise as well as a subtle, almost sappy hint (in the background), fresh roast and torrefaction. Tannins are elegant, soft and racy. Nice wine! Wine benefits from being decanted.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Amiral de Beychevelle 2020

Saint-Julien

The nose is fruity and offers a certain intensity as well as a fine concentration. It reveals notes of morello cherry, juicy/pulpy blackcurrant and small notes of raspberry associated with touches of blond tobacco, liquorice stick as well as hints of roasted cherry and discreet hints of nutmeg. The palate is fruity, balanced and offers lovely juiciness, freshness, precision, tension, pulpiness as well as a certain brightness of the fruit. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy cherry, small bright/juicy red fruits and small notes of juicy blackcurrant associated with a hint of crushed blueberry, vanilla, toasted as well as fine hints of mocha (in the background). Tannins are racy and precise. Presence of a subtle hint of graphite and a fine darkness in the background. Nice persistence and sapid aftertaste.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Les Fiefs de Lagrange 2020

Saint-Julien

The nose is fruity and offers a certain small power as well as spiciness. There are notes of blackberry, violet and slight notes of small wild red fruits associated with touches of pepper and spices. The palate is nicely juicy, soft and offers roundness, substance, fat as well as a tangy structure. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy raspberry, pulpy cherry and small notes of juicy/fresh blackcurrant associated with touches of cornflower, camphor, cardamom and hints of torrefaction. Tannins are soft. Good length.

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

PAUILLAC

Domaine les Sadons 2020

Pauillac

The nose is fruity, concentrated and offers some power. It reveals notes of concentrated blackberry, strawberry and small notes of liquorice associated with touches of small roasted red fruits as well as slight hints of toast, sweet blond tobacco and a subtle hint of soft spices. The palate is mineral, balanced and offers freshness, a racy tension, a tangy frame as well as a nice racy structure. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/fresh cassis, tangy blackberry and small notes of crunchy cherry associated with touches of violet/iris, hints of small red fruits, a subtle hint of badian as well as a discreet sappy hint and salt.

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

Chapelle de Haut-Bages 2020

Pauillac

Pretty racy, gourmand nose that offers a harmonious power, a melodiousness and a certain intensity and depth. It reveals notes of pulpy blackberry, pulpy cassis and small notes of Morello cherry associated with touches of small roasted-fresh red fruits, a hint of menthol as well as a subtle hint of pepper and a very discreet point almost sappy/sage. The palate is fruity, balanced and offers juiciness, a tangy frame, minerality, a good definition, a certain precision, tension, minerality as well as a nice guideline (red thread). Harmony and melodiousness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy cherry, bright raspberry and small notes of bright cassis associated with a touch of small roasted/juicy/fresh fruits as well as a hint of zan and a subtle hint of sweet blond tobacco. The tannins are supple and silky. Good length and sapidity.

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

Château Pibran 2020

Pauillac

The nose offers a nice minerality, a certain intensity as well as some freshness. It reveals notes of creamy blackcurrant, small juicy/dense/fresh black fruits and small notes of strawberry associated with touches of spices, liquorice stick, cardamom, anise as well as a hint of cocoa and torrefaction. The palate is juicy, fresh, mineral and offers a nice juiciness of the fruit, a nice bright/juicy fruit as well as gourmandise. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy black cherry, blackcurrant and small notes of roasted raspberry associated with touches of liquorice stick, blond tobacco, fine hints of morello

cherry as well as hints of roast, of chocolate and a fine hint of sweet blond tobacco. Tannins are supple. Presence of a hint of good bitterness. Presence of a subtle sappy hint.

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

Haut-Batailley Verso 2020

Pauillac

Nice nose of fruit and gourmandise. We find notes of black cherry, boysenberry and slight notes of small roasted red fruits associated with touches of cornflower, star anise as well as discreet hints of spices and a subtle hint of infusion. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, a juicy/tangy structure, sapidity as well as a drinkability. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy black cherry, bright raspberry and small notes of small bright red fruits associated with touches of violet, lily as well as fine hints of infusion and a discreet hint of almost torrefaction.

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

Pichon Comtess, Réserve 2020

Pauillac

Beautiful elegant nose that offers depth, concentration, airiness, a small floral/pistil side, a beautiful complexity of the aromatic palette as well as a spicy finish. It reveals notes of fresh cassis, fresh flowers and small notes of crushed raspberry associated with touches of saffron, menthol, discreet hints of fresh pepper, graphite as well as a subtle hint almost leaf of fresh tobacco and vanilla. The palate is fresh, mineral, beautifully tangy and offers delicacy in its power as well as a slight electric touch, aerial and tense. The attack is powerful, fresh and delicate. Beautiful complex mid-palate. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, fresh/pulpy raspberry and small notes of roasted-juicy cherry associated with floral touches, toasted almond, chocolate as well as hints of graphite, with discreet toasted hints and a hint of vanilla.

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

Les Tourelles de Longueville 2020

Pauillac

The nose is fruity and offers a certain power, freshness as well as a fine minerality. It reveals notes of pulpy/juicy blackcurrant and small notes of graphite associated with touches of morello cherry/roasted small fruits, a discreet hint of orange/zest as well as a subtle almost sappy hint and fresh coffee. The palate is fresh, mineral and offers juiciness, gourmandise, juiciness as well as a lovely juicy, bright and tangy fruit. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/tangy blackcurrant, morello cherry and small notes of small tangy/fresh red fruits associated with touches of juicy roasted small fruits as well as hints of star anise, toast, mocha and a discreet hint of sweet spices. Lovely juiciness and lovely freshness.

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

Les Griffons de Pichon Baron 2020

Pauillac

The nose is fruity and offers precise concentration, a certain intensity, depth, an infusion hint as well as a nice gravelly hint. We find notes of morello cherry, black cherry, and small notes of small roasted red fruits associated with touches of star anise, cardamom as well as discreet hints of pepper. The palate is fruity and offers lovely juiciness, freshness as well as tanginess. On the palate this wine expresses notes of fresh/juicy blackcurrant, small bright black berries and small notes of small roasted fruits associated with touches of spices, pepper as well as a discreet almost sage hint and fine hints of nutmeg. Tannins are supple and precise. Good length. Discreet firmness on the finish/persistence.

Score : 16.25+/20 (93/100)

Pastourelle de Clerc Milon 2020

Pauillac

Lovely floral character, elegance and a lovely gourmand fruit. We find notes of iris, fresh lily and slight notes of cocoa associated with touches of boysenberry, fleshy blueberry as well as hints of crushed strawberry, blond tobacco, sweetness, vanilla and a very discreet powdery hint. The palate is nicely structured, balanced and offers a very nice graphite freshness, energy, gourmandise, a floral bouquet as well as a coating touch. The attack is elegant, dynamic and tense. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, pulpy/juicy strawberry and small notes of small fresh/juicy red berries associated with floral touches (iris, lilac, etc.) as well as hints of toast, nutmeg, with discreet hints of chocolate and a subtle hint of blond tobacco (in the background). Tannins are supple. Presence of a subtle, almost sappy hint.

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

Le petit Mouton de Mouton Rothschild 2020

Pauillac

The nose is nicely fresh, nicely textured and offers depth, creaminess as well as a small graphite hint. We find notes of morello cherry, boysenberry and slight notes of smoke/powder associated with touches of small fresh roasted red fruits, lily, cornflower, discreet hints of toasted almond as well as a touch of mocha and camphor. The palate is nicely

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structured, elegant, airy, melodious and offers superb freshness, a soothing sensation as well as tension in precision and finesse. The attack is round, charming and creamy. On the palate this wine expresses notes of bright grape, bright/juicy blackcurrant and small notes of fresh blueberry associated with touches of fresh/juicy raspberry, hints of cornflower, violet as well as a subtle hint of tonka bean and cardamom. Presence of a very discreet hint of iodine on the finish/persistence (brings palatability).

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Pauillac de Latour 2020

Pauillac

Nice fruity nose, elegant and which offers a very fine sustained/airy creaminess, good definition as well as a floral hint. There are notes of boysenberry, crushed strawberry and slight notes of star anise associated with touches of violet, vanilla, fine hints of toast as well as a very discreet hint of salt and pepper. The palate is fruity, balanced, sapid and offers juiciness, salinity, good definition, a nice freshness, a nice minerality, creaminess as well as a nice gravelly hint. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/fresh blackberry, small juicy/fresh red berries and slight notes of raspberry associated with touches of violet, tonka bean, salty gravel as well as a subtle hint of lily and vanilla. Tannins are sapid, coating and discreetly sappy. Good length. Lovely flavor and delicacy. Nice persistence.

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

La Rose Pauillac, Cuvée Bois de Rose 2020

Pauillac

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is fruity, concentrated, fresh and harmonious. It expresses notes of tangy black fruits (morello cherry, blackcurrant, blueberry, wild plum), roundness and gourmandise of red fruits (strawberry, crushed raspberry, roasted red cherry), a fine resinous touch (dry pine needles, pine sap), as well as a pronounced but enveloped spicy and woody side (liquorice, toasted oak, vanilla, clove, coconut in the background), with a fine floral touch (violet) and a hint of cherry in the chocolate. The palate is firm, straight, with powerful, but soft and melted tannins. The attack is gourmand and refined, with lots of ripe fruit (blackcurrant, morello cherry, wild strawberry, red cherry jam, raspberry coulis), which is completed by warm but subtle spicy and roasted notes (fresh vanilla, cloves, liquorice, mint chocolate). Beautiful length with notes of cocoa, liquorice, as well as a refreshing touch of blackcurrant leaves and violet. The acidity is lively and fresh.

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

Les Forts de Latour 2020

Pauillac

Nice elegant, mineral and subtle nose. We find notes of pulpy blackcurrant and small notes of roasted cherry associated with touches of small creamy red fruits, graphite, fresh nutmeg as well as a very discreet hint of lily, spices and a subtle toasted hint. The palate is nicely fresh, mineral, racy and offers precision, a nice brightness, a fine electric touch, a nice energy, a nice gourmandise, precise tension, a fresh airiness as well as a nice small enveloping and a suave touch. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/bright blackberry and Bigarreau cherry associated with touches of violet, lily, hints of small bright red fruits, tonka bean, almond as well as fine hints of graphite, iodized gravel, cherry blossoms and an imperceptible, almost sappy hint in the background. Tannins are elegant, supple and suave. Good length. A slight firmness in the background/on the persistence. A subtle hint of good bitterness.

Score : 17.5/20 (95/100)

Fleur de Pédesclaux 2020

Pauillac

The wine has a deep ruby color. The nose is fleshy, concentrated, slightly smoky. It expresses woody notes at the beginning (toasted wood, a touch of coffee), which then combine with a delicate spiciness (liquorice, ground cumin, grated nutmeg), a beautiful fruity substance (wild strawberry, morello cherry, red cherry jam, blackcurrant, crème de cassis, raspberry coulis) and a refined floral bouquet (cornflower violet). The palate is gourmand, open and supple. It expresses notes of wild strawberry, red cherry jam, morello cherry, blackcurrant, blackberry, wild plum, as well as pronounced notes of liquorice and menthol, especially on the finish. There are also notes of ground cumin, cloves, dark chocolate, dried cornflower and violet, as well as a slight smoky touch in the background. The tannins are fine and melted. Beautiful acidity and persistence on the palate. The finish is gourmand, savoury and spicy. Good balance overall.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Moulin de Duhart 2020

Pauillac

Nice elegant, spicy nose which offers a certain velvety/controlled power, elegance as

well as delicacy in the touch/texture. We find notes of violet, cornflower and quite ripe wild strawberry associated with touches of small roasted fruits, cherry, small touches of sweet blond tobacco, a hint of fresh pepper and an imperceptible hint almost tonka bean. The palate is fruity, tense, balanced and offers juiciness, freshness, lovely definition, subtlety in its richness, precise creaminess, beautiful energy as well as an almost electric touch. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy blackberry, morello cherry and small notes of blackcurrant associated with touches of small juicy/tangy red fruits, a sappy hint as well as hints of racy minerality. Tannins are supple and soft. Good length. There is a subtle hint of saline and vanilla on the finish/persistence. Nice persistence.

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

Château Bellevue-Cardon 2020

Pauillac

The wine has a deep ruby color. The nose is fruity and gourmand: it expresses notes of ripe red fruits (morello cherry, blackcurrant, wild strawberry, crushed raspberry, blackberry, red cherry jam), associated with gourmand aromas of sweet spices (roasted vanilla, cinnamon, clove, liquorice), roasting (toasted wood), dark chocolate, as well as delicate floral (violet, rose), herbaceous and resinous notes (dried mint, blackcurrant leaf, pine needles) and a mineral touch in the background. The palate is savoury, round, juicy and tasty. We first find distinct woody and spicy notes (toasted oak, toasted vanilla, clove, a hint of vanilla and coconut). It then expresses notes of fresh morello cherry, wild strawberry, red cherry, redcurrant jelly, raspberry coulis, blackcurrant and blueberry, as well as a floral touch (violet, rose petals), herbaceous (blackcurrant bud, wild mint) and resinous notes (pine needles, pine sap). The tannins are powerful, a little bitter and grainy (especially on attack), but balanced by a lively acidity. The finish is quite persistent, chiselled, but fruity and gourmand.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)



Carruades de Lafite 2020

Pauillac

Nice gourmand nose, elegant and offers concentration in precision, finesse, a certain depth, complexity as well as a small velvety/airy touch. We find notes of boysenberry, pulpy raspberry and small notes of small, quite ripe wild red fruits associated with touches of Timut pepper, nutmeg as well as hints of blond tobacco, star anise and discreet hints of spices. Lots of sweetness and delicacy in the spices. The palate is juicy, fresh, mineral, balanced and offers a juicy/tangy structure, elegance, lovely definition, precision, great energy, lovely juiciness as well as a sunny side in the quality of the fruit (but without losing tanginess, balance and freshness). On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, Bigarreau cherry and small notes of small juicy/ripe red berries associated with hints of blond tobacco, tonka bean and discreet hints of Bourbon vanilla. Tannins are soft. Good length. Lovely racy minerality marked on the finish.

Score : 17.5/20 (95/100)

Alias Croizet-Bages 2020

Pauillac

Nice racy nose, sappy and offers controlled power as well as a fine peppery hint. It reveals notes of boysenberry, small red berries and small notes of pepper associated with touches of lily, racy minerality/dry gravel as well as hints of star anise and discreet hints of sap. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, a tangy frame, minerality, good definition, precision, tension, good definition as well as a nice juiciness/definition of the fruit and a certain brightness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy cherry, small bright/pulpy wild red berries and slight notes of blackberry associated with touches of racy minerality, violet as well as hints of toast, tonka bean/cocoa and fine hints of cardamom (in the background). Tannins are precise, fine and supple. A subtle chew on the finish/persistence.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Prélude à Grand-Puy Ducasse 2020

Pauillac

The wine has a deep ruby color. The nose is rich, ripe and offers concentration, even a velvety texture. It first expresses notes of dried flowers (dried rose, dried peony), fresh flowers (iris, a touch of violet), aromatic herbs (fresh wild mint, oregano, thyme), as well as fine aromas of sweet spices (cloves, cumin, liquorice, white pepper). The fruity bouquet is open, straight and fresh, with a subtle tanginess. We find notes of wild blueberry, wild strawberry, blackcurrant, raspberry and wild blackberry. There is also a fine touch of torrefaction: of coffee, bitter cocoa and toasted almond. On the palate, the wine is expressive from the attack and initially offers flavors of dark chocolate, coffee, ground cumin, cloves, grilled vanilla, toasted hazelnut and heated wood. It is then completed by notes of juicy and ripe fruit (with a slight sweetness): morello cherry, blackberry, wild strawberry, wild plum, chocolate prunes, as well as notes of chocolate with mint, liquorice and dried rose, which add a touch of freshness to the richness of the wine. The tannins are well structured, enveloping, but silky. A very

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long finish, full and rich, with notes of chocolate, dried mint and morello cherry jam. Beautiful acidity in balance with the profile of the wine.

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

Château Haut de la Bécade 2020

Pauillac

The wine has a deep ruby color. The nose offers density, depth and gourmandise. It expresses notes of fresh blackcurrant, crème de cassis, morello cherry, red cherry jam, roasted red cherry, raspberry and wild strawberry, combined with fresh notes of wild mint, blackcurrant bud, black tea, with a refined spiciness (liquorice, white pepper, cloves, ground cumin) as well as fine floral touches (violet, cornflower) and a hint of toasted hazelnut and coffee in the background. The palate offers concentration, a firm and dry tannic structure on the finish. It expresses notes of dried red cherry, morello cherry, blackcurrant, raspberry, wild strawberry and blueberry, associated with an integrated spiciness (liquorice, clove, nutmeg), a touch of dried mint, black tea, violet, rose and cocoa in the background. The acidity is lively and salivating, it balances the dry tannins on the finish. A powerful, concentrated and gourmand wine.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

SAINT-ESTÈPHE

Château Haut-Marbuzet 2020

Saint-Estèphe

The nose is fresh, vanilla and offers a certain purity of fruit as well as a nice finesse in its intensity. It reveals notes of pulpy cassis, cornflower and small notes of black pepper associated with touches of lilac, Bourbon vanilla as well as a subtle hint of bergamot. The palate is mineral and offers juiciness, suavity, aromatic purity, gourmandise, depth as well as an aerial grain, fine and powerful (racy power). A beautiful delicate and elegant profile. On the palate this wine expresses notes of bright cassis, roasted redcurrants and small notes of small red fruits almost jammy associated with touches of cornflower, Bourbon vanilla pod, chocolate as well as a subtle hint of sweet blond tobacco and a discreet hint of torrefaction (in the background). The tannins are elegant, racy and relatively polished.

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

Château Martin 2020

Saint-Estèphe

The nose is spicy and offers tension. It reveals notes of spices, cloves and small notes of small quite ripe fruits associated with a slight empyreumatic touch. The palate is fruity, balanced and offers freshness, minerality, linearity as well as almost fluidity. On the palate this wine expresses notes of cassis, juicy cherry and small notes of violet associated with a slight touch of liquorice.

Score : 14+/20 (87/100)

Domaine Fleuron de Liot 2020

Saint-Estèphe

The nose is spicy and offers a certain power as well as a tension of the grain. It reveals notes of quite ripe cassis, roasted cherry and small notes of violet associated with touches of flint, lilac, nutmeg, small crushed fruits as well as a very discreet hint of almost balsamic and toast (in the background). The palate is mineral, balanced and offers tension, precision, a certain finesse in its power, harmony and a small straightness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/tangy cassis, tangy red berries and small notes of violet associated with a touch of small roasted fruits, slight hints of fresh blond tobacco as well as a discreet hint of lilac, pepper and a very discreet hint of torrefaction in the background.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Château de Pez 2020

Saint-Estèphe

The nose is gourmand and offers concentration, depth, a good definition as well as a beautiful slight spiciness. It reveals notes of bright raspberry and crushed small red berries associated with touches of cornflower, lily as well as a hint of bright strawberry, hints of nutmeg, Timut pepper and a very discreet hint almost citrus/orange. The palate is fruity, balanced and offers a beautiful freshness, minerality, a certain fat, tension, airiness as well as precision. Power/concentration but in precision. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy blackberry, juicy/fresh cherry and small notes of violet associated with touches of lily/iris, hints of juicy small red berries as well as a hint of small blue fruits, graphene, nutmeg, toast and vanilla. The tannins are elegant and offer a certain chew and gourmandise. Good length. Presence of a hint of dark chocolate on the persistence/aftertaste.

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

Les Pagodes de Cos 2020

Saint-Estèphe

Nice full, concentrated nose which offers controlled/racy power as well as a nice fine

and elegant grain. It reveals notes of wild blackcurrant, graphite, black pepper and small notes of pulpy cherry associated with touches of wild red fruits, hints of lily, spices as well as a sappy hint, darkness and almost infusion. The palate is mineral, fresh, balanced, racy and offers a fresh/juicy frame, good definition, precision, balance, fatness, roundness as well as straightness. Everything in control. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy blackberry, bright blackcurrant and small notes of bright/fresh strawberry associated with pretty touches of crushed small fruits, vanilla, toasted fruit as well as a subtle hint of juicy roasted fruit, with fine hints of graphite, tonka bean and a hint of roasted almond. Tannins are supple, elegant and melted. Beautiful persistence.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Château Phélan Ségur 2020

Saint-Estèphe

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is fragrant and woody at first. It expresses notes of toasted oak, toasted (even caramelised) hazelnut and toasted almond. We then find freshness and a beautiful fruitiness in notes of wild mint, menthol, pine needles, pine sap, fresh strawberry, crushed raspberry, fresh blackcurrant, blueberry, morello cherry and red cherry, as well as an elegant floral bouquet (violet, cornflower, rose) and sweet spices (liquorice, nutmeg). The palate is savoury, gourmand and airy, with a beautiful structure of firm but melted tannins and a lot of elegance. The wine first expresses pleasant notes of sweet spices (ground cumin, cloves, liquorice) and a smoky touch, associated with fruity flavors (roasted red cherry, wild strawberry, creamy blackcurrant, morello cherry, redcurrant jelly, blueberry) and floral (violet, cornflower, peony). The finish is long, fresh, with a nice acidity and gourmandise, brought by notes of cocoa and cherry in chocolate on the finish. The tannins are tighter in the finish, but can round out over time. Elegance, strong structure and good potential.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)



Château Graves de Pez 2020

Saint-Estèphe

The wine benefits from being decanted. The nose offers a certain concentration of fruit as well as a floral bouquet. It reveals notes of black cherry and small notes of pulpy strawberry associated with touches of racy minerality, slight hints of purple plum as well as discreet hints of nutmeg and almost sage/sap in the background. The palate is mineral and offers freshness, fullness, some fat, tension as well as fluidity. On the palate this wine expresses notes of black cherry and crushed wild small fruits associated with touches of badian, camphor as well as a hint of clove. Good length. Minerality!

Score : 14.5/20 (88/100)

2nd Pez du Château de Pez 2020

Saint-Estèphe

The nose is fruity, mineral, chiseled and offers a beautiful ripe-fresh fruit. It reveals notes of wild cassis, roasted cherry and small notes of toast, red berries as well as hints of crushed blueberry and chocolate. The palate is nicely led, elegant, aerial, delicate and

offers a beautiful definition, freshness, minerality, a certain depth as well as a beautiful balance. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy cassis, crushed cherry and small notes of crushed strawberry associated with a touch of roasted fruit, chocolate as well as hints of toast. The tannins are melted and gourmand.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Château La Croix de Pez 2020

Saint-Estèphe

The nose is spicy and offers a small empyreumatic and peppery hint. It reveals notes of blackberry, violet and small notes of graphite associated with small touches of black pepper and bergamot. The palate is mineral and offers freshness, some fullness as well as tension. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy cassis, juicy/pulpy purple plum and small notes of small roasted red fruits associated with touches of black pepper, cardamom as well as a hint of incense and cloves.

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

Château Tronquoy 2020

Saint-Estèphe

The nose is fruity, elegant, gourmand and offers concentration, precision as well as a certain richness. It reveals notes of pulpy strawberry, pulpy cherry and small notes of wild cassis associated with touches of graphite, anise/badian as well as a hint of gray pepper. The palate is fruity and offers freshness, minerality, a fresh frame, purity of fruit, deepness, good definition, precision as well as some silkiness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, bright black cherry and small notes of flowers (iris, cornflower) associated with touches of liquorice stick, lilac, nutmeg as well as slight hints of vanilla. The tannins are supple and sapid. Good length. Beautiful work on the good bitters. Slight hints of cocoa in the background/on the finish. A slight chew.

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

Médoc & Médoc area

Château Domeyne 2020

Saint-Estèphe

The nose is spicy and mineral. The wine benefits from being decanted. It reveals notes of blackberry, violet and pepper associated with touches of crushed wild small fruits as well as hints of sweet spices and toast/vanilla. A discreet hint of saffron. The palate is mineral, coating, racy and offers freshness, some fatness. In the mouth this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy raspberry, flowers and small notes of pulpy/fresh small red fruits associated with touches of blond tobacco and vanilla. The tannins are supple and silky

Score : 14.75+/20 (89/100)

Château Ségur de Cabanac 2020

Saint-Estèphe

The wine has a deep ruby color with purple reflections. The nose is fragrant, complex and deep. It expresses precise but subtle notes of sweet spices (cinnamon, toasted vanilla, liquorice stick, even star anise, ground cumin, cloves), combined with a beautiful fruity bouquet. We find notes of ripe morello cherry, roasted red cherry, blackcurrant, blueberry, wild strawberry. There are also refined aromas of aromatic herbs (dried thyme and rosemary), juniper berries and bay leaf. In the background, we find touches of toasted hazelnut, sweet coffee, fresh tobacco, as well as a floral touch of dried rose and cornflower. On the palate, the wine offers power, richness and gourmandise. The tannins are firm, structured, but have a velvety texture enveloped in the fruit. It expresses the flavors of roasted red cherry, ripe morello cherry, blueberry, blackcurrant and wild strawberry, combined with notes of sweet spices (cinnamon, liquorice, vanilla), a hint of cocoa, dried flowers (cornflower, rose petals), as well as a touch of chocolate with mint and toasted hazelnut. The finish is long, savoury and spicy, with a salivating acidity which gives freshness to the wine. A deep, complex wine, which will evolve over time.

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

Les Pèlerins de Lafon-Rochet 2020

Saint-Estèphe

The wine has a deep ruby color with purple reflections. The nose is fragrant, complex and deep. It expresses precise but subtle notes of sweet spices (cinnamon, toasted vanilla, liquorice stick, even star anise, ground cumin, cloves), combined with a beautiful fruity bouquet. We find notes of ripe morello cherry, roasted red cherry, blackcurrant, blueberry, wild strawberry. There are also refined aromas of aromatic herbs (dried thyme and rosemary), juniper berries and bay leaf. In the background, we find touches of toasted hazelnut, sweet coffee, fresh tobacco, as well as a floral touch of dried rose and cornflower. On the palate, the wine offers power, richness and gourmandise. The tannins are firm, structured, but have a velvety texture enveloped in the fruit. It expresses the flavors of roasted red cherry, ripe morello cherry, blueberry, blackcurrant and wild strawberry, combined with notes of sweet spices (cinnamon, liquorice, vanilla), a hint of cocoa, dried flowers (cornflower, rose petals), as well as a touch of chocolate with mint and toasted hazelnut. The finish is long, savoury and spicy, with a salivating acidity which gives freshness to the wine. A deep, complex wine, which will evolve over time.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

La Devise de Lilian 2020

Saint-Estèphe

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is fragrant and expresses distinct woody notes at the beginning. We find the aromas of toasted oak, toasted hazelnut, vanilla (in the background), liquorice, associated with elegant floral hints (violet, dried cornflower) and a beautiful fruity substance (wild strawberry, morello cherry, cherry jam). red, redcurrant jelly, crushed blackcurrant, wild blackberry), as well as a hint of pine needles and dried mint. The mouth is straight, fresh and chiseled. It expresses flavors of wild strawberry, blackcurrant, crushed blueberry, red cherry, raspberry coulis, as well as an integrated woody and spicy notes (liquorice, grilled vanilla, nutmeg, toasted hazelnut in the background), combined with a touch of chocolate, dried mint, violet and liquorice. The tannins are fine, very silky. The finish is gourmand, chocolatey and fruity, with a nice acidity. Good persistence, gourmandise and elegance. A fleshy, juicy wine, but already accessible.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Château Coussieu-Coutelin 2020

Saint-Estèphe

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is aromatic, spicy and savoury, with a fruity, fleshy and enveloping sensation, as well as a fragrant floral bouquet. It expresses the notes of sweet spices at the beginning (ground nutmeg, liquorice stick, fresh vanilla, clove), which are complemented by floral scents (rose, iris, violet), by pleasant woody notes and hints of torrefaction (toasted hazelnut, a touch of caramel), with a fresh touch of peppermint and blackcurrant leaf and with a gourmand and fleshy fruitiness (wild strawberry, crushed blackcurrant, blackberry, crushed blueberry, morello cherry, crushed raspberry). On the palate, the wine is airy and savoury. We find the quite expressive, but delicate woody side (toasted hazelnut, a hint of toasted wood, caramel and bitter almond), a fleshy fruity substance (wild strawberry, crushed raspberry, morello cherry, blackcurrant, black plum, blueberry), sweet spices (liquorice, toasted vanilla, cumin, cloves), flowers (rose, violet, iris) and blackcurrant leaf. The tannins are a bit grippy, but fine, rounded by a salivating acidity and a gourmand fruity substance. The finish is sapid, quite persistent and juicy. A structured, but accessible wine.

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

Château Beau-Site Haut-Vignoble 2020

Saint-Estèphe

The nose is aromatic, spicy and tight. The wine benefits from being decanted. It reveals

notes of fleshy cassis, small fleshy red berries and small notes of violet associated with touches of Cuben pepper, spices as well as hints of dry gravels. The palate is fruity, balanced and offers juiciness, suavity, a mineral frame, gourmandise, a slight concentration as well as deepness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy cassis, pulpy raspberry and small notes of crushed redcurrants associated with touches of chocolate, dry gravels, iodine as well as hints of nutmeg, camphor and pepper. The tannins are racy and elegant. Good length. Presence of a subtle hint of chocolate and gourmandise in the finish/persistence.

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

Prieur de Meyney 2020

Saint-Estèphe

The nose is tense, fresh and offers a certain power in the grain, a certain intensity as well as a fine varietal hint. It reveals notes of wild blackberry, star anise and small notes of small wild fruits associated with varietal touches as well as a fine hint of clove, graphite and toast. The palate is juicy, fresh and offers a certain pulpiness, fatness, roundness, good definition, tension, a drinkability as well as a beautiful racy structure. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy raspberry, fleshy/juicy cherry and small notes of blackberry associated with touches of sap as well as hints of chocolate and toast. Tannins are supple and well-built. Good length.

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

Château La Croix St-Estèphe 2020

Saint-Estèphe

The nose is fruity and offers a slight intensity as well as a slight concentration. It reveals notes of blackberry, pulpy cherry and small notes of cornflower associated with touches of spices as well as a subtle hint of camphor. The palate is fruity, easy to access, balanced and offers juiciness, freshness, tension in precision. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy cherry, bright redcurrants and small notes of blackberry associated with floral touches as well as hints of sweet spices, nutmeg, cardamon and a discreet hint of chocolate. The tannins are slightly chewy.

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

Château Meyney 2020

Saint-Estèphe

The nose is racy, spicy and offers power in finesse, a dry gravel side (terroir) as well as a lovely fine, powerful and racy grain. We find notes of blackcurrant, small wild red berries and slight notes of fresh pepper associated with touches of toast, nutmeg as well as fine hints of crushed blackberry, delicate hints of tobacco, racy minerality, with a hint of cloves and a subtle hint of vanilla. The palate is fruity, balanced and offers juiciness, a slight suavity, a mineral/tangy structure, good definition, tension as well as precision. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, pulpy/bright strawberry and small notes of small creamy fruits associated with touches of racy minerality, graphite, tonka bean/cocoa as well as hints of small fruits roasted, blond tobacco and a hint of Bourbon vanilla. Tannins offer softness and gourmandise.

Score : 16.75+/20 (94/100)

Château Haut Beauséjour 2020

Saint-Estèphe

The nose is fruity and offers a certain power, a small concentration, a graphite touch as well as a discreet darkness. We find notes of wild blackberry, wild blackcurrant and slight notes of ripe Bigarreau cherry associated with floral touches, spices, a hint of warm sap as well as a discreet hint almost of citrus zest, darkness/graphite and a discreet hint of torrefaction. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, a tangy structure, minerality, freshness, a small tension as well as precision. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, redcurrants and small notes of juicy/fresh cherry associated with touches of lily, tangy violet plum as well as a hint of cardamon, toasted almond and a point of torrefaction. Tannins are racy, precise and offer a small softness.

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

Château Bel-Air Ortet 2020

Saint-Estèphe

The wine has a deep ruby color. The wine is reserved for the first nose and benefits from aeration. It expresses notes of tart red cherry, fresh strawberry, crushed raspberry, blackcurrant, crushed blueberry and morello cherry, combined with a fine herbaceous touch (blackcurrant leaf, peppermint), soft, slightly sweet spices (vanilla, cinnamon; liquorice with a hint of star anise, clove), fresh flowers (peony, rose, violet) and a fine touch of torrefaction (mild coffee, caramelised hazelnut, toasted wood), with a touch of pine sap in the background. On the palate, the wine expresses accuracy, firmness and precision, while remaining fruity and gourmand. It expresses notes of strawberry, crushed raspberry, blackcurrant, wild blackberry, morello cherry and crushed blueberry, associated with toasted notes (toasted wood, toasted hazelnut, sweet coffee), spicy (liquorice, white pepper, cloves of clove), with a herbaceous touch (blackcurrant leaf in the background, peppermint) and floral notes (violet, peony). The tannins are grippy and tight in the mid-palate, but quite fine. The finish offers gourmandise, a savoury spiciness, a slight bitterness, as well as a nice persistence. A straight and structured wine, with good aging potential.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)



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Nizza

The year 2020-21 has been the 15th warmest one compared to the late 64 years, marked by an average temperature of 9.9°C. The winegrower must be expected this temperature ranking will rise in the future. Nizza area too is entered in a new cycle influenced by climate change, characterized by several extreme climatic phenomena, frequently but localized in restricted areas. Notwithstanding this hot and dry year, there were floods and heavy rainfall especially at the beginning of the 2021; the spring has been signed by a frosts which affected the valley bottoms in a spotty manner. Despite a late vegetative awakening, the harvest began a week early, grapes had perfect phenolic ripeness, sugar, pH and acidity ideal levels; great conditions for Nizza with high persistence and good potential of ageing.

NIZZA DOCG

Guasti, Laficaia 2020

Nizza

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is reserved and discreet (the wine benefits from being airy). It expresses notes of garriguetta strawberry, fresh raspberry, red currants, morello cherry and red cherry jam, with a touch of fresh blueberry. We also find delicate floral notes (iris, peony, rose), a hint of wild mint and a fine spiciness (grated nutmeg, cloves, liquorice, a fine touch of vanilla) and a hint of toasted hazelnut. The palate offers freshness and airiness, as well as gourmandise and a savoury spiciness. We find notes of clove, grated nutmeg, toasted vanilla (in the background), liquorice, as well as a hint of toasted hazelnut, flowers (peony, violet, iris) and juicy ripe fruits (morello cherry, wild strawberry, red cherry, raspberry coulis, blueberry). The tannins are well structured, fine, but firm. The finish is warm, gourmand and supple, but quite fresh.

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

Cossetti, Crivelletto 2021

Nizza

The wine has a bright ruby color. The nose expresses a fragrant, tangy and bright fruity bouquet: we find notes of wild strawberries, tangy red cherry jam, fresh raspberries, redcurrant jelly and elderberry syrup. On the second nose, the wine offers an expressive and elegant floral notes of peony, iris, rose, associated with a mineral (resinous), herbaceous (mint) touch and a fine spicy hint (liquorice). The palate is lively, chiseled and tangy. The attack is frank, fruity, with notes of tart red cherry, raspberry, cranberries and strawberry. We then find notes of rose, iris and peony, as well as touches of crushed wild mint and a spicy touch (liquorice, cumin). The tannins are fine and delicate, but noticeable. Good acidity and good length.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Vinchio Vaglio Laudana 2020

Nizza

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose offers concentration, fruit, as well as a refined spicy and oaky notes. It expresses notes of clove, nutmeg, liquorice, cocoa and cherry in chocolate, enveloped in a juicy and ripe fruitiness. We find notes of wild strawberry, morello cherry, cherry jam, raspberry coulis, a touch of blackcurrant, dried mint, as well as violet, rose and dried cornflower, combined with a mineral hint. The palate is juicy and silky, gourmand and fruity. It expresses the flavors of wild strawberries, juicy morello cherries, crushed blackcurrants, raspberry coulis, blueberry jam, combined with a fine spicy and herbaceous notes (liquorice, cloves, a hint of vanilla, dried mint), dark chocolate, cherry in chocolate, as well as slightly sweet floral notes of peony and iris. The tannins are melted and soft, with a fine texture. Beautiful lively and salivating acidity, good persistence on the palate.

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

Frasca, La Guaragna 2020

Nizza

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is gourmand, fruity and finely spicy. It expresses distinct and savoury sweet spicy notes: grated nutmeg, cloves, fresh liquorice stick and cumin grains, combined with notes of ripe fruit (strawberry, morello

cherry, raspberry, red plum, fresh blackcurrant), wild mint, as well as dried rose, rosehip, lilac, as well as a toasted and smoked touch in the melt. The palate is delicious, fruity and enveloping, even with slightly sweet and jammy flavors. It expresses notes of crushed wild strawberry, raspberry, raspberry jam, crème de cassis, morello cherry jam and fresh morello cherry, combined with notes of chocolate cherry, mint chocolate, liquorice, clove, ground nutmeg, and fine floral notes (rose, lilac, rosehip). The tannins are very fine, structured, slightly grippy, but silky and enveloped. The finish is quite persistent, delicious, sapid, slightly spicy, with a nice refreshing acidity.

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

Frasca, La Guaragna, La Veja 2020

Nizza

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is savoury, delicately spicy and chocolatey. It expresses notes of clove, liquorice, ground nutmeg, a hint of cinnamon, as well as touches of fresh tobacco, dry bay leaf, wild mint, lilac, rose, lily and a beautiful fruity material (notes of fresh strawberry, roasted red cherry, raspberry coulis, fresh blackcurrant and morello cherry). We also find a delicate touch of roasting in the background (toasted wood, toasted almond) and a hint of black olive. The palate is gourmand, juicy and expressive. We find notes of crushed wild strawberry, raspberry coulis, fresh crushed blackcurrant, morello cherry and roasted red cherry, combined with touches of liquorice, ground nutmeg, cinnamon and vanilla in the background, as well as notes of fresh tobacco, bay leaf, toasted almond and black olive. The tannins are well structured and melted. The finish is persistent, gourmand and tasty, with sweet notes of roasted cherry, refreshed by a salivating acidity.

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

Cascina Guido Berta 2020

Nizza

The wine has a bright ruby color, of medium intensity. The nose is smoky, even meaty at first, but benefits from aeration. It then expresses notes of morello cherry, tart red cherry, raspberry, strawberry, crushed wild blackberry, as well as a herbaceous touch (basil, thyme, bay leaf), balsamic, sweet spices (nutmeg, clove, liquorice in the background) and flowers (violet, cornflower, dried rose). The palate is savoury, enveloping and reflects the meaty notes, which we find on the first nose. It then develops towards notes of crushed strawberry, morello cherry, juicy red cherry, raspberry and red currants, associated with notes of sweet spices (grated nutmeg, cloves, liquorice), dried flowers (rose, cornflower, violet) and a touch of cherry in chocolate in the background. The tannins are soft and supple, with a fine and velvety texture. Good acidity and good persistence. A savoury and gourmand wine.

Score : 15.5/20 (91/100)

Durio Pragerolamo 2020

Nizza

The wine has a deep ruby color. The nose is gourmand, fruity, with a nice freshness of menthol. It expresses notes of juicy morello cherry, wild strawberry, fresh raspberry, blackberry, wild plum, fresh purple fig, roasted red cherry and dried blackcurrant, combined with notes of wild mint, eucalyptus, with a refined spiciness (grated nutmeg, cloves, liquorice, a touch of vanilla), as well as a floral bouquet (rose, violet, dried peony). The palate is full, gourmand and fruity, with a firm but elegant tannic structure. The flavors are juicy and gourmand: we find notes of wild strawberry, blackberry, crushed blackcurrant, red cherry jam, crème de cassis, as well as mint chocolate, menthol, chocolate cherry, cloves, nutmeg, a touch of cinnamon and

liquorice. The finish is persistent, chocolatey, with a nice acidity. Freshness and balance on the palate, the high alcohol level is integrated and practically imperceptible (we just feel a warming touch which appears in the finish).

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

La Maranzana, La Sessanta 2019

Nizza

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity with very light garnet reflections. The nose offers distinct, but integrated, spicy and oaky notes, as well as very subtle developing aromas. We find in particular notes of fresh tobacco, forest floor (a very slightly perceptible touch), dried mint, dried rose, iris and lilac, as well as a juicy and ripe fruitiness: the aromas of strawberry crunch, raspberry, fresh blackcurrant, crème



Nizza

de cassis, morello cherry, as well as a delicate lactic touch of cherry yogurt, sweet spices (vanilla, cinnamon, liquorice, cloves) and caramelised hazelnut. On the palate, the wine offers smoothness, gourmandise and roundness, as well as liveliness, thanks to a salivating acidity. It expresses the flavors of morello cherry, crunchy strawberry, raspberry, fresh blackcurrant, liquorice, vanilla (in the background), crushed mint and a fine floral bouquet (rose, violet, lilac). Nice balance: gourmandise, lovely freshness on the palate and a savory finish. The tannins are fine and delicate.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Tenuta Bricco San Giorgio, Caranti 2020

Nizza

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is gourmand, fleshy with a very ripe fruity, even a bit sweet. It expresses notes of roasted red cherry, chocolate cherry, juicy morello cherry, fresh blackcurrant, wild strawberry, raspberry coulis, redcurrant jelly, as well as a refreshing menthol side, a touch of peppermint, liquorice, cloves, nutmeg, vanilla, as well as a fine hint of torrefaction (mild coffee, toasted hazelnut, toasted oak), cocoa and a fragrant floral bouquet (cornflower, lily, rose dried). The palate offers energy, an assertive tannic structure, as well as a fleshy and delicious fruitiness. We find notes of wild strawberry, juicy morello cherry, red cherry jam, redcurrant jelly, wild blackberry, fresh blackcurrant and blackcurrant jam, refreshed by a minty side, notes of peppermint and a beautiful salivating acidity. We also find a delicate but perceptible spiciness, notes of liquorice, cloves and nutmeg, associated with floral notes (violet, lily, rose) and a hint of fresh tobacco and dark chocolate in the background. The finish is quite persistent, fresh and tangy, but fruity, round and gourmand at the same time.

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

Malgrà, Gaiana 2019

Nizza

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is savoury, spicy, and offers complexity and depth. It expresses notes of leather, sweet spices (grated nutmeg, ground clove, liquorice), as well as notes of dried herbs (basil, oregano, mint), roasted bouquet garni (thyme, rosemary, bay leaf), as well as dried flowers (dried rose, dried cornflower), violet and forest floor in the background. The fruity notes are ripe and fresh (wild strawberry, raspberry coulis, morello cherry, blackberry), complemented by touches of dried fruit (dried red cherry) and bitter cocoa. The palate is savoury, gourmand and juicy. It expresses notes of roasted red fruits (roasted cherry, roasted raspberry), fresh fruits (black cherry, blackberry, wild strawberry), a sweet and savoury spiciness (vanilla, cinnamon, cloves), chocolate with mint and flowers (violet, dried rose, iris). The tertiary notes of leather and undergrowth are very delicate, less present than on the nose, and appear at the end of the palate. Good length, lots of flavors, juiciness, fresh acidity and a refined tannic structure. A fleshy and complex wine, but harmonious and elegant.

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

Forvia, Scagliola 2021

Nizza

The wine has a deep ruby color. The nose is gourmand, fruity, slightly tangy and herbaceous. It expresses notes of red cherry, blueberry, raspberry, strawberry, dried blackcurrant, dried raspberry as well as wild mint, dried basil, a fine touch of toast and smoke in the background, as well as a hint of vanilla, liquorice, gray pepper, peony and iris. The palate is juicy, open, very fruity and gourmand. It expresses notes of ripe morello cherry, cherry in kirsch, red chocolate cherry, crushed blackcurrant, blueberry, wild strawberry and raspberry coulis, combined with gourmet notes of mint chocolate, cocoa, cinnamon and vanilla (in the background), with a touch of pepper and a fragrant floral bouquet (peony, rose). The tannins are tight, but have a fine texture. Nice acidity, the finish is persistent, warm, gourmand and chocolatey.

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

Mauro Sebaste, Costemonghisto 2020

Nizza

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is a little reserved and benefits from aeration. It then expresses the notes of crushed strawberry, fresh wild strawberry, roasted red cherry, fresh morello cherry, crushed blackcurrant, blackberry, as well as dried mint, vanilla, liquorice, clove, white pepper, chocolate, toasted hazelnut, eucalyptus and a fine floral bouquet (rose petals, violet, peony). The palate is expressive and savoury, with lots of gourmandise. It offers notes of wild strawberry, juicy morello cherry, raspberry coulis, red plum, crème de cassis, as well as chocolate with mint, cherry in chocolate, wild mint, liquorice, a touch of toasted hazelnut, cinnamon and vanilla (with a fine hint of pepper in the background) and fresh flowers (peony, rose petals). The finish offers good persistence, freshness, and a nice salivating acidity. The tannins are melted and supple. Gourmandise and sapidity.

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

Carlo Magno, Cascina Perfumo 2019

Nizza

The wine has a deep ruby color. The nose is juicy, gourmand and fruity. It expresses notes of crushed blueberry, blackcurrant, morello cherry, tangy red cherry, wild strawberry and raspberry, fresh cranberries, as well as white pepper, liquorice (with a hint of star anise), cumin, grated nutmeg, a touch of vanilla, as well as cherry in chocolate, chocolate with mint, and floral notes of violet, rose and iris. The palate is generous, chocolatey, with notes of ripe fruit, while remaining fresh. It expresses notes of chocolate cherry, chocolate prunes, crushed wild strawberry, raspberry coulis, roasted red cherry, cherry jam, mint chocolate, liquorice, vanilla, as well as bitter cocoa, dried rose and peony. The finish is persistent and spicy: we also find notes of cumin seeds, white pepper and nutmeg. The acidity is supple, but fresh and pleasant. The tannins are well structured, fine and silky.

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

Bersano Cremosina 2020

Nizza

The wine has a pale ruby color. The first nose is tasty and spicy: we find distinct notes of sweet spices (ground nutmeg, liquorice with a hint of star anise, cloves, ground cumin), an elegant and fragrant floral bouquet (fresh peony, rose, lily), combined with a touch of menthol and wild mint. On the second nose, we find fresh fruit (strawberry, red cherry, morello cherry, raspberry coulis, crushed blackcurrant, dried cranberries) and a fine touch of torrefaction (toasted bread, toasted hazelnut). The palate is juicy, airy and fruity. It expresses notes of red cherry, wild strawberry, crushed raspberry, blackcurrant jam, crushed blackcurrant, associated with notes of wild mint, a touch of menthol, fresh peony, rose, as well as with a delicate spiciness (liquorice, cloves, ground cumin). The tannins are tight, a bit grainy, but enveloped, thanks to a juicy fruity substance and a salivating acidity. The finish is persistent, with pleasant notes of roasted hazelnut.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

La Giribaldina, Cala Delle Mandrie 2019

Nizza

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose offers Gourmandise, depth and juiciness. It expresses notes of ripe black plum, chocolate prunes (in the background), juicy fresh morello cherry (and morello cherry in chocolate in the background), blackcurrant jam, crushed fresh blackcurrant, wild strawberry and raspberry jam. Then, the nose expresses notes of wild mint, thyme, dried bay leaf, dark chocolate, gray pepper, ground cloves, liquorice, roasted coriander seeds, associated with a delicate floral bouquet (violet, cornflower, rose) and a fine touch of roasting (caramelised hazelnut, sweet coffee, coconut). The palate is firm, but juicy and silky at the same time, thanks to a nice concentration of fruity matter. It expresses the flavors of fresh morello cherry, wild plum, wild blackberry, wild strawberry, crushed raspberry, roasted red cherry, combined with notes of liquorice, gray pepper, ground cumin, cloves, coriander seeds, vanilla (in the background), dark chocolate and chocolate cherry. We then find notes of dried flowers (violet, cornflower, rose), a hint of wild mint and a powdery touch of cocoa. Good persistence in the mouth, on the chocolate note, refreshed by a nice acidity.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

La Giribaldina, Cala Delle Mandrie 2018

Nizza

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The first nose offers bright fruit (fresh raspberry, ripe red cherry, juicy morello cherry, crushed blackcurrant, wild blackberry, strawberry jam and fresh wild strawberry). Then, we find notes of wild mint, liquorice, white pepper, ground cumin, cloves, as well as a fragrant floral bouquet (fresh rose, cornflower, violet), a fine chocolate side (chocolate cherry, chocolate with mint) and delicate tertiary notes, which appear in the background (tobacco, leather, dried flowers, a hint of truffle). The palate is silky, savoury and offers depth, complexity and a warming touch. It expresses notes of fresh ripe and jammy fruits (fresh morello cherry, red cherry jam, raspberry coulis, wild strawberry, crème de cassis, wild blackberry), with a fresh floral bouquet (peony, rose), with a touch of sweetness and gourmandise with minty chocolate and sweet spices (vanilla, cumin, liquorice, cinnamon in the background). The finish is ample, warm and persistent with notes of cherry jam and cocoa. The tannins are fine and supple. Nice acidity. A generous, balanced and gourmand wine.

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

Bava, Piano Alto 2018

Nizza

The wine has a pale ruby color with light garnet reflections. The first nose offers lots of spice and distinct tertiary notes. We find aromas of grated nutmeg, liquorice, cloves, white pepper, liquorice, a touch of juniper berries, as well as tobacco, undergrowth and truffles. We then find floral notes (dried wild flowers, peony, violet, dried rose), herbaceous touch (wild mint, bay leaf, roasted thyme), a hint of torrefaction (toasted hazelnut) and ripe fruit (red cherry, morello cherry, blackberry, wild plum, wild

Nizza

strawberry, crushed raspberry). The palate is savoury, very fruity, with enveloped spicy notes. It expresses the flavors of crushed wild strawberries, juicy morello cherries, strawberry jam, raspberry coulis, crushed blackcurrant and crème de cassis, combined with notes of dark chocolate, chocolate cherry, wild mint, cumin, liquorice, cloves, cornflower, peony and rose, as well as a touch of undergrowth in the background. The tannins are very fine and silky, but structured and enveloping. Beautiful salivating acidity which refreshes the warm side on the finish. Beautiful persistence, concentration and sapidity

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

Il Botolo 2017

Nizza

The wine has a medium intensity ruby color with garnet reflections. The first nose expresses tertiary notes of undergrowth, tobacco, wet leaves and dried flowers, which combine with the second nose with notes of sweet spices (cinnamon, toasted vanilla, ground cumin, clove, liquorice and a hint of star anise), fresh and jam fruits (crushed fresh blackcurrant, morello cherry, crushed wild strawberry, raspberry coulis, fresh raspberry, blackcurrant jam, dried cranberries), wild mint and dried flowers (rose, blueberry, violet), cherry in chocolate and prunes in chocolate. The palate is savoury, juicy and offers power, a warming touch, depth and complexity. It expresses notes of crushed fresh blackcurrant, crème de cassis, crushed wild strawberry, roasted red cherry, juicy fresh morello cherry, raspberry coulis, morello cherry jam, combined with notes of dark chocolate, pepper dark, chocolate with mint, liquorice with a hint of star anise, cinnamon, toasted vanilla in the background, cloves, as well as a touch of chocolate prunes, kirsch and a floral bouquet (peony, rose, violet). A powerful, warm and generous wine, with a good level of acidity and a lingering and sapide finish.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Bocchino, Due Lù 2020

Nizza

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is discreet and requires aeration. It expresses notes of fresh red and black fruits (red cherry, morello cherry, wild strawberry, crushed raspberry, blackberry, a touch of blackcurrant), combined with notes of wild mint, sweet spices (liquorice, clove, ground cumin), torrefaction (mild coffee, toasted almond with a hint of bitterness), a fine resinous touch of pine sap, as well as a floral bouquet (violet, fresh rose) and chocolate. The palate is fresh, straight and juicy. It expresses notes of red cherry, morello cherry, crunchy strawberry, crushed raspberry, a hint of blackcurrant and blueberry, fresh flowers (rose, violet, iris), as well as a refined spiciness (liquorice, a hint vanilla, ground cumin, cloves) and a touch of cherry in chocolate. There is also a hint of toasted hazelnut and caramel in the background. The finish is persistent, fragrant, with juicy, ripe fruit and a fine spiciness. The tannins are structured, but velvety, with a fine texture. Beautiful acidity and juiciness on the finish.

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

Moncucco, Dacasto Dulio 2021

Nizza

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. On the nose, it offers juiciness, ripe fresh fruit, good concentration and a fine peppery hint. It expresses notes of juicy morello cherry, ripe red cherry, crunchy strawberry, redcurrant jelly, fresh raspberry, associated with notes of sweet spices (liquorice, white pepper, clove), as well as a fine floral and herbaceous hints (touches of peony, violet and wild mint). The palate is gourmand, with a beautiful fruity substance and concentration, but at the same time fresh and airy. It expresses notes of juicy morello cherry, red cherry, wild blackberry, wild strawberry and fresh raspberry, associated with a refined floral bouquet (peony, a touch of fresh rose, violet) and an enveloping spiciness (pepper white, ground clove, liquorice). The finish is rather persistent, juicy and gourmand, with lots of fruit and a savoury note of cherry in chocolate and chocolate with mint. The acidity is supple, but refreshing. The tannins are discreet and fine. An accessible and gourmand wine.

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

Michele Chiarlo, Cipressi 2021

Nizza

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is slightly smoky and reserved at first and requires aeration. It then expresses notes of sweet spices (nutmeg, cloves, a touch of liquorice and a hint of white pepper), which is then completed by an elegant floral bouquet (violet, iris, rose, lily) and fresh fruit (raspberry, wild strawberry, red cherry, morello cherry, a touch of blackberry) and distinct peppermint and bourbon vanilla notes. The palate is juicy and savoury, with fine and melted but enveloping tannins, a salivating acidity and a good bitterness in the background which refreshes the wine. It expresses the flavors of wild strawberry, tart morello cherry, red cherry, raspberry, redcurrant jelly, crushed wild blackberry, which develop towards a refined spiciness (clove, white pepper, cumin seeds, a hint of vanilla, liquorice), floral (violet, rose, iris) and herbaceous (peppermint, rosemary) notes. The finish is quite persistent, fruity and savoury. A pleasant wine, with freshness, juiciness and refined concentration.

Score : 15.5+20 (91/100)

Villa Giada, Dani 2020

Nizza

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is fragrant and fruity, with a gourmand chocolate touch. We find notes of morello cherry, red cherry, fresh strawberry, raspberry, blackberry and wild plum, associated with notes of violet, dried rose, vanilla (in the background), clove, liquorice (with a subtle touch of eucalyptus), fresh tobacco, as well as a touch of mild coffee, toasted hazelnut and cocoa. The palate is fragrant, straight, structured and concentrated. It expresses notes of black fruits (black cherry, dried blackcurrant, dried raspberry, raspberry coulis, wild strawberry, red currant jelly, blackberry), dark chocolate with mint, dried mint, liquorice, cloves, a touch of vanilla, as well as a fine floral bouquet (peony, fresh rose, iris), a touch of blond tobacco and sweet coffee in the background. The tannins are firm, slightly rough, but enveloped and not drying. The finish is quite persistent and savoury, with a supple but fresh acidity, a good bitterness of dark chocolate and a fine spicy touch of cinnamon in the background. Great concentration and gourmandise.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Serra Domenico 2019

Nizza

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose offers a refined and integrated herbaceous hint, as well as delicate notes of development, a racy minerality and a ripe fruitiness. We find in particular the aromas of wet stone with a limestone touch, dried red cherry, juicy morello cherry, crushed blackcurrant, blueberry jam, wild strawberry and crushed raspberry, associated with notes of liquorice, ground cumin, cloves, grilled vanilla, roasted aromatic herbs (thyme, rosemary), fresh flowers (violet, rose), as well as a fine touch of undergrowth in the background. The mouth is round, silky, enveloping and harmonious. It offers a beautiful concentration of fruit, a firm but velvety tannic structure, all in balance. We find notes of very ripe morello cherry, wild plum, blackberry, red cherry jam, roasted cherry, wild strawberry, raspberry coulis, associated with notes of rose, violet, chocolate with mint, chocolate cherry, cloves, white pepper, liquorice, crushed vanilla, as well as toast, dried rosemary and tobacco in the background. The finish offers sapidity, a beautiful acidity and a controlled power of tannins, enveloped in juicy fruit flavors. A well-constructed wine, with good potential.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Vinicola Arno, Lorella 2019

Nizza

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is savoury, finely spicy and woody, with ripe and fresh fruitiness and subtle notes of evolution. It expresses notes of juicy morello cherry, dried red cherry, wild strawberry, raspberry coulis, crushed blackcurrant, combined with notes of dark chocolate, vanilla, liquorice, cloves, toasted coriander seeds, with a touch of mint, even slightly sappy, toasted oak and fresh hazelnut, as well as notes of fresh flowers (rose, violet, a touch of cornflower), dried mint, cocoa and hay in the background. The palate offers juiciness, beautiful concentration and precision. It expresses notes of roasted red cherry, fresh morello cherry, wild strawberry, crushed blackcurrant, blackberry and raspberry coulis, combined with touches of liquorice, clove, nutmeg, cocoa, chocolate cherry, dried mint, fresh rose, dried cornflower, as well as a hint of sweet coffee. The tannins are well structured and fine. Lots of juiciness and gourmandise on the finish, thanks to flavors of ripe red cherry and a nice acidity.

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

Castagnole delle Lanze, Dogliotti 2019

Nizza

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity with light garnet reflections. The nose offers a pronounced herbaceous and floral notes (hay, wild mint, rosemary, peony, rose), associated with juicy fruits (ripe morello cherry, crushed blackcurrant, red cherry, red currant, strawberry, crushed raspberry) and a fine spiciness (clove, cumin, liquorice), as well as a touch of toasted hazelnut in the background. The palate is juicy, fruity and finely tight. It expresses the flavors of morello cherry, strawberry, red cherry, raspberry, black plum, combined with notes of liquorice, clove, ground cumin, dried peony, rose, wild mint and hay. The tannins are tight, but enveloped thanks to a salivating acidity and the freshness of the fruits. The finish is juicy, gourmand and quite persistent: it expresses notes of macerated red cherry and black plum. Freshness and gourmandise.

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

Tenute Neirano 2021

Nizza

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is fragrant, fruity and tangy. It expresses notes of tart red cherry, crunchy strawberry, fresh raspberry, a hint of fresh cranberries, as well as fine spicy (liquorice, white pepper, grated nutmeg, a touch of cinnamon), floral (cornflower, iris, rose) and herbaceous touches (dried mint, dried thyme). There is also a very delicate note of toast, even caramelised almond in the background. The palate is juicy, ample and ripe, with an enveloped spiciness. It expresses slightly sweeter notes than on the nose: roasted red cherry, juicy morello cherry, crushed strawberry, raspberry, crushed blackcurrant, combined with notes of chocolate cherry,

Nizza

dried mint, peony, liquorice, ground nutmeg and vanilla (in the background). The finish is persistent and gourmand, with notes of dried fruit (cherry, even dried fig), caramel (with a slight touch of caramelised hazelnuts) and chocolate. The tannins are fine and melted. Beautiful acidity, fruity roundness, balance and lots of gourmandise.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Pico Maccario, Tre Roveri 2021

Nizza

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The first nose expresses pronounced notes of pine sap and pine needles, which then combine with notes of menthol (or even eucalyptus), a floral bouquet (fresh peony, lilac, cornflower), a refined spiciness (clove, ground nutmeg, liquorice) and a herbaceous hint of infused black tea. The fruits on the nose are ripe, juicy, slightly tangy. We find in particular notes of wild strawberry, fresh raspberry, morello cherry, black plum and blackcurrant, even a slight touch of bergamot in the background, which returns in the mid-palate. The flavors are silky, enveloping, with a nice concentration on the palate and a refreshing acidity. We find notes of juicy morello cherry, wild strawberry, raspberry, red cherry, redcurrant jelly, blackcurrant, associated with notes of pine sap, liquorice, cloves and fresh flowers (peony, lilac). The tannins are well structured, quite firm, but with a fine texture. The finish is gourmand, tangy and quite persistent.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Tenuta Garetto, Favà 2021

Nizza

The wine has a bright ruby color of medium intensity. The nose opens with delicate oaky notes (toasted hazelnut, fresh oak, pine sap), and then offers floral aromas (peony, violet, lilac) and a juicy and slightly sweet fruitiness (black cherry jam, red cherry), blackberry, wild strawberry, raspberry coulis). We also find gourmet notes of mint chocolate, sweet spices (liquorice, ground cloves), fresh tobacco and thyme. On the palate, the wine is open, juicy, fruity and gourmand. It offers flavors of fresh morello cherry, raspberry coulis, wild strawberry, red currant jelly, as well as peppermint, liquorice, clove, mint chocolate and chocolate cherry. A fine floral touch (rose, lilac) returns at the end of the palate. The tannins are delicate and soft. Good persistence with chocolate notes, balanced by a good level of acidity.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Castino, Gemma 2020

Nizza

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The first nose is fragrant and expresses distinct floral and herbaceous notes (rose, lily, fresh cornflower, fresh tobacco, wild mint), associated with a savoury spiciness (grated nutmeg, cloves, liquorice, crushed coriander seeds). We then find notes of fresh morello cherry, wild strawberry, raspberry coulis, crushed blueberry, crushed blackcurrant, as well as a touch of coffee and mint chocolate, as well as chocolate cherry. The palate is juicy and fresh. It expresses notes of fresh morello cherry, crushed blackcurrant, wild strawberry, raspberry coulis, as well as sweet spices (vanilla, liquorice, ground cumin, ground nutmeg), a touch of chocolate (chocolate cherry, mint chocolate) and a floral hint (rose, lily, peony) and a touch of toasted hazelnut on the finish. The tannins are fine, sapid, firm, but enveloped, with a silky texture. The finish offers freshness, thanks to a good level of acidity and gourmandise of chocolate cherry. A harmonious, supple and concentrated wine.

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

La Gironda, Le Nicchie 2019

Nizza

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The first nose offers a refreshing herbaceous hints (notes of wild mint, fresh tobacco, blackcurrant leaf in the background) and an elegant floral bouquet (iris, lily, violet). We also find notes of sweet spices (clove, ground cumin, coriander seeds, liquorice), torrefaction (mild coffee, heated oak), dark chocolate, and a juicy fruitiness (wild strawberry, morello cherry, raspberry coulis, redcurrant jelly, black plum, blackberry). The palate is textured, dense and concentrated, with an enveloping but very fine tannic texture. The wine expresses the gourmand and generous flavors of prunes in chocolate, morello cherry jam, crushed wild strawberries, raspberry jam, as well as notes of cherry with kirsch, chocolate with mint, cherry with chocolate, crushed vanilla, white pepper, liquorice, ground cumin, grated nutmeg, toasted hazelnut, coffee and a floral touch of peony, dried rose and lilac. The acidity is soft, but pleasant. The finish is quite lingering and warm, but with a certain balance between high alcohol level and freshness.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Cascina Barisel, La Cappelletta 2019

Nizza

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose offers complexity, freshness and combines a floral bouquet (rose, lily, violet), herbaceous touches (wild mint, fresh tobacco, rosemary in syrup) and a fine spiciness (liquorice, cumin, cloves) with juicy and ripe fruits (black cherry, wild strawberry, wild blackberry, crushed blueberry, raspberry

coulis). We also feel a very slight note of undergrowth in the background. The palate offers freshness, juiciness and lots of fruit. We find the flavors of ripe morello cherry, wild strawberry, raspberry coulis, red currant jelly, wild plum with its tannic side on the palate, as well as sweet spices (liquorice, a hint of cinnamon, grilled vanilla), a touch of chocolate (mint chocolate, chocolate cherry) and mint. There are also fine notes of caramelised hazelnut and flowers (peony, rose) on the gourmand and persistent finish. The tannins are relatively powerful, but fine. Good level of acidity, which brings freshness. A well-constructed, concentrated, generous and rather balanced wine.

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

Garesio, Gavelli 2019

Nizza

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is slightly smoky and meaty, savoury and spicy: it expresses notes of grated nutmeg, liquorice, crushed vanilla pod, cloves, as well as gourmand notes of mint chocolate, cinnamon (in the background), a fine floral bouquet (dried rose, peony, lotus), combined with a fresh and slightly tangy fruitiness. We find in particular notes of wild strawberry, fresh raspberry, crushed blackcurrant, fresh morello cherry and red cherry jam, as well as a touch of crème de cassis and wild mint. The palate is generous, savoury and gourmand. It expresses notes of wild strawberry, raspberry coulis, fresh morello cherry, red cherry jam, blackberry and crushed blackcurrant, as well as mint chocolate, peony, fresh rose and sweet spices (toasted vanilla, cinnamon, cloves, grated nutmeg). The tannins are a bit rough and grippy, but wrapped in a fruity substance. The acidity is supple and pleasant. Good persistence with notes of chocolate cherry and cocoa. A rich and warm wine.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Isolabella della Croce, Augusta 2018

Nizza

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity with light garnet reflections. The nose is complex and fragrant. It combines the notes of development (undergrowth, wet leaves, dried cherry, tobacco, a very slight touch of mushrooms) with a fine spiciness (cumin, cloves, ground nutmeg, liquorice) and floral notes (violet, fresh rose, peony). Everything is wrapped in a juicy and gourmand fruitiness (wild strawberry, morello cherry, crushed blackcurrant, blackberry, raspberry coulis). There is also a touch of peppermint in the background. The palate is savoury, warming and quite rich. You can feel a high level of alcohol, balanced by a salivating acidity on the finish. The flavors are varied and complex: the wine expresses notes of crushed wild strawberry, chocolate morello cherry, red cherry jam, crushed raspberry, crème de cassis, as well as notes of sweet gourmand spices (vanilla, cinnamon, ground cumin, clove), a touch of mint and floral notes (peony, fresh rose). The tannins are silky, velvety, very fine and enveloping. The finish is juicy, gourmand and chocolatey. The acidity is supple and integrated into a fleshy and generous wine profile. A full-bodied, concentrated, rich, warm wine without being heavy.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Cascina La Barbatella, La vigna dell'Angelo 2020

Nizza

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is fragrant, spicy and delicately oaky. It expresses notes of caramelised hazelnut, coffee, roasted vanilla, cinnamon, white pepper, liquorice and crushed coriander seeds, as well as touches of wild mint, violet, rose petals, peony and dark chocolate. We also find a beautiful juicy fruitiness, with a fine chocolatey hint: notes of wild strawberry, morello cherry, red chocolate cherry, chocolate prunes, crushed blackcurrant and wild blackberry. The palate is fruity, juicy and fresh, with an expressive spiciness and oakiness which returns at the end of the palate. We first find the notes of morello cherry jam, fresh morello cherry, cherry in chocolate, wild strawberry, crushed raspberry, crushed blackcurrant, which are then completed by notes of chocolate with mint, liquorice, white pepper, cumin, fresh vanilla, cinnamon in the background. We also find a fine floral bouquet (fresh rose, peony). The finish is subtle, juicy and airy. The tannins are finely marked and enveloped. Beautiful length, juiciness, freshness, all in balance.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Prunotto Bansella 2021

Nizza

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose offers tangy fruit, as well as a fine spiciness and floral bouquet. It expresses notes of tart red cherry, fresh raspberry, morello cherry, a touch of red cherry jam, red currant jelly and crushed blackcurrant, combined with delicate spicy notes (ground black pepper, liquorice, ground cumin, toasted vanilla in the background), with a touch of peppermint and fresh flowers (peony, violet). The palate is bright, juicy, fresh and gourmand. It offers expressive flavors of juicy morello cherry, tart red cherry, strawberry, crushed raspberry, redcurrant jelly, crushed blackcurrant, combined with a touch of bitter chocolate, sweet spices (vanilla, liquorice, ground cumin and a hint of cinnamon in the background) and fresh flowers (peony, violet, a touch of iris). The tannins are very fine, silky and melted, very slightly perceptible. The acidity is supple and matches harmoniously with the soft and juicy profile of the wine. Beautiful length with notes of cherry in chocolate and a slight bitterness.

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

Nizza

Vigna Dacapo 2020

Nizza

(organic) The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose offers refined concentration and depth. It expresses the aromas of ripe black fruits (black cherry, blackberry, wild black plum), juicy red fruits (wild strawberry, crushed raspberry, tart red cherry), associated with notes of wild mint, menthol, and a subtle spicy bouquet (liquorice, coriander seeds, a hint of crushed vanilla pod, clove), with delicate floral notes (violet, dried cornflower), chocolate with mint and torrefaction (mild coffee, toasted hazelnut). The palate is juicy, very fruity, open and straight. It offers freshness, precision, flavors of ripe fruit (strawberry, crushed raspberry, juicy morello cherry, blueberry, wild plum with its tannic touch, blackcurrant), a fine resinous hint of pine sap, notes of fresh flowers (violet, iris, rose) and sweet spices (liquorice, ground cumin, a hint of vanilla). The tannins are a bit grainy and grippy. Beautiful acidity and freshness on the lingering finish.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Bianco Angelo, Bricco Cova 2020

Nizza

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The first nose is subtle and finely spicy. It expresses notes of grated nutmeg, cloves, liquorice (with a slight hint of star anise) and fresh vanilla. We then find the floral notes of fresh rose, peony, rosehip and iris, as well as a gourmand and juicy fruitiness and discreet milky notes (cherry yogurt, juicy morello cherry, wild strawberry, redcurrant jelly, crushed fresh raspberry, fresh blueberry) and fine roasted notes (toasted oak, toasted hazelnut), combined with a touch of pine needles. The palate is enveloping, juicy and concentrated. It expresses notes of crushed wild strawberry, fresh morello cherry, red cherry jam, crushed raspberry, cherry jam and blackcurrant, with a fine milky touch of cherry yogurt and a delicate spiciness (fresh vanilla, liquorice, cumin, clove) and a floral touch of peony and iris. The tannins are tight, but fine and well structured. Beautiful salivating acidity, juiciness and generous fruit, but fresh on the persistent finish. A pleasant and structured wine, with lots of gourmandise.

Score : 15.5+/20 (90/100)

Gianni_Doglia, Viti Vecchie 2020

Nizza

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is fragrant, tasty and finely spicy and woody. It expresses notes of white pepper, grated nutmeg, liquorice, associated with resinous touches of needles and pine sap, toasted almond and heated oak, with a very discreet touch of caramel and coconut in the background. The fruit on the nose is tangy and fresh: we find in particular the aromas of crushed blackcurrant, juicy morello cherry, red cherry, fresh raspberry, strawberry and fresh red currant. On the palate, the wine is gourmand, open, juicy and chiseled. It expresses notes of fresh blackcurrant, wild black plum, morello cherry, wild strawberry, fresh raspberry and blueberry, with a slight herbaceous touch of blackcurrant leaf and peppermint. We also find notes of black pepper, liquorice, cloves and nutmeg, with a fine hint of vanilla in the background. The finish is quite persistent, with a lively and salivating acidity. The tannins are a bit grainy, balanced by the juiciness and fruitiness of the wine.

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

Francesco Iandolo 2020

Nizza

The wine has a pale ruby color. The nose is textured, silky and offers juiciness, fruit and gourmandise, accompanied by a delicate spiciness. It expresses notes of fresh fruit (juicy morello cherry, fresh blackcurrant, wild strawberry, crushed raspberry), candied fruit (red cherry jam) and a discreet touch of dried fruit (dried raspberry, dried cranberries), associated with a racy minerality which appears in the second nose (wet stone, a touch of limestone), fresh tobacco, flowers (violet, rose, cornflower) and sweet spices (nutmeg, cloves, ground cumin and liquorice in the background). Notes of torrefaction (slightly toasted hazelnut, even fresh) are very delicate. The palate is tasty, straight and tangy, with lots of energy, liveliness and refined juiciness. It expresses the flavors of fresh morello cherry, crushed blackcurrant, raspberry, wild strawberry and dried cranberries with a slight bitterness. We also find delicate notes of liquorice, white pepper, nutmeg and clove, and a fine floral bouquet (violet, fresh cornflower), as well as a resinous hint of pine needles. The finish is round, silky, with a supple but fresh acidity and good persistence on the palate, with a tannic side of wild plum and a slight bitterness. Elegance, accuracy and straightness.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Franco Mondo, Le Rose 2018

Nizza

The wine has a deep ruby color. The nose is ripe, even jammy, gourmand and savoury, with a refined spiciness, beautiful complexity and concentration. The first nose expresses notes of dark chocolate, dried red fruits (strawberry, raspberry), cocoa, mint chocolate, chocolate prunes and sweet spices (bourbon vanilla, cinnamon, liquorice, grated nutmeg, ground cumin, crushed coriander seeds), as well as fresh tobacco, flowers (cherry blossom, peony, rose syrup, lotus) and a fine touch of torrefaction

(caramelised almond, coffee with milk). The palate is tight, tannic, a little dry on the attack. The mid-palate is silky and chocolatey, the finish is persistent, tasty, spicy and gourmand. We find notes of fresh morello cherry, red cherry jam, prunes in chocolate, cherry in chocolate, dried red cherry, raspberry coulis, wild plum with its tannic touch, as well as bitter cocoa, liquorice, toasted vanilla, crushed coriander seeds and cloves, as well as a touch of fresh tobacco, mint chocolate and a very light touch of undergrowth. The acidity is salivating and fresh. A pleasant powdery touch and the bitterness of cocoa on the finish. A tasty, silky and gourmand wine, with controlled power.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Cascina Garitina, Margherita 2020

Nizza

The wine has a deep ruby color with purple reflections. The nose is concentrated, deep, juicy and gourmand. It expresses notes of bright fruit (black plum, fresh morello cherry, wild strawberry, red cherry jam, raspberry coulis, blackberry), combined with a fragrant floral touch (peony, fresh rose, lilac, cornflower) and a delicate spiciness, slightly sweet in the background (cinnamon, grilled vanilla, liquorice, cumin, cloves, white pepper), as well as a touch of chocolate with mint and cherry in kirsch. The palate is enveloping, silky, velvety and offers power, juiciness and concentration, all in balance and control. It expresses notes of ripe black plum, juicy morello cherry, red cherry jam, raspberry coulis, prunes in chocolate, cherry in kirsch, as well as chocolate with mint, liquorice, ground cloves, nutmeg and coriander seeds. We also find notes of flowers, slightly sweeter than on the nose (rose syrup, peony, lilac). The tannins are enveloping and melted and have a very fine texture, as well as a beautiful structure. The finish is long, generous, fleshy and warm, even with a slight sensation of alcohol, but balanced by a salivating acidity. A full-bodied and rich wine, very ripe, even jammy, with a high alcohol level, but balanced by a nice acidity and notes of fresh fruit.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

NIZZA RISERVA DOCG

Bianco Angelo, Bricco Cova 2020

Nizza Riserva

The wine has a deep ruby color. The nose is fragrant, spicy and expresses sweet notes of very ripe fruit, torrefaction and sweet spices. We find in particular notes of morello cherry, roasted red cherry, red cherry jam, crème de cassis, wild blackberry, crushed wild berries and raspberry jam, associated with notes of caramel, caramelised hazelnut (even praliné), toasted almond, toasted oak, chocolate cherry, mint chocolate, as well as dried mint, liquorice, cloves, nutmeg, as well as peony, iris and fresh rose. The palate is generously fruity, oaky and caramelised. It expresses notes of caramelised hazelnut, toasted almond, chocolate cherry, chocolate prunes, vanilla, toasted coconut, cinnamon, grated nutmeg, combined with very ripe, even jammy fruits (juicy morello cherry, blackcurrant cream, crushed blackcurrant, red cherry jam, wild strawberry, raspberry jam), as well as chocolate with mint, iris and peony. The finish is warm (the alcohol level is high, but rather integrated), toasted and caramelised. Beautiful acidity, which refreshes the fleshy side of the end and nice persistence on the palate.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Marco Bonfante Bricco Bonfante 2017

Nizza Riserva

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose offers complexity, depth and a savory spiciness. It expresses notes of grated nutmeg, fresh vanilla, liquorice, cloves, as well as a delicious and sweet woody side: notes of toasted coconut, toasted wood and caramelised hazelnut. There are also fine tertiary notes, harmoniously enveloped in the fruit: aromas of tobacco, roasted mushrooms and a touch of undergrowth. The fruitiness is ripe and delicious: we find notes of roasted red cherry, morello cherry, wild strawberry, blackcurrant, red cherry jam and blueberry, as well as a fine floral side in the background (violet, rose dried). The mouth is enveloping, soft, but straight, chiseled and fresh. It expresses notes of very ripe fruit and jam in the attack (ripe morello cherry, red cherry jam, roasted red cherry, juicy blackberry, crème de cassis, fresh blackcurrant), associated with notes of chocolate, spices sweet (cinnamon, liquorice, vanilla, clove, grated nutmeg) and a floral touch (violet, iris, dried rose). The tertiary notes are very delicate and appear at the end of the palate (tobacco, roasted mushrooms). The tannins are fine and smooth. The finish is delicious, very fruity and ripe, but fresh at the same time, thanks to a nice acidity. Beautiful harmony, Gourmandise and structure.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Guasti, Barcarato 2019

Nizza Riserva

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is savoury, with a pronounced but refined spiciness. It expresses notes of liquorice (with a touch of star anise), cloves, white pepper, roasted aromatic herbs (thyme, rosemary, bay leaf), a fragrant floral bouquet (violet, fresh rose, lily), as well as a ripe and fresh fruitiness. We find notes of fresh raspberry, garriguetta strawberry, fresh red currants, tart red cherry and morello

Nizza

cherry, as well as a fine minerality. The palate is precise, powdery, with an attack of notes of cocoa and dried red fruits (dried cherry, dried cranberries). We then find notes of fresh wild strawberry, dried strawberry, fresh red cherry, raspberry coulis and fresh blueberry, associated with notes of roasted aromatic herbs (thyme, rosemary, bay leaf), fresh flowers (violet, rose) and fine spicy notes (liquorice, nutmeg). The finish is savoury, tangy, slightly bitter (good bitterness), with fine but enveloping tannins. Beautiful balance and gourmandise.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Pico Maccario, Epico 2020

Nizza Riserva

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is savoury, gourmand and finely spicy. It expresses notes of liquorice, fennel seeds, black pepper berries, cumin, nutmeg, as well as touches of roasted aromatic herbs (thyme, rosemary, oregano), mint, basil, flowers (lily, peony, rose), a fine touch of graphite, toasted hazelnut, as well as a refined and ripe fruity substance (wild strawberry, wild blackberry, morello cherry, roasted red cherry, crushed raspberry). The mouth is full, enveloping and warm. It expresses notes of juicy ripe fruit: wild strawberry, morello cherry, red cherry jam, crushed raspberry, wild blackberry, crème de cassis (with its warming touch), cherry in kirsch, as well as sweet spices (liquorice, cumin, cloves), roasted aromatic herbs (thyme, rosemary, bay leaf), a touch of graphite in the background. The tannins are fine, textured and enveloping, with a beautiful structure. The finish is supple, gourmand, with a warming touch of alcohol, but well balanced.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Malgrà, Mora di Sassi 2018

Nizza Riserva

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity, with light garnet reflections. The nose is fragrant, complex and deep. The first nose expresses notes of leather, undergrowth, a delicate touch of mushrooms (even a hint of truffle), dried mint, eucalyptus, pine sap, as well as a floral aromas (dried rose, fresh rose, lily, lotus), slightly spicy (nutmeg, clove, gray pepper) and a delicate fruitiness (roasted red cherry, very ripe morello cherry, wild strawberry, dried cherry, crushed raspberry, dried blueberry). The palate is silky, melted, with an ample and velvety tannic structure, but quite firm, without being drying. It expresses the flavors of roasted red cherry, redcurrant jelly, wild strawberry, raspberry coulis and dried blueberry, combined with notes of dried basil, eucalyptus, peppermint, liquorice, nutmeg, dried rose, lily and dried cornflower. Notes of undergrowth, leather and mushrooms (with a touch of truffle) appear in the long and sapid finish. Beautiful acidity, energy, very good balance, depth and gourmandise. An elegant and silky wine.

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

Marenco 2020

Nizza Riserva

The wine has a deep ruby color. The nose is reserved and requires aeration. It expresses notes of red cherry, morello cherry, garriguetta strawberry, raspberry jam, fresh crushed blackcurrant, blueberry, blackberry, as well as dried mint, fresh oregano, menthol, rosemary, a fine spiciness (liquorice, vanilla, nutmeg), as well as violet and fresh cornflower, with a slight note of fresh tobacco and toasted hazelnut in the background. The palate is fragrant, with pleasant fresh notes of menthol and peppermint in the attack. We then find the juicy red fruits (wild strawberry, morello cherry, red cherry jam, fresh blueberry, crushed blackcurrant, raspberry), as well as a floral side (violet, peony, iris) and spicy (liquorice, nutmeg, a hint of vanilla and cinnamon). The finish is persistent, gourmand and adds notes of cocoa, caramelised hazelnut and chocolate cherry to the bouquet. The tannins are structured, but have a velvety, fine and silky texture. Beautiful salivating acidity. The finish is savoury, with notes of sweet spices (nutmeg, cloves) and the freshness of tangy red cherry.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Cascina Barisel, Vigna dei Pilati 2019

Nizza Riserva

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is reserved, but expresses complexity and finesse. We find notes of juicy morello cherry, wild strawberry, crushed raspberry, wild blackberry, red currant jam, wild blackberry and a hint of crème de cassis, as well as blackcurrant jam. Then, the nose reveals notes of crushed wild mint, cut rosemary, bay leaf, a floral touch (violet, cornflower, field flowers), chocolate with mint, sweet spices (vanilla, a fine touch of cinnamon, ground cumin, liquorice), torrefaction (caramel, toasted hazelnut, a touch of coffee). In the mouth, we find juiciness, fruit freshness and airiness. It expresses notes of blackcurrant jam, blackcurrant cream, crushed wild strawberries, juicy morello cherries, raspberry coulis, blueberry jam, as well as wild mint, rosemary, a touch of mint and sweet spices (ground cumin, nutmeg, liquorice), a hint of torrefaction (mild coffee, toasted hazelnut), flowers (cornflower, violet) and notes of evolution, which appear in the finish (tobacco, dried flowers, damp leaves). The finish is straight, tight, but velvety, juicy and gourmand. Beautiful persistence and refreshing acidity.

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

Bersano Generala 2018

Nizza Riserva

The wine has a pale ruby color with very light garnet reflections. On the nose, the wine is reserved and requires aeration. We then find complexity and a lot of freshness and aromas of tangy black fruits: the wine expresses notes of fresh morello cherry, fresh crushed blackcurrant, tangy black cherry, wild strawberry, crushed raspberry, associated with notes wild mint, cut rosemary, dried rose, violet and cornflower. We also find a fine spiciness (liquorice, ground cumin, grated nutmeg), toasted (toasted oak, caramel) and tertiary (tobacco, wet leaves and a touch of truffle in the background). The palate is juicy, supple, enveloping and airy, with firm tannins, but with a fine texture. It expresses notes of wild strawberry, juicy red cherry, morello cherry, fresh crushed blackcurrant, crushed raspberry, associated with a warm peppery hint, with notes of sweet spices (liquorice, ground cumin, cloves, a touch of vanilla), bitter cocoa, dried flowers (rose, violet, cornflower) and tertiary notes of tobacco, wet leaves and truffles. The finish is persistent, juicy, with a warming hint of sweet spices and chocolate, as well as a nice acidity. The tannins are structured, tight, but fine.

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

Tenuta Il Falchetto, Brico Roche 2018

Nizza Riserva

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The wine is a bit reserved on the nose and benefits from being aerated. It expresses the savoury and sweet notes of red chocolate cherry, juicy morello cherry, wild strawberry, blackberry, raspberry jam, crème de cassis and blueberry jam, combined with notes of dark chocolate, roasted aromatic herbs (thyme, rosemary, bay leaf), mint, as well as a fine spiciness (liquorice, roasted cumin seeds, coriander seeds, nutmeg, a hint of vanilla) and a bouquet of fresh flowers (rose, peony, wild flowers), as well as a touch of roasting (mild coffee, caramelised hazelnut). The palate is full, juicy, ripe and a little jammy, with a warm side of alcohol, but at the same time fresh. It expresses notes of crushed wild strawberry, raspberry coulis, juicy morello cherry, red cherry jam, blackberry, crushed blackcurrant and crème de cassis, combined with flavors of mint chocolate and sweet spices (liquorice, cumin, cloves, coriander seeds), accompanied by a peppery hint and a fine floral bouquet (dried rose, peony, lily). We also find a very fine touch of coffee and tertiary note of undergrowth on the finish. Beautiful persistence, with gourmandise, a warming touch and freshness. Good level of acidity, good persistence on sweet spices and structured, but supple tannins.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Michele Chiaro, LaCourt 2020

Nizza Riserva

The wine has a pale ruby color. The nose is slightly reduced at the beginning and expresses smoky and meaty notes. After aeration, it offers a concentrated and juicy fruitiness, even a little roasted (crushed wild strawberries, roasted red cherries, morello cherries, raspberry coulis, a hint of crushed blackcurrant), combined with notes of sweet spices (grated nutmeg, cloves, ground cumin, liquorice with a hint of star anise, a touch of vanilla), flowers (dried rose, cornflower, iris) and herbs (mint, cut rosemary, black tea), as well as only fresh tobacco. The palate is juicy and airy. It expresses notes of tangy fresh fruits (red cherry, morello cherry, strawberry, crushed raspberry, red currants), a pronounced, but enveloped spiciness (notes of clove, ground cumin, vanilla and liquorice with a touch of star anise), as well as a slight hint of toasted hazelnut and fresh flowers (iris, rose, violet). The tannins are sapid, a bit grippy, but fine. The finish is savoury and juicy, with a nice acidity, a pleasant bitterness and gourmand notes of chocolate cherry. A balanced wine, with a warm and concentrated nose and a lovely freshness on the palate.

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

Villa Giada, Dedicato... 2019

Nizza Riserva

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is delicately spicy, fruity and refined. It expresses notes of ground cumin, white pepper, liquorice, clove, associated with notes of dried mint, damp leaves and undergrowth (very slightly perceptible), flowers (dried rose, peony, lilac), enveloped in fresh and ripe fruit (morello cherry, roasted red cherry, crushed raspberry, redcurrant jelly, wild strawberry, crushed blackcurrant). We also see a fine minerality (wet stone) after aeration. The palate offers concentration, juiciness, depth while remaining fresh. It expresses notes of dried red cherry, morello cherry, wild strawberry, raspberry coulis, redcurrant jelly, a hint of blueberry jam, a touch of prunes in chocolate, combined with notes of dried mint, liquorice, clove, cumin, coffee, cocoa, peony, dried rose, tobacco and undergrowth in the background. The tannins are structured, a bit grainy, but balanced by juiciness on the finish, round flavors of cherry in chocolate and a nice acidity. Power and gourmandise.

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

Vinicola Arno, Leone 2019

Nizza Riserva

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose offers depth and complexity: it combines tertiary notes (undergrowth, wet leaves, dried rose, a very delicate note

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of mushrooms in the background), spiciness (nutmeg, clove, fresh liquorice, ground cumin), hints of fresh tobacco and dried mint with fruity and fresh aromas (wild strawberry, juicy red cherry, morello cherry, crushed raspberry, fresh blackcurrant), as well as a delicate floral bouquet (cornflower, peony) and a touch of chocolate. The palate is chiseled, tangy and rather tight. The tannins are firm, slightly grainy and need time to mellow. We find the flavors of tangy crushed blackcurrant, sharp red cherry, morello cherry, raspberry, red currant, as well as wild mint, cut rosemary, liquorice, cumin, clove, blueberry and violet, with a fine touch of fresh tobacco and undergrowth in the background. The acidity is lively and salivating. It brings freshness to the wine and softens the slightly dry tannic side on the finish. Good length, sapidity and a nice tannic structure, but the wine needs time to open up.

Score : 15.5+20 (91/100)

Beppe Marino, Quattrofilari 2018

Nizza Riserva

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity, with light garnet reflections. The nose is delicious and fragrant. On the first nose, we find the sweet notes of dark chocolate, cherry in chocolate cherry, dried mint, cocoa, liquorice, grilled vanilla and cinnamon and toasted hazelnut (after aeration). We also sense notes of fresh mint, fresh rose, peony and violet, which bring a lot of liveliness to the wine. The fruits are juicy and ripe: we find notes of wild plum, blackcurrant, morello cherry, juicy red cherry, raspberry and wild strawberry, with a fine hint of menthol and aromatic herbs (rosemary, flower of thyme) in the background. The palate is fruity, savoury and juicy, with a tight and slightly dry tannic structure. We find the flavors of black plum, fresh morello cherry, wild strawberry, crushed raspberry, fresh blackcurrant and red currants, combined with notes of cocoa, chocolate cherry, dried mint, fresh rose and peony. The finish is quite persistent, slightly bitter, with a nice acidity and gourmandise. We find in particular pleasant notes of juicy chocolate cherry and crème de cassis, which soften the tannins.

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

Ru, Erede di Chiappone Armando 2015

Nizza Riserva

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity, with garnet reflections. The nose is subtle and elegant, but fragrant and gourmand. It first expresses savoury notes of dark chocolate and dried fruits (dried red cherry, dried fig, dried cranberries), which combine after aeration with notes of caramel, toasted hazelnut, blond tobacco, caramelised hazelnuts (in the background). Next, we find notes of roasted red cherry, juicy morello cherry, prunes, crushed strawberry, raspberry coulis, as well as grilled vanilla, liquorice, cumin, fresh peony, iris and rose, with a very subtle touch of white truffle in the background. The palate is airy, silky and delicate, but with a firm tannic structure, which is expressed at the finish (the tannins are fine, but slightly grippy). We find the flavors of roasted red cherry, morello cherry, crushed wild strawberry, raspberry coulis, crème de cassis, combined with notes of fresh peony, dried rose, caramelised hazelnut, dried fig, as well as 'has a fine spiciness (toasted vanilla, cinnamon, ground cumin, cloves) and a touch of wet leaves and dried wild flowers in the background. Beautiful salivating acidity and liveliness on the persistent finish. A refined, gourmand and complex wine.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Ru, Mandola, Erede di Chiappone Armando 2015

Nizza Riserva

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity with very light garnet reflections. The nose is fragrant and offers distinct but harmonious evolving notes in the wine profile. We find in particular the aromas of wet leaves, undergrowth, prunes, dried fig, associated with notes of fresh fruit (wild strawberry, morello cherry, crushed blackcurrant, crushed raspberry), aromatic herbs (bay leaf, thyme), and roasted rosemary, fresh wild mint, flowers (dried cornflower, fresh rose, lily), and sweet spices (vanilla, liquorice, cinnamon, ground cumin, cloves) and a very delicate touch of mushrooms in the background. The palate is savoury, gourmand, but rather firm, with slightly dry tannins. It expresses notes of dried flowers (dried cherry, dried blackcurrant), associated with touches of fresh fruit (morello cherry, crushed wild strawberry, crushed raspberry), sweet spices (roasted vanilla, cinnamon, cumin, clove, liquorice), dried flowers (cornflower rose), and a fine hint of dark chocolate and herbaceous (dried mint). Beautiful salivating acidity, which balances the dry tannins and a nice length on the juiciness, a fine spiciness a hint of undergrowth.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Garesio 2016

Nizza Riserva

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity with light garnet reflections. The nose is refined and offers complexity and accuracy. The first nose expresses notes of wet leaves, undergrowth, dried flowers (dried rose, dried cornflower) and a fine touch of white truffle in the background. We also find a fine and gourmand spiciness: notes of grilled vanilla, cinnamon, liquorice and grated nutmeg. There is also a lovely freshness of wild mint and a gourmandise cherry in chocolate cherry and chocolate with mint on the nose. The palate is savoury, very expressive and offers a beautiful complexity of flavors as well as a firm tannic structure (the tannins are grippy and smell at the end of the mouth). We also smell ripe and jammy fruits (black cherry, red cherry jam, crème de cassis, crushed blackcurrant, wild strawberry, crushed raspberry, blackberry jam), a touch of chocolate prune, cherry kirsch and spiciness. tasty (toasted vanilla, cinnamon, liquorice, ground cumin, cloves, cumin seeds). The finish is persistent, sapid and offers a good level of acidity as well as fine tertiary notes (undergrowth, a touch of truffle and dried rose).

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Saint'Evasio 2018

Nizza Riserva

The wine has a ruby color with light garnet reflections. The nose is tasty, fragrant, with delicate tertiary notes (undergrowth, faded rose, peony, tobacco, leather, truffle in the background), subtle and integrated. We also find notes of sweet spices (cinnamon, vanilla, liquorice, grated nutmeg), dried red fruits (dried cherry, dried raspberry) and fresh fruits (morello cherry, wild strawberry, crushed raspberry, blackcurrant) and flowers. fresh (violet, lily). The palate is savoury, mellow and velvety, with a straight tannic structure, but supple and soft, enveloped in a juicy and ripe fruitiness. We find more flavors of fresh fruit than dried or candied ones: wild strawberry, fresh morello cherry, crushed blackcurrant, juicy blackberry, crushed raspberry, dried strawberry,

cherry jam, combined with notes of chocolate with mint, fresh flowers (peony, lilac, rose) and sweet spices (fresh vanilla, cinnamon, grated nutmeg, cloves). Beautiful persistence on the palate, which expresses elegant and refined tertiary notes (truffle, tobacco, wilted flowers), as well as a gourmand touch of chocolate and mint. Beautiful balance, complexity, depth, acidity, all finesse and balance.

Score : 18/20 (96/100)

La Gironda, Ago 2017

Nizza Riserva

The wine has a deep ruby color, with purple reflections. The nose expresses juicy and fresh fruity notes: wild strawberry, morello cherry, fresh raspberry, red cherry, fresh blackcurrant, crushed blueberry. We also find herbaceous and spicy touches of peppermint, fresh rosemary, cumin, crushed coriander seeds, liquorice, with a hint of white pepper and cinnamon in the background. On the second nose, the wine offers elegant floral notes (violet, rose, peony), a hint of torrefaction (sweet

coffee, toasted hazelnut) and a touch of tertiary aromas (hay, undergrowth, white truffles). The palate is juicy, savoury, rich and enveloping, with a high alcohol level. It expresses notes of juicy morello cherry, cherry jam, crushed wild strawberry, crushed blackcurrant, crème de cassis, chocolate prunes, chocolate cherry, as well as sweet spices (roasted vanilla, cinnamon in base, nutmeg, liquorice and toasted coriander seeds), mint chocolate, fresh wild mint, and flowers (peony, rose jam, lilac). The tertiary notes of undergrowth and white truffles are very delicate and appear at the very end of the palate. The tannins are quite firm and powerful, but at the same time velvety and fine. The finish is persistent, savoury. A good level of acidity helps balance the warming touch of alcohol on the palate.

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

Tenuta Olim Bauda 2020

Nizza Riserva

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The first nose is toasty, savoury and slightly smoky. It expresses notes of coffee, toasted hazelnut, toasted oak (with a fine touch of caramel), toasted vanilla, grated nutmeg and cloves, as well as notes of cocoa and dark chocolate. On the second nose, we find notes of juicy morello cherry, chocolate cherry, dried raspberry, raspberry coulis, fresh wood, crushed blackcurrant and blackberry, associated with notes of dried mint, white pepper, liquorice, pine sap and a fine floral bouquet (rose, peony). On the palate, the wine is tight, structured and chiselled. It expresses notes of wild black plum with its tannic touch, morello cherry, wild strawberry, red cherry jam, crushed blackcurrant, fresh raspberry and dried cranberries, as well as a tasty spiciness (cloves, liquorice, nutmeg), a touch of peppermint and flowers (peony, dried rose). The finish is persistent, with a tight tannic structure, slightly drying, but balanced by lively acidity and juicy fruitiness. Good bitterness on the finish. An expressive, gourmand and fresh wine.

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



Nizza

Tenuta Olim Bauda, Bauda 2019

Nizza Riserva

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity. The nose is warm and offers roundness, depth, Gourmandise and a certain complexity. It expresses notes of fresh morello cherry, crushed strawberry, raspberry coulis, blackcurrant jam, fresh blackberry, as well as a fine spiciness (fennel seeds, liquorice with a delicate touch of anise, ground cumin, nutmeg) and chocolate (bitter cocoa, chocolate cherry, dark chocolate with mint), fresh rose and cornflower. We also find a subtle touch of fresh tobacco and a fine minerality (limestone) in the background. The palate is tight, tannic, but balanced thanks to a salivating acidity. It expresses the flavors of crushed wild strawberry, crushed fresh blackcurrant, raspberry coulis, fresh morello cherry, red cherry jam, crushed fresh blueberry, combined with notes of peppermint, white pepper, ground cumin, liquorice, fennel seeds, fresh rose, dried cornflower. The finish is persistent, gourmand, slightly toast, caramelised and chocolatey. Beautiful energy, freshness, accuracy and gourmandise.

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

Franco Mondo, Le Rose 2017

Nizza Riserva

The wine has a ruby color of medium intensity with slight garnet reflections. The nose is elegant, gourmand and fragrant, with beautiful concentration and complexity, all in finesse. The first nose offers a fresh fruitiness, with a touch of milk and jam: it expresses, in particular, the notes of fresh morello cherry, crushed blackcurrant, wild strawberry, crushed raspberry, fresh red currants, crème de cassis, cherry yogurt, wild plum and prune cream in the background. We then find a fragrant and sublime floral bouquet: aromas of fresh rose, dried rose, fresh cornflower, violet and lilac, and a delicate and savoury spiciness (cinnamon, grilled vanilla, liquorice, a touch of anise green, fennel seeds and nutmeg), as well as very light notes of damp leaves and undergrowth. The palate is enveloping, silky, and at the same time firm, tannic and structured. It offers a beautiful freshness and expresses the flavors of bird cherry, crushed blackcurrant,

wild plum (with its tannic touch), wild strawberry, raspberry coulis, chocolate prunes, mint chocolate, a expressive spiciness, but harmonious and enveloped. We find notes of liquorice, fennel seeds, ground cumin, cloves, as well as bitter cocoa, dried rose, dried cornflower and violet. The finish is long, complex, it continues to develop and adds menthol and aniseed notes to the profile of the wine, as well as a fine touch of undergrowth. Beautiful acidity which refreshes the fleshy and chocolatey notes and softens the firmness of the tannins. Beautiful balance and controlled power.

Score : 17.5/20 (95/100)

Cascina Garitina, Gianola 2016

Nizza Riserva

The wine has a deep ruby color. The nose is concentrated, spicy and fruity. It offers depth, complexity, as well as a warm side of roasted and jammy fruits, combined with a touch of kirsch. We find in particular notes of morello cherry jam, roasted red cherry, crushed wild strawberry, raspberry jam, amarena cherry, crushed blackberry, prunes macerated in alcohol, crème de cassis, dark chocolate, dried fig, as well as a touch of dried mint, liquorice, cinnamon, vanilla, nutmeg, toasted cumin seeds and roasted aromas (caramelised hazelnut, toasted coconut, sweet coffee), dried rose and dried blueberry in the background. The palate is fleshy, generous and powerful. It expresses jammy, dried and roasted fruits (cherry jam, prunes, strawberry jam, dried violet fig, amarena cherry, prunes in alcohol, chocolate morello cherry, blackcurrant liqueur, blackberry liqueur) with a touch of freshness and a tannic touch of wild plum. We also find flavors of mint chocolate, bitter cocoa, cinnamon, roasted vanilla, cloves, liquorice (with a hint of star anise), as well as roasted notes (caramelised hazelnut, toasted almond, toasted coconut, coffee) and dried rose and undergrowth. The tannins are fine, but powerful and firm. The finish is warm and fleshy, even with a touch of alcohol, but a slight bitterness and a salivating acidity bring a certain freshness. Lots of concentration, flesh and power.

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



Etna wines

RED ETNA WINES

Biondi – Outis 2022, Nessuno Etna Rosso DOC

The nose is spicy, herbaceous and offers a discreet smokiness as well as deepness. There are notes of red berries, juniper berries and small notes of local garrigue associated with a discreet hint of eucalyptus and Cubeb pepper. The palate is fruity and offers minerality, a tangy structure, tension, a certain juiciness as well as precision. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy Boysenberry, juicy/tangy cassis and small notes of small tangy red fruits associated with touches of red plum as well as a hint of juniper berries, balsamic, eucalyptus and discreet hints of local scrubland.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Biondi – San Nicolo' 2021 Etna Rosso DOC

The nose is aromatic and offers gourmandise, complexity as well as a certain intensity full of finesse. On the palate this wine expresses notes of Bigarreau cherry, small red berries and small notes of small dried black fruits associated with fine hints of eucalyptus and warm garrigue. The palate is fruity, well-balanced and offers juiciness, a mineral frame, juiciness, tension as well as accuracy. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, dried blue plum and small notes of mocha associated with touches of black olive, eucalyptus, toasted/hazelnut and a discreet hint of spices. Good length. Tannins are sapid and gourmands. A fine hint of sulfur/volcanic rock in the background.

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

Biondi – San Nicolo' 2015 Etna Rosso DOC

The nose is fruity, gourmand, aromatic and offers a nice aromatic palette between quite ripe fruits, local scrubland as well as a fine patinated side. We find notes of dried cherry, wild strawberry and small notes of quite ripe wild blue fruits associated with touches of local garrigue, olive leaf as well as a patinated side, hazelnut and a discreet hint of balsamic. The palate is fruity and offers minerality, suavity, a fine roundness, a certain gourmandise as well as precision. On the palate this wine expresses notes of dried cherry, roasted raspberry and small notes of small dried red fruits associated with patinated toasted touches, sweet spices as well as a discreet hint of local dry soil, balsamic and chocolate. Tannins offer a fine chewiness.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Biondi – Cisterna Fuori 2019 Etna Rosso DOC

The nose is fresh fruity and offers minerality, a nice fresh spices side as well as fresh intensity. There are notes of small blue fruits, roasted strawberry and small notes of Bigarreau cherry associated with touches of violet, thyme as well as a discreet hint of garrigue and fresh pepper. The palate is fruity and offers minerality, precision, suavity, a nice fresh-saline richness as well as a racy-volcanic minerality. On the palate this wine expresses notes of ripe wild strawberry, ripe cherry and small notes of small blue fruits associated with touches of small tangy fruits, hints of vanilla, toast, fine hints of chocolate, liquorice stick as well as a subtle hint of balsamic and sweetness. Tannins are precise, frank and elegant.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Biondi – Cisterna Fuori 2013 Etna Rosso DOC

The nose is evolved. We find notes of small dried red fruits and patina associated with hints of undergrowth, almost a truffle hint as well as discreet hints of grilled aromatic herbs. The palate is mineral and offers juiciness, suavity, a mineral structure, a good definition, a certain roundness as well as a nice richness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of small dried/crushed red fruits and small notes of patina associated with touches of dried violet plum, hints of blond tobacco, undergrowth, black olive, a discreet hint of smoke, toasted hazelnut and aromatic herbs. Tannins are fresh, supple and racy. Good length.

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

Mecori – Duo 2021 Etna Rosso DOC

The nose is fruity, elegant and offers delicacy in its complexity/intensity as well as a beautiful finesse of the grain. We find notes of violet, small bright black fruits and small notes of cooked cassis, purple plum associated with discreet hints of toasted hazelnut, sage as well as a subtle almost oregano hint. The palate is fruity and offers minerality, juiciness, a mineral/acidic frame as well as a beautiful juiciness



and delicacy in its fat/roundness. Beautiful finesse and delicacy. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy cassis, pulpy purple plum and small notes of small, bright black fruits associated with touches of oregano, salinity/iodine as well as fine hints of local garrigue and a very discreet, almost eucalyptus point (in the background). Nice supple and suave tannins. A discreet and good job on the good bitterness.

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

Mecori – Duo 2020 Etna Rosso DOC

The nose is fresh, aromatic, racy and offers sense of place (local biotop). We find notes of sage/oregano, wild cassis and small notes of small roasted-fresh red fruits associated with fine touches of cooked blueberry as well as discreet hints of nutmeg, sweet spices and black olive. The palate is fruity, well-balanced and offers juiciness, suavity, a nice tangy frame, tension as well as a certain straightness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, juicy/ripe cassis and small notes of small black berries associated with touches of small crushed red berries, fine hints of sage, warm local soil, a fine hint of chocolate and black olive. Tannins are supple. Good length.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Tenute Mannino – Vasadonna 2018, Prefillossera Etna Rosso DOC

The nose is fresh, elegant and offers a nice definition as well as a certain intensity (but full of elegance). Purity and delicacy, particularly in its power. There are notes of pulpy/ripe cherry, bright Quetsche plum and small notes of small wild fruits associated with touches of star anise and aromatic herbs. The palate is mineral and offers freshness, tension, precision as well as a beautiful intensity full of elegance. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy blackberry, bright plum and small notes of juicy/fresh cherry associated with touches of cornflower, tonka bean, star anise as well as a subtle almost fennel/sage hint and balsamic (in the background). Tannins are saline, supple and elegant. Good length. Presence of an almost tonka bean hint, in the background.

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

Tenute Mannino – Vasadonna 2019, Prefillossera Etna Rosso DOC

Beautiful aromatic nose and marked by aromatic herbs. Beautiful intensity. There are notes of wild mint, local scrubland and eucalyptus associated with touches of volcanic rock/basalt, balsamic as well as fine hints of pepper (in the background). The palate is fruity and offers minerality, freshness, frankness, sincerity, a beautiful definition as well as a tangy frame. Nice racy minerality. On the palate this wine expresses notes of small fresh/local red berries, fresh red plum and small notes of balsamic associated with touches of small flowers, olive leaf as well as fine hints of tonka bean and toasted almond. Nice work on the good bitterness.

Score : 17.5/20 (95/100)

Zumbo – Sannedda 2020, Contrada Santo Spirito Etna Rosso DOC

The nose offers elegance, a certain small intensity/concentration, complexity as well as harmony. There are notes of pulpy cherry and crushed small red fruits associated with touches of small wild berries as well as discreet hints of pepper and sage. The palate is fruity, well-balanced and offers minerality, a tangy frame, juiciness, suavity, a good definition, a certain tension, precision as well as roundness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy blackberry, pulpy/juicy plum and small notes of wild red berries associated with a touch of balsamic, Bigarreau cherry as well as discreet hints of oregano and racy minerality. Tannins are supple and elegant.

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

Zumbo – Manata 2018, Contrada Trimarchisa Etna Rosso DOC

Beautiful, elegant and delicate nose which offers a lot of delicacy in its concentration/extraction as well as a fine infusion hint. There are notes of wild cherry, small berries and small notes of local garrigue associated with a subtle hint of pepper and oregano. The palate is mineral, well-balanced and offers juiciness, precision, tension as well as a fine concentration. On the palate this wine expresses notes of crushed cherry, pulpy/juicy plum and small notes of juicy/ripe small fruits associated with touches of bigarreau cherry, cornflower, hints of sage, balsamic as well as fine toasted hints and cardamom/tonka bean. Good length.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)



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Etna wines

Tascante – Ghiaia Nera 2021 Etna Rosso DOC

The nose is well developed and offers a small fruit, a fine rocky minerality as well as fine varietal hints (noble). It reveals notes of wild blackberry, pulpy/juicy cherry and small notes of small pulpy fruits associated with touches of local grove as well as a discreet hint of olive leaf. The palate is mineral and offers a nice fruitiness, purity as well as a certain brightness of the fruit. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy raspberry, pulpy/bright cherry and small notes of racy minerality associated with volcanic minerality, small touches of cassis (in the background) as well as a hint of toasted almond, local groves and a subtle hint of spices. Good length. Presence of a discreet hint of balsamic and star anise in the background. Tannins are supple and suave. A discreet chewiness and sapidity on the finish.

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

Tascante – Contrada Pianodario 2019 Etna Rosso DOC

Beautiful, elegant nose, delicate in its relative concentration and which offers purity, a certain deepness as well as a discreet touch of elegant austerity. There are notes of Bigarreau cherry, pulpy purple plum and small notes of roasted small fruits associated with touches of star anise, fine hints of blond tobacco, balsamic as well as a discreet hint of olive tree and cardamom. The palate is fruity, elegant, precise and offers a tangy frame, juiciness, minerality, nice purity, aromatic precision as well as gourmandise. On the palate this wine expresses notes of bright bigarreau cherry and pulpy/juicy raspberry associated with touches of star anise, toasted almond as well as a subtle hint of balsamic, black olive and a hint of sense of the place (local biotope) on the finish. Beautiful work on the good bitterness on the finish/persistence. Nice freshness.

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

Tascante – Contrada Sciaranuova 2017, VV Etna Rosso DOC

Beautiful, fresh and intense nose. It offers nice definition, deepness as well as a nice elegant, intense and fine grain. There are notes of small wild purple plum and small pulpy wild red berries associated with fine hints of sage, balsamic, volcanic rock as well as a very discreet hint of pepper and a subtle almost eucalyptus hint. The palate is mineral and offers juiciness, a nice pulpiness, gourmandise as well as a tangy frame. A beautiful small airy richness, full of control. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy blackberry, pulpy cherry and small notes of bright Quetsche plum associated with a touch of jammy raspberry as well as hints of balsamic, nutmeg and discreet hints of vanilla. Tannins are supple and elegant. Very beautiful elegance and finesse.

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

Passopisciaro – Passorosso 2018 Terre Siciliane IGP

The nose is fruity, fresh and offers a certain gourmandise as well as certain juiciness of the fruit. It reveals notes of fresh/juicy cassis, juicy/ripe raspberry and small notes of juicy/fresh red plum associated with touches of plum blossom, a subtle hint of fresh fig as well as discreet hints of nutmeg and sage. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, a mineral frame, acidity, tension as well as a nice juiciness of the fruit. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy red plum, juicy/fresh blackcurrant and small notes of tangy raspberry associated with fine floral hints as well

as a discreet hint of spices and fresh balsamic (in the background).

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

Passopisciaro – Passorosso 2021 Terre Siciliane IGP

The nose is fruity, fresh, aromatic and nicely marked by the local scrubland. There are notes of sage, oregano, blackberry and small notes of crushed small fruits associated with fine touches of star anise as well as a subtle hint of fresh pepper. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, a tangy frame, minerality, suavity, precision as well as tension. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy purple plum, bright/ripe blackcurrant and small notes of small wild red fruits associated with touches of local garrigue as well as discreet toasted hints, chocolate and a subtle hint of vanilla.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Passopisciaro – Contrada C 2021 Terre Siciliane IGP

The nose is elegant, nicely racy and offers varietal freshness as well as sense of place (local biotope). There are notes of fresh sage, olive leaf and small notes of fennel associated with pretty notes of red fruits



(cherry, red plum, etc.) as well as discreet hints of star anise and a saline hint. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, gourmandise, tension, minerality as well as purity. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, bright purple plum and small notes of bright red plum associated with touches of star anise, black olive, almost oregano as well as a subtle varietal hint, chocolate and toasted. Tannins are supple and elegant.

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

Passopisciaro – Contrada R 2021 Terre Siciliane IGP

The nose is spicy and offers concentration as well as a balsamic hint. There are notes of Bigarreau cherry, cooked wild redcurrants and small notes of blackberry associated with touches of star anise, warm scrubland/grove as well as fine hints of volcanic rock. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, a mineral frame, gourmandise, tension, precision, purity as well as a good definition. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy cherry, pulpy red plum and small notes of cornflower associated with touches of small creamy blue fruits, fine hints of chocolate, star anise, black olive as well as a subtle hint of oregano and volcanic rock. Lovely freshness and beautifully impacted by the local biodiversity!

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

Passopisciaro – Contrada S 2021 Terre Siciliane IGP

The nose is fresh, elegant and airy in its intensity. There are notes of crushed wild cassis, crushed Bigarreau cherry and small notes of roasted-fresh small fruits associated with touches of cornflower, small wild flowers as well as discreet hints of sweet spices and fennel. The palate is fruity, nicely fresh and offers minerality. Nicely driven by the fruit, by the freshness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy blackberry, cooked cassis and small notes of crushed raspberry associated with touches of roasted fruit, cornflowers, hints of sage, chocolate as well as a herbaceous hint, olive tree, liquorice and crushed black olive. Beautiful elegance and complexity. Tannins are supple, elegant and fresh.

Score : 17.5/20 (95/100)

Passopisciaro – Contrada P 2021 Terre Siciliane IGP

The nose is fruity, elegant, deep and offers a nice aromatic deepness. We find notes of Bigarreau cherry, pulpy black plum and small notes of crushed small blue fruits associated with touches of lily, fine hints of star anise, sage as well as a subtle hint of black olive and a delicate hint of spices/cardamom. The palate is fruity and offers minerality, juiciness, a tangy frame, tension as well as a nice definition. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, juicy/ripe blackcurrant and small notes of fresh/tangy raspberry associated with touches of balsamic, fresh sage as well as fine hints of varietal/olive leaf and with a subtle hint of balsamic. Tannins are supple. Good job on the good bitterness.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Passopisciaro – Contrada G 2021 Terre Siciliane IGP

Beautiful, fruity, elegant nose. It offers a good width of the palette, intensity full of elegance as well as a small floral and spiciness. It reveals notes of boysenberry, cardamom and small notes of small ripe/fresh wild black fruits associated with touches of oregano as well as discreet hints of warm local grove. The palate is nicely fresh and offers minerality, tension as well as precision. On the palate this wine expresses notes of fresh blackberry, pulpy/juicy purple plum and small notes of small crushed fruits associated with touches of pulpy/juicy small red fruits as well as toasted hints, vanilla, oregano and a subtle hint of wild fennel (in the background). Tannins are elegant, racy and supple. Nice work on the good bitterness (in the background). Beautiful freshness.

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

Franchetti 2021 Terre Siciliane IGP

Beautiful fruity nose which offers well-controlled/elegant intensity, precision in its power as well as deepness. We find notes of black cherry, quite ripe small red fruits and small notes of cornflowers associated with touches of crushed redcurrants as well as fine/delicate hints of black tea, star anise, tonka bean and a subtle hint of sage. The palate is fruity, precise, tense and offers minerality, tension, an elegant structure as well as a beautiful suavity and delicacy. Stretchiness in control/precision. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy violet plum, black cherry and small notes of fresh-roasted small red fruits associated with a hint of dry local undergrowth, tonka bean, violet as well as a discreet hint of black tea and hazelnut. Tannins are elegant, supple, suave and polished. Good length and persistence. A fine iodized hint on the persistence.

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

Etna wines

WHITE ETNA WINES

Biondi – Outis 2022

Etna Bianco DOC

The nose is fruity, fresh and crunchy. We find notes of mirabelle plum, quince and small notes of small crunchy fruits associated with a discreet hint of mandarin and pineapple. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, crunchiness, straightness, suavity, a good freshness, matter, roundness, an iodized/smokiness (in the background) as well as a certain gourmandise. On the palate this wine expresses notes of crushed nectarine, pear and small notes of quince associated with fine touches of quénette as well as hints of white flowers. Good length.

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

Biondi – Outis 2015

Etna Bianco DOC

The nose is aromatic, ripe and offers a smoky/almost sulfured side. There are notes of cumin, fennel and small notes of small yellow fruits associated with a touch of dried pepper as well as a discreet hint of kumquat and spices. The palate is fruity, well-balanced and offers juiciness, suavity, a mineral frame, acidity, a certain tension, salinity/smokiness as well as a fine tension. On the palate this wine expresses notes of fresh hazelnut, kumquat and small notes of fennel associated with a touch of fresh local grove/eucalyptus as well as fine hints of iodine. Good length. Beautiful freshness and sapidity.

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

Biondi – Pianta 2020

Etna Bianco DOC

The nose is fruity and offers a small fat, a fine tangy-citrus sensation as well as a small concentration. There are notes of ripe grapefruit, crushed yellow peach and small notes of kumquat associated with touches of quince as well as a fine hint of mirabelle plum and butter. The palate is mineral and offers suavity, freshness, a certain tension as well as precision. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/crushed yellow peach, kumquat and small notes of passion fruit associated with touches of chestnut butter as well as hints of mandarin and an imperceptible hint of sage. Freshness.

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

Tenute Mannino – Aurantica 2022

Etna Bianco DOC

The nose is fruity and offers a certain concentration, freshness as well as a discreet oceanic side. There are notes of crushed mirabelle plum, crushed yellow peach and small notes of salinity associated with touches of crushed small fruits as well as hints of flowers, kumquat and fresh sage. The palate is fruity and offers a certain juiciness, freshness, purity as well as a beautiful racy minerality/oceanic influence. On the palate this wine expresses notes of crushed mirabelle plum, crushed yellow peach and small notes of mandarin associated with touches of zest, citrus fruits as well as fine hints of fresh grove/fresh sage and a subtle hint of toasted almond. A fine saline and almost tannic hint both in its structure and in its aromatic. Nice saline-smoky finish.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Tenute Mannino – Aurantica 2021

Etna Bianco DOC

The nose is smoky, spicy, fresh and offers a certain deepness in its freshness as well as a beautiful fresh grove side. It reveals notes of quince, fresh grove and small notes of small pulpy/ripe fruits associated with a hint of sage and almost discreetly toasted almond.

The palate is mineral, fresh, well-balanced and offers suavity, a fine roundness, precision, finesse, a beautiful energy as well as a controlled side. On the palate this wine expresses notes of sage, quince, small crushed white fruits associated with fine herbaceous hints/aromatic herbs, small fruits, olive leaf as well as a fine hint of orange zest. Good length. A nice smoky-salty-toasted side.

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

Zumbo – Settantadue 2020

Etna Bianco

The nose is fruity, gourmand and offers a nice definition as well as a certain richness. There are notes of quince, mirabelle plum and small notes of quince associated with fine touches of small yellow fruits as well as a subtle hint of fresh lemon. The palate is fruity, well-balanced and offers freshness, minerality, a mineral frame, fat, a good definition as well as a beautiful roundness and suavity. On the palate this wine expresses notes of quénette, quince and small notes of small fleshy/pulpy fruits associated with touches of small exotic fruits as well as almost buttery hints. A fine tannic hint (in the background) both in its aromatic and its structure. Good job on the good bitterness.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Tascante – Buonora 2020

Etna Bianco DOC

Beautiful, elegant and fruity nose. It offers a certain gourmandise as well as a complex freshness (varietal and mineral). It reveals notes of ripe/fresh citrus fruits, juicy small fruits and small notes of bright peach associated with touches of peach flowers as well as discreet pearly hints. The palate is fruity, well-balanced, airy and offers juiciness, suavity, a tangy frame as well as tension. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy peach, pulpy/juicy apple and small notes of citrus associated with fine hints of almost grapefruit as well as fine hints of eucalyptus and a subtle hint of fresh almond. Good length and persistence. Nice freshness and minerality.

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

Passopisciaro – Contrada PC 2021

Terre Siciliane IGP

The nose offers power and concentration. There are notes of quince, small ripe/warm yellow fruits and

small notes of yuzu zest associated with fine hints of lime, fresh local scrubland as well as discreet hints of sage/eucalyptus. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, suavity, a mineral structure, a good definition, precision, tension, a certain fat as well as roundness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy mirabelle plum, quince and small notes of citrus peel, citrus fruits associated with touches of small bright white fruits as well as hints of lychee/quenette as well as subtle hints of honey and local grove. Beautiful roundness and delicacy in its fat (a smoked-iodized fat).

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Passopisciaro – Passobianco 2021

Terre Siciliane IGP

The nose is fresh and offers a certain intensity, a fine stretchiness as well as a certain small complexity. There are notes of dried zest, quince and small notes of dried green apple combined with fine almost wild mint/eucalyptus hints. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, a mineral framework, tension, precision, a certain roundness as well as a fine airiness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of green apple, dried zest and small notes of quince associated with touches of dried peach as well as a hint of pineapple and has discreet herbaceous hints/local scrubland.

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

ROSÉ ETNA WINES

Zumbo – Ciuri Ciuri 2020, Contrada Santo Spirito

Rosato

The nose is fruity and offers a fine almost maceration hint. There are notes of kumquat, orange and small notes of dried zest associated with almost lavender touches. The palate is gourmand, round and offers fat, balance, suavity as well as width. Airiness in its fat. On the palate this wine expresses notes of kumquat, crushed/sweet mandarin and small notes of orange associated with touches of crushed small fruits, fine hints of local grove/olive leaf as well as discreet hints of green almond, racy minerality and salinity. A touch of maceration/fermentation on the finish.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)



© Contrada Tenute Mannino Etna Bianco DOC

Abruzzo

CERASUOLO D'ABRUZZO

Tenuta I Fauri – 2021, Baldovino Cerasuolo d'Abruzzo

(Organic) The nose is fruity, fresh, gourmand and offers a slight candy hint. It reveals notes of candied cherry, English candy and small notes of fresh white peach associated with slight touches of lemon as well as slight hints of violet. The palate is fruity, and offers a beautiful juiciness, suavity, a certain gourmandise, an tangy/citrus frame, precision as well as a slight tension. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy cherry, raspberry flavored candy and small notes juicy/fresh cassis associated with touches of bright peach as well as a subtle almost blood orange hint (in the background) and a subtle hint of fig leaf.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Tenute I fauri – Baldovino 2022 Cerasuolo d'Abruzzo

(Organic) Beautiful fruity, elegant and well built nose. It reveals notes of pulpy brugnion, fresh cassis and small notes of fresh small red berries associated with discreet hints of zest in the background. The palate is fruity and



offers juiciness, minerality, a fresh/tangy frame, a good definition, a certain gourmandise, precision as well as purity in its fat. In the mouth this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy peach, fresh cherry and small notes of white flowers/acacia associated with touches of zest, fresh red berries as well as a subtle hint of fresh red plum and olive tree in the background. Good length.

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

Tenuta Oderisio – Colle delle Querce 2022

Cerasuolo d'Abruzzo DOC

The nose is fruity, gourmand, elegant and offers purity. It reveals notes of blood orange, pink grapefruit and small notes of small exotic fruits associated with slight touches of fresh cherry and a discreet hint of violet. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, a tangy frame, a certain gourmandise as well as precision. On the palate this wine expresses notes of sweet pink grapefruit, blood orange and small notes of juicy peach associated with touches of bright cherry as well as hints of crunchy pear and a subtle hint of white flowers. Good length. Beautiful persistence and a very discreet varietal hint in the background.

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

Olivastri Tommaso – Marcantonio

2022

Cerasuolo d'Abruzzo

Beautiful, fruity, gourmand, mineral nose and offers a varietal hint in the background. It reveals notes of plump/fresh cherry, crushed raspberry and small notes of plum tree flowers associated with touches of fresh purple plum as well as a sappy hint. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, acidity, tension as well as a certain small brightness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy cherry, pulpy purple plum and small notes of small crushed red fruits associated with touches of cherry blossoms as well as discreet hints of liquorice stick in the background. Supple and sapid tannins. Good length. Freshness and juiciness.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Rabottini – 2019

Cerasuolo d'Abruzzo

The nose is fruity, fresh and offers minerality. It reveals notes of fresh/pulpy redcurrants, fresh/pulpy brugnion and small notes of ripe/fresh fruits associated with touches of violet, sage as well as a discreet hint of salt. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, freshness, precision, suavity as well as roundness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/fresh cherry, juicy/fresh raspberry and small notes of dried orange zests associated with touches of kumquat as well as a slight hint of crushed redcurrants, raspberry tree leaf as well as slight almost liquorice hints. Good length. Beautiful freshness and minerality.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Cantina Rapino – 2018,

Cerasuolo d'Abruzzo

(Organic) The nose is fresh, frank and offers a small tension. It reveals notes of fresh cherry, ripe redcurrants and small notes of violet associated with touches of mulberry leaf as well as discreet hints of local grove. The palate is fresh, fruity and offers minerality, a slightly tight grain, tension as well as juiciness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of fresh cherry, juicy/pulpy redcurrants associated with almost citrus/blood orange touches as well as hints of cherry blossoms and fruit jelly. Good length. A subtle hint of fresh liquorice.

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

TREBBIANO D'ABRUZZO

Mazzarosa – 2022

Trebbiano d'Abruzzo Superiore

Beautiful, fruity, pulpy nose and offers a certain deepness. It reveals notes of bright white peach, sweet pink grapefruit and small notes of crunchy small fruits associated with floral touches as well as discreet mineral hints. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, suavity, freshness, a certain gourmandise as well as a small linear side. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy peach, quenette and small notes of pulpy lemon associated with touches of quenette, mesocarp as well as slight floral hints in the background and a hint of iodine.

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

Barone di Valforte – Villa Chiara, 2022

Trebbiano d'Abruzzo

The nose is fruity and offers brightness as well as a certain gourmandise. It reveals notes of bright peach, quenette and small notes of white flowers/varietal associated with touches of mesocarp and a discreet hint of crunchy small fruits. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, a tangy frame, minerality, precision, tension, a certain fat as well as roundness. On the

palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy apple, lychee and small notes of quenette associated with touches of ripe lemon/lime, mesocarp as well as a subtle hint of small white fruits crushed and a hint of white flowers/acacia. Good length. Nice persistence. A nice work on good bitterness.

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

Stefania Pepe – Pepe Bianco 2013

Trebbiano d'Abruzzo DOC

(Biodynamic) The nose is spicy and offers a slight oxidative hint. It reveals notes of yellow peach, kumquat and small notes of dried zest associated with touches of aromatic herbs as well as slight hints of beeswax and dried yellow grapes. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, suavity, a mineral frame, a good definition, precision as well as a certain tension. On the palate this wine expresses notes of yellow peach, kumquat and small notes of dried zests associated with oxidative touches, fresh nuts, wild yellow berries as well as slight varietal hints/aromatic herbs. Good length.

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



Rabottini – Per Iniziare, 2018

Trebbiano d'Abruzzo

The nose is fruity, delicate, complex and offers a beautiful definition. It reveals notes of fresh kumquat, mesocarp and small notes of lemon blossom associated with touches of tangerine zest, delicate floral hints, sense of the place (local biotop) as well as a very discreet almost iodine hint. The palate is mineral, elegant, delicate, melodious and offers a beautiful finesse in its definition as well as a tangy frame. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy peach, crunchy small fruits and small notes of white flowers associated with varietal touches and hints of zest and racy minerality. Good length. A subtle hint of iodine in the background and a subtle hint of fresh hazelnut. Beautiful delicacy, minerality and straightness.

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

Rabottini – Per Iniziare, 2015

Trebbiano d'Abruzzo

Beautiful elegant nose that offers deepness, a certain small richness in delicacy. It reveals notes of pulpy white peach, lychee and small notes of toasted almond associated with slight hints of smoke, saline/oceanic and discreet hints of hot pine sap as well as a subtle hint of fresh apricot. The palate is fruity and offers

Abruzzo

juiciness, suavity, a beautiful fat, precision as well as a beautiful iodine/pearly side in the background. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy tangerine, crushed kumquat and small notes of fresh apricot associated with touches of smoke, blond tobacco as well as slight hints of sweet spices and small yellow fruits. Good length. A subtle hint of cloves and pine sap. A subtle tannic hint in the background/on the finish. Beautiful persistence. Freshness.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Barone Cornacchia, Poggio Varano – 2021

Trebbiano d'Abruzzo Macerato

(Organic) The nose is fruity and fresh. It reveals notes of bright physalis of bright yellow peach and small notes of citrus associated with slight touches of fresh pineapple as well as discreet varietal hints. The palate is fruity and offers minerality, freshness, a good definition, roundness, fat as well as juiciness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of bright physalis, juicy/tangy small yellow plums and small notes of citrus associated with slight touches of fresh almonds/hazelnuts as well as slight floral hints and a subtle hint of spices. A



discreet almost tannic hint in the background as much in the aromatic as in the structure. A beautiful gourmand and textured wine. Good length.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Valle Reale – Vignerto di Popoli 2020

Trebbiano d'Abruzzo DOC

(biodynamic) Beautiful fruity nose, juicy and offers brightness and sincerity. It reveals notes of juicy quince, bright/juicy small yellow fruits and small notes of dried zest associated with touches of sage and a discreet hint of sense of the place (biotop local) and a discreet almost sappy hint in the background. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, suavity, gourmandise, a beautiful definition, acidity, purity, attention to detail, generosity as well as an elegant and aerial fat. Beautiful brightness and purity of the fruit. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/tangy kumquat, bright quince and small notes of roasted pineapple associated with touches of bright/tangy small fruits as well as a subtle almost beeswax hint and sage/verbena. Good length. Almost a discreet tannic hint in both structure and aroma.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Cantina Rapino 2016

Trebbiano d'Abruzzo

(non filtrato) The nose offers a small power. It reveals notes of quince zest and dry tangerine associated with touches of dried lemon as well as slight hints of leather and fresh hazelnut. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, suavity, fat, energy as well as stretchiness/tension. On the palate this wine expresses notes of quince, dried lemon zest, crushed peach associated with touches of yellow plum and hints of yellow flowers and slight buttery hints.

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

Cantina Rapino – Gira 2020

Trebbiano d'Abruzzo

(Organic) The nose is a bit tight and offers a slight power as well as a small reduction. It reveals notes of zest, quince and small notes of mesocarp associated with touches of tangerine as well as a hint of small yellow fruits, jasmine and an imperceptible hint of fresh sap. The palate is fruity and offers minerality, roundness, a certain gourmandise, delicacy as well as a slight concentration. On the palate this wine expresses notes of quince, dried lemon and small notes of zest associated with touches of physalis as well as a hint of jasmine/white flowers. A subtle sappy/pine needle hints in the background.

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

Tenute I Fauri – Baldovino 2022

Trebbiano d'Abruzzo DOC

(Organic) The nose is beautifully well-built and offers a slight concentration, deepness as well as precision. It reveals notes of crunchy flat peach and white flowers associated with touches of apricot as well as slight hints of almost lemony. The palate is fruity and offers precision, a mineral/tangy frame, a good definition as well as a certain juiciness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy peach, juicy/pulpy apple and small notes of white flowers associated with touches of fresh apricot and slight hints of lychee/quenette. Good energy. A subtle hint of salt and olive tree in the background.

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

MONTEPULCIANO D'ABRUZZO

Tenuta Oderisio – Colle delle Querce 2020

Montepulciano d'Abruzzo

Beautiful and gourmand nose that offers a certain richness, a certain small concentration. It reveals notes of crushed strawberry, pulpy cassis and small notes of bright small black fruits associated with touches of olive tree/local grove as well as slight hints of chocolate, sweet spices and a discreet almost black tapenade hint in the background. The palate is juicy, pulpy and offers gourmandise, a tangy frame, some tension, precision as well as minerality. On the palate this wine expresses notes of bright raspberry, bright wild small red berries and small hints of crushed blackberry associated with touches of olive tree, chocolate and slight hints of blond tobacco. Elegant, gourmand and sapid tannins. Very beautiful energy and sapidity. Very beautiful persistence.

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

Tenuta Ulisse 2021

Montepulciano d'Abruzzo DOP

Beautiful fruity, gourmand, quite ripe nose that offers some intensity. It reveals notes of crushed cherry, crushed blackberry and small notes of crushed black plum associated with touches of black olive, chocolate as well as discreet mineral hints. The palate is fruity

and offers juiciness, a beautiful mineral frame, tension, a certain straightness as well as concentration. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, crushed black plum and small notes of violet associated with touches of crushed small black fruits as well as slight floral hints, tonka beans and a discreet hint almost menthol. Good length. Tannins are sapid and gourmand. Good length. A fine chew. A small saline side in the background.

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

Tenuta Ulisse – Nativae 2019

Montepulciano d'Abruzzo

The nose is elegant and offers precision, a certain concentration, a small complexity. It reveals notes of morello cherry, roasted cassis and small notes of crushed blueberry associated with touches of graphite, liquorice stick as well as slight hints of cornflower, olive tree and a hint of tobacco. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, suavity, a mineral/tangy frame, minerality, purity as well as a good definition. On the palate this wine expresses notes of morello cherry, bright purple plum and small notes of roasted small fruits associated with touches of cornflower, roasted



raspberry as well as hints of liquorice stick, discreet hints of sweet blond tobacco and hints of almond. A beautiful sapid, energetic and gourmand finish. Delicious tannins. Beautiful juiciness and minerality/gourmandise. Freshness.

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

Tenuta Ulisse – Amaranta 2020

Montepulciano d'Abruzzo

The nose offers concentration, power, a certain deepness, a certain small darkness/infusion hint as well as a beautiful racy and relatively powerful grain. It reveals notes of bright Boysenberry, crushed strawberry and small notes of roasted small fruits associated with touches of blue plum, badian, black olive as well as discreet hints of sweet spices and a subtle hint of vanilla. The palate is gourmand and offers juiciness, fat, suavity, a tangy frame, energy, fullness as well as precision. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy blackberry, crushed cassis and small notes of bright Bigarreau cherry associated with touches of roasted strawberry as well as hints of cornflower, Bourbon vanilla and cardamom. A small chew and gourmandise. The finish is sapid. Chewy and delicious tannins.

Score : 16.25+/20 (93/100)

Abruzzo

Valle Martello 2021

Montepulciano d'Abruzzo

Beautiful complex and racy nose. It offers a certain gourmandise. It reveals notes of boysenberry, sage and small notes of sense of place (local biotop) associated with touches of crushed raspberry as well as discreet hints of spices. The palate is fruity and offers mentality, precision, delicacy in its touch and a certain power in precision/control. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy cherry, crushed raspberry and small notes of juicy/pulpy cassis associated with touches of cornflower, rosemary/sage as well as discreet hints of racy minerality, crushed redcurrants and sweet spices. Beautiful juiciness and delicacy in its fat and gourmandise.

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

Olivastri Tommaso – La Grondaia 2018

Montepulciano d'Abruzzo

The nose offers a certain power, a small intensity and discreetly tight grain. It reveals notes of blackberry, purple plum and small notes of crushed strawberry associated with touches of violet, badian and precision.



The palate is fruity and offers minerality, precision, tension as well as some freshness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, crushed raspberry and small notes of bright cherry associated with touches of cornflowers, tonka bean as well as discreet hints of nutmeg and toasted almond, olive tree and discreet salty hints. Beautiful energy and sapidity on the finish. A beautiful acidity. A discreet and good work on the good bitterness

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

Mazzarosa – Vere Novo 2020

Montepulciano d'Abruzzo

The nose offers concentration, a certain power and a slight sappy side. It reveals notes of bigarreau cherry, violet and small notes of olive tree associated with touches of pulpy purple plum as well as hints of sage, ripe small fruits and sweet spices. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, suavity, a mineral frame, a good definition, a certain gourmandise, precision, energy as well as a slight sappy side in the background. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/fresh cherry, crunchy cassis and small notes of olive tree associated with touches of small red fruits, sap as well as hints of sage and a discreet hint of tonka bean and racy minerality. Good length.

Score : 14.75+20 (89/100)

Barone di Valforte 2022

Montepulciano d'Abruzzo

The nose is fruity and offers a pulpy/ripe fruit as well as a slight intensity. It reveals notes of fleshy cherry, pulpy/fleshy red berries and small notes of cherry associated with small touches of bright fruits as well as slight hints of flowers and blood orange. The palate is fruity and offers a tangy frame, juiciness as well as energy. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy cherry, crushed redcurrants and small notes of crunchy strawberry associated with touches of blood orange, white flowers as well as a subtle hint of sage/rosemary in the background. Supple and sapid tannins.

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

Stefania Pepe – Contro Guerra 2016

Montepulciano d'Abruzzo

(biodynamie) The nose is aromatic and offers a slight power. It reveals notes of blackberry, undergrowth and small notes of quite ripe small red fruits associated with touches of truffle and ceps. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, gourmandise, a small roundness as well as a certain tension and precision. On the palate this wine expresses notes of crushed fruit, crushed redcurrant and small notes of undergrowth, truffle associated with touches of crushed blackberries, bright small fruits as well as hints of camphor, tapenade and discreet hints of tobacco. Supple, racy and sapid tannins. Good length. Minerality and freshness.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Rabottini – 2016,

Montepulciano d'Abruzzo

The nose is aromatic, spicy and offers a certain power. It reveals notes of blackberry, violet and small notes of crushed wild redcurrants associated with touches of aromatic herbs, linden as well as discreet racy hints. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, a mineral frame, acidity, a small tension as well as precision. On the palate this wine expresses notes of crunchy cherry, crunchy wild red berries and small notes of linden associated with touches of pink laurel/fresh local grove as well as slight hints of tonka bean. Good length.

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Pian di Mare – 2021

Montepulciano d'Abruzzo DOC

Beautiful fruity pulpy nose, and offers a slight concentration as well as a good definition. It reveals notes of pulpy/juicy purple plum, bigarreau cherry and small notes of pulpy/ripe small red fruits associated with touches of local scrubland as well as slight hints of fresh blond tobacco and a discreet hint of fresh rosemary. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, brightness, gourmandise, a beautiful delicacy, a velvety fruit, energy as well as a tangy frame. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy cherry, bright strawberry and small notes of bright cassis associated with touches of small tangy red berries, blood orange as well as slight floral hints and a very discreet hint of fresh rosemary in the background. Supple and sapid tannins. Good length. Beautiful minerality and freshness.

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

Pian di Mare – Monolith 2019

Montepulciano d'Abruzzo Riserva DOC

The nose is gourmand and offers a slight racy concentration. It reveals notes of pulpy cherry, bright raspberry and small notes of sense of the place (local biotop) associated with touches of dry grove, pepper as well as a slight hint of rhubarb, small fruits and a subtle roasted hint. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, a mineral/tangy frame, a good definition, precision as well as a certain gourmandise. Beautiful

purity and brightness of the fruit, an explosive juiciness and ripeness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy cherry, bright raspberry and small notes of rhubarb associated with touches of wild small fruits, sense of the place (local biotop) as well as hints of racy minerality, black olive and a discreet toasted hint in the background. Beautiful tangy finish... Silky tannins. A saline/iodine hint in the background.

Score : 16.25+20 (93/100)

Pian di Mare – Maja 2017

Montepulciano d'Abruzzo

The nose is elegant, deep and offers concentration, intensity as well as good definition. It reveals notes of boysenberry, bright small red fruits and small notes of roasted small fruits associated with touches of badian, olive as well as discreet hints of nutmeg and toasted. The palate is fruity and offers minerality, concentration, matter as well as richness in balance. On the palate this wine expresses notes of crushed blackberry, crushed/pulpy cassis and small notes of bright strawberry associated with a touch of roasted small fruits, tobacco, badian as well as slight almost dry local



underwood hint and hints of tonka bean. Elegant, racy, powerful, tasty and well-integrated tannins. Beautiful sapidity on the finish.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Barone Cornacchia, Poggio Varano – 2021

Montepulciano d'Abruzzo

(Organic) Beautiful, fruity, gourmand and textured nose that offers a beautiful density and deepness. It reveals notes of bright wild cassis, pulpy purple plum and small notes of crushed raspberry associated with touches of plum tree flowers as well as hints of liquorice stick/badian and a subtle (and delicate) hint of aromatic herbs. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, a mineral/tangy frame, gourmandise, tension, precision, a beautiful textured touch, deepness, a beautiful matter, a slight infusion hint, a slight airy cremosity as well as powerful and elegant grain. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy blackberry, pulpy/juicy cassis and small notes of pulpy/juicy raspberry associated with touches of pulpy/juicy small blue fruits as well as touches of violet, fresh blond tobacco, sage/aromatic herbs as well as delicate hints of creamy fruits, cardamome and truffle (very discreet). Good length. Beautiful sapid persistence.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Abruzzo

Torre Raone – San Zopito 2018 Montepulciano d'Abruzzo, Terre dei Vestini DOC

(Organic) The nose is fruity and offers concentration, deepness, a certain intensity, precision and a slight straightness. It reveals notes of wild bright small black berries, black plum and small notes of violet associated with touches of plum tree flowers, hints of pepper, sweet spices as well as a slight hint of black olive and sage. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, a mineral frame, tanginess, tension as well as precision. Concentration in precision/balance. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, bright cassis and small notes of bright/pulpy red fruits associated with touches of strawberry, badian, local grove as well as slight hints of black olive. Beautiful minerality and freshness. Beautiful work on good bitterness.

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

Valle Reale – Vigneto Sant'Eusanio 2020

Montepulciano d'Abruzzo DOC

(biodynamic) The nose is mineral, precise and offers



a certain tension as well as precision. It reveals notes of pulpy/fresh cherry, violet and small notes of wild fresh small black berries associated with touches of local grove/sense of the place (local biotop) as well as discreet hints of spices. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, suavity, freshness, a beautiful definition, purity as well as freshness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy cherry, bright purple plum and small notes of bright cassis associated with touches of violet, lilac, slight hints of olive, oleander as well as discreet hints of nutmeg, sweet spices and black olive. Beautiful acidity finish/persistence. Beautiful persistence.

Score : 16.25+/20 (93/100)

Zaccagnini – San Clemente 2018 – Terre di Casauria

Montepulciano d'Abruzzo Riserva

The nose is mineral and offers a certain power and some fruit. It reveals notes of wild strawberry, cassis and small notes of bright small fruits associated with touches of olive, oleander as well as discreet mineral hints. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, suavity, a mineral frame, a good definition, a certain gourmandise, finesse, energy as well as precision. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy

blackberry, bright strawberry and small notes of bright purple plum associated with touches of cornflower, sweet blond tobacco, hints of olive/precision as well as a subtle hint of juniper berries and black olive. Elegant, sapid and tasty tannins. Gourmandise.

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

Cantina Rapino – Gira 2010 Montepulciano d'Abruzzo

The nose is spicy, racy and offers a certain power, a stretchiness as well as deepness. It reveals notes of wild cassis, ripe boysenberry and small notes of pepper associated with touches of local aromatic herbs, dried plum as well as hints of dry local soil and dried black olive. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, suavity, a tangy frame, minerality, a good definition as well as tension. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, small dried black fruits and small notes of black olive associated with touches of humus, animal as well as a hint of cep and toasted (in the background).

Score : 15.25/20 (90/100)

Cantina Rapino – Gira 2015 Montepulciano d'Abruzzo

(Organic) Beautiful nose that offers elegance, power, some concentration. It reveals notes of cassis, quite ripe wild red fruits and small notes of balsamic associated with touches of undergrowth as well as slight iodine hints and black olive. The palate is fruity and offers juicy, suavity, an acidulous frame, gourmandise, tension, roundness as well as a certain precision. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy cherry, quite ripe redcurrant and small notes dried wild black berries associated with touches of dried rosemary, humus as well as slight hints of pepper and chocolate. Suppleness. Chewy and gourmands tannins.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Cantina Rapino – Gira 2021 Montepulciano d'Abruzzo

(Organic) The nose is aromatic, racy and offers a certain deepness. It reveals notes of bright/ripe cassis, bright/ripe boysenberry and small notes of rosemary associated with touches of crushed bigarreau cherry, slight hints of violet, a discreet hint of olive, primrose as well as a subtle hint of liquorice stick and black pepper. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, suavity, a tangy frame, minerality, energy as well as a beautiful definition. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy blackberry, bright cassis and small notes of violet associated with touches of bright redcurrants and hints of olive, local dry soil as well as slight hints of chocolate as well as a subtle almost verbena/olive leaf hint. Supple fresh tannins.

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

Tenute I fauri – Ottobre Rosso 2021 Montepulciano d'Abruzzo

(Organic) Beautiful fruity nose that offers a slight concentration, precision and a very slight intensity. It reveals notes of crushed raspberry, crushed blackberry and small notes of roasted blueberry associated with touches of plum as well as slight hints of chocolate. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, a mineral frame, tanginess, precision as well as gourmandise. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy cherry, crushed red plum and small notes of cornflowers associated with touches of roasted blueberry, hints of racy minerality as well as slight hints of flowers and olive tree leaves. Discreet hints of chocolate and toasted in the background. Good length.

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

ABRUZZO PECORINO

Olivastris Tommaso – L'Ariosa 2022 Abruzzo Pecorino DOC

The nose is fresh, racy and offers a discreetly tight grain. It reveals notes of verbena, crunchy peach and small notes of fresh small white fruits associated with touches of zest as well as slight iodine hints. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, a tangy frame, minerality, a good definition, a certain gourmandise as well as precision. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy peach, bright tangerine and small notes of lychee associated with a slight touch of passion fruit, bright small yellow fruits as well as a discreet hint of warm sap and slight saline hints. Good length. Beautiful freshness and juiciness.

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

Mazzarosa – 2022

Abruzzo Pecorino Superiore

Beautiful aromatic nose. It reveals notes of fresh pineapple, lemon and small notes of apple blossoms associated with small touches of fresh small yellow fruits as well as slight hints of sage. The palate is fruity



and offers juiciness, a tangy frame, minerality, a good definition, a certain gourmandise as well as precision. On the palate this wine expresses notes of lemon, crunchy apple and small notes of pineapple associated with touches of physalis, sweet grapefruit and varietal/floral hints. Good length. Beautiful acidity. Good work on the good bitterness in the background.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Barone di Valforte – 2022 Abruzzo Pecorino DOC

The nose is fruity and offers iodine, floral and mineral hints and almost a discreet pearly side. It reveals notes of quenette, vine peach and small notes of peach flowers associated with touches of crushed yellow plum as well as a discreet hint of verbena, sage and iodine. The palate is fruity, juicy and offers suavity, a tangy frame, minerality, a good definition, some tension as well as precision and purity. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy peach, bright apple and small notes of juicy/pulpy physalis associated with touches of white flowers, passion fruit as well as discreet hints of kumquat, a subtle hint of ripe yuzu, peach flowers, sense of the place (local biotop) and iodine. Beautiful juiciness and gourmandise. Freshness.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Abruzzo

Zaccagnini – Chronicon 2022

Abruzzo Pecorino DOC

The nose is fruity and offers a beautiful definition of fruit, crunchiness as well as a beautiful freshness. It reveals notes of juicy flat peach, crispy/fresh white fruits and small notes of ripe/sweet lemon associated with slight hints of pink grapefruit as well as a discreet hint of lemon blossom. The palate is fresh, fruity and offers juiciness, suavity, gourmandise, a beautiful energy, roundness and a slight sucrosity sensation. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/ripe lemon, juicy/ripe pink grapefruit and small notes of passion fruit associated with touches of bright/juicy vine peach as well as slight hints of verbena and tangerine. Good length. Beautiful freshness and minerality. An imperceptible almost varietal hint in the background.

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

ABRUZZO DOC

Tenuta I Fauri – Pecorino 2021

Abruzzo DOC

(Organic) The nose is fruity, elegant and offers a certain small concentration, a frank side and a slight intensity in its grain. It reveals notes of crispy/fresh brugnion, pulpy yellow peach associated with touches of physalis, small juicy/pulpy yellow plum as well as slight hints of peach flowers, verbena and a discreet hint of salt/iodine. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, suavity, a tangy frame, a beautiful fat in finesse and gourmandise as well as an aerial and tense grain. On the palate this wine expresses notes of crushed brugnion, crushed pear and small notes of pulpy/crushed yellow plum associated with touches of roasted pineapple, slight almost buttery hints, almost apricot flowers as well as a subtle hint of peach flowers and toasted almond. Gourmandise and aromatic finish. Good length. a subtle tannic hint both in the aromatic and on the structure. An imperceptible almost varietal hint in the background.

Score : 16.25+/20 (93/100)

Tenuta I Fauri – Pecorino 2017

Abruzzo DOC

The nose is mineral, beautifully iodized and offers melodiousness, delicacy as well as a certain richness. It reveals notes of pulpy yellow plum, quince and small notes of apricot associated with delicate hints of pear blossom, fresh pineapple as well as a subtle hint of almost banana. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, a tangy frame, finesse, elegance, gourmandise, a beautiful definition as well as a beautiful finesse in its fat and in its relative richness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of crushed pear, juicy/pulpy plum and small notes of apricot associated with touches of quenette as well as hints of peach flowers, discreet hints of passion fruit and a subtle almost verbena/fresh sage hint in the background. Beautiful definition and gourmandise. A subtle chew on the persistence. Sapidity.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Tenuta I Fauri – Pecorino 2014

Abruzzo DOC

Beautiful fresh, bright, energetic, almost electric nose that offers slight varietal nances (in the background). It reveals notes of pulpy white peach, crushed brugnion and small notes of kumquat associated with delicate hints of fresh saffron verbena, salinity as well as an imperceptible almost granitic hint. The palate is fruity, full of precision, and offers juiciness, suavity, a tangy frame, gourmandise, a beautiful delicacy in its fat, roundness, an « enrobing » sensation as well as energy. On the palate this wine expresses notes of kumquat, pulpy apricot and small notes of crushed small fruits associated with slight hints of fresh

verbena, iodine, peach tree leaf/peach blossoms as well as a subtle almost crushed quenette hint on the finish/persistence. Beautiful juiciness and tanginess. Beautiful persistence

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

Tenuta I Fauri – Pecorino 2018

Abruzzo DOC

The nose is aromatic, spicy and offers a certain intensity as well as a slight straightness. It reveals notes of mirabelle, kumquat and small notes of sage associated with touches of ripe small yellow fruits as well as slight hints of spices, cumin and a subtle hint of sense of the place (local biotop). The palate is gourmand, beautifully round, beautiful fat in finesse and offers tension, precision as well as a tangy frame. On the palate this wine expresses notes of mirabelle, buttery and small notes of crushed brugnion associated with small touches of crushed small yellow fruits, hints of fig leaf as well as subtle hints of almost orange and barley Good length. A discreet and elegant tannic side

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

Tenute I Fauri – Pecorino 2022



Abruzzo DOC

(Bio. Vat sample) Beautiful fruity nose and offers the gourmandise of a juicy and bright fruit, a certain purity/precision. It reveals notes of fleshy/juicy peach, crushed apple and small notes of apricot associated with touches of lemon as well as hints of white flowers and kumquat/zest. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, a beautiful tangy frame, minerality, a small fat, gourmandise, purity and a slight straightness (in elegance) in its fat. On the palate this wine expresses notes of crushed brugnion, pear and small notes of mango associated with touches of apricot as well as hints of kumquat, crushed lychee and slight hints of white flowers/acacia in the background. A discreet varietal hint in the background. Good work on good bitterness especially in persistence.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

VILLAMAGNA DOC

Pian di Mare – 2019

Villamagna DOC

The nose is fruity, fleshy and offers power as well as a certain concentration. It reveals notes of fleshy cassis, pulpy raspberry and small notes of pulpy red plum

associated with touches of bright wild small fruits, spices, tobacco as well as a discreet hint of liquorice stick and black olive. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, suavity, a tangy frame, gourmandise, a certain fat and pulpiness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy cherry, crushed redcurrants and small notes of crushed blue plum associated with touches of cornflower, tangy small fruits as well as hints of chocolate, sweet blond tobacco, a subtle hint of black olive and salinity. Chewy and gourmand tannins. Beautiful persistence.

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

Valle Martello 2019

Villamagna DOC

Beautiful, gourmand and deep nose. It offers intensity, power and a velvety and controlled side at the same time. It reveals notes of creamy cassis, wild black berries and small notes of pepper associated with touches of local scrubland as well as a discreet hint of tobacco and almost medicinal herbs. The palate is well-built and offers gourmandise, precision, tension, a beautiful energy, a melodiousness, dynamism as well as a tangy frame. On the palate this wine expresses notes of morello cherry, bright black plum and small notes of black berries associated with touches of local scrubland, camphor, black olive as well as hints of crushed redcurrants as well as slight hints of chocolate. Tannins are supple, sapid and gourmand. Beautiful tangy and sapidity on the finish/persistence. Beautiful salinity in the background.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

IGP TERRE DI CHIETI

Cantina Rapino – Gira, Passerina 2019

IGP Terre di Chieti

(Organic, 5 jours de macération) The nose is aromatic and offers a certain complexity and a good balance on the good bitterness. It reveals notes of kumquat, quince and small notes of fermentation (almost beer fermentation aromatic palette) as well as hints of orange and a discreet hint of mango. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, suavity, a mineral frame, sapidity, a certain small concentration as well as precision. On the palate this wine expresses notes of tangerine, dried orange and small notes of dried pineapple associated with a touch of ripe lemon as well as slight hints of saffron and a discreet hint of maceration in the background. An imperceptible almost verbena/sage hint in the background.

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

Cantina Rapino – Gira, Passerina 2020

IGP Terre di Chieti

(Organic, 5 jours de macération) The nose is aromatic and racy. It reveals notes of candy, maceration and small notes of orange zest associated with oxidative hints. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, suavity, freshness, some salinity, a good bitterness, energy as well as a bit tight and tense grain. On the palate this wine expresses notes of tangerine, zest and small notes of fresh apricot associated with touches of fresh pineapple, dried kumquat as well as slight hints of fresh walnuts. There are also hints of verbena and local grove on the finish. Tannic appearance slightly marked on the finish/persistence.

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

Abruzzo

Tenuta Oderisio – Sordello, Pecorino 2022

Terre di Chieti IGT

Beautiful juicy, pulpy nose that offers a certain flesh in its fruit. It reveals notes of fresh/ripe grapefruit, crunchy peach and small notes of linden associated with slight touches of lemon. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, suavity, fat, gourmandise, a beautiful acidity/tangy frame, fullness, a nice fat, a fine unctuousity, a beautiful energy, a nice freshness as well as a beautiful brightness of the fruit. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/bright peach, juicy/bright lemon and small notes of juicy/bright tangerine associated with touches of sweet pink grapefruit, crushed quenette as well as discreet hints of lime, of verberna and peach blossoms. Good length. Very beautiful sapid persistence.

Score : 16.25+/20 (93/100)

Tenuta Oderisio – Di Candilo 2022

Terre di Chieti IGT

Beautiful fruity nose that offers a certain gourmandise, a slight richness. It reveals notes of pulpy cherry, bright small red fruits and small notes of bright cassis associated with touches of bright peach as well as an imperceptible almost blood orange hint. Beautiful purity of the fruit. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, a beautiful freshness, minerality, juiciness, a beautiful definition, a tangy frame, a beautiful energy as well as a certain tension. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy raspberry, bright peach and small notes of juicy/fresh cherry associated with almost citrus touches in the background. Good length. A subtle chew in the background. Discreet and chewy tannins. Beautiful persistence.

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

Tenuta Ulisse – Pecorino 2020

Terre di Chieti IGP

Beautiful aromatic, gourmand and attractive. It reveals notes of vine peach, quenette and small notes of sweet pink grapefruit associated, touches of small exotic fruits, iodine as well as a subtle almost verberna hint and menthol. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, gourmandise, a tangy frame, fullness, a slight unctuousity as well as a beautiful mineral freshness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of bright peach, white flowers and small notes of sweet pink grapefruit associated with touches of kumquat, sweet zest as well as slight hints of verberna and salinity. Good length. Beautiful freshness and minerality. A subtle hint of good bitterness on the finish/persistence.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

OTHER ABRUZZO WINES

Valle Martello – Brado 2022, Cocciola

Colline Teatine IGT

The nose is mineral, racy and offers a fine intensity. It reveals notes of white peach, kumquat and small notes of ripe citrus fruits associated with a touch of juicy/ripe apricot as well as fine hints of sense of place (local biotop). The palate is mineral and offers freshness, juiciness, a tangy frame, minerality, purity in its fat as well as a beautiful definition. On the palate this wine expresses notes of lychee, quenette and small notes of ripe zest associated with touches of apricot, sweet white grapefruit, hints of crunchy peach, peach flowers as well as fine hints of sense of the place and iodized minerality. Good length. Beautiful freshness and tanginess. Gourmandise.

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

Tenuta I Fauri – Le Belle

Vino Bianco Frizzante, Metodo Ancestrale

(Organic, base 2022) The nose is fruity and offers a slight fermentation side. It reveals notes of juicy pear, pulpy yellow peach and small notes of quince associated with touches of yellow flowers as well as a discreet hint of marmalade. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, a tangy frame, minerality as well as a good definition. Very slight effervescence and with a frank side. On the palate this wine expresses notes of crushed pear, crushed yellow peach and small notes of pulpy yellow plum associated with touches of quince, marmalade as well as a discreet almost buttery hint. An almost wheat/barley hint.

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

Tenuta I Fauri – Pecorino

Spumante Brut

(Organic, base 2022) The nose is frank and fresh. It reveals notes of quince, fresh/ripe apple and small notes fresh pear associated with small touches of zest as well as slight hints of racy minerality. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, suavity, a tangy frame, fat as well as roundness. Very fine effervescence, frank and with a discreet chalky side in its bubble. On the palate this wine expresses notes of yellow peach, pulpy apricot and small notes of crushed white fruits associated with touches of physalis, sweet zests as well as a subtle hint of crushed lychee and a subtle hint almost varietal/green tea. Good length.

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

Stefania Pepe – Cuore di...Vino 2020

Vino Rosso da Favola

(biodynamic) The nose is fruity, elegant and offers a beautiful definition of the fruit. It reveals notes of pulpy cherry, crushed raspberry and small notes of bright small fruits associated with touches of cornflower, liquorice stick and a discreet hint of sage. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, gourmandise, tension, pulpiness as well as matter. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy cherry, bright cassis and small notes of crushed small red fruits associated with touches of flowers, violet as well as slight almost blood orange hints in the background. Supple, sapid and gourmand tannins. Good length and persistence. An atypical style for the region but beautifully made. A subtle almost oxidative hint in the background

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

Stefania Pepe – Cuore di...Vino 2020

Vini Bianco da Favola

(Biodynamic) The nose is fresh, fruity and offers a slight complexity. It reveals notes of kumquat, fresh orange zest and small notes of dried lemon associated with touches of bright small fruits as well as slight hints of fresh varietal and aromatic herbs. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, a tangy frame, fullness, a feeling of sucrosity, minerality as well as a certain energy. On the palate this wine expresses notes of crystallized lemon, dried tangerines and small notes of bright yellow peach associated with touches of small yellow fruits crushed as well as slight hints of aromatic herbs, sage and an imperceptible almost fresh rosemary hint in the background. Discreet almost honeyed hints in the background.

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

Torre Raone – Pecorino 2022

Colline Pescaresi IGT

(Organic) The nose is fresh and offers crunchiness. It reveals notes of juicy/fresh peach, crunchy small fruits and small notes of quenette associated with touches of kumquat as well as delicate hints of sense of the place (local biotop), racy minerality and a subtle oceanic hint. Beautiful delicacy. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, a tangy frame, gourmandise, tension, precision, energy, purity as well as a slight straightness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of crunchy/juicy peach, bright apple and small notes of lychee associated with touches of sweet pink grapefruit, lemon as well as delicate iodine/oceanic hints and a subtle hint of sense of the place in the background. Beautiful freshness and juiciness.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Olivastri Tommaso – L'Ariosa 2022

Abruzzo Cocciola DOC

The nose is fresh, slightly crispy and offers minerality. It reveals notes of fresh quenette, lychee and small notes of fresh lemon/citrus associated with slight touches of zest, racy minerality, crunchy brugnion as well as a discreet hint of warm sap. The palate is fruity and offers juiciness, a tangy frame, minerality, a good definition, a certain gourmandise, energy, a beautiful freshness as well as crunchiness. On the palate this wine expresses a vibrant side and offers notes of crunchy peach, lychee, crunchy quenette and small notes juicy/ripe grapefruit, juicy/ripe lemon as well as slight hints of acacia and white flowers. Good length. A subtle hint of almond blossoms. A good work on good bitterness.

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



Port wines

TAWNY

Niepoort 10 years old

Tawny

(Bottled in 2023) The wine has a pale garnet color, almost tiled. The nose offers a fine oxidative and caramelised notes, with gourmandise of dried fruits. It expresses notes of caramelised hazelnut, dried fig, dried apricot, dried red cherry, dried orange peel, dried red cherry, a touch of prunes, toasted almond, walnuts, dried flowers and wild herbs, tobacco and a hint of vanilla in the background. The palate is savoury and reflects the notes of dried fruit, which we find on the nose. It expresses the flavors of dried apricot, dried fig, cream of prunes, dried red cherry, caramelised hazelnut (or even praliné), toasted almond, combined with touches of vanilla, fresh tobacco and dried wild flowers. The finish is persistent, more on oxidative notes of fresh nuts and with a tertiary touch of wet leaves. A good level of acidity a salivating finish, which brings freshness to the wine. The alcohol is well-integrated.

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

Van Zellers & Co – 10 Years Old

Tawny – Porto

(bottled 2023) The nose is racy, frank and offers a fine and tight grain. We find notes of dried zest and slight notes of sweet quince associated with touches of plum, hints of honey, cooked strawberry, nougat as well as hints of tobacco, citrus fruits and a very discreet hint of pepper. The palate is fruity, well-balanced and offers precision, elegance as well as good freshness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of candied mandarin, candied red plum and small notes of small candied fruits associated with touches of rancio, tobacco, cedar as well as fine hints of roasting as well as honeyed hints/roasted almonds. Good length. Roundness, harmony and gourmandise.

Score : 15.5+20 (91/100)

Ramos Pinto – Quinta de Ervamoira 10 Years Old

Tawny – Porto

(bottled 2023) The nose is elegant and offers controlled power, harmony as well as a certain small energy. There are notes of candied fruit (peach, orange, touch of apricot), plum and small notes of cooked honey associated with fine notes of dried fruit/almond and a discreet touch of wood. The palate is fruity, well-balanced, nicely mineral, gourmand, elegant and offers suavity, suppleness, a certain roundness as well as beautiful energy and purity. On the palate this Port expresses notes of candied white fruits, candied mandarin and small notes of crystallized purple plum associated with touches of honey, candy apple, caramelised/cooked apricot as well as fine hints of fig and hazelnut in the background. Good length. Presence of a very discreet hint of sense of place (local biotope) in the background.

Score : 16.25+20 (93/100)

Niepoort 20 years old

Tawny

The wine has a pale tile color. The nose is fragrant and expresses precise oxidative notes and spiciness, as well as a touch of torrefaction and a sweet hint of caramel. We find notes of dried apricot, dried fig, a hint of dried grape and prunes, caramel, toffee, walnut praliné, caramelised almond, dried bitter orange peel, as well as a touch of ground ginger, grated nutmeg and a touch of freshness, brought by a delicate note of crushed mint. The palate is tasty, delicately spicy on the attack. In the mid-palate, we find flavors of dried fruits (dried apricot, dried fig, a hint of dates,

prunes and blackcurrant), associated with oxidative notes of caramelised walnut and dried apple (in the background), sweet spices (ground ginger, grated nutmeg), fresh tobacco and caramelised almond. The finish is persistent, complex and develops from fruity notes (dried fig, roasted apple) to oxidative notes of fresh nuts and caramel, with a warming hint of alcohol. Good balance overall between sugar, alcohol and acidity.

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

Niepoort – 30 Years Old

Tawny – Porto

(bottled in 2023) the nose is complex and offers intensity, gourmandise, finesse in its power as well as a fine, intense and stretchiness grain. There are notes of dried flowers, dried zest and small notes of rancio associated with touches of smoke, tobacco, dried fig, dried orange as well as hints of potpourri, dried rose, pepper, almost aromatic herbs, grilled and spices. The palate is fruity, juicy, fresh, acidity and offers a nice energy, a tangy frame, a nice roundness, a certain gourmandise, a nice fat, elegance, a nice stretchiness as well as delicacy in its power. On the palate this wine expresses notes of candied mandarin, marmalade and small notes of dried fig associated with touches of crystallized lemon, pineapple in syrup, hints of caramelization, rancio, cloves as well as fine hints of camphor, chocolate, a hint of eucalyptus and pepper. A fine tannic touch on the finish both in aromatics and in structure.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Quinta do Estanho +40 Years Old

Tawny – Porto

The nose is fresh and offers a certain intensity full of finesse as well as a fine, fresh and airy grain. We find notes of dried apricot, spices/cloves and small notes of dried fig associated with touches of smoke, gray pepper as well as fine hints of dried orange zest, potpourri, rancio (in the background) and cigar box. The palate is fruity, well-balanced and offers juiciness, suavity, a tangy frame, minerality, accuracy, a slight straightness, a small tension, fat, roundness as well as a small unctuousity. On the palate this Porto wine expresses notes of dried fig, dried orange and small notes of rancio associated with touches of dried lemon/ lime as well as hints of marmalade, racy minerality as well as fine hints of tobacco and fresh spices. Lingering on dried citrus fruits and a hint of potpourri/flowers.

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

Poças 50 years old

Tawny

(Bottled in 2023) The wine has a pale brown color, with tiled and golden reflections. The nose offers depth, complexity and pronounced oxidative notes. The first nose expresses notes of fresh walnut, caramelised walnut, hazelnut praline, which then combine with warm and refined notes of torrefaction (mild coffee, coffee cream, toasted coconut, toasted vanilla), a savoury spiciness (dried ginger, nutmeg, fresh turmeric, a hint of saffron powder and a very fine touch of white pepper), as well as gourmand notes of pastry (custard cream, browned butter, toasted brioche, almond paste). We then find notes of dried fruits (dried fig, dried apricot, dates, prunes, currants, dried pineapple). The palate is expressive and savoury, with a lively and spicy attack. It opens with a pronounced peppery note and a spicy touch of fresh and dried ginger. We then find the rich and sweet notes of currants, quince paste, caramelised banana, dried apricot, apricot in syrup, dried pineapple, dried fig, dates, as well as sweet coffee, hazelnut praline, brown butter, pastry cream (or even lemon cream thanks to a good level

of acidity), toasted brioche and a fine floral bouquet (violet in crystallized sugar). The finish is very long, with pronounced but quite pleasant oxidative notes (fresh nuts, caramel), to which fruity notes appearing at the end of the palate (very ripe mango, candied orange), giving to wine delicacy and youth. Lots of gourmandise, great depth, complexity and great persistence.

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

COLHEITA

Niepoort 2009

Colheita

(Bottled in 2022) The wine has a pale garnet color with tiled reflections. The nose is gourmand, with a jammy fruitiness and subtle roasted notes. It expresses the aromas of dried red cherry, red cherry jam, prunes, dried purple fig, crushed dates, plum jam, as well as touches of coffee, toasted bitter almond, caramel, dark chocolate, clove, and a herbaceous hint of black tea and dried mint in the background. The palate is savoury and expressive. The attack offers the sweetness of plum jam, prune cream, blackcurrant jam, kirsch red cherry, of dried fig and crushed dates, combined with a fine oxidative touch (fresh nuts, caramel), notes of torrefaction and pronounced sweet spices (coffee, nutmeg, ground ginger), and with gourmet notes of praline from hazelnut. The finish is persistent, savoury, with red fruit jam, sweet spices and an oxidative notes of fresh nuts. We find a very subtle and almost imperceptible tannic touch on the finish, as well as a good level of acidity, which balances the sweetness and the warming sensation of alcohol.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Poças 2005

Colheita

(Bottled in 2022) The wine has a pale garnet color with tiled reflections. The nose is reserved at first, but the wine benefits from aeration. It then expresses notes of fruit jam (morello cherry jam, strawberry jam), dried fruit (dried cherry, prunes, dried grape, dried fig), a touch of crushed strawberry, as well as a touch of torrefaction (coffee, toasted almond, caramelised hazelnut), oxidative notes (caramel, dried walnut) and sweet spices in the background (nutmeg, dried ginger). On the palate, the wine offers sapidity, complexity and gourmandise. The oxidative flavors of nuts and caramel are expressive, but integrated into a rich fruity substance and a savory spiciness. We also find notes of fruit jam and dried fruit, reflecting the nose (prunes, dried grapes, dried fig, dried cherry, cherry jam), caramelised hazelnut (even with a fine touch of praliné), as well as a good bitterness of coffee, dark chocolate and toasted bitter almond. A silky and velvety texture of tannins is felt at the very end of the palate, associated with a supple, but pleasant acidity.

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

Niepoort 2012 White

Colheita

(Bottled in 2023) The wine has a deep golden color. The nose is savoury and gourmand, and expresses sweet notes of peach in syrup, roasted pineapple, mango coulis, dried apricot, dried grape, quince paste and poached pear, associated with notes of dried chamomile, lime blossom, delicate tertiary notes (wet leaves, wilted flowers, beeswax, chestnut honey in the background), as well as a fine spiciness of grated nutmeg, saffron and seeds crushed cumin. The palate is tasty, with a spicy (saffron, pink pepper, nutmeg) and honeyed (chestnut honey, beeswax) pronounced attack. We also find flavors of dried fruit (dried apricot, dried fig, dried papaya), as well as vanilla poached

Port wines

pear, and an oxidative side of fresh walnut and lightly toasted hazelnut in the background. The finish is quite persistent, with notes of honey, poached pear, roasted quince and a touch of fresh walnuts and infused black tea with a slight bitterness, which return at the end of the mouth. Good level of acidity and nice complexity.

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

C. da Silva, Distinctive Port Dalva 2011

Colheita

(Bottled in 2023) The wine has a garnet color of medium intensity. The nose is fragrant, jammy and spicy, with nice concentration, precision and complexity (but with the alcohol appearing at first nose). It expresses notes of violet fig jam, dried fig, morello cherry jam, dried red cherry, dried wild strawberry, blackberry liqueur and crème de cassis, combined with caramelised notes and a hint of torrefaction with an oxidative touch of caramelised hazelnut, toffee, walnut praline, toasted walnut, coffee with milk in the background. We also find notes of crushed vanilla, cinnamon, nutmeg, as well as flowers (dried rosé, wilted peony), infused black tea and dried tobacco. The palate is refined and complex, with a gourmand and caramelised finish which develops towards pleasant oxidative notes of walnut praline and toasted walnut, associated with delicate touches of wilted flowers, dried tobacco, infused black tea, toffee and a hint of saffron and undergrowth in the background. We also find flavors of dried purple fig, a very discreet hint of currants and prunes, morello cherry in kirsch, bramble liqueur, crème de cassis, wild strawberry jam and crushed blackcurrant, combined with notes of caramelised hazelnut, toasted vanilla, cinnamon and nutmeg in the background. The tannins are velvety and melted, well constructed. A nice salivating acidity appears at the end of the mouth. Beautiful complexity, gourmandise and richness, all in balance.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

C. da Silva, Distinctive Port Dalva 2011

Colheita White

(bottled in 2023) The wine has a deep orange color. The nose opens with expressive tertiary notes: wet leaves, undergrowth, wilted flowers and mushrooms (even old wood, which disappears after aeration). We then find discreet notes of dried apricot, dried fig, almond paste, dried orange peel, dried ginger, dried pineapple and dried papaya, combined with touches of toasted walnut, walnut praliné, toasted hazelnut, chestnut honey, as well as a hint of nutmeg and saffron in the background. On the palate, there is a more expressive fruitiness: we find the flavors of dried apricot, peach in syrup, roasted pineapple, fig jam, as well as the notes, which we find on the nose, of fig dried orange peel, chestnut honey, and oxidative notes of fresh walnut, toffee and walnut praline. The finish is quite persistent and complex: it adds to the wine bouquet the tertiaries of wet leaves, brewed black tea, beeswax, chestnut honey, undergrowth and wilted flowers.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

LBV

Niepoort Unfiltered 2019

Late Bottled Vintage

(Bottled in 2023) The wine has a deep ruby color. The nose is deep, concentrated and complex, even textured. It offers notes of very ripe fruit (black plum, blackberry, morello cherry), blackcurrant jam with a fine tanginess in the background, morello cherry jam, crème de cassis, prunes in chocolate, cherry in kirsch,

as well as a certain freshness of crushed peppermint, mint chocolate, a savoury spiciness (ground cloves, a hint of nutmeg, white pepper), a touch of torrefaction (ground coffee, toasted bitter almond), as well only a very slight note of graphite and dried wild flowers in the background. The palate is rich and ample, but at the same time, it offers straightness, accuracy and complexity. It expresses notes of tangy and slightly tannic wild plum, very ripe juicy morello cherry, crushed wild strawberries, raspberry jam, a touch of plum and prune jam in the background, with a good perceptible bitterness, which balances the rich sweetness of fruit. We also find notes of dark chocolate, dried mint in the background, coffee, toasted almond, a touch of graphite and a very fine note of peony. The tannins are powerful, but very fine and velvety. Beautiful acidity and persistence on the palate, which expresses more the tannins and the good bitterness of the wine.

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

Poças 2018

Late Bottled Vintage

The wine has a deep ruby color. On the nose, it is reserved and benefits from aeration. It then offers concentration, precision and a tanginess of black fruits, a fine spiciness and notes of torrefaction. We find in particular the aromas of crushed wild blackberry, very ripe juicy morello cherry, wild plum, black plum jam, wild strawberry jam, roasted red cherry, blackcurrant jam, as well as notes of coffee, dried mint, dark chocolate, prunes in chocolate (in the background), a savoury spiciness (grated nutmeg, cloves), combined with an elegant floral bouquet (rosehip, peony). The mouth is frank, enveloping, but straight and precise. It expresses the rich and fleshy fruity flavors of kirsch cherry, prunes in Armagnac, wild strawberry jam, morello cherry jam, roasted cherry, blackberry liqueur, crème de cassis, as well as dark chocolate with mint, chocolate prunes, coffee (which adds a pleasant bitterness), vanilla (in the background), cloves, as well as a tannic touch of wild plum. The finish is rich and expresses the sweetness and warming alcohol, balanced by a salivating acidity, a good bitterness and the velvety texture of powerful and well-built tannins. A full-bodied and rich wine, with depth of flavors, which needs time to express itself.

Score : 16/20 (92/100)

Ramos Pinto, Unfiltered 2018

Late Bottled Vintage

(Bottled in 2022) The wine has a deep ruby color with purplish reflections. The nose offers richness, depth, directness and a pleasant acidity of black fruits. It expresses notes of fresh crushed blackcurrant, crème de cassis, fresh wild blackberry, dried morello cherry, morello cherry jam, wild plum, crushed wild strawberry, as well as a savoury spiciness (fresh liquorice, cumin ground, white pepper, grated nutmeg) and a herbaceous touch of dried peppermint. We also find a refined hint of dark chocolate, bitter cocoa, bitter almond and sweet coffee. The palate is savoury, concentrated, with a powerful tannic structure. The flavors on the palate reflect the aromas on the nose: we find notes of wild blackberry, crushed blackcurrant, crème de cassis, morello cherry jam, crushed wild strawberry, as well as chocolate prunes and kirsch cherry, with a pleasant bitterness of dark chocolate, black tea with bergamot, bitter cocoa and coffee, associated with spiciness, which returns at the end of the mouth (cloves, cumin, liquorice, white pepper), with subtle touches of roasted meat. Beautiful acidity and fine tannic texture. Richness, gourmandise, controlled power. Balance, lots of flavors and good potential.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)

Quinta do Estanho 2016

Late Bottled Vintage

(Bottled in 2020) The wine has a deep ruby color. The nose is fragrant, savoury and spicy, with pleasant refreshing herbaceous touches. It offers concentration, precision and expresses notes of dried blackcurrant, dried red cherry, morello cherry jam, morello cherry in kirsch and chocolate, crème de cassis, crushed fresh blackcurrant, as well as wild plum. We also find minty herbaceous notes, dried peppermint, fresh tobacco, mint chocolate, a hint of basil and a fine hint of torrefaction in the background (mild coffee, even coffee with milk, toasted hazelnut, toasted brioche), a fine spicy hint (white pepper, liquorice, grated nutmeg, vanilla in the background) and a subtle floral bouquet (dried rose, iris). The palate is silky, full and round, with a velvety and enveloping tannic texture, a rich fruitiness and gourmandise. It expresses notes of blackcurrant jam, cherry morello cherry, crushed blackberry, crushed wild strawberry, crème de cassis and blackberry liqueur, combined with a fine bitterness of dark chocolate, cocoa and coffee, and savouriness of sweet spices (liquorice, ground nutmeg, cloves, a delicate hint of vanilla), as well as floral (dried rose, iris) and herbaceous (dried peppermint, tobacco) notes in the background. The tannins are powerful, even a bit dry in the mid-palate, but balanced by a rich fruitiness and a salivating acidity. Structure, power of tannins and gourmandise.

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

VINTAGE

Quinta Vale d'Aldeia 2020

Vintage Port

(Bottled in 2022) The wine has a deep ruby color with purple reflections. The nose offers a fresh and gourmand fruitiness, slightly tangy, which gives the wine freshness and airiness. It expresses notes of fresh morello cherry, wild strawberry, fresh wild plum, wild blackberry, crème de cassis, red cherry jam, morello cherries, as well as a refreshing herbaceous touch of basil, peppermint, rosemary in syrup, rose petals in syrup, a touch of peony, as well as a fine spiciness and woody touch (toasted wood, sweet coffee, toasted vanilla, a touch of liquorice, crushed coriander seeds and cumin). The palate is powerful, rich and warm, but silky and gourmand. It expresses notes of crushed wild strawberry, cherry in kirsch, morello cherry jam, crème de cassis, prunes in Armagnac, plum jam, a tannic touch of wild plum, as well as dark chocolate with mint, of dried peppermint, a savoury spiciness (liquorice, a hint of cinnamon and vanilla, toasted coriander seeds), as well as a touch of rosemary in syrup and a hint of torrefaction (coffee, toasted bitter almond). The finish is persistent, tannic (but the texture of the tannins is refined and melted), rich and savoury, with a precise note of prunes in chocolate. Controlled power and gourmandise.

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

Niepoort 2015

Vintage Port

(Bottled in 2017) The wine has a deep ruby color with very light garnet reflections. The nose is fragrant, refined, with lots of gourmandise and freshness. It expresses notes of very ripe fresh fruit (crushed blackcurrant, juicy morello cherry, wild strawberry), a touch of raspberry jam, a warm hint of kirsch cherry, mint chocolate, bitter cocoa, plum jam, of crème de cassis, a fine spiciness (cloves, liquorice, toasted vanilla, cinnamon in the background), as well as a refined floral touch of peony and sugared violet. We also find roasted notes enveloped and integrated into the bouquet of the wine (sweet coffee, fresh

Port wines

hazelnut, toasted almond). The palate is expressive, full and rich. It expresses the flavors of morello cherry jam, crushed wild strawberry, raspberry jam, crushed wild blackberry, blackcurrant jam, crème de cassis, as well as tasty notes of sweet spices (cinnamon, grilled vanilla, a hint of liquorice), dark chocolate, coffee and toasted almond, with a touch of caramel in the background. The tannins are firm and powerful, but melted and velvety. Good balance between sweetness and acidity and salinity. A powerful, straight and robust wine, with elegance, thanks to its subtle floral side and the balance between sweetness, beautiful acidity and good bitterness. The finish is persistent, sapid, slightly floral and spicy. To be seen in several years.

Score : 16.5/20 (93/100)

Quinta de Ventozelo 2020

Vintage Port

The wine has a deep ruby color with light purple reflections. It is reserved for the nose and benefits from aeration. It expresses the aromas of fresh wild blackberry, blackcurrant jam, ripe morello cherry, crushed wild strawberry, redcurrant jelly, crème de cassis, cherry in kirsch, as well as a fresh touch of crushed peppermint, a savoury bouquet of sweet spices (liquorice, cloves, vanilla), a hint of torrefaction (toasted hazelnut, toasted coconut in the background), as well as a powdery hint of bitter cocoa and a sweet touch of dark chocolate. There is also a subtle floral note of rose petals in syrup. The palate is fleshy, powerful, but silky, and offers concentration and richness of fruit. We find notes of crushed wild strawberry, cherry in kirsch, crème de cassis, blackcurrant jam, morello cherry jam, crushed fresh morello cherry, crushed blackberry, a tannic touch of wild plum, as well as slight bitterness of dark chocolate, cocoa powder, toasted almond and coffee, which adds a pleasant bitterness to the bouquet of wine and balances its sweetness. There are also discreet and savory sweet spice notes (liquorice, cloves, vanilla), a touch of peppermint and rose petals in syrup. The tannins are structured and powerful, but have a very fine texture. Beautiful acidity and freshness on the finish. The alcohol level is high, but integrated and not burning.

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

Van Zellers 2015

Vintage Port

The wine has a deep ruby color, almost opaque, with purple reflections. The nose is fragrant, rich and concentrated, with an expressive but fine floral bouquet and spiciness. We find the aromas of juicy wild blackberry, crushed blackcurrant, roasted red cherry, wild strawberry jam, crème de cassis, prunes in chocolate, wild plum and morello cherry jam, combined with notes of sweet spices (liquorice, nutmeg, white pepper, liquorice and vanilla in the background), flowers (peony, dried rose, a touch of violet with sugar), coffee, bitter almond, dark chocolate, as well as with a fine touch of leather, wet leaves. The palate offers depth, a silky and enveloping texture, as well as powerful tannins. The flavors are rich and gourmand: we find the sweet notes of morello cherry jam, crème de cassis, blackberry liqueur, wild strawberry jam, chocolate morello cherry, prunes in armagnac and cherry in kirsch, combined with notes of liquorice, toasted vanilla, mint chocolate, coffee bitterness and a tannic hint of wild plum. The finish expresses considerable sweetness, balanced by a good level of acidity and a minty touch on the finish, accompanied by tertiary notes of wet leaves, faded rose and leather in the background. Power, richness and complexity, with a warm side of alcohol integrated into the profile of the wine.

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

Poças 2020

Vintage Port

The wine has a deep ruby color, with purple reflections. The nose is savoury, gourmand and offers concentration, depth and accuracy. It expresses notes of fresh crushed blackcurrant, blackcurrant jam, cherry morello cherry, red cherry jam, wild black plum, wild blackberry and wild strawberry, combined with notes of dark chocolate with mint and bitter cocoa, sweet and refreshing at the same time. We also find a fine hint of torrefaction (coffee, toasted almond), a herbaceous touch of blackcurrant leaf and a savoriness of sweet spices (liquorice, ground cumin, cloves, a hint of star anise), as well as floral notes. violet and lilac in the background. The palate is concentrated, juicy and tannic (but the tannins are velvety and melted). It expresses notes of blackcurrant jam, morello cherry

jam, blackcurrant, blackberry, crushed wild strawberry, morello cherry in chocolate, as well as chocolate with mint, bitter cocoa, sweet coffee, caramelised hazelnut and dried wild flowers and a touch of violet in the background. We also find savoury notes of sweet spices (liquorice, vanilla, cumin and a hint of cinnamon) and the tannic touch of wild plum. At the end of the palate, we feel a warm touch of alcohol, associated with a supple and mouthwatering acidity. Richness and gourmandise.

Score : 15.5+/20 (91/100)

Bulas Cruz, Quinta da Costa de Baixo 2019

Porto Vintage

The wine has a deep ruby color. The nose is concentrated and precise, and offers a lot of richness, depth and complexity. On the first nose, the wine expresses the distinct notes of pine sap and fresh pine needles, fresh rosemary branch, fresh liquorice stick and peppermint. They then develop towards aromas of sweet spices (ground cumin, cinnamon, grated nutmeg) and ripe red and black fruits (black plum, wild blackberry, morello cherry, crushed strawberry) and candied (blackberry jam, morello cherry, wild strawberry jam). There are also touches of torrefaction/ground coffee, toast, toast, as well as roasted aromatic herbs and dried flowers (peony, dried rose petals). On the palate, the wine is fleshy, and expresses a lot of power, fine, powdery, but present and strong tannins, a rich body and a lot of fruit, accompanied by lively acidity and energy. The flavors are precise, warming and very ripe (even jammy), without being heavy. We find notes of juicy blackberry, fresh black plum, fresh sour cherry and jam, crushed strawberry, wild strawberry jam, blueberry jam, combined with herbaceous, spicy and floral touches of fresh thyme, chopped rosemary, peppermint, cinnamon, fresh liquorice, white pepper, grated nutmeg, as well as coffee and dried rose and fresh peony. The finish is very long and reveals notes of dried aromatic herbs, as well as sweet touches of dark chocolate, prunes in chocolate and cherries in chocolate, which add to the complexity of the wine without making it heavy. A wine of exceptional concentration and great aging potential.

Score : 17/20 (94/100)



INVITATION

VertdeVin

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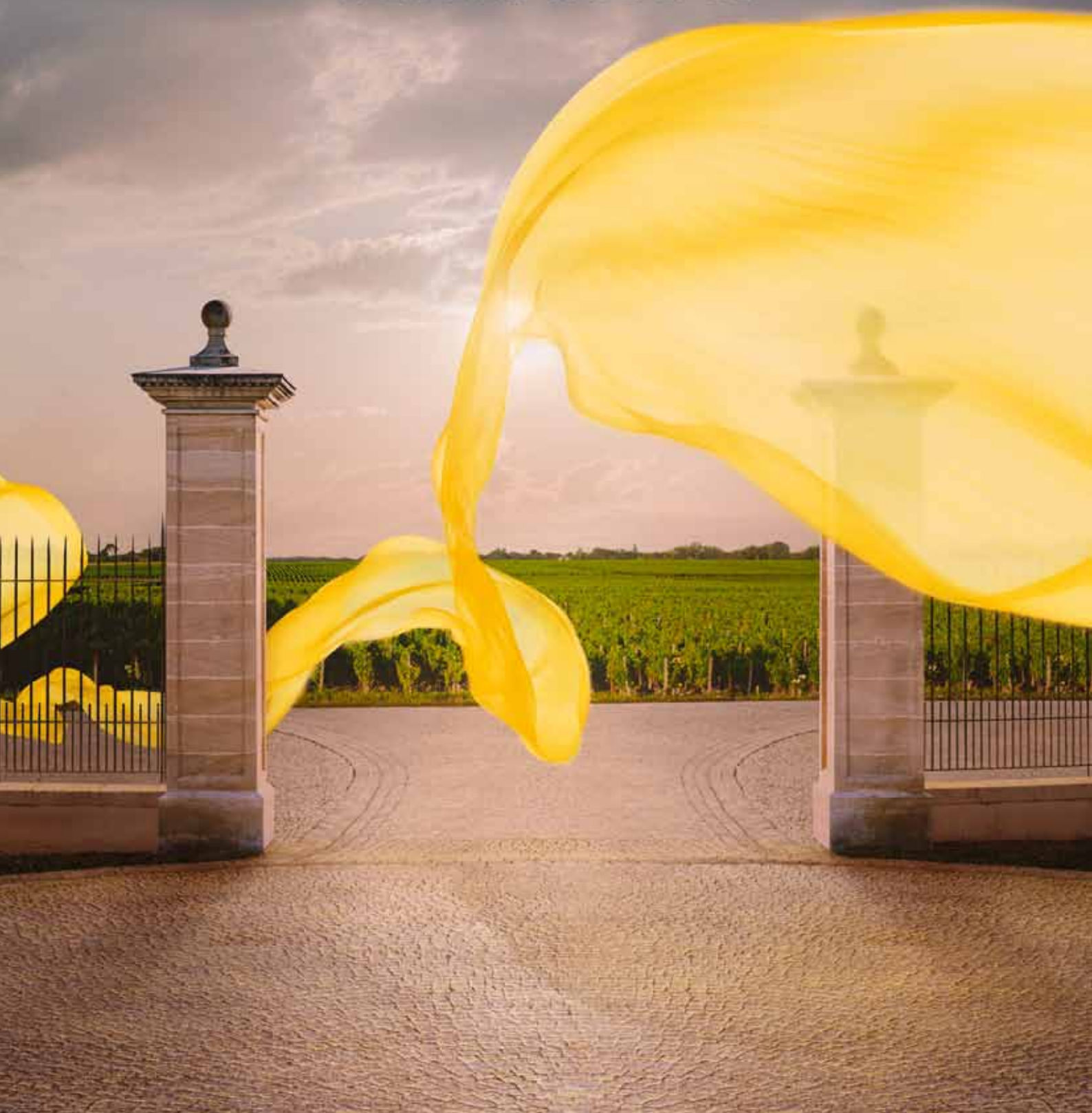
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