

Rhône 2016 En Primeur Offer

"I've now tasted 15 vintages in the region's cellars, and 2016 is hands down the best young vintage I have seen. I'm not alone in this thought, either."

James Molesworth, Wine Spectator

"One of the most exciting Southern Rhône vintages of my lifetime."

Joe Czerwinski, RobertParker.com

"It's the best vintage of my life."

Philippe Cambie, Southern Rhône winemaking consultant

"This is one of the best vintages of the past few decades. Do not miss it."

Matt Walls, Decanter Magazine

"It appears that the early hype is justified. These are wines that combine immense power (and sometimes alcohol levels) with elegance, perhaps most similar to the reds from 2010 or 1990. I didn't do extensive tastings of them, because most of the wines haven't been blended yet, but it will be a vintage to buy and cellar. "

Joe Czerwinski, RobertParker.com

"Quality is incredibly high across all the regions. In fact, the biggest surprise was the consistency of the vintage, which is even more homogenous than 2015. This is truly an extraordinary vintage."

Jeb Dunnuck, JebDunnuck.com

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Prices are quoted 'in bond' and are exclusive of duty, VAT and delivery, which is expected through the course of 2018 and early 2019. You will be notified by post once your wines have arrived. Bottle sizes are 75cl unless otherwise stated.

For full details please see our terms and conditions on page 30.

Rhône 2016 Report

Sometimes it is almost embarrassing for us merchants when one outstanding vintage follows another, but that is certainly the case with 2015 and 2016. For a second year in a row I will be telling everyone who will listen to me to stock up their cellars with the latest release. I will be putting my money where my mouth is though and again filling my cellar with as many of these wonderful wines as I can. Received wisdom seems to be that the South had the edge over the North in 2016, but I struggle to go with that assessment given how many wonderful Northern wines we tried in our week of tasting our way through the region back in July. That said, I have never come across a vintage of the quality of 2016 in Châteauneuf-du-Pape and Gigondas, so I guess it is a fair assessment, it just seems a little harsh on the North to put it in those terms!

Where the two vintages do diverge in my view is in terms of their styles. The 2015 reds were so open and approachable from barrel, while 2016 is more classically structured, with firm, but always ripe tannins and enough refreshing acidity to support even the biggest of reds. Given time and given food the 2016s are only going to make stronger and stronger cases for themselves.

In terms of the 2016 growing season in the South, the high daytime peak temperatures in 2016 that gave the wines their fully ripe fruit profiles and silky-smooth tannins were contrasted by cool night time lows which helped preserve acidity and so keep the wines beautifully fresh and balanced – absolutely perfect growing conditions for producing great wines. In the North, hail reduced volumes somewhat and things were looking shaky when a wet spring delayed ripening and was followed by a summer drought. All was saved though by perfectly timed rainfall in mid-September to refresh the vines, followed by an Indian summer, with perfect conditions continuing well into October meaning harvesting could be carried out at leisure.

This phenomenon of open 2015s versus closed-but-packed-full-of-potential red 2016 is even more the case when it comes to the whites. Some wines leapt straight out of the glass, but many more needed a little coaxing and will ultimately need time to hit their stride, even if in many cases that will only take a year or two. As always with white Rhônes the freshness that is provided in regions such as Burgundy by the wine's acidity is more likely than not made up for by whistle-clean fruit and/or a distinct mineral note in the best wines. Chapoutier and their chums over the road at Ferraton were especially successful in this respect.

I have put together four mixed cases which cover a number of my favourite wines from 2016 and which give a varied overview of the vintage. If you prefer to buy by the unmixed case, special mention in 2016 must go to Ferraton Père et Fils for a range of Northern Rhône reds and whites that made me treble check the prices versus my tasting notes, so cheap are they in comparison to the quality in the glass. Also massively overachieving for the money, but from the South of the region is Domaine Martin – even the new supercuvée to our range 'Sommets de Rasteau' goes for a song. 2016 is the best vintage I have tried from this estate. That is also true at Clos des Papes, not that that estate needs my recommendation given its reputation and also at Isabel Ferrando's Domaine Saint Préfert, now up there with Châteauneuf's very finest producers.

A quick word on the critics – Robert Parker's Rhône specialist reviewer for the last few vintages, Jeb Dunnuck, has gone solo, replaced by Joe Czerwinski, who moves over after 18 years at The Wine Enthusiast. They have each released their scores from the South, with the North to follow in due course. John Livingstone-Learmonth (DrinkRhône.com) meanwhile has been specialising in reviewing the wines of the Rhône since the 1970s and his scores (marked on a star basis), are included along with those of JancisRobinson.com's Richard Hemming.

Having had the privilege to taste through the wines in situ and to put together the offer, I thought you would appreciate my own thoughts on each of the wines. I may not have the same linguistic mastery as the critics, but I hope that by describing what it is about each of the wines and indeed each estate, that won them a place in our primeur offer, I am putting across as best I can the appeal of these wonderful wines. Ultimately though there is no substitute for drinking and enjoying them yourself, so without further ado, I invite you to dive in to our full Rhône 2016 primeur offer and to select the wines you would like so see in your own cellar.

Stewart Pryce, Laithwaite's Fine Wine
15th November 2017

Rhône 2016 Availability

Southern Rhône Reds

<u>Code</u>	<u>Wine</u>	<u>Appellation</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Price</u>
P4500301	Stéphane Ogier 'Le Temps Est Venu'	Côtes-du-Rhône	92 JD	£90 per 12 IB
P6942201	Domaine Martin	Rasteau	92 RP	£105 per 12 IB
P6942401	Domaine Montirius 'Le Village'	Vacqueyras	17+ RH	£125 per 12 IB
P6942701	Cuvée du Vatican	Châteauneuf-du-Pape	90-92 JD	£130 per 12 IB
P6936601	Famille Perrin 'La Gille'	Gigondas	17 RH	£140 per 12 IB
P6936801	Coudoulet de Beaucastel	Côtes-du-Rhône	92 Decanter	£150 per 12 IB
P6942901	Domaine Roger Sabon 'Les Olivets'	Châteauneuf-du-Pape	89-91 JD	£95 per 6 IB
P6942601	Domaine Montirius 'La Terre des Aînés'	Gigondas	94 Decanter	£195 per 12 IB
P6943201	Domaine de la Charbonnière	Châteauneuf-du-Pape	91-93+ JD	£120 per 6 IB
P6944201	Domaine Saint Préfert 'Classique'	Châteauneuf-du-Pape	99-95 RP	£135 per 6 IB
P6936901	Famille Perrin 'L'Argnée'	Gigondas	95 Decanter	£145 per 6 IB
P6937001	Famille Perrin Clos des Tourelles	Gigondas	5 Stars JLL	£145 per 6 IB
P6944401	Domaine Saint Préfert 'Collection Charles Giraud'	Châteauneuf-du-Pape	95-97 RP	£295 per 6 IB
P6943101	Domaine Roger Sabon 'Le Secret des Sabon'	Châteauneuf-du-Pape	95-97 JD	£540 per 6 IB

Northern Rhône Reds

<u>Code</u>	<u>Wine</u>	<u>Appellation</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Price</u>
P6933101	Ferraton Père et Fils 'Pichères'	Crozes-Hermitage	90-92 RP	£65 per 6 IB
P6942001	Chapoutier 'Meysonniers'	Crozes-Hermitage	90-92 JD	£70 per 6 IB
P6995401	Stéphane Ogier 'Syrah de Rosine'	Collines Rhod. IGP	89-91 JD	£140 per 12 IB
P6935301	Domaine Yann Chave 'Le Rouvre'	Crozes-Hermitage	93 Decanter	£180 per 12 IB
P6933501	Ferraton Père et Fils 'Patou'	Cornas	92-94 JD	£120 per 6 IB
P6935401	Domaine du Tunnel	Saint-Joseph	91-93 RP	£125 per 6 IB
P6933601	Ferraton Père et Fils 'Les Eygats'	Cornas	93-95 JD	£130 per 6 IB
P4500601	Stéphane Ogier 'L'Âme Sœur'	Collines Rhod. IGP	92-94 JD	£140 per 6 IB
P6935501	Domaine du Tunnel	Cornas	91-93 RP	£160 per 6 IB
P6933301	Ferraton Père et Fils 'Les Miaux'	Hermitage	92-94+ JD	£165 per 6 IB
P6933701	Ferraton Père et Fils 'Montmain'	Côte-Rôtie	92-94 JD	£180 per 6 IB
P6978501	Domaine Rostaing 'Ampodium'	Côte-Rôtie	91-93 RP	£246 per 6 IB
P6935601	Domaine Yann Chave	Hermitage	95 Decanter	£270 per 6 IB
P6933801	Ferraton Père et Fils 'Le Méal'	Hermitage	95-97 JD	£295 per 6 IB

RP – Joe Czerwinski, RobertParker.com JD – Jeb Dunnuck JR – Jancis Robinson
RH – Richard Hemming, JancisRobinson.com JLL – John Livingstone-Learmonth, DrinkRhône.com
Decanter – Matt Walls, Decanter.com

Southern Rhône Whites

<u>Code</u>	<u>Wine</u>	<u>Appellation</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Price</u>
P1473701	Domaine Montirius 'Minéral'	Vacqueyras	87 RP	£195 per 12 IB
P1473801	Château Sixtine	Châteauneuf-du-Pape	94 JD	£215 per 12 IB
P1471701	Clos des Papes	Châteauneuf-du-Pape	96 Decanter	£234 per 6 IB

Northern Rhône Whites

<u>Code</u>	<u>Wine</u>	<u>Appellation</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Price</u>
P1474701	Domaine Vincent Paris 'Granit Blanc'	Ardèche IGP	91 RP	£70 per 6 IB
P1474201	Guigal	Crozes-Hermitage	90 JD	£80 per 6 IB
P1473001	Chapoutier 'Les Meysonniers'	Crozes-Hermitage	91 JD	£80 per 6 IB
P1473401	Chapoutier 'Deschants'	Saint-Joseph	91 RP	£85 per 6 IB
P1470401	Domaine du Tunnel 'Roussanne'	Saint-Péray	90 RP	£115 per 6 IB
P1473201	Chapoutier 'Granilites'	Saint-Joseph	93 Decanter	£120 per 6 IB
P1473501	Chapoutier 'Hongrie'	Saint-Péray	92-94 JD	£120 per 6 IB
P1470001	Ferraton Père et Fils 'Les Oliviers'	Saint-Joseph	91 JD	£130 per 6 IB
P1470201	Stéphane Ogier 'La Combe de Mallevall'	Condrieu	96 JD	£130 per 6 IB
P1469701	Ferraton Père et Fils 'Les Mandouls'	Condrieu	94 JD	£140 per 6 IB
P1469801	Ferraton Père et Fils 'Les Miaux'	Hermitage	95 JD	£150 per 6 IB
P1477101	Domaine du Tunnel 'Pur Blanc'	Saint-Péray	92 RP	£170 per 6 IB
P1457301	Domaine du Tunnel 'Chanson'	Condrieu		£170 per 6 IB
P1474401	Guigal 'Lieu-Dit'	Saint-Joseph	94 RP	£180 per 6 IB
P1469901	Ferraton Père et Fils 'Le Reverdy'	Hermitage	96 JD	£195 per 6 IB
P1473601	Chapoutier 'Chante-Alouette'	Hermitage	92-94JD	£200 per 6 IB
P1474501	Guigal 'La Doriane'	Condrieu	96 JD	£295 per 6 IB
P1457501	Chapoutier 'Le Méal'	Hermitage	97-99 JD	£660 per 6 IB
P1457701	Chapoutier 'De L'Orée'	Hermitage	98-100 JD	£710 per 6 IB

Mixed Cases

<u>Code</u>	<u>Wine</u>	<u>Appellation</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Price</u>
P7100701	Rhône 2016 Value Reds Mix	Various		£140 per 12 IB
P7101001	Rhône 2016 Northern Reds Mix	Various		£260 per 12 IB
P7101101	Rhône 2016 Whites Mix	Various		£215 per 12 IB

RP – Joe Czerwinski, RobertParker.com JD – Jeb Dunnuck JR – Jancis Robinson
RH – Richard Hemming, JancisRobinson.com JLL – John Livingstone-Learmonth, DrinkRhône.com
Decanter – Matt Walls, Decanter.com

Domaine Montirius

“One of my favorite southern Rhone estates, Montirius, which is run by the passionate Christine and Eric Saurel, fashions classic Gigondas and Vacqueyras from their roughly 143 acres under vine”
Jeb Dunnuck

There is a lot to like about Domaine Montirius and the wines that are produced there. Run by the charming couple Christine and Eric Saurel and their daughters Justine and Manon, they adopted full biodynamics in 1996 and none of the wines see any oak ageing. No sulphur is added at bottling either, so these are wines where the fruit sings solo, unadulterated by other influences.

The whole range is impressive, showcasing the meticulous attention to detail that is found at many biodynamic estates, but of particular note are two Vacqueyras cuvées; the red ‘Le Clos’ whose clay soils have been analysed and found to be identical to those at Château Petrus (something Petrus’s neighbours would kill for!) and the white ‘Minéral’, a wine that disproves those that say Bourboulenc is not suitable in the Rhône – it simply needs to be harvested late.



**Domaine Montirius ‘Le Village’ 2016
Vacqueyras**

£125 per 12 IB

89-91 Points RobertParker.com
17+ Points Richard Hemming

“Even this young-vine cuvée looks potentially excellent in 2016. The 2016 Vacqueyras Le Village isn't hugely concentrated but offers charming notes of garrigue and raspberries, medium to full body, a long finish and silky tannins that should make this wine drinkable on release. Drink 2018-2025.”

89-91 Points – Joe Czerwinski, RobertParker.com, October 2017

Drink to 2026



**Domaine Montirius ‘La Terre des Aînés’ 2016
Gigondas**

£195 per 12 IB

91-93 Points RobertParker.com
94 Points Decanter

“The 2016 Gigondas Terres des Aines is also an 80-20 blend of Grenache and Mourvèdre. It's a big, rich, dark-fruited wine, verging on chocolaty, with a long, slightly warm finish. I'd drink it within its first decade. Drink 2018-2025.”

91-93 Points – Joe Czerwinski, RobertParker.com, October 2017

“The 2016 Gigondas Terre des Aines is a total winner. The same blend as the La Tour, it gives up loads of darker fruit, saddle leather, peppery herbs, and spice to go with medium to full-bodied richness and depth. It's another best to date cuvée from this estate.”

91-93 Points – Jeb Dunnuck, JebDunnuck.com, October 2017

Drink to 2025



**Domaine Montirius 'Minéral' Blanc 2016
Vacqueyras**

£195 per 12 IB

87 Points RobertParker.com
15.5 Points Richard Hemming

Something right out of the ordinary, but what a good wine. This blend, predominantly Bourboulenc and Grenache Blanc was late harvested – two weeks after the reds in fact, but is packed full of citrus freshness. There are provençal herbs on the long finish. Interestingly, we tried the 2011, which proves beyond doubt that this white will age very well – it showed good harmony and intensity and was somewhat Riesling-like. Very appealing!



Drink to 2022

Domaine Martin

"Lovely"

Joe Czerwinski on Domaine Martin Rasteau 2016

A big customer favourite and it's no surprise why; the reds produced here are out and out delicious and are offered at exceptionally good prices. This makes them ideal house wines therefore.

The 2016s here were a notable step up on the 2015s, not that they were exactly slackers in terms of quality.



**Domaine Martin 2016
Rasteau**

£105 per 12 IB

92 Points RobertParker.com

"Domaine Martin's lovely 2016 Rasteau pours on the spice, dusting notes of cracked pepper and ground clove over raspberry fruit. It's medium to full-bodied, with a creamy, lush feel on the mid-palate that firms up on the finish, suggesting it should drink well for 5-8 years. Drink 2017-2025."

92 Points – Joe Czerwinski, RobertParker.com, October 2017



Drink to 2024

Cuvée du Vatican / Château Sixtine

“Jean-Marc is an innovative visionary”
Robert Parker

The Diffontys are old timers in Châteauneuf-du-Pape it is fair to say, having been settled in the area since the 17th century. They were one of the first to bottle their wine at the estate back in 1902 and in 1992 the property's modern era began when Jean-Marc and his wife Karine took over the reigns. They gradually changed the Domaine's style to suit their tastes, in particular with the introduction to the range of the 'Réserve Sixtine', later renamed simply 'Château Sixtine' – a supercuvée that always offers masses of upfront fruit and body in a framework of exceptionally rounded tannins. Unsurprisingly, this style proved popular with Robert Parker too.

The Château Sixtine and Cuvée du Vatican wines are always ones we choose to exhibit at shows, or to impress guests at home – they really are very difficult not to thoroughly enjoy! In this respect, the voluptuous white Château Sixtine is no different from the reds.



Cuvée du Vatican 2016
Châteauneuf-du-Pape

£130 per 12 IB

90-92 Points Jeb Dunnuck
17 Points Richard Hemming

Bright and juicy, the tannins are especially silky on the 2016 vintage of Jean-Marc's excellent value Cuvée du Vatican. The finish is very well rounded and long. Very Grenache, in a good way. This will give a lot of pleasure to a lot of people.



Drink to 2022

Château Sixtine Blanc 2016
Châteauneuf-du-Pape

£215 per 12 IB

94 Points Jeb Dunnuck
17.5 Points Richard Hemming

“Always one of my favorite whites, the 2016 Châteauneuf-du-Pape Blanc Chateau Sixtine is another rich, textured, unctuous 2016 that more than worth the effort to track down. White peach, buttered citrus, brioche, and spice give way to a textured, medium to full-bodied white that has good acidity and a clean finish. This cuvée is mostly Roussanne (there's 5% Clairette) and was brought up in a mix of older barrels and stainless steel.”

94 Points – Jeb Dunnuck, JebDunnuck.com, October 2017



Drink to 2022

Domaine de la Charbonnière

“Domaine Charbonniere is a contender for the best value wine in Chateaufeuf du Pape. The wines produced at the domaine pair high quality with character and fair pricing. In today’s world, that combination is harder to find than ever.”

Jeff Leve

It is hard not to like the wines of this traditional, family-run estate. Robert Parker calls it “one of my favourite estates in the southern Rhone”, while his successor Jeb Dunnuck calls it “a fantastic estate”. Tasting there, it is hard to disagree. Véronique Maret produces a range of wines from a number of enviable holdings scattered across varied terroirs in each corner of Châteaufeuf-du-Pape’s vineyards.

Naturally, a number of terroir-specific wines are bottled, but it is the estate red, and to a lesser extent, white, which best sum up this Domaine’s appeal. Stylistically, these wines combine a traditional style based on balance and restraint, with a more modern touch emphasising the pure, clean fruit and fully ripe tannins that make the wines accessible in their youth, despite the clear ageing potential.



**Domaine de la Charbonnière 2016
Châteaufeuf-du-Pape**

£120 per 6 IB

**91-93+ Points Jeb Dunnuck
4½ Stars DrinkRhone.com**

A number of different bottlings are produced at this estate, but it is this ‘Cuvée Domaine’ that combines the various terroirs across the appellation that stood out for us, especially so when factoring in the price. Arguably one of Châteaufeuf’s best value wines each year, the 2016 is especially impressive, with a pure, sweet fruit attack leading into a fresh, succulent and downright delicious palate. As Jeb Dunnuck puts it: “It’s going to be a no-brainer purchase.”



Drink to 2025

Château de Beaucastel / Famille Perrin

“Purchasing a wine from this family is about as close to a guarantee of authenticity and high quality as one can expect.”

Robert Parker

The Château de Beaucastel estate forms a single 100 hectare+ block right where the Mistral wind funnels into the corner of the Châteauneuf-du-Pape appellation. Unusually, there are large plantings of the Mourvèdre grape, shunned by many in Châteauneuf as being unsuitable for the appellation's climate, but increasingly coming into its own with global warming. All 13 permitted grape varieties are grown in fact, vinified separately and then blended to form three of the reference point wines of the Southern Rhône valley – the red and white Grands Vins, plus the separate Roussanne Vieilles Vignes bottling. Part of the estate, but falling on the ‘wrong’ side of the road that separates the Châteauneuf-du-Pape and Côtes-du-Rhône appellations is the vineyard where the fruit for the outstanding value Coudoulet is grown.

In recent decades the Perrin family have extended their holdings beyond the confines of the Château de Beaucastel estate itself, with wines from Gigondas a particular strength, although as Jeb Dunnuck notes; “in short, this is a brilliant portfolio across the board”.



**Famille Perrin ‘La Gille’ 2016
Gigondas**

£140 per 12 IB

**4½ Stars DrinkRhone.com
17 Points Richard Hemming**

This shows the elegant side of Grenache, with herbs, spice and lovely aromatics aplenty. A mid-weighted style whose elegance comes from the vineyard's position, North-West facing on the mid-slope with sandy soils (rare for the appellation) at a relatively high altitude.



Drink to 2026

**Coudoulet de Beaucastel 2016
Côtes-du-Rhône**

£150 per 12 IB

**91-93 Points RobertParker.com
92 Points Decanter**

This is such a staple of so many of our customers' cellars, it barely needs an introduction – in a vintage as universally strong in the South as 2016, many of you will no doubt buy without a second thought.

If you are not already acquainted with this wine, the Coudoulet parcel is part of the single 100+ hectare plot from which Beaucastel source all their fruit for the red and white Grands Vins, however when Châteauneuf-du-Pape became the first appellation in France to be officially delimited, a road was used as the boundary, making Coudoulet a ‘simple’ Côtes-du-Rhône, in the eyes of the law at least. The liquid in the bottle though makes it much more akin to a Châteauneuf, albeit in a more forward, earlier-drinking style than the Grand Vin.



Drink to 2023

**Famille Perrin 'Clos des Tourelles' 2016
Gigondas**

£145 per 6 IB

**5 Stars DrinkRhone.com
17 Points Richard Hemming**

Purchased by Famille Perrin in 2008 and still made in a garage in the centre of the village of Gigondas itself, this wine has been growing and growing in reputation in the last few years. The increased demand and very much finite supply means our allocation tends to disappear quicker and quicker with each passing vintage.

It's a big red of course, but the Clos des Tourelles is nonetheless a very elegant wine and dare I say it, it could even be described as restrained. Showing an overt minerality, but not a hint of jam, this is a perfect example of why more and more winemakers are referring to Grenache as the warm climate Pinot Noir.

Drink to 2028+



**Famille Perrin 'L'Argnée' 2016
Gigondas**

£145 per 6 IB

**95 Points Decanter
17+ Points Richard Hemming**

A new wine to our list in 2016 and wow – what a wine! Made from low-yielding ungrafted, 100-year old pre-phyloxera vines in tiny quantities (the vineyard is less than one hectare), securing an allocation of this was always going to be tricky, but we twisted their arm and got a little. This is seriously intense and seriously impressive. Decanter's John Livingstone-Learmonth said the 2015 had "earth-shaking quality". The 2016 somehow manages to register even higher on the Richter scale.

Drink to 2026+



Domaine Roger Sabon

“This has long been one of my favorite estates in the southern Rhone... The style here is a brilliant combination of the best traditional techniques married to a handful of modern nuances.”

Robert Parker

A long-established family domaine that has been estate bottling since 1921. The style remains traditional, with enough yielding to modern fashions to make the wines delicious in their youth as well as when at full maturity. Another yielding to modern fashion is to produce the supercuvée ‘Le Secret des Sabon’ – a wine which has been throttled back just a little in last few years to Jeb Dunnuck’s chagrin, but to our delight – this is a tour de force of a red, but a very enjoyable one to drink too.



**Domaine Roger Sabon ‘Les Olivets’ 2016
Châteauneuf-du-Pape**

£95 per 6 IB

**89-91 Points Jeb Dunnuck
15 Points Richard Hemming**

“Starting off the 2016s, the young vine 2016 Châteauneuf-du-Pape Les Olivets is a ripe, se*y effort loaded with notions of black raspberries, blueberries, and leafy herbs. It’s medium to full-bodied, has terrific purity, and a great finish, and is going to be a great intro into this vintage and estate.”

89-91 points – Jeb Dunnuck, JebDunnuck.com, October 2017

Drink to 2024



**Domaine Roger Sabon
‘Le Secret des Sabon’ 2016
Châteauneuf-du-Pape**

£540 per 6 IB

**Limited Availability
95-97 Points Jeb Dunnuck**

“I always find a purity and voluptuousness in this tiny field blend from Sabon, and this 2016 Châteauneuf-du-Pape Le Secret des Sabon is no exception. Kirsch liqueur, spring flowers, violets, garrigue and toasted bread notes all give way to a full-bodied, ethereally textured, seamless, yet concentrated style. I miss some of the over the top exuberance this cuvée has shown in the past, yet this is still an incredible wine!”

95-97 points – Jeb Dunnuck, JebDunnuck.com, October 2017

Drink to 2028



Clos des Papes

"This is one of the great estates in Chateauneuf du Pape, with a history that dates back to the mid-1700s."

Robert Parker

For such a big estate with such a big reputation it is surprising to learn that everything is done here by one man – Paul Avril, although he did admit to getting in a helper at harvest time!

Avril eschews the concept of Supercuvées, with just a single red and white wine produced, so the very best grapes go into the Grands Vins. The results are spectacularly good, age-worthy Châteauneufs, even more so in 2016 than usual.

Avril's mother is from Burgundy, he studied there and he looks to emulate that region's finesse in his wines, something he succeeds in doing, despite the obvious fact that these are much bigger boned wines than anything found in the Côte d'Or.

Trying to produce a style he prefers, rather than chasing critical acclaim, he nonetheless gets it. Frankly, anyone with anything more than a fleeting acquaintance with Châteauneuf-du-Pape can taste that this estate produces some of the appellation's very finest wines.



Clos des Papes Blanc 2016
Châteauneuf-du-Pape

£234 per 6 IB

96 Points Decanter
95 Points Jeb Dunnuck

"I always find the white from this terrific estate to be near the top of the hierarchy in terms of quality, yet it's made in a very different style than the likes of Beaucastel's Blanc or the old vine Clairette from St. Prefert (or the whites from Vaudieu), and is more fresh, crisp and pure. Even from a hot vintage, the 2016 Châteauneuf-du-Pape Blanc offers a beautiful crispness as well as terrific aromatics of caramelized citrus, spice and apple core. Clean, vibrant and yet also concentrated, it's certainly enjoyable today, yet won't hit maturity until 7-8 years and will keep for a decade or more after that."

95 Points – Jeb Dunnuck, JebDunnuck.com, October 2017



Drink to 2026

Domaine Saint Préfert

"Isabel Ferrando may be sitting on her best wines to date with 2016."
James Molesworth, Wine Spectator

The 'Queen of Châteauneuf' (as referred to by James Molesworth) ruffled a few feathers when she arrived in the area in 2002 and started producing some brilliant wines at the historic but arguably underperforming Domaine Saint Préfert, which she converted to full biodynamics in 2013. 2016 is likely to be looked back upon as the year in which Isabel Ferrando's qualitative transformation of this Domaine was fully complete, the estate now standing shoulder-to-shoulder with the appellation's greatest producers.

Quite simply, the 2016s here are stunning, combining off-the-chart levels of fruit ripeness and concentration with balance and finesse. Yes, given how blessed the Southern Rhône was in this vintage, there are several brilliant wines produced at various addresses, but the impression here is that an even higher gear has been found. If you have yet to experience Isabel's wines, do not miss out in a vintage viewed by her and us as her best ever.



Domaine Saint Préfert 'Classique' 2016
Châteauneuf-du-Pape

£135 per 6 IB

93-95 Points RobertParker.com
92-95 Points Jeb Dunnuck

A stunningly good Châteauneuf, this pulls no punches when it comes to sheer fruit concentration, but there is no hint of jamminess whatsoever. The tannins are so fine-grained and the overall impression is of a wonderfully balanced, elegant wine, despite its no-holds-barred nature. If ever the phrase 'the iron fist in the velvet glove' was suitable to be applied to a wine, it is to this one!



Drink to 2025

Domaine Saint Préfert
'Collection Charles Giraud' 2016
Châteauneuf-du-Pape

£295 per 6 IB

95-97 Points RobertParker.com
94-96 Points Jeb Dunnuck

A wine that makes you grin like a Cheshire cat when you try it should not really lend itself to the word 'serious' appearing so many times in our tasting notes, but there it is in black and white – 'serious stuff' 'serious tannins', 'seriously good'. Made from the fruit of 80 year old vines, this is a weighty beast. 40% of the blend is Mourvèdre – an almost unheard of quantity besting even Mourvèdre specialists Château de Beaucastel. This lends the palate a distinctly herbal edge, which marries beautifully with the ripe, dense fruit. What a wine!

"I tasted several demi-muids potentially earmarked for the 2016 Chateaneuf du Pape Collection Charles Giraud, although some may slip down into the Reserve August Favier. The final decisions had yet to be made, so I haven't offered a formal review of that cuvée. Despite being hugely ripe, sometimes even chocolaty, the concentration and density meant that none tasted overly alcoholic or warm, and even the super ripe Grenache retained excellent freshness, spice and complexity. Drink 2023-2035."

95-97 Points – Joe Czerwinski, RobertParker.com, October 2017

"Spice, dried cherries, mulberries and underbrush notes all emerge from the 2016 Châteauneuf-du-Pape Collection Charles Giraud, and it's a bigger, richer, more concentrated barrel sample that has building tannin, beautiful purity and a great finish. It has a stacked mid-palate and is going to benefit from short-term cellaring. This cuvee is the normal 60/40 split of Grenache and Mourvèdre that was not destemmed and brought up all in demi-muids."

94-96 Points – Jeb Dunnuck, JebDunnuck.com, October 2017

Drink to 2032



Michel Chapoutier

“These wines are for true connoisseurs, as they are expensive and meant for long, long evolutions, but they capture the essence of a vintage and terroir as well as any wines in the world.”

Robert Parker on Chapoutier’s Sélections Parcellaires

Producer portfolios rarely offer as much choice or as many critics’ points as the diverse range offered by one of the legends of the Rhône Valley. Michel Chapoutier is one of a kind – headstrong and often contrary, his bold opinions and decisions have helped move his family firm from one of the Northern Rhône’s finest producers, to one of the world’s. Obsessively biodynamic and a particular fan of granite soils, the quality of the obsessive winemaking shows throughout the large range, from the great value wines at the bottom of the price scale, through to some of the Rhône’s (and France’s) finest wines that form the ‘Sélections Parcellaires’ range.



The 2016s are predictably excellent, with the whites from this producer especially praiseworthy – no-one else quite managed to harness the same sense of freshness, focus and minerality in their white 2016s, so if you only buy white Rhône’s from one producer this year, make it Chapoutier.

**Chapoutier ‘Meysonniers’ 2016
Crozes-Hermitage**

£70 per 6 IB

88-90 Points RobertParker.com

90-92 Points Jeb Dunnuck

“Mostly from the eastern part of the appellation, the 2016 Crozes-Hermitage Les Meysonniers offers a violet-tinged, vibrant purple color as well as classic black raspberries, dried earth, and violets aromatics. It’s another medium-bodied, elegant, incredibly high-quality wine from this team that will keep for 6-7 years.”

90-92 Points – Jeb Dunnuck, JebDunnuck.com, January 2018



Drink to 2023

**Chapoutier ‘Meysonniers’ Blanc 2016
Crozes-Hermitage**

£80 per 6 IB

89 Points RobertParker.com

91 Points Jeb Dunnuck

“Medium gold colored, the 2016 Crozes-Hermitage Les Meysonniers Blanc is more exotic, with lots of pineapple, spice (celery seed), and buttered citrus aromas. Medium-bodied, fresh and lively on the palate, it too has beautiful richness and depth, all for a rock-solid price. Drink it over the coming 2-3 years.”

91 Points – Jeb Dunnuck, JebDunnuck.com, January 2018



Drink to 2021

**Chapoutier 'Deschants' Blanc 2016
Saint-Joseph**

£85 per 6 IB

**91 Points RobertParker.com
91 Points Jeb Dunnuck**

"Moving to the Saint Joseph releases, the 2016 Saint Joseph Deschants Blanc is clean and classy, with bright acidity It offers lots of white peach, pear, and citrus notes, with hints of minerality, medium-bodied richness, and a clean, yet rich and textured style on the palate."

91 Points – Jeb Dunnuck, JebDunnuck.com, January 2018

Drink to 2022



**Chapoutier 'Granilites' Blanc 2016
Saint-Joseph**

£120 per 6 IB

**93 Points Decanter
92 Points Jeb Dunnuck**

"Slightly deeper gold in color, the 2016 Saint Joseph Les Granilites Blanc (100% Marsanne all from fine, granite soils) was bottled late in June (the entry-level whites are bottled in April), fermented partially in demi-muid and foudre, and aged in 10% new barrels (there are parts in foudre and stainless steel). Buttered citrus, crushed rocks, white flowers and a kiss of honeysuckle give way to a medium bodied, balanced, impressive white that has richness and freshness, as well as loads of character. Drink it over the coming 4-5 years."

92 Points – Jeb Dunnuck, JebDunnuck.com, January 2018

Drink to 2023



**Chapoutier 'Hongrie' Blanc 2016
Saint-Péray**

£120 per 6 IB

**91 Points RobertParker.com
92-94 Points Jeb Dunnuck**

"The 2016 Saint Péray Lieu Dit Hongrie is a seriously good Saint Péray and a candidate for the wine of the appellation. Buttered stone fruits, apple peel, crushed rocks and brioche notes all flow to a medium to full-bodied, ripe, beautifully textured white that has terrific purity and length. There's a touch a salty minerality on the finish and it's going to drink nicely right out of the gate, yet evolve for a decade or more."

92-94 Points – Jeb Dunnuck, JebDunnuck.com, January 2018

Drink to 2023



**Chapoutier 'Chante Alouette' Blanc 2016
Hermitage**

£200 per 6 IB

**92 Points RobertParker.com
92-94 Points Jeb Dunnuck**

"Leading off the Hermitage Blanc releases and a wine that always delivers the goods, the 2016 Hermitage Chante Alouette is another smoky, meaty, mineral-laced white from this team that is worthy of a case purchase. Orange blossom, pineapple and spice nuances all flow to a medium to full-bodied beauty that has solid mid-palate depth, terrific purity, and a big finish. It blossoms with time in the glass and will evolve for upwards of two decades."

92-94 Points – Jeb Dunnuck, JebDunnuck.com, January 2018

Drink to 2028



**Chapoutier 'Le Méal' Blanc 2016
Ermitage**

£660 per 6 IB

**96 Points Decanter
97-99 Points Jeb Dunnuck**

"Like the de Cuvée de L'Orée, only even richer, with huge buttered citrus, crushed rock, and orange blossom aromatics, the 2016 Ermitage Le Méal Blanc hits the palate with red wine-like structure and tannin, full-bodied richness, bright acidity, and incredible length. It too has a liquid rock-like minerality and is a prodigious effort from this estate."

97-99 Points – Jeb Dunnuck, JebDunnuck.com, January 2018

Drink to 2030



**Chapoutier 'De l'Orée' Blanc 2016
Ermitage**

£710 per 6 IB

**97 Points RobertParker.com
98-100 Points Jeb Dunnuck**

"Leading off the three single vineyard whites, the 2016 Ermitage Cuvée De L'Orée is a huge, unctuous white that delivers the goods. Orange marmalade, buttered citrus, honeycomb and brioche all soar from the glass. Possessing a thick, full-bodied style, huge mid-palate concentration, and a great, great finish, it's one of the world's greatest dry whites, year in, year out, and 2016 isn't going to break that trend."

98-100 Points – Jeb Dunnuck, JebDunnuck.com, Jan. 2018

Drink to 2035



Ferraton Père et Fils

“The quality at this tiny Hermitage-based estate continues to increase in almost every vintage. Run by the team at Chapoutier since the early 2000s, they release a large number of cuvees (mostly negociant), yet their estate releases are made in tiny quantities, are all extremely high quality, and continue to represent screaming values.”

Jeb Dunnuck

He's a good chap, Michel Chapoutier. When family friends the Ferratons fell on hard times and started to sell-off parcels of land, in stepped Chapoutier with an injection of cash and just as importantly, winemaking talent. Ferraton Père et Fils has been kept as a separate entity rather than subsumed into the Chapoutier holdings, but what is arguably the best winemaking team in the Rhône applies its expertise to these wines just as they do to those featuring Chapoutier's own name.

The result today is a range of wines that like Chapoutier's performs right across the quality spectrum, but at prices that are scarcely believable given the out-and-out quality being produced here. It is no coincidence that Chapoutier and Ferraton were the outstanding Northern producers in 2016, especially so when it came to the whites, so rather than look a gift horse in the mouth we have, as a former colleague would put it "backed up the truck" to stock up on several of these brilliant and exceptionally good value Northern Rhône's.



**Ferraton Père et Fils 'Pichères' 2016
Crozes-Hermitage**

£65 per 6 IB

**90-92 Points RobertParker.com
90-92 Points Jeb Dunnuck**

Forget the lighter, peppery style of Crozes more typical of the appellation; Pichères is a thick and full take on the region. One of last year's biggest sellers from our Rhône en primeur offer, while hail badly affected the quantity of Pichères produced in 2016, thankfully the quality is still very good indeed, especially so for the price.



Drink to 2022

**Ferraton Père et Fils 'Patou' 2016
Cornas**

£120 per 6 IB

**88-90 Points RobertParker.com
92-94 Points Jeb Dunnuck**

"The 2016 Cornas Lieu Dit Patou is a rich, ripe Cornas that's bursting at the seams with notions of black fruits, scorched earth and tapenade. Peppery herbs work their way in there with air, and it's full-bodied, voluptuous and rounded, with excellent purity. This parcel is located in the southern part of the appellation and comes from very old vines."

92-94 Points – Jeb Dunnuck, JebDunnuck.com, January 2018



Drink to 2030

**Ferraton Père et Fils 'Les Eygats' 2016
Cornas**

£130 per 6 IB

**90-92 Points RobertParker.com
93-95 Points Jeb Dunnuck**

"From a higher elevation parcel in the northern part of the appellation that has a full southern exposure, the violet/purple-colored 2016 Cornas Lieu Dit Les Eygats offers a modern style in its crème de cassis, classy oak and crushed flower-like aromas and flavors. Brought up in 20% new barrels, it's full-bodied, ripe and polished on the palate, with sweet, present tannin and fabulous purity."

93-95 Points – Jeb Dunnuck, JebDunnuck.com, January 2018
Drink to 2027



**Ferraton Père et Fils 'Les Miaux' 2016
Hermitage**

£165 per 6 IB

**89-91 Points RobertParker.com
92-94+ Points Jeb Dunnuck**

"The inky colored 2016 Hermitage Les Miaux is the entry-level release from Hermitage. It boasts a big, mineral-laced nose of black fruits, crushed stone, and licorice. Rich, full-bodied and concentrated, it has a terrific core of fruit, excellent purity and building, ripe tannin. It's impressive. This cuvée comes mostly from parcels on the western side of the appellation and the bottom of the Méal."

92-94+ Points – Jeb Dunnuck, JebDunnuck.com, January 2018
Drink to 2030



**Ferraton Père et Fils 'Montmain' 2016
Côte-Rôtie**

£180 per 6 IB

**91-93 Points RobertParker.com
92-94 Points Jeb Dunnuck**

"From a site just beside Grandes Places (full southern exposure and schist soils), the 2016 Côte Rôtie Lieu Dit Montmain offers notes of crème de cassis, black raspberries, liquid rock and crushed flowers. Medium to full-bodied, elegant and finesse-oriented, with fine yet present tannin, it should be drinkable on release, yet keep for 10-15 years."

92-94 Points – Jeb Dunnuck, JebDunnuck.com, January 2018

Drink to 2028



**Ferraton Père et Fils 'Le Méal' 2016
Hermitage**

£295 per 6 IB

**96 Points Decanter
95-97 Points Jeb Dunnuck**

"While they lost 60% of the harvest due to hail (the lieux-dits of Hermite and Murets were the most affected), they certainly harvest great fruit. The 2016 Ermitage Le Méal is another inky, opaque colored Hermitage and comes from one of the top terroirs in this hallowed appellation. Black raspberries, crushed flowers, white peach and hints of minerality and toasty oak all flow from this uber-rich, concentrated, utterly impeccably balanced 2016. With moderate acidity, ripe, sweet tannin and a great finish, it's one se*y beast I'd be thrilled to drink anytime over the coming 20+ years. It too is made in minuscule quantities, but will certainly be worth the effort to track down."

95-97 Points – Jeb Dunnuck, JebDunnuck.com, January 2018

Drink to 2032

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**Ferraton Père et Fils 'Les Oliviers' 2016
Saint-Joseph**

£130 per 6 IB

**88 Points RobertParker.com
91 Points Jeb Dunnuck**

From a south facing site of a former glacier the 50% Roussanne 50% Marsanne Les Oliviers has a lovely fruit-led (rather than acid-led) freshness and that fruit is just so pure and fleshy – think stone fruits. Could be drunk on release thanks to this purity, or would age.



Drink to 2022

**Ferraton Père et Fils 'Les Mandouls' 2016
Condrieu**

£140 per 6 IB

**89 Points RobertParker.com
94 Points Jeb Dunnuck**

“The 2016 Condrieu Les Mandouls is serious stuff, and the finest Condrieu to date for this team. It offers textbook notes of apricots, honeysuckle, brioche, and crushed rocks in a rich, concentrated, layered style that’s a joy to drink. Enjoy bottle over the coming 3-5 years.”

94 Points – Jeb Dunnuck, JebDunnuck.com, January 2018



Drink to 2021

**Ferraton Père et Fils 'Les Miaux' Blanc 2016
Hermitage**

£150 per 6 IB

**91 Points RobertParker.com
95 Points Jeb Dunnuck**

“As to the two Hermitage Blanc, the 2016 Hermitage Les Miaux Blanc is made from 100% Marsanne brought up in demi-muids. It boasts a smoking nose of buttered citrus, tangerine, flower oil and wood smoke. Big, rich, concentrated and voluptuous on the palate, with beautiful density, this is a terrific white that ticks all the right boxes. It’s another “best to date” wine from this awesome vintage and can be drunk anytime over the coming decade or more.”

95 Points – Jeb Dunnuck, JebDunnuck.com, January 2018



Drink to 2028

**Ferraton Père et Fils 'Le Reverdy' 2016
Hermitage**

£195 per 6 IB

**92 Points RobertParker.com
96 Points Jeb Dunnuck**

“Also terrific, the tiny production 2016 Ermitage Le Reverdy Blanc is a blend of 80% Marsanne and 20% Roussanne brought up in demi-muids. It gives up more honeyed marmalade, wood smoke, caramelized citrus and crushed rocks aromatics. Rich, unctuous and concentrated on the palate, with gorgeous purity, it has building structure, and a great, great finish. It’s up with the crème de la crème of the vintage and should not be missed. Give bottles a year or so and enjoy over the following two decades.”

96 Points – Jeb Dunnuck, JebDunnuck.com, January 2018



Drink to 2028

Stéphane Robert / Domaine du Tunnel

“Stephane Robert continues to fashion some of the most impressive, concentrated and unctuously textured Syrahs in the northern Rhône... You can't wrong with this estate.”

Jeb Dunnuck

Although Stéphane Robert has a small shop front in the centre of Saint-Péray, to get to the cellars themselves you have to go up... and up.. and up! Following the route of a former narrow-gauge freight railway up the steep hills that rise dramatically from the river Rhône, when you reach the point at which the railway gave up on climbing the hill and instead went into it, today you find the cellar where Stéphane works his magic.

In addition to being one of the leading exponents in the revival of the once almost-extinct appellation of Saint-Péray, Stéphane produces a range of brilliant reds and whites, each showing a precision and purity that set them apart.

Since their introduction to our range two years ago, these wines have captured our customers' imaginations, with many re-orders – always a very good sign, as well as going down a storm at customer tastings. We are delighted to have secured a small allocation for the first time in 2016, of the flagship, small production 'Pur Noir' and 'Pur Blanc' wines.



**Domaine du Tunnel 2016
Saint-Joseph**

£125 per 6 IB

91-93 Points RobertParker.com

Typical of Stéphane's style, this Saint-Joseph is full of flavour, but not at the expense of classical structure. At this stage the dark fruit is upfront and there are hints of the herbs and spices that in time will express themselves more and more. Seductive now, but a wine that will richly repay three or four years of patience.



Drink to 2026

**Domaine du Tunnel 2016
Cornas**

£160 per 6 IB

91-93 Points RobertParker.com

Domaine du Tunnel have done a great job of creating an especially alluring red here, with big, but smooth tannins as well as layers of primary fruit, yet at the same time not losing that slightly wild character that typifies Cornas. That rustic edge of the appellation has been nicely harnessed here!



Drink to 2028

**Domaine du Tunnel 'Roussanne' 2016
Saint-Péray**

£115 per 6 IB

90 Points RobertParker.com

Peach, lime and apricot predominate on the palate of the 100% Roussanne bottling from Domaine du Tunnel's home patch. There is a freshness to the finish which comes from a mineral element on the palate, rather than from acid, plus a touch of sweet spice.



Drink to 2022

**Domaine du Tunnel 'Chanson' 2016
Condrieu**

£170 per 6 IB

Peach, apricot and citrus notes dominate the palate of this excellent Condrieu. Some producers did not produce the goods in Condrieu in 2016, but it should perhaps come as no surprise to learn that Stéphane's wine is excellent, combining peach and apricot fruit on the one hand with a mineral freshness on the other.



Drink to 2021

**Domaine du Tunnel 'Pur Blanc' 2016
Saint-Péray**

£170 per 6 IB

92 Points RobertParker.com

Made from what are reported to be the oldest vines in the appellation, some of them planted in the pre-phyloxera era, the resultant intensity in this wine is something to behold. As with the Pur Noir, this comes hand in hand with an extra freshness, bringing together the citrus, stone fruit and mineral elements on the palate and lending the wine an impressive focus.



Drink to 2024

Domaine Yann Chave

"I continue to love these wines from Yann Chave. Owning a small four acres in Hermitage (all in Beaume and Peleat) and just over 37 acres in Crozes Hermitage, most around the village of Mercurol, he makes a rock-solid white and two reds from Crozes Hermitage (the le Rouvre being the top cuvee) and a small amount of Hermitage. They're all loaded with character and highly recommended."

Jeb Dunnuck

An organic Domaine, based in Crozes-Hermitage and focussing on the production only of this appellation and neighbouring Hermitage itself, Yann Chave have been a mainstay of our Rhône range for several years now. Both the Crozes-Hermitage 'Le Rouvre' and the Hermitage use oak to good effect, but these are not overly heavy wines. That elegance that is necessary in the Northern Rhône is very much in evidence here, with trademark black pepper in abundance. In short, if you want to introduce a Rhône newcomer to the wines of Hermitage and Crozes, start with these well-made, textbook examples.



**Domaine Yann Chave 'Le Rouvre' 2016
Crozes-Hermitage**

£180 per 12 IB

**93 Points Decanter
16 Points Richard Hemming**

In contrast to Ferraton's 'Pichères' this has that typical Crozes peppery character, as well as being lighter in weight than many of the reds in our Rhône 2016 offer. A touch of oak helps to round out the palate. So rounded and drinkable.



Drink to 2023

**Domaine Yann Chave 2016
Hermitage**

£270 per 6 IB

**95 Points Decanter
17.5+ Points Richard Hemming**

A serious wine, this has plenty of new oak on the nose and on the attack, along with sweet, ripe fruit. The purity is impressive too. It will need time for these components to integrate, but they will, and when they do this will be a very good, typical Hermitage that will give great pleasure for at least a decade.



Drink to 2028+

E. Guigal

"This is a huge lineup, yet the theme across the entire range is incredible quality"
Jeb Dunnuck

What can be said about Guigal that hasn't been said already? Despite a large production, the focus on quality is truly impressive, with the winemaking team always winning out over the accountants if a parcel ought to be rejected for quality reasons, despite the many thirsty clients around the world that need satisfying. At the top end of the Guigal tree when it comes to whites are the Saint Joseph lieu-dit and Condrieu supercuvée 'La Doriane' and it is these we feature along with the excellent value Crozes-Hermitage.



**Guigal 2016
Crozes-Hermitage**

£80 per 6 IB

**87 Points RobertParker.com
90 Points Jeb Dunnuck**

"I loved the 2016 Crozes-Hermitage Blanc, which is largely Marsanne with 10% Roussanne. This medium-bodied, elegant, lively effort has classic notes of tangerine, buttered citrus and honeysuckle. With good acidity and freshness, it's impeccably made and will keep for 2-3 years."

90 Points – Jeb Dunnuck, JebDunnuck.com, January 2018



Drink to 2020

**Guigal 'Lieu-Dit Saint-Joseph' 2016
Saint-Joseph**

£180 per 6 IB

**94 Points RobertParker.com
93-95 Points Jeb Dunnuck**

"A bigger, richer wine, the 2016 Saint Joseph Lieu Dit Saint Joseph Blanc is still in barrel, but it certainly shows lots of potential. Caramelized peach, flower oil, tropical fruits and hints of oak all emerge from this full-bodied, rich, concentrated beauty that stays focused and crisp on the palate."

93-95 Points – Jeb Dunnuck, JebDunnuck.com, January 2018



Drink to 2027

**Guigal 'La Doriane' 2016
Condrieu**

£295 per 6 IB

**94 Points RobertParker.com
96 Points Jeb Dunnuck**

"The flagship 2016 Condrieu La Doriane also shows the freshness and more classical style of the vintage. Citrus blossom, crushed rocks, honeysuckle, and orange blossom give way to a medium to full-bodied, incredibly elegant Condrieu that gains depth and richness with time in the glass. It will be better this time next year and keep for 7-8 years."

96 Points – Jeb Dunnuck, JebDunnuck.com, January 2018



Drink to 2026

Stéphane Ogier

“One of France's most brilliant small artisanal wineries is that of the Ogier family in Ampuis”
Robert Parker

Visiting this Domaine one gets the clear impression of a man, Stéphane Ogier, with a laser-like focus on the quality of his wine. His cellar is a treasure trove of different parcels separately vinified, some to be blended later, and others to be released alone. Not content with making some of the best Côte-Rôties and Condrieux around, stunning value can be found from his ‘La Rosine’ Syrah and Viognier made just outside those famous appellations, but released at a fraction of the price.



Stéphane Ogier ‘Le Temps Est Venu’ 2016
Côtes-du-Rhône

£90 per 12 IB

92 Points Jeb Dunnuck
16.5 Points Richard Hemming

“Leading off the reds and already bottled, the 2016 Côte du Rhône Le Temps Est Venu comes from the Pain de Dieu and Visan appellations in the Southern Rhône and offers gorgeous red and black fruits as well as loads of garrigue, violets, and licorice aromatics. With medium to full-bodied richness and a great texture, it’s a rocking 2016 readers should snatch up. Drink 2018-2024.”

92 Points – Jeb Dunnuck, JebDunnuck.com, January 2018



Drink to 2022

Stéphane Ogier ‘Syrah de Rosine’ 2016
Collines Rhodaniennes IGP

£140 per 12 IB

89-91 Points Jeb Dunnuck
88-90 Points RobertParker.com

“From a site near the southern end of Côte Rôtie, the 2016 IGP Vin De Pays Syrah La Rosine should easily end up being an outstanding wine. Currants, tapenade, pepper and hints of bacon fat emerge from this classic, impressive northern Rhône Syrah. Its elegant, seamless style will allow it to drink nicely right out of the gate.”

89-91 Points – Jeb Dunnuck, JebDunnuck.com, January 2018



Drink to 2022

Stéphane Ogier 'L'Âme Sœur' 2016
Collines Rhodaniennes IGP

£140 per 6 IB

92-94 Points Jeb Dunnuck
91-93 Points RobertParker.com

"From the Seyssuel region just north of Vienne, the 2016 Collines Rhodaniennes L'Âme Soeur is a head turner and shows the potential of this up and coming terroir. In fact, it might be the great wine made from the region to date. Black raspberries, blueberry, peppery herbs, and ample minerality flow to a medium to full-bodied barrel sample that has stunning purity of fruit and high-quality tannin. While the terroir here is like the more broken schist soils of the Côte Brune side of Côte Rôtie, the wines offer a slightly softer, riper profile. Readers looking for the next big thing need to keep an eye on this region in France. Drink 2018-2030."
92-94 Points – Jeb Dunnuck, JebDunnuck.com, January 2018



Drink to 2025

Stéphane Ogier 'La Combe de Malleval' 2016
Condrieu

£130 per 6 IB

91 Points RobertParker.com
96 Points Jeb Dunnuck

"I was blown away by the 2016 Condrieu La Combe De Malleval, which offers more depth and richness than the more expensive Vignes de Jacques Vernay release. White flowers, tangerine, apricot and a touch of white grapefruit nuances all flow to a full-bodied, ultra-pure, seamless Condrieu that has incredible class and length. It will keep for 4-5 years and is one of the top releases in the vintage."
96 Points – Jeb Dunnuck, JebDunnuck.com, January 2018



Drink to 2021

Domaine Rostaing

"There are few people doing Côte Rôtie better than this guy."
Jeb Dunnuck

There are three key things to know about the wines of Domaine René Rostaing. The first is that only a very small proportion of new oak is used, allowing the purity of the fruit to shine through. Secondly, high proportions of whole bunch fermentation are used, giving structure to the wines and making them 'vins de garde' rather than ones to drink immediately upon release. Finally and most importantly, they are truly excellent, with René's son Pierre crafting to perfection the fruit of some of Côte-Rôtie's most enviable vineyard holdings. This is not a Domaine at which to seek bargains, but when the quality is compared with others both within the appellation and more widely in France, the prices are more than justifiable.



Domaine Rostaing 'Ampodium' 2016 Côte-Rôtie

£246 per 6 IB

91-93 Points RobertParker.com
17.5 Points Richard Hemming

There is a reason why Rostaing's Ampodium is the go-to Côte-Rôtie for so many of our customers each year. The 2016 has ripe fruit, good brightness, freshness and intensity. The quality is light years ahead of what ought to be expected from a producer's entry-level wine, but then again, this is not any ordinary producer, but arguably Côte-Rôtie's very finest.



"Cask sample. Vivid stemmy character cutting across the redcurrant fruit on the nose. Superb concentration of fruit on the palate, yet avoids lumbering heaviness via fresh acid and a lengthy, perfumed finish. Savoury soy and aniseed character to finish."

17.5 Points – Richard Hemming, JancisRobinson.com, Nov. 2017

Drink to 2026

Domaine Vincent Paris

"An up and coming superstar of Cornas ... readers need to get on this young vigneron's bandwagon!"
Jeb Dunnuck

We are listing just one wine from Vincent Paris in 2016, but it is one that those of you looking for white bargains will not want to miss. By planting white grapes where they are, in his view, best suited, means that the Granit Blanc falls foul of the appellation laws, but present the opportunity to secure a Condrieu-esque white for a song.



Domaine Vincent Paris 'Granit Blanc' 2016
Ardèche IGP

£70 per 6 IB

91 Points RobertParker.com
3 Stars DrinkRhone.com

Grown within the Cornas appellation, but Cornas is not allowed to be white! Grown on a north-facing vineyard that is much better suited to Viognier and Roussanne, Vincent Paris has planted just that, having stepped outside the appellation system, obliging him to label the wine as a humble Ardèche IGP. To taste, this is no shrinking violet, the Viognier very much to the fore. A mini-Condrieu at a mini price.



Drink to 2020

Mixed Cases

Rhône 2016 Value Reds Mix

£140 per 12 IB

Contains three bottles each of:

Domaine Montirius 'Le Village', Vacqueyras
Domaine Martin, Rasteau
Domaine Montirius 'La Terre des Aînés', Gigondas
Ferraton Père et Fils 'Pichères', Crozes-Hermitage



Rhône 2016 Northern Reds Mix

£260 per 12 IB

Contains three bottles each of:

Domaine du Tunnel, Saint-Joseph
Chapoutier 'Meysonniers', Crozes-Hermitage
Domaine du Tunnel, Cornas
Ferraton Père et Fils 'Les Miaux', Hermitage



Rhône 2016 Whites Mix

£215 per 12 IB

Contains three bottles each of:

Domaine Montirius 'Minéral', Vacqueyras
Château Sixtine, Châteauneuf-du-Pape
Ferraton Père et Fils 'Les Mandouls', Condrieu
Chapoutier 'Deschants', Saint-Joseph



En Primeur Terms and Conditions

- Our En Primeur prices are the 'in bond' cost. The first instalment covers the cost of the wine itself, and when the wine is ready, you can decide whether to keep the wine in bond, or pay the Duty and VAT on the first instalment and receive the wine or store it Duty Paid.
- No discount or vouchers shall apply to En Primeur wines.
- When we place your order we will send you a reservation certificate to the address provided by you. You will not receive any wine at this time. Although should you be a Premiere or Charter Plus member and order 12 or more bottles, we will send you your usual complimentary bottle(s).
- Wines ordered through our En Primeur service can only be cancelled within 14 days of placing the order. A full refund of any payment made up to this point will be given on receipt of written notification of the cancellation of the order. Due to the nature of the En Primeur sales we regret that orders cannot be cancelled after this time.
- When the wine arrives with us in the UK, we will send you the final invoice. This invoice will include the delivery cost to a UK address, duty (currently £2.16 per 0.75l bottle excl VAT), plus the VAT applicable on the day of the final invoice (currently 20%). Upon payment of the appropriate amount we will action your despatch instructions.
- If you do not contact us with instructions within 6 weeks of your wines being ready, we will place the wines into bonded storage on your behalf and at your cost. For further details please refer to our full Ts & Cs.
- All wines and spirits or other goods ordered remain the property of Laithwaite's Wine until appropriate payment is received in full.
- We can store your wine (both 'duty paid' or 'in bond') in ideal, long-term cellar conditions. Please contact us for further details.
- It is your responsibility to keep us informed of any changes of address in order to maintain any reservations you may have with us.
- All wines are insured by us at the original invoice value until your delivery and/or storage instructions have been completed.
- All goods are offered subject to availability. If the wines you have selected are unavailable we will contact you to advise you of this. If the producer fails to supply us with the wine we will contact you with available alternatives or offer a refund of monies paid.
- Force Majeure – Direct Wines Ltd/Laithwaite's Wine will not be liable for failure to meet agreed obligations due to prevailing circumstances including but not limited to any act of God, war, strike, lock-out, industrial accident or other event beyond its reasonable control.
- All disputes arising out of this contract shall be subject to the jurisdiction of the Courts of England and Wales.
- For our full terms and conditions, including those relating to our 100% guarantee, non-delivery and cancellations, please go to www.laithwaites.co.uk/terms.

22.03.18