

May-23

95 Points

James Suckling

'A complex nose of dark berries, bark, black olives, dried herbs, black earth, mushrooms and white pepper. It's full-bodied with fine, firm tannins. Structured and slightly chewy with a spicy edge. Intense and balanced with a vibrant character and purity of fruit at the center. Grenache and syrah. Grainy finish. Better after 2024.'



Abélard 2013

Oct-22

17.5 Points

Jancis Robinson (Julia Harding)

'Deep garnet with the start of brick at the rim. Seductively rich, mature aroma of dark fruit and peppery spice, with a hint of sweet leather but more youthful than you might expect for a 2013, the scent of ripe dark fruit and herby garrigue are beautifully meshed. On the day after opening, the ripeness leans towards some dried-fruits on the nose. You can smell both sunshine and freshness here. On the palate, a more savoury maturity that is leather and dried fruits but without dried-fruits sweetness. It even reminds me a little of very good Greek Xinomavro in that sweet/savoury dried-cherry conundrum encased in notable but not astringent tannins. Firm, dry, chewy tannins that finish nicely dry and call for food. They are still pretty marked. Even so, I am not sure this will age as well as the Héloise 2013 as it does already seem more developed in its fruit character, especially on the day after opening. And it has more power and less elegance. This is impressive but the Héloise 2013 has my heart.'



Abélard 2013

May-22

Gold Medal

Grenaches du Monde Awards

'N/A'

Abélard 2013

Mar-22

94 Points

Wine Enthusiast (Anna Lee C. Iijima)

**WINE ENTHUSIAST** 

'A finessed expression of a cool, wet vintage, this rare library release showcases the longevity of well-made wines from Ventoux. Organic and biodynamically produced, it's a full-bodied but spry 85/15 blend of Grenache and Syrah. Crisp red-plum and cherry flavors are vibrant but marked by veins of autumn leaf, allspice and freshly tilled earth. Silky on the finish, it's fantastic now but should hold through 2025 at least.'





Feb-22

Gold Medal

The Drinks Business Global Grenache Masters

'Just starting to mature is this outstanding Grenache-Syrah blend from the brilliant biodynamic estate that is Chêne Bleu. Located high in the hills of Provence's Vaucluse, the vines here are probably best known for producing fine, intensely flavoured and refreshing Grenache-based rosés, but the property is also the source of concentrated and complex reds like this one, from the 2012 vintage. While there are some notes of stewed fruit on the nose and palate, there's still plenty of intense red and dark berry flavours. The palate is dominated by black cherry, plums and ripe raspberry, with a touch of clove, dried flowers, then cedar, chocolate and pepper, before the wine's characters slowly fade, leaving a dry, finely-tannic finish. A fantastic example of more mature Grenache, even if this drop still has plenty of life left in it.'

Abélard 2012

Jan-21

95 Points

Wine Enthusiast (Anna Lee C. Iijima)

**WINE ENTHUSIAST** 

'Received in early 2021 almost a decade after harvest, this spicy, complex blend of Grenache and Syrah hits all the right notes of a well-matured Southern Rhône red. It's shaded by accents of autumn leaves, caramelized balsamic and nutmeg but retains a penetrating core of blackberry and black-plum flavors. Cut with shards of limestone and salt, this invigorating, peppery wine finishes long on fine, feathery tannins and a murmur of leather. It's delicious now but should hold well through 2025.'

Abélard 2012

Nov-20

94 Points

Vine Pair (Keith Beavers)



'This wine is wonderful. It smells like a forest in autumn, and cooking herbs like oregano and rosemary. There is also a hint of bramble fruit (blackberries, raspberries) fresh off the prickly vine. The palate is savory, with a whiff of black pepper, and the tannins are still a bit dusty around the edges, but the wine is drinking well now. This is a great wine for roast pork, turkey, or any lean meat on the holiday table.'

Abélard 2012

Jun-20

96 Points

**Bob Campbell** 



'Grenache/syrah blend with 18 months barrel maturation. A restrained, complex and elegant red that combines the spiciness of grenache with the subtle power of syrah. Spice, pepper, violet, dark berry, leather and nutty oak flavours. Should age well. (Ranked #1 of 30 2012 Grenache blends from the Rhône)'





Apr-20

17.5 Points

Jancis Robinson (Julia Harding)

'As dark at the core as the Héloïse 2012 but with more brick in the colour and at the rim. A little more smudgy. This seems sweeter fruited and a little further down the path of tertiary aromas, though I still find a hint of wild scrub and lavender that is clearly more vineyard than grape variety. The fruit sweetness – including some dried red fruits – is more penetrating on the nose compared with the Héloïse, the developed character is more leathery than black olive, with just a hint of mocha. On the palate, the tannins are more chewy than those in the Héloïse 2012, a little less refined, more chocolate-textured, but equally resolved and melted into the fruit. Not as obviously cool but all in balance with a different kind of freshness from the Syrah-dominant wine. This is perhaps more sweetly hedonistic, succulent, in its seduction if a touch less elegant. Long, leathery-sweet-fruit aftertaste. (JH)'



Abélard 2011

Oct-19

Best Buy (Oct/Nov)

Gourmet Traveller Wine

'A blend of grenache and syrah from a high altitude site in southern Rhône. Dense red with decadently sweet plum, cocoa powder, black pepper, violet, truffle and spicy oak flavours. Mellow and mouth-filling, this is a truly impressive red wine with the concentration and power of vine age, low-cropping and hands-off winemaking.'



Abélard 2011

Jul-19

97 Points

**Bob Campbell** 

'A grenache, syrah blend from the southern Rhône valley. Dense red with decadently sweet plum, cocoa powder, black-peppery, violet, truffle and spicy oak flavours. A mellow, mouth-filling wine - a truly impressive drink.'



Abélard 2011

Jun-19

17 Points

Jancis Robinson (Richard Hemming)

'Jammy, baked style that tips its hat to South Australia – there's even a minty hint. Rich, succulent style although there is a touch of oxidative character on the finish. (RH)'



May-19



Gold Medal 'N/A'

Concours Mondial de Bruxelles



Abélard 2011

Nov-18

17.5 Points

Jancis Robinson (Julia Harding)

'Deepest crimson, very youthful in appearance. On the nose, riper and sweeter than the Héloïse, even a hint of red fruits as well as the peppery bramble notes and an attractive slight leafiness - even though I sometimes find Chêne Bleu's Grenache is almost more like Syrah in its dry elegance. Smooth yet still a little chewy (without food) with the sweetness of Grenache and a start of its leathery development. Not as elegant as the Héloïse in this vintage but generous and chewy with a long way to go, and a more savoury side starting to show in a meaty, black-olive flavour on the finish. Powerful, long and with the freshness to balance the power. Two days later, and slightly chilled, this seems to have become a little slimmer. Still rich and generous but with more elegance on the long finish.'

Abélard 2011

Aug-18

95 Points

Jeb Dunnuck

'Lastly, the 2011 Ventoux Abelard is, as always, more Provençal in style and always reminds me of a top Gigondas. Based largely on **JEB DUNNUCK** style and always reminds me of a top Gigondas. Based largely on Grenache, it boasts rocking notes of blackberries, black cherries, licorice, and black olives. This full-bodied 2011 has a ripe, sexy style, no hard edges, and perfect balance. Drink it any time over the coming decade.'

Abélard 2010

Aug-18

94 Points

Jeb Dunnuck

'Made from 80-85% old vine Grenache and the rest Syrah, the 2010 Ventoux Abelard is much more Provençal and has a ton of ripe black **JEB DUNNUCK** Ventoux Abelard is much more Provençal and has a toll of tipe black fruits, licorice, and leafy herbs, as well as some olive tapenade, in a full-bodied, concentrated, ripe, sexy style.'



May-18



Concours Mondial de Bruxelles 2018

'N/A'

Abélard 2010

Oct-17

95 Points

Wine Advocate (Joe Czerwinski)



'When tasting the 2010 Abelard alongside the Heloise, the derivation of the names becomes obvious. Abelard is the bigger, richer wine—the more "masculine," to deploy a somewhat dated/sexist stereotype. This full-bodied Grenache-dominated (85%) wine is packed with black cherries, star anise and other ground spices, and features a wonderfully long silky finish. Despite the size and concentration, the wine is complex and elegant, not an easy feat. It should drink well over the next 10-15 years.'



Abélard 2010

Oct-15

17 Points

Jancis Robinson (Julia Harding)

'Even though this has more Grenache, it smells darker than the Héloïse. Thicker texture, a little more chewy and savoury, but satisfying and all in harmony and with good freshness on the finish. Needs longer to come round fully.'



Abélard 2010

Jul-05

Gold Medal

Grenaches du Monde Awards



Mar-16

95 Points

Wine Advocate (Jeb Dunnuck)



'Much more southern Rhone-like in style, the 2009 Abelard is a blend of 85% Grenache and 15% Syrah that spent 18 months in barrel. Big, ripe, layered and hedonistic, with tons of sweet Grenache blackberry and black cherry fruits, melted licorice and roasted herb aromas and flavors, this sensational Grenache has full-bodied richness, polished, sweet tannin, no hard edges and a great finish. While 2009 delivers lots of perfumed, upfront and slightly rustic wines due to the heat, this is silky, polished and incredibly pure. Drink this killer 2009 over the coming 7-8 years.'



Abélard 2009

Dec-14

18 Points

Jancis Robinson (Julia Harding)

'Lifted aroma of very small dark berries – like elderberry but not as wild. There's a slightly bloody and meaty quality to this as well, with time a touch of leather. Really savoury and dark on the palate, the tannins super-fine and dry like a fine layer of coal. Extreme mineral quality that I associate with granite and the Douro but with more elegant, less concentrated fruit. Firmer tannins than the Héloïse. Savoury on the finish. Salty aftertaste.'



Abélard 2009

Jul-05

Gold Medal

Grenaches du Monde Awards

'N/A'

Abélard 2009

Jul-05

France's 23rd Best

Magazine du Vin

'N/A'

**WINE ENTHUSIAST** 



Dec-13

95 Points

Wine Advocate (Jeb Dunnuck)



'More dense and structured, yet still vibrant and very pure, the 2007 Abelard is 90% Grenache and 10% Syrah. Loaded with deep blackberry and black cherry fruit, licorice, crushed stone and hints of roasted herbs, it is full-bodied, rich and concentrated, with knockout precision and focus. It is serious stuff and still a baby. Drink it over the coming decade. Another up-and-coming estate (first vintage was 2006), Chene Bleu is located high up in the Dentelles de Montmirail, northeast of Gigondas, and covers roughly 70 acres of high altitude vineyards that are planted mostly to Syrah and Grenache, with the average age of the vines over 50 years in age. Restored by the Rolet family, with Jean-Louis Gallucci making the wines, this domaine has produced some incredible 2007s (as well as a smoking good 2010 white) that will compete with the finest efforts coming out of the Rhone Valley today. These are not cheap, but they certainly deliver on the quality front and show what's possible from these higher elevation sites! They're well worth checking out.'

Abélard 2007

Jul-05

Gold Medal

Concours Mondial de Bruxelles

'N/A'



Aliot 2017

Feb-23

92 Points

Wine Spectator

Wine Spectator

'Distinctive and compelling, with green fig, ripe honeydew, peach and floral details underscored by umami, earth and a hint of brioche. Fleshy and plump on the palate, with a thread of smoke and wet flint adding savory details, along with green herbs and a salty vein of mineral. —Kristen Bieler'

Aliot 2017

Jun-22

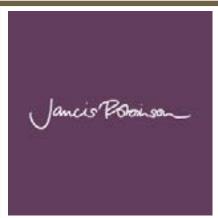
90 Points

Andreas Larsson



'Robe dorée brillante. Nez aromatique et intense offrant des notes de fruits jaunes, d'abricots écrasés, de fleurs et de garrigue. La bouche est ample et généreuse avec une acidité bien gardée, mais dans un style chaleureux et luxuriant avec des notes de fruits tropicaux joliment équilibrées par des épices fraîches d'agrumes et de garrigue.'





Aliot 2016 Oct-22

17.5 Points

Jancis Robinson (Julia Harding)

'Pale to mid gold. Intense and fabulously complex aroma: hard to describe but there's honeyed pears, a touch of cedarwood, and a bready/yeasty sweetness like that of mature champagne. All those flavours on the palate and also a toasty, generous filling of the mouth yet with lovely – and quite surprising – freshness to balance, a tiny hint of resiny linseed oil. Complex and sustained. Although there are lots of tertiary flavours already, this should continue to age well (I've tasted older vintages that were quite remarkable).'

Aliot 2016 Jan-22

93 Points Wine Enthusiast

**WINE ENTHUSIAST** 

'Tasted alongside the 2015 Aliot at the beginning of 2022, this unique library release shows the rich texture and lip-smacking honey and marzipan flavors that develop in well-aged Rhône-white blends. A Roussanne-dominant dry white matured eight months in oak, it offers marmalade and apricot flavors that are accented by subtle streaks of vanilla and toffee. Full bodied and supple but fresh and vital too, it should continue to evolve nicely through at least 2030.'

Aliot 2016 Sep-21

96 Points

'N/A'

**Bob Campbell** 

'A blend of roussanne, white grenache and marsanne with a touch of viognier, barrel-aged for six months. Creamy-textured wine with terrific palate-weight and flavours that suggest baguette crust, almond, ginger and anise. A true thoroughbred.'



Aliot 2016 Jul-21

Gold Medal Concours Mondial de Bruxelles 2018







May-21

Gold Medal

Terre de Vins

'N/A'

Aliot 2015

Jun-23

96 Points

Decanter (Rupert Joy)



'Wonderfully rich, characterful blend of Roussanne, Grenache Blanc, Marsanne and Viognier from the Rolets' Ecocert-certified organic Vaucluse vineyards. Gorgeously oxidative, honeyed nose of dried apricots, walnuts and rose petals. Complex, fresh and tangy, notes of quince and garrigue honey. Lovely freshness and terrific length. Drink 2023-2027.'

Aliot 2015

Jun-21

93 Points

Wine Spectator (James Molesworth)

Wine Spectator

'Really lovely and alluring, with buttered brioche, creamed yellow apple, verbena and melon notes swirling around together. A salted butter detail drapes the finish, which has underlying zip and a floral edge for balance. Roussanne, Grenache Blanc, Marsanne and Viognier. Drink now through 2022.'



Aliot 2015

Jan-21

93 Points

International Wine Challenge

'Rich and concentrated with impressive supporting acidity and grip, good minerality and layers of spice, pear and citrus.'





BOB CAMPBELL MW

The Real Review

ECOMMENDED

Aliot 2015

Sep-20

93 points

'N/A'

Decanter World Wine Awards

Aliot 2015

Jun-20

94 Points

**Bob Campbell** 

'A blend of rousanne, white grenache and marsanne that was barrel aged for eight months. It's from the Vaucluse IGT in the heart of the southern Rhône valley. Quite a savoury wine with toast, spice, oyster shell and roasted nut flavours among the most obvious descriptors. Complex, sophisticated white.'



Aliot 2015

Apr-20

17.5 Points

Jancis Robinson (Julia Harding)

'Mid gold. Inviting mature, golden and lightly honeyed aroma. But still so fresh even with the breadth of flavour that seems to be from bottle age. The palate is rich, golden and complex, honeyed and a little toasty, like still champagne, and just a touch of the cedary character of a mature oak-aged white – reminds me a little of traditional white rioja even though the oxidative character is much more restrained. Also showing a slight note of bitter orange and pear eau-de-vie (without the alcohol). Excellent freshness. This seems to have hit its stride now and although there is no rush to drink it, I'd say it is on the cusp between fruit and bottle-aged complexity and à point. Long, deep and fresh. Delicious intensity and complexity with no heaviness. A highly distinctive wine. The use of oak is really well-mannered now that it has aged and just right with this weight of ripe but fresh fruit. A great southern Rhône white. (JH)'

Aliot 2014

Jul-19

95 Points

**Bob Campbell** 



'A blend of roussanne, white grenache and marsanne with a touch of viognier - from the southern Rhône Valley. Deliciously rich, concentrated wine with mandarin, orange zest, toasted almond, apricot and subtle spice flavours. A complex, powerful wine that's textural and mouthfilling.'



Aug-18

93+ Points

Jeb Dunnuck

'The current release, the 2013 IGP Vaucluse Aliot Blanc is 60-65% Roussanne, 25% Grenache Blanc, and the balance Marsanne and **JEB DUNNUCK** Viognier. It has terrific notes of buttered citrus and honeysuckle, lots of minerality and saltiness, medium to full body, and a vibrant, crisp profile. It's still a baby and is going to evolve nicely for another 15+ years.'



Aliot 2013

Jul-18

17+ Points

Jancis Robinson (Julia Harding)

'First impression: sophistication. Creamy oak/lees effect perfectly integrated with the nutty, pear stone-fruit qualities. On the palate, super-creamy without oak overload. Rich, broad in the mouth but still very fresh (note the very low pH for these varieties and this location). Still - remarkably at 5 years old - a baby with a lot of potential. You could easily enjoy it now but there is more to come.'



Aliot 2013

May-18

Gold Medal

Concours Mondial de Bruxelles

'N/A'



**Aliot 2012** 

Aug-20

93 Points

Global Wine Tasting - El Conocedor



16.5 Points Jancis Robinson (Richard Hemming)

Feb-19

'Earthy and mealy on the palate, with a touch of flintiness too. The oak becomes quite potent on the finish, and risks bullying the fruit. Mealy finish. (RH)'

Aliot 2012 Oct-15

16.5 Points Jancis Robinson (Julia Harding)

'Delicate aroma, mostly pear but also a little nutty. Full in the mouth, finely textured, nicely dry on the long, slightly smoky finish. Really quite delicate overall.'

Aliot 2011 Mar-16

93 Points Wine Advocate (Jeb Dunnuck)

'A sensational white from this estate, the 2011 Aliot Blanc checks in as a blend of 65% Roussanne, 30% Grenache Blanc and the balance 5% Marsanne. It offers classic notes of poached pears, pineapple and white flowers as well as medium-bodied richness, a core of sweet fruit, beautiful freshness and a great finish that keeps you (or me, anyways) coming back to glass. Still fresh and lively, and I followed this bottle for two days, it should continue to drink beautifully for another 2-3 years at a minimum.'

Aliot 2011 Dec-14

17 Points Jancis Robinson (Julia Harding)

'Honeyed and just a little nutty, with apricot and a touch oxidative in an attractive way. Light oak spice but very much in the background. Deep, and tastes of gold. Gentle acidity but doesn't lack freshness – this is real Rhône white. Honeyed and long. Lots of weight and creamy, almost oily, texture. Southern Rhône fruit and northern Rhône freshness. Austrian-style oily minerality (that's positive – I find it on riper Grüner Veltliners) and spicy finish.'



N/A

93 Points

'N/A'

Wine Spectator (James Molesworth)

Wine Spectator

Aliot 2010

Dec-13

93 Points

Wine Advocate (Jeb Dunnuck)

The 2010 Aliot Blanc is a blend of mostly Roussanne, with smaller parts Grenache Blanc, Marsanne and Viognier. Beautifully rich and textured, yet also brilliantly pure and precise, it has loads of ripe peach and orchard fruit, creme, brioche, mineral and hints of honeysuckle all emerging from the glass. Aged in a combination of new and older barrels, this medium to full-bodied white has both richness and freshness, and deserves a classy meal. Another up-and-coming estate (first vintage was 2006), Chene Bleu is located high up in the Dentelles de Montmirail, northeast of Gigondas, and covers roughly 70 acres of high altitude vineyards that are planted mostly to Syrah and Grenache, with the average age of the vines over 50 years in age. Restored by the Rolet family, with Jean-Louis Gallucci making the wines, this domaine has produced some incredible 2007s (as well as a smoking good 2010 white) that will compete with the finest efforts coming out of the Rhone Valley today. These are not cheap, but they certainly deliver on the quality front and show what's possible from these higher elevation sites! They're well worth checking out.'

Aliot 2010

Oct-13

93 Points

Wine Spectator (James Molesworth)

Wine Spectator

'Gorgeous, with chamomile tea, tarragon and verbena notes leading to a richly layered core of candied grapefruit peel, white peach and green melon flavors. Just as you think it's all up-front lushness, a great stony spine takes over on the finish, with a bitter lemon hint, giving this additional zip and clarity. Belies its age and should cellar well. Roussanne, Grenache Blanc and Marsanne. Drink now through 2019. 100 cases made.'



Aliot 2010

Jul-05

Gold Medal

International Wine Challenge



Aliot 2010

Jul-05



Gold Medal

Concours Mondial de Bruxelles



Aliot 2008

Jul-05

Gold Medal

Concours Mondial de Bruxelles

'N/A'



Astralabe 2018

Oct-22

17 Points

Jancis Robinson (Julia Harding)

'Mid crimson with some garnet at the rim. Fragrant and subtle, stony/dusty (in a good way) red and black fruit aromas, with a tangy, fresh fruit sweetness. The tannins are very fine and dry, the fruit and the structure perfectly melded, the fruit rounding out the tannins on the finish. It's a wine that doesn't shout at you but has plenty to say. Mouth-watering freshness even without notably high acidity and a gentle but very long finish. Beautifully subtle and perfectly balanced. Extremely drinkable but not simple. Knowing how well the Chêne Bleu wines age, my suggested drinking window may be overly cautious.'



Astralabe 2018

May-22

Silver Medal

Grenaches du Monde Awards





Astralabe 2018

Silver Medal

'N/A'

International Wine Challenge



Astralabe 2018

Silver Medal

'N/A'

Apr-22

May-22

Paris Wine Cup



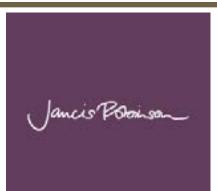
Astralabe 2017

Silver Medal

'N/A'

May-22

International Wine Challenge



Astralabe 2016

Oct-22

17 Points

Jancis Robinson (Julia Harding)

'The colour doesn't look much older than that of the 2018, maybe a little more towards garnet but it looks younger than its years. Like the 2018, this is fragrant and subtle, perhaps a little more openly aromatic and a touch more red-fruited. But still with a fine stone-dust impression rather than just fruit-dominated. On the palate, the tannins still have a gentle bite, a little more than the (warmer-vintage) 2018 but they are still fine and dry. More marked in its freshness and sinews, with a finesse to the tannin/acid structure that supports the still-lively and scented fruit. Gently chewy finish, perhaps not quite as long as the 2018 though starting to show the merest hint of bottle-aged complexity – light herbal character, autumn leaves – and a little less immediate fruit. Succulent, mouth-watering and persistent. Easy to underestimate it. A good lead in to the more intense Héloise and Abélard.'



Astralabe 2016

Sep-21



95 Points

**Bob Campbell** 

'A blend of grenache and syrah. Seductively-scented wine with plum, raspberry, violet, cedar and spicy oak. An elegant wine with a backbone of juicy acidity and peppery tannins. Already showing the benefit of a little bottle-age but with the potential to develop further.'



Astralabe 2016

Aug-21

17 Points

Jancis Robinson (Tamlyn Currin)

'This wine reminds me of that person at a dinner party who you were barely introduced to, the person who seemed lovely but kind of ducked away quietly in the roar and buzz of everything that was trendy and cool and then, in a quiet eddy of the aftermath, when all the extroverts were all over each other, you met this person while you were on the balcony, trying to to escape the mindless chatter and realised they were magical. This wine is that person you gravitate towards because they're standing, by themselves, outside, looking into the midnight blue of the sky, a cool still opal translucency forming an aura. This wine tastes of beautiful fruit, purity, spice. But more than that, this wine is poetry, orchestra, art.'



Jul-21

Gold Medal

Concours Mondial de Bruxelles 2018



Astralabe 2015

Apr-20

16.5 Points

Jancis Robinson (Julia Harding)



'Mid garnet and slightly bricky at the rim. Lifted, tangy small red fruits, touch of spice and a very slight note of iron/blood. Still so sweetly fruity on the nose even after four years in bottle and just starting to show a meaty flavour and some dried red fruits. Mouth-watering, smooth tannins, pure. In tannin structure, this is more similar to the Héloise 2012 than to the Abélard 2012 just tasted but in fruit sweetness it is more like Abélard. Even with so much fruit, there is the start of something more savoury on the the finish, a bitter-fruit bite that adds freshness. Succulent, juicy, with great length for what Chêne Bleu consider to be the 'little brother' of the main reds. Moreish. Shows what you can do with good vineyards/viticulture and restrained winemaking. Still a way to go even though it is made for young drinking. It seems you just can't hurry Chêne Bleu reds in their evolution. (JH)'



Astralabe 2015

Jul-19



95 Points

**Bob Campbell** 

'A blend of grenache and syrah from the southern Rhône Valley. Dense, supple and seamless red with plum, dark berry, baked earth, new leather, spice, anise and dried herb flavours. A complex, slightly savoury red with a subtle rustic character.'



Astralabe 2015

May-19

17 Points

Jancis Robinson (Richard Hemming)

'Delicious earth, milk chocolate, spice and meat character. Beautifully aromatic and lifted. Excellent gracefulness. The Syrah element really sings. (RH)'



Astralabe 2011

Oct-15

16 Points

Jancis Robinson (Julia Harding)

'Lots of sweetness on the nose, more red than dark fruit. Then much more savoury on the palate, surprising given the aroma. Super-smooth and finely dry. Easy going but not simple.'



Astralabe 2010

Dec-14

17 Points

Jancis Robinson (Julia Harding)

'First aroma is, unexpectedly, stone fruits. With air, more red fruit. Much darker fruited on the palate and tastes very Syrah – probably because the Chêne Bleu Grenache – grown at the limit where it will ripen - is not typically sweet and ripe. Tight and elegant even though it has that fresher fruit on the palate. Tight and refined in terms of tannin. More savoury and dark as you continue to taste. Opens up to some garrigue/herbal quality. Smoky and savoury, the tannins paper fine and dry. Smoky long finish.'





Astralabe 2010

Silver Medal

'N/A'

Jul-05

International Wine Challenge

Astralabe 2009

91 Points

'N/A'

5

N/A

Vinous (Josh Raynolds)



Astralabe 2009

Gold Medal

'N/A'

Jul-05

Grenaches du Monde Awards



Astralabe 2009

Silver Medal

'N/A'

Jul-05

Concours Mondial de Bruxelles







Apr-23

91 Points

'N/A'

London Wine Competition

Héloïse 2014

Mar-23

92 Points

En Magnum

'Il y plus de vingt ans, Xavier et Nicole Rolet ont fait le pari fou d'acquérir ce prieuré à l'histoire passionnante dont le vignoble est sans doute l'un des plus spectaculaires du pays. Cette cuvée a les attributs du vin fin, de la subtilité et de la longueur, en plus d'être mise sur le marché avec ce qu'il faut d'évolution.'



Héloïse 2013

Oct-22

18 Points

Jancis Robinson (Julia Harding)

'Deep garnet with a soft rim although the colour is still quite youthful for a wine that is not far off 10 years old. Elegant peppery aroma with a refined, nicely dusty quality to the dark fruit, and just the beginning of that smoked-bacon aroma of northern Rhône Syrah. On the second day after opening, there was a delicate note of wild scrubland that is almost floral. As refined in texture as it is in aroma, the tannins are dry, almost chalky in the feeling of friction, with density but no excess weight. Long and gently peppery on the finish and that lovely elegant, savoury darkness of Syrah grown at higher elevation. The fruit is still the beating heart of this wine though the structure is what gives it such a refined character. Really long and still a way to go, though it is really à point now.'

Héloïse 2013

Jun-22

92 Points

Andreas Larsson



'Couleur rouge rubis. Nez mûr et intense, cuir, épices sèches, tabac, bois fin, kirsch et fruits secs. Bouche assez ample, bien épicée et de bon caractère dans un style traditionnel sans bois, long vieillissement, couches de fruits poivrés, cerise sèche et pruneau avec une finale longue et persistante.'





May-21

Gold Medal

Terre de Vins

'N/A'

Héloïse 2012

Mar-21

### 93 Points

Club Oenologique (Roger Morris)



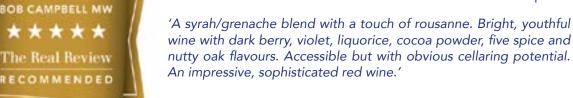
'An enticing, complex blend of two-thirds Syrah and one-third Grenache with a splash of Roussanne, this dark, dense red wine from the mountains east of Avignon wakes up slowly with the earthy, savoury aromas of wet forest floor. The Syrah dominates in the taste, with the dark, chewy fruitiness of cassis, blackberries and blueberries along with prominent notes of smoke, black pepper and road tar, all brought alive with bright acidity. The oak integration is seamless; the tannins mellow.'

Héloïse 2012

Jun-20

### 95 Points

**Bob Campbell** 





Héloïse 2012

Apr-20

18+ Points

Jancis Robinson (Julia Harding)

'Very deep garnet with ruby rim. Enticing and complex aroma that is dark fruited, part herbal-edged cassis part blackberry, with a little bite that is tangy red fruit – still so much fruit – and a touch savoury/ smoky and something like crushed rocks even with all this fruit. Still has a light sweetness of oak, now so well integrated that it is one with the peppery black fruit that is so Syrah. There's also a northern Rhône scented (?peonyl) purity to the aroma, even though we are in the southern Rhône, thanks to the elevation of the vineyard, I imagine. Maturity arrives slowly with this wine but I can just sense the start of a more savoury black-olive character and a touch of smoked meat on the palate. I can perhaps imagine lavender in the background floral quality. The scent seems to be more lifted on the day after opening. Even with all this burgeoning complexity, the fruit still plays the starring role as the winemaking influences recede. Rich and full but not fat in the mouth, succulent, deep on fruit but still mouth-wateringly fresh. Even with those northern Rhône floral notes, this is elegantly southern Rhône in its generosity of fruit and rounded, smooth, fully resolved tannins. Resolved they may be but this wine is only just getting into its stride, with many years' bottle age ahead of it. This needs time and air and gets better and better in the glass. (JH)'



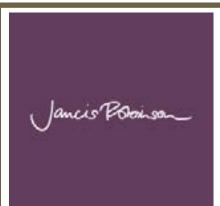
Jul-19



96 Points

**Bob Campbell** 

'Syrah, grenache blend with a touch of rousanne. Deep, dense red with plum, berry, chocolate, liquorice, five spice, old leather and fresh mushroom flavours. A big, complex wine that is beginning to show some 'forest floor' bottle age character, but has the potential to develop further.'



Héloïse 2011

Jun-19

18 Points

Jancis Robinson (Richard Hemming)

'Wonderful mint, chocolate, bramble and baked spice – way more precision, power and complexity than their Abélard, tasted beforehand. Lovely elemental style – ferrous, rusty, bloody. Really wonderful. (RH)'



Héloïse 2011

May-19

Grand Gold Medal

Concours Mondial de Bruxelles

'N/A'



Héloïse 2011

Nov-18

17 Points

Jancis Robinson (Julia Harding)

'Deep crimson with very little sign of age in the colour. On the nose this is seductive like the northern Rhône in its complex peppery, smoky sophistication but with an added smoky bacon sweetness. On the palate, riper than the northern Rhône and more generous, still with lovely peppery Syrah flavour, plus a slight spicy meatiness and just a hint of leathery complexity and oak's sweet spice. The tannins are à point - ie you could drink this now, with food, as it was intended, or you could certainly cellar it for at least another decade. I admire the fact that this vintage has only just been released when delaying it has serious financial implications for the producer. Long, smooth, lingering and cool aftertaste, which is surprising given the alcohol level. Unusual to include Roussanne rather than Viognier in the blend. I am not sure how it influences the wine but I think it is in a slight creamy fruit sweetness on the finish. Tasted again, lightly chilled, two days later, this is still beautifully fresh and lively.'



Aug-18

96 Points

Jeb Dunnuck

'Also brilliant stuff, the 2011 IGP Vaucluse Heloise (70% Syrah, 20-25% Grenache and the rest Viognier) offers lots of blackberry fruits, JEB DUNNUCK peppery herbs and smoked earth aromas and flavors. Medium to full-bodied, nicely concentrated, yet with an incredible sense of elegance and finesse, no doubt imparted by the limestone soils and higher elevation vineyards, this beautiful Syrah will continue drinking beautifully for another decade or more.'

Héloïse 2010

Aug-18

95 Points

Jeb Dunnuck

## JEB DUNNUCK

'This is the Syrah blend, roughly 70% Syrah, 20-25% Grenache, the rest either Viognier and Roussanne, not co-fermented, but blended then aged for a year in tank. The Syrah-dominated 2010 IGP Vaucluse Heloise is a beauty that has an open, rounded, complex style. Offering lots of blackberries, spice, hints of pepper and forest floor, It's medium-bodied, silky, and elegant on the palate, with fine tannin and beautiful elegance. It reminds me of a Côte Rôtie from the southern part of the appellation.'

Héloïse 2010

Oct-17

93 Points

Wine Advocate (Joe Czerwinski)

'The 2010 Heloise is another in a string of fabulous wines from this estate located high up in the Ventoux. The smoky, herbal aromas are reminiscent of Côte Rôtie, and in many ways, this is a more northern expression of the Rhône. It's lithe and medium-bodied, with a silky mouthfeel and long, espresso-tinged finish, all imparting a sense of easy elegance to this blend of Syrah, Grenache and Viognier. It can be drunk now and over the next decade or more.'

Héloïse 2010

Oct-15

17.5 Points

Jancis Robinson (Julia Harding)



'Unusual on the nose because it has lots of peppery Syrah character but also a definite red-fruit quality. Beautifully fine texture, great restraint, although it opens up in the glass to a more fragrant side and marked persistence. It smells really cool even though the wine itself is room temperature. Still youthful but coming into its stride, fresh and cool on the finish.'





Jul-05

Gold Medal

International Wine Challenge

'N/A'

Héloïse 2009

Mar-16

94 Points

Wine Advocate (Jeb Dunnuck)



'Possessing a lit bit of a Cote Rotie-like bouquet of sweet raspberry, peach pit, violets, vanilla bean and mint, the 2009 Heloise is gorgeous and seamless on the palate, with medium to full-bodied richness, ultra-fine tannin structure and a light, graceful and elegant texture that carries through the finish. Made from 60% Syrah, 36% Grenache and 4% Viognier, all of which spent 18 months in barrel, it's already drinking beautifully, and while I see no reason to delay gratification, this beauty will have 10-15 years of longevity.'



Héloïse 2009

Dec-14

17.5 Points

Jancis Robinson (Julia Harding)

'Deep crimson. Red-fruited and sweet smelling but also an unexpected hint of non-sweet strawberry and orange. Ripe and a little chewy in texture rather than in flavour, and even with all the depth of fruit there is still a rocky character. And lots of freshness on the finish. Dry, non-grainy tannis. Super elegant.'

Héloïse 2009

Nov-14

92 Points

Wine Spectator (James Molesworth)

Wine Spectator

'This has heft and cut, with blueberry, plum and black currant fruit. Charcoal and graphite notes impart spine, driving everything through the violet- and mesquite-framed finish. Combines power and freshness. Syrah, Grenache and Viognier. Best from 2015 through 2022. 250 cases imported.'



Jul-05

94 Points

'N/A'

Wine Review Online (Michael Apstein)

WINE ENTHUSIAST

Héloïse 2007

Dec-13

### 94 Points

### Wine Advocate (Jeb Dunnuck)

'Mo Syra to b to fi Still was das, Gre with

'Moving to the reds and a perfumed, lightly textured and elegant effort, the 2007 Heloise is 60% Syrah, 37% Grenache and the balance Viognier, that's vinified separately before blending prior to bottling. Fresh and complex, with vibrant black and blue fruits, violets and spice, this medium to full-bodied 2007 builds in the glass and is seamlessly textured and never puts a foot wrong. Still youthful, it should shine through 2019 or more. Another up-and-coming estate (first vintage was 2006), Chene Bleu is located high up in the Dentelles de Montmirail, northeast of Gigondas, and covers roughly 70 acres of high altitude vineyards that are planted mostly to Syrah and Grenache, with the average age of the vines over 50 years in age. Restored by the Rolet family, with Jean-Louis Gallucci making the wines, this domaine has produced some incredible 2007s (as well as a smoking good 2010 white) that will compete with the finest efforts coming out of the Rhone Valley today. These are not cheap, but they certainly deliver on the quality front and show what's possible from these higher elevation sites! They're well worth checking out.'

Héloïse 2006

Jul-05

Gold Medal

Concours Mondial de Bruxelles





Apr-20



### Jancis Robinson (Julia Harding)



'Lightish garnet with some brick at the rim. Subtle, quite mature and complex aroma of lightly spiced and earthy red fruits, beautifully supple tannins and a lovely sweetness of senescent fruit, but the fruit is still there, it's just on the cusp of the next phase of life. As it opens in the glass, it shows a hint or Syrah's floral side and the sweetness that is mature red fruits, nothing to do with excess ripeness, almost Burgundian except in the texture – extremely smooth but different from Pinot tannins. This is perfectly balanced, so that it has a coolness about it even with its not unusual 14%. Had I tasted this wine blind, I am not sure I would have known where to place it. There is something inimitably southern Rhône, perhaps the sweetness of fruit and a hint of wild garrigue, as well as a burgundian delicacy and Bordeaux elegance. And over all that, there's finesse, subtlety and length. A wine of real beauty. While the tannins are supple, they give enough support to suggest this will age at least another five years, if not longer, though it is drinking perfectly now. (JH)'



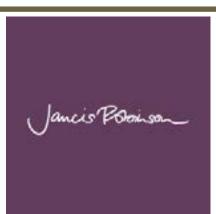
Rosé 2021 Jun-23

93 Points

Decanter (Rupert Joy)



'Blend of Grenache, Syrah, Rolle, Cinsault and Mourvèdre from the Rolets' Ecocert certified organic vineyards in the Vaucluse. Bright, attractive red berry nose. Nice saline grip with citrus freshness and notes of Provençal herbs. Sensuous, refreshing, gastronomic rosé with substance and character. Drink 2023-2025.'



Rosé 2021 Oct-22

17 Points

Jancis Robinson (Julia Harding)

'Very pretty, not anaemic, pink. A colour I would describe as peach though, ironically, I rarely see peaches this colour. This has equal measures of vibrant summer and stone fruits and stony/mineral refinement. It has a generous presence across the palate, leading to a long tail of freshness. Juicy and serious at the same time, so that you could just enjoy it on a picnic (as I did the first time I tasted it) or spend some time thinking about it and taking small sips (second time). Very versatile with light summery dishes but not too structured to require food, and substantial enough to be poured at the table with white meats. It's pretty dry so I wouldn't put it with anything too spicy. Really does have great length, freshness and substance.'



Rosé 2020 Jun-21

17.5 Points

Jancis Robinson (Tamlyn Currin)

'This floats out the glass in a cloud of perfume. Ethereal but not ghostly or dainty. A rosé with stunning complexity, length and intention. Fresh cedary spice weaves through fleshy peach fruit; granite dust through wild cherries; lavender through nectarines. It's full yet fine, unfurling into every corner of the palate, saturated with stony minerality and sweet bitters. On the finish, a very subtle salty alpine-strawberry sherbet buzz, like a tiny electriv current that turns creamy the moment you pay it attention. Up there as one of the most beautiful rosés I've tasted.'



Sep-21



**Bob Campbell** 



'A blend of grenache and syrah with a touch of cinsault, mourvèdre and vermentino. Stylish and quite complex rosé with summer fruits, lime-citrus and floral notes. Bone-dry with impressive power and a lingering finish.'





Rosé 2020

Jun-21

Gold Medal

Grenaches du Monde

'N/A'

Rosé 2020

Jun-21

93 Points

Vinous (Josh Raynolds)



'Pale orange-pink. Mineral-tinged red berry, honeydew and pit fruit aromas show excellent clarity, and a suave floral note emerges as the wine opens up. Palate-staining peach nectar, raspberry and melon flavors are braced by a spine of juicy acidity. The mineral quality resonates on an impressively persistent finish that features a lingering floral quality and a hint of tarragon.'



Rosé 2020

May-21

Gold Medal

Terre de Vins

'N/A'

Rosé 2019

Jun-21

93 Points

Vinous (Josh Raynolds)



'Bright salon skin. Powerful, mineral-accented nectarine, raspberry and melon scents, complemented by citrus pith and floral nuances. Vibrant red berry, blood orange, nectarine and candied lavender flavors possess impressive depth as well as energy. Shows strong tension and repeating mineral character on the long, chewy finish, which leaves a floral note behind.'

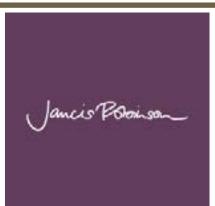


Rosé 2019 May-21

92 Points, ranked

VinePair

'A rosé with rare savory notes, this wine's flavors reminded our panel of cheese, olives, and salty prosciutto. Its millennial pink color will draw you in, but its tangy, lemony palate will keep you sipping all season long.'



Rosé 2019 Apr-20

17 Points

Jancis Robinson (Julia Harding)

'Pretty pale pink. Fresh fruit that reminds me of a cross between sour cherry and pear, perhaps grapefruit too, but there is also a light stony mineral layer. Although the pH is quite high, it does taste very fresh, more of a textural than an acidic freshness, with a serious weight of fruit on the mid palate even though it is not primarily fruity. Long, sustained, dry but full and rounded on the finish and surprisingly mouth-filling. That stony effect comes back again at the very end, leaving your mouth clean and ready for the next sip. This was still remarkably fresh two weeks after opening. (JH)'

Rosé 2018 Aug-19

93 Points

Vinous (Josh Raynolds)



'Shimmering orange-pink. Powerful, mineral-accented red berry, nectarine, orange zest and floral scents are complemented by a subtle garrigue element that gains strength as the wine opens up. Juicy and energetic on the palate, offering gently sweet strawberry, white peach and tangerine flavors supported by a spine of juicy acidity. Concentrated yet lithe in character, finishing with strong mineral thrust and resonating florality.'



Rosé 2018

Jul-19

Gold Medal

The Fifty Best Rosé Awards



Rosé 2017 Oct-18

92 points

Wine Advocate (Joe Czerwinski)



'There's more to the 2017 IGP Vaucluse Le Rose than attractive forward fruit, so it should drink well through the end of next year. Subtle strawberry, peach and melon notes are delivered on a medium-bodied, silky-textured palate and a long finish. A fifth of this blend of Grenache (65%), Syrah (13%), Rolle (12%), Cinsault (5%) and Mourvèdre (5%) was fermented and aged in used demi-muids, no doubt adding to the textural element on the palate.'

Rosé 2017 Aug-18

91 Points Jeb Dunnuck

**JEB** DUNNUCK

'The 2017 IGP Vaucluse Rosé is a Provençal beauty that offers fabulous notes of strawberries, spice, and salty minerality. It's clean, pure and elegant, with bright acidity.'

Rosé 2017 Aug-18

92 Points

Vinous (Josh Raynolds)

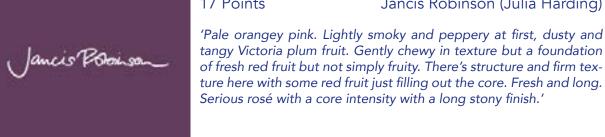


'Pale peach skin color. A complex, highly perfumed bouquet displays ripe red berry, orange zest, succulent herb and floral qualities and a minerally element emerges slowly. Sappy and impressively concentrated yet lithe, offering intense strawberry, peach and blood orange flavors and a touch of fennel. The mineral note come back strongly on the finish, which hangs on with superb focus and persistence.'

Rosé 2017 Jul-18

17 Points

Jancis Robinson (Julia Harding)







Rosé 2016 Jun-17

17 Points

Jancis Robinson (Julia Harding)

Jancis Robinson

'Very, very pale Provençal pink and, after the colour, an unexpected intensity on the nose. Scented with peachy red fruits alongside light touches of citrus and a chalky/stony quality. Going back to it, there is even a hint of white blossom, perhaps from the Rolle. Aromatically delicate but complex even in youth and even though it is a wine designed to age a few years in bottle. On the palate it's bone dry but again full of fruit, deep and persistent and with just the merest hint of tannin to give structure alongside the bright acidity. Refreshing, serious and long. Could be drunk on its own or at the table. Perfect balance.'

Rosé 2016 Apr-17

92 Points Jeb Dunnuck

**JEB DUNNUCK** 

'The finest Rosé yet from this estate, the 2016 Vaucluse Rosé sports a salmon/pink tinged color to go with clean, crisp, fabulously perfumed notes of orange rind, citrus and salty minerality. While this beauty has depth and texture, it has thrilling cut and purity on the palate as well. Count me as a fan and I'd be thrilled to drink bottles over the coming 6-7 months.'



Rosé 2015 Nov-16

16 Points

'Pale tomato pink. Straightforward herby scents and very round fruit

with real savour. Quite long.'

Rosé 2015 May-16

91 Points Wine Advocate (Jeb Dunnuck)

'A fabulous effort the has finesse, elegance and texture, the 2015 Rose from Chene Bleu sports a light pink color to go with perfumed notes of rose petals, framboise and strawberries. This seamless beauty can be enjoyed on its own, but it will pair beautifully with any number of dishes as well.'





Rosé 2015 Oct-15

16.5 Points

Jancis Robinson (Julia Harding)

'Lots of red fruit bedded in to a fine tannic structure, pear grained, juicy and mouth-watering with a stony seriousness on the long finish.'



Rosé 2015

Jul-05

Silver Medal

'N/A'

International Wine Challenge



Rosé 2015

Gold Medal

'N/A'

Le Mondial du Rosé

Jul-05

Rosé 2014 Jun-15

91 Points

Wine Advocate (Jeb Dunnuck)

Lobut Carker

'A classy, elegant blend of 60% Grenache, 35% Syrah and 5% Cinsault that was raised in 75% stainless steel and 25% in French oak (a mix of old and new), the 2014 Rose offers lively notes of strawberries and assorted red berry fruit, flowers and a touch of spice to go with a medium-bodied, seamless, silky feel on the palate. One of the most elegant, seamless rosés tasted for this report, it's not cheap, but it certainly delivers on the quality fruit. Drink it anytime over the coming 8-10 months.'



COURS MONDIAL

Rosé 2014

Jul-05

Silver Medal

'N/A'

Concours Mondial de Bruxelles



Apr-14

17.5 Points

Jancis Robinson (Julia Harding)

'Tasted blind. Grenache, Syrah, Cinsault. Orangey pink. Lightly, stonily red fruited. Lovely fragrance. With definite oak here. Certainly smells refined and sophisticated. Intense without being too fruity. It does seem to be carefully oaked, from the depth of texture as much as from the flavour. Dry, profound and long.'



Apr-14

91 Points

Wine Advocate (Jeb Dunnuck)



'Clean, pure and classy, with fabulous purity, the 2013 Ventoux Rose possesses notions of wild strawberry, white peach and crushed flowers to go with a medium-bodied, balanced, dry and refreshing style on the palate. It's an outstanding rose to enjoy over the coming 7-8 months.'



Jul-05

Silver Medal

Concours Mondial de Bruxelles





Rosé 2013 Jul-05

Ranked 1st

Rosé Tasting hosted by Jean-Christophe Mau, Chateau Brown and Richard Bampfield MW

WINE ENTHUSIAST

'Ranked 1st amongst a group of 31 noteworthy peers at widely respected blind tasting.'

Rosé 2013

Jul-05

91 Points

'N/A'

Vinous (Josh Raynolds)



Rosé 2012 Nov-13

17 Points

Jancis Robinson (Julia Harding)

'Fine partridge-eye pink. Fragrant with Victoria plum fruit and a touch of blossom. Then wonderfully dry and firm on the palate, the tannins giving it a light but welcome structure. Both appetising and refreshing, and long with a grip on the finish boding well for the table.'



Rosé 2011 Oct-12

16 Points

Jancis Robinson

'Firm and full of fruit and a great versatile food wine.'





Rosé 2010 Apr-12

17 Points

Jancis Robinson

'Grenache and Syrah. Well blended and still fresh. Lovely silky texture and some real fruit and interest. Admirable even if not cheap. Substantial enough for food but there's nothing remotely heavy about this. Long. Good to find another really fine rosé...'



Rosé 2010

Jul-05

Gold Medal

'N/A'

Concours Mondial de Bruxelles



Rosé 2010

Jul-05

"Vin Mythique"

Revue du Vin de France

'Named among their "Vins Mythiques"'

Rosé Pont des Arts 2016

Jun-17

92 Points

Vinous (Josh Raynolds)



'Brilliant orange-pink. High-pitched red berry and blood orange aromas are complemented by suggestions of lavender and chalky minerals. Juicy and incisive on the palate, offering refreshingly bitter red currant, cherry and orange zest flavors that show excellent clarity and a vibrant mineral undertone. Offers a compelling blend of power and finesse and finishes with nervy mineral cut and strong, floral-driven persistence.'



Rosé Pont des Arts 2016

Apr-17

92 Points

Jeb Dunnuck

**JEB DUNNUCK** 

'One of the gems is the 2016 Vaucluse Pont des Arts Rosé, which is up there with the finest Rosés produced. It offers beautiful strawberry, wild flowers, wet stone and framboise notes in a medium-bodied, clean, impeccably balanced style that spans the gap between the lightly flavors Provencal Rosés and the richer Tavel styled Rosés. It's going to shine on the dinner table over the coming summer months, and I suspect drink nicely even through the winter.'

Rosé Pont des Arts 2015

May-16

91 Points

Wine Advocate (Jeb Dunnuck)

'Similar to the straight Rose, yet perhaps with a touch more length, the 2015 Pont Des Arts Rose Vieilles Vignes gives up beautiful raspberry, strawberry and floral characteristics to go with a layered, textured, seamless style on the palate. The winemaking here is just first rate, and both of these Roses are flat out outstanding.'

Rosé Pont des Arts 2015

May-16

91 Points

Wine Advocate (Jeb Dunnuck)

'N/A'



Rosé Pont des Arts 2015

Jul-05

Gold Medal

'N/A'

Le Mondial du Rosé





Scipio 2016

Jul-21



Gold Medal

Concours Mondial de Bruxelles 2018



Scipio 2016

Jan-21

92 Points

International Wine Challenge

'Perfumed spiced raisin with plum and berries. Sweet Moroccan spice with a cherry and berry palate and some lovely soft tannins.'



Viognier 2020

Oct-22

17 Points

Jancis Robinson (Julia Harding)

'Very pale gold. Intensely fragrant with apricots and non-sweet honey, spicy ripe pears, even though there's no suggestion of sweetness. Seductively deep aroma that draws you into the wine's intensity. Then on the palate, a lovely combination of weight – typically Viognier – and purity. The freshness more from that purity and from the savoury, lightly spicy aftertaste than from the acidity. Creamy texture, with subtle oak influence. Utterly indulgent without any suggestion of flabbiness. Powerful and long, scented to the very end even if that scent seems to be transformed from fruit to more savoury/mealy on the finish. I think I would find this too rich for an aperitif – but the producer suggests it would be a good match with poultry, foie gras (does it have enough acidity for that, I wonder), white fish with cream, or various cheeses (not sure, need to test that one).'



Viognier 2020

May-22

Silver Medal

International Wine Challenge





Oct-22

16.5 Points

Jancis Robinson (Julia Harding)

'Very pale gold. Similar spicy, alluring aroma to the 2020 just tasted but with a touch more complexity from the extra year in bottle. Along with the varietal notes of ripe pear (less obvious apricot), this seems a little more marked by the oak, with spice and vanilla. More apparently oaky on the palate too, richer and a little heavier than the 2020 but still with the freshness that comes from the savoury, almondy aftertaste rather than from high acidity. A big wine and yet in balance. Rich and long but not quite as fresh tasting or as balanced as the 2020, which has more of a bite on the finish.'

Viognier 2019

Jun-21

95 Points (Gold Medal)

Elle à Table

'N/A'



Viognier 2018

Jan-21

90 Points

International Wine Challenge

'Lime tree leaves with fennel on the nose. Strong vanilla undertones with a solid core of tropical fruit and a long finish.'



Viognier 2017

Aug-21

17 Points

Jancis Robinson (Tamlyn Currin)

'Hazelnuts and peaches. Creaminess with long, elegant lines. Honeyed lily florals unfolding from rich ripe apricots; honeycomb unfolding from mango purée and creamy wax; bitter almonds unfolding from a broad sweep of marzipan. A backwards origami. An exquisite balance of voluptuous roundedness and connate freshness.'





BOB CAMPBELL MW

The Real Review

ECOMMENDED

Viognier 2017

Apr-20

17 Points

Jancis Robinson (Julia Harding)

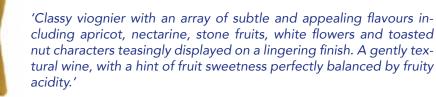
'Complex aroma that is scented with a flower that might be jasmine, though not quite that sultry, and apricot, and shows a hint of honey, a touch of something sweet from the oak, too. On the palate, honeyed and creamy with less floral character and more of the lovely apricot fruit. Scented on the palate, with gentle yet sufficient freshness and extremely subtle, well-judged oak influence - more in the creamy rounded feel than in the flavour. On the finish, there's the absolutely classic bitter note of the variety. I am sure I would have put this in Condrieu had I tasted it blind. The perfect balance between subtlety, freshness and scented complexity. I think this is the best vintage of this wine I have tasted. Impressive length. Some of that scent might be overwhelmed by food, though the producer's notes suggest it would go well with poultry, foie gras, white fish in a cream sauce or blue cheese - and it does have power and drive on the finish. I am not sure about those matches but knowing Chêne Bleu's attention to detail, I am sure they have done the taste test. (JH)'

Viognier 2016

Jul-19

96 Points

**Bob Campbell** 



Viognier 2016

Aug-18

91 Points

Jeb Dunnuck



'The 2016 IGP Vaucluse Viognier is cut from the same cloth and has slightly more acidity and freshness. Tangerine, citrus, and lots **JEB DUNNUCK** has slightly more acidity and tresnness. langerine, citrus, and lots of mineral notes all emerge from this medium-bodied, vibrant white that has a classic Viognier character.'



Jul-18

17 Points

Jancis Robinson (Julia Harding)



'Immediately creamy nose that is in harmony with the subtle but correct varietal character of Viognier. There's peach, apricot, even a touch of orange and spice and that creaminess to the aroma, and then the oak and the rich lees texture shows more on the palate. This is very good, the best vintage I have tasted of this wine. It is rich and rounded but fresh too, with the site showing as much as the variety. A long finish that is both mealy/savoury and fragrant. Very good. Not sure how this will age but I don't think there is any hurry to drink it.'





Feb-19

18 Points

Jancis Robinson (Richard Hemming)

'Strong apricot scent. Creamy, peachy palate – wholly convincing for variety and origin – and holding up well for its age too. Thick, fleshy and viscous, but the savoury finish prevents it from being shapeless. (RH)'

Viognier 2015

Oct-18

93 points

Wine Advocate (Joe Czerwinski)

'To be released this fall in the US, the 2015 IGP Vaucluse Viognier was barrel-fermented and spent seven months in barriques (no newer than third use). It's a lush, medium to full-bodied wine with the variety's hallmark floral and apricot notes. With its exotic fruit, plush texture and long, slightly oily finish, it's a fine alternative to Condrieu (and surpasses many).'

Viognier 2015

Aug-18

92 Points

Jeb Dunnuck

'The 2015 IGP Vaucluse Viognier offers slightly more opulence and flesh, with classic white peach and apricot aromas and flavors. It's **JEB DUNNUCK** flesh, with classic white peach and apricot aromas and flavors. It s another beautifully balanced, layered, textured white from this estate. Drink it over the coming couple of years.'



Nov-16

16 Points

Jancis Robinson



'Lovely round nose with arresting blossomy varietal character. Quite big and round and it doesn't have the savour of a great Condrieu but it's way better than most varietal Viognier.'



Jun-16

92 Points

Vinous (Josh Raynolds)



'Light, bright gold. Sexy, expansive aromas of fresh orchard and pit fruits, complicated by notes of honey, violet and ginger that build in the glass. Fleshy and broad but surprisingly vibrant, offering bitter pear skin and nectarine flavors and a bracing jolt of lemon pith. Finishes very long, smooth and spicy, displaying lingering floral and pear notes. I'd confidently pour this side-by-side with some bigname Condrieus.'



Viognier 2013

Jul-05

Gold Medal

International Wine Challenge

'N/A'

Viognier 2012

Dec-14

92 Points

Wine Spectator (James Molesworth)



'Gorgeously pure, with long, flowing honeysuckle and heather notes that frame the core of Jonagold apple, apricot, green plum and pear flavors. Bright quinine and mineral notes take over on the finish, giving this serious length and definition. Drink now through 2016. 150 cases made.'



Viognier 2012

Jul-05

Gold Medal

International Wine Challenge



Jul-05



Gold Medal

Concours Mondial des vins de Bruxelles



Viognier 2010

Jul-05

Jul-05

Gold Medal

International Wine Challenge



Viognier 2009

Silver Medal

International Wine Challenge

'N/A'

Viognier 2009

Jul-05

Silver Medal

Hong Kong International Wine & Spirit

'N/A'

**WINE ENTHUSIAST**