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## SOUTHERN RHÔNE

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**GIGONDAS: THE KINGDOM OF GRENACHE**  
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# Next Level

The Southern Rhône sets a new benchmark in 2016, while the North also excels

By James Molesworth

Photographs by Andrew Kovalov

**W**hen I first tasted the 2016 reds from the Southern Rhône, I realized immediately I needed to do one thing: Taste them again. That was back in the summer of 2017, as I visited numerous top estates in the region, tasting from barrel. I was struck by how vividly ripe the wines were, yet also detailed and fresh.

Comparing them to other benchmark vintages, they had the tannic spine of 2010 and 2005, the racy length and cut of 2011 and 2001, and the ripe fruit of 2015 and 2009. But I had never seen all of these characteristics combined in a single vintage. Simply put, I hadn't tasted wines before that were so rich and electric at the same time.

I wasn't the only one who suspected something truly special was in the making. One of the winners I visited was Mourir Saouma, whose Châteauneuf-du-Pape cuvées have established a new paradigm for the appellation. "2016 is something totally new," he told me at the time. "We don't have words for it yet. There is something unusual between the color and the tannins. When you pour the wine and see the color, it's so dark. But then the wine is so fresh, the tannins so integrated. We don't know why, but it's doing its thing."



The Gonlon brothers of Domaine de Beaumard—Frédéric (left) and Daniel (right)—make highly rated Châteauneuf-du-Pape alongside Daniel's sons, Antoine (top) and Victor.

CONTENTS

56 RHÔNE VALLEY TASTING REPORT

69 FRESH FACES IN CHATEAUNEUF

78 SPOTLIGHT ON GIGONDAS

91 SOUTHERN RHÔNE ABCS

**88 Domaine Rièrre Cadène Côtes du Roussillon Via Augusta 2017 \$18** Good energy encases the crushed strawberry and tangy raspberry flavors of this medium- to full-bodied red, with fresh acidity and supple tannins lending structure to the white pepper, mineral and floral details on the earth-tinged finish. Grenache and Syrah. Drink now through 2024. 1,250 cases made.—G.S.

**88 Vignobles Vergnes Limoux Château Martinolles Garriguet Vieilles Vignes 2016 \$20** A graphite undertone accents the focused currant and black cherry flavors of this full-bodied red, with elements of mocha, licorice and dried herb casting into the spicy finish. Supple tannins. Merlot, Syrah and Cabernet Sauvignon. Drink now through 2024. 2,250 cases made.—G.S.

**87 Georges Duboeuf Pinot Noir Pays d'Oc 2017 \$12** Juicy and bright, featuring flavors of wild cherry and currant mixed together with spice, dried herb and mineral. Light-bodied and fresh, offering tangy acidity and modest tannins. Drink now through 2020. 2,500 cases made.—G.S.

**87 Domaine Força Réal Côtes du Roussillon Villages Mas de la Garrigue 2016 \$19** A concentrated and focused red, with a solid structure framing the blackberry compote, espresso and currant paste flavors. Grilled herb and hot stone elements mark the firm finish. Grenache, Syrah and Carignan. Drink now through 2021. 7,000 cases made.—G.S.

**86 Georges Duboeuf Cabernet Sauvignon Pays d'Oc 2017 \$12** A fresh, medium-bodied red, featuring currant and boysenberry fruit detailed with spice and tangy elements. Moderate tannins frame the herb-laced finish. Drink now through 2019. 1,500 cases made.—G.S.

**86 Georges Duboeuf Merlot Pays d'Oc 2017 \$12** Fresh and medium-bodied, with ripe currant and crushed strawberry notes that are spiced and herb-tinged. Offers moderate, supple tannins. Drink now through 2020. 750 cases made.—G.S.

**85 Georges Duboeuf Chardonnay Pays d'Oc 2017 \$12** Light- to medium-bodied and lightly spiced, with a plump profile offering apple and lemon notes. Creamy finish. Drink now. 1,500 cases made.—G.S.

## FRANCE

### Rhône / Châteauneuf-du-Pape

**99 Domaine St.-Préfert Châteauneuf-du-Pape Collection Charles Giraud 2016 \$105** This has a large core of well-steeped plum, blackberry puree and warm cassis flavors, inlaid liberally with ganache, graphite and Turkish coffee notes. There's a wide swath of tobacco and roasted alder detail through the finish, matched by racy acidity for balancing focus. This is very deep and very long, capturing the intense yet fresh fruit feel of the vintage to a T. Best from 2020 through 2040. 660 cases made.—J.M.

**97 Henri Bonneau & Fils Châteauneuf-du-Pape Réserve des Célestins 2012 \$375** This defines old school, with savory detail and notes of roasted chestnut, fresh tobacco leaf, cedar and brick dust leading off, backed by a core of currant, cherry and plum fruit flavors that is lightly dried yet nonetheless fresh and racy in feel. Singed juniper and bay leaf hints score the finish. Likely to hold just like this for some time. Best from 2020 through 2040. 400 cases made.—J.M.

**97 Domaine St.-Préfert Châteauneuf-du-Pape Auguste Favier Réserve 2016 \$62** This is beautifully rendered, with a core of focused red currant, plum and raspberry coulis flavors that stretches out nicely while flecks of tobacco, bergamot, and singed sandalwood weave around. A bolt of iron detail shows through the finish, with a light echo of worn leather. Well-built, showing ample energy in reserve. Best from 2020 through 2040. 1,400 cases made.—J.M.

**96 Domaine La Barroche Châteauneuf-du-Pape Pure 2015 \$100** This has the ripe profile of the vintage, pulling blood orange, damson plum, cherry and red currant preserve flavors together and supporting them with enticing apple wood, dried tobacco, savory and sanguine notes before letting them sail through the finish on a long iron accent. Built for the cellar. Best from 2020 through 2040. 50 cases imported.—J.M.

**96 Domaine de Beurenard Châteauneuf-du-Pape Boisrenard 2016 \$85** Solidly built, with a sappy core of kirsch, blackberry paste and red licorice flavors tightly coiled together and backed by roasted apple wood, warm stone and tobacco leaf notes through the finish. The beautiful fruit should develop nicely with extended cellaring, as this has serious grip and drive. Best from 2020 through 2040. 800 cases made.—J.M.

**96 Lucien & André Brunel Châteauneuf-du-Pape Les Cailloux Cuvée Centenaire 2015 \$230** Ripe and solid, with a core of warm fig, fruitcake, mulled plum and roasted alder notes rolled together, carried by a lively mineral streak and backed by sanguine, bergamot and savory flashes on the finish. This has lots of character, showing excellent range and cut through the finish. Best from 2020 through 2040. 50 cases imported.—J.M.

**96 Le Clos du Caillou Châteauneuf-du-Pape La Réserve 2016 \$175** This has the ripe, pure and racy profile of the vintage, sporting a long beam of raspberry, plum and cherry pâte de fruit flavors scored with floral, incense and tea notes along the way. Fresh acidity lets the elements ripple nicely through the finish. A beauty. Best from 2020 through 2040. 470 cases made.—J.M.

**96 Domaine Ferrando Châteauneuf-du-Pape Colombis 2016 \$90** This is warm and very alluring, featuring steeped plum, blackberry and fig fruit flavors forming the core, underscored with ganache, roasted alder and smoldering tobacco notes. The alder edge pierces the finish, adding length and drive, while mouthwatering acidity ripples all around. Best from 2020 through 2035. 750 cases made.—J.M.

**96 Domaine de la Mordorée Châteauneuf-du-Pape La Reine des Bois 2016 \$140** A strapping, richly layered wine, teeming with blackberry, black currant and boysenberry paste flavors wrapped in a lively black licorice note. Stays juicy and energetic throughout, with light bramble and graphite nuances checking in on the very long and powerfully built finish. Best from 2020 through 2040. 90 cases imported.—J.M.

**96 Rotem & Mounir Saouma Châteauneuf-du-Pape Omnia 2015 \$100** This is sublime, with beguiling rooibos tea, blood orange and sandalwood aromas out front followed by a long and silky display of lightly mulled cherry, damson plum and raspberry fruit flavors. Light shiso leaf and sanguine notes lace up the finish while the fruit echoes admirably. Best from 2020 through 2040. 50 cases imported.—J.M.

**96 Domaine St.-Préfert Châteauneuf-du-Pape White Cuvée Spéciale Vieilles Clairettes 2016 \$322/1.5L** Distinctive, with a well of grapefruit oil, lemon curd, meringue, white peach, jasmine and quinine notes all flowing in lockstep and backed by a finish that has both languid and racy aspects as this lingers. Only bottled in magnum. Best from 2019 through 2025. 66 cases made.—J.M.

**95 Domaine de Cristia Châteauneuf-du-Pape Vieilles Vignes 2016 \$95** Ripe, but bright and fresh, with a lively mix of raspberry, red currant and bitter plum coulis flavors screaming in, pulling light tea, singed sandalwood and anise notes along. Shows lovely detail and well-embedded acidity through the finish. Drink now through 2035. 600 cases made.—J.M.

**95 Rotem & Mounir Saouma Châteauneuf-du-Pape Arioso 2014 \$200** Alluring, with blood orange, raspberry and bergamot notes that glide through on silky but persistent tannins, while black tea, dried anise and

incense notes weave in and around them. A refined mineral echo pierces the otherwise very seductive finish, making for an intriguing contrast. An impressive effort for the vintage. Drink now through 2035. 12 cases imported.—J.M.

**95 Château Sixtine Châteauneuf-du-Pape 2016 \$70** Sappy and intense, with a terrific beam of dark plum, boysenberry and blackberry fruit. The long finish shows a gorgeous graphite underpinning while flashes of Turkish coffee, licorice snap and roasted apple wood fill in. Great energy. Best from 2020 through 2040. 2,500 cases made.—J.M.

**95 Le Vieux Donjon Châteauneuf-du-Pape 2016 \$70** This offers a blitz of bay leaf and juniper notes cut front, followed by a racy and tightly coiled core of red and black currant, damson plum and cherry fruit flavors. Lots of brisk iron and garrigue accents rattle through the finish. Clear, precise and streamlined, this should age wonderfully. Best from 2020 through 2040. 7,000 cases made.—J.M.

**94 Domaine La Barroche Châteauneuf-du-Pape 2015 \$60** Ripe and warm in feel, featuring steeped plum and red currant fruit wrapped with melted red licorice, apple wood and bay leaf notes. The focused finish has ample spine, with a strong bolt of iron at the end. Best from 2020 through 2035. 500 cases imported.—J.M.

**94 Domaine de Cristia Châteauneuf-du-Pape Renaissance 2016 \$75** Warm and inviting, with waves of dark plum, cassis and blackberry puree pouring forth, inlaid with light ganache and graphite threads. The plush and velvety feel through the finish puts this squarely in the hedonist camp. Best from 2020 through 2035. 600 cases made.—J.M.

**94 Vignobles Diffonty Châteauneuf-du-Pape Cuvée du Vatican 2016 \$40** Solid, with a core of steeped raspberry, blackberry and plum fruit, laced with lavender, tobacco and singed chestnut hints. The grippy finish lets the fruit pump through while showing a tug of tarry earth. Best from 2020 through 2035. 2,500 cases made.—J.M.

**94 Domaine de la Mordorée Châteauneuf-du-Pape La Reine des Bois 2015 \$140** Dark and winy, featuring ripe waves of warm, steeped fig, boysenberry and plum fruit rolling through, inlaid with roasted apple wood, tobacco and dark earth details. Displays heft through the finish, with a slightly toothy plum skin edge, but the density and drive is there. Best from 2020 through 2035. 600 cases made.—J.M.

**94 Château Sixtine Châteauneuf-du-Pape 2015 \$70** Made in a slightly rugged style, with bramble and tobacco notes framing a core of steeped cherry, plum and red currant fruit flavors. Brick dust and singed cedar accents score the finish, while the fruit pumps through. Rock-solid. Best from 2020 through 2040. 1,300 cases made.—J.M.

**94 Domaine de la Solitude Châteauneuf-du-Pape Cornelia Constanza 2016 \$150** This features a core of intense raspberry and boysenberry reduction notes, liberally infused with anise hints and laced with mouthwatering black tea and mineral accents, all while staying silky and refined from start to finish. Best from 2019 through 2032. 500 cases made.—J.M.

**94 St.-Cosme Châteauneuf-du-Pape 2015 \$55** A direct, focused, slightly taut style, with a good dose of singed cedar and alder framing the core of red currant, plum and bitter cherry paste flavors. Lots of bay leaf, rosemary and sanguine accents fill in on the finish, which keeps a cedary edge. For fans of the old-school style. Best from 2020 through 2035. 1,000 cases made.—J.M.

**93 Domaine de Beurenard Châteauneuf-du-Pape 2016 \$55** Nicely packed, with raspberry and plum compote flavors at the core, liberally lined with singed alder, tobacco and warm brick accents. The finish has a grippy edge, but this red stays fresh and driven overall. Best from 2020 through 2030. 6,000 cases made.—J.M.

**93 François Villard St.-Joseph White Fruit d'Avillera 2016 \$30** This has a plump and rich core of lemon curd, yellow apple and Cavaillon melon flavors, but there's an inner brightness and purity, with a light floral element gilding through the finish. Very enticing. Drink now through 2020. 787 cases made.—J.M.

**92 Pierre & Jérôme Coursodon St.-Joseph White Silice 2017 \$49** Ripe and pure, with a beam of pear, green plum, yellow apple and melon flavors streaming through, maintaining focus and showing detail to the honeysuckle- and shortbread-tinged finish. Marsanne. Drink now through 2023. 550 cases made.—J.M.

**92 Delas St.-Joseph White Les Challeys 2017 \$78** Deliciously pure, brimming with pear, yellow apple, star fruit and white peach flavors, gilded gently with honeysuckle and chamomile accents on the finish. Has weight but stays very fresh. Roussanne. Drink now through 2023. 533 cases made.—J.M.

**92 Bernard Gripa St.-Joseph White 2016 \$52** Plump and open in feel, with creamed melon, pear and yellow apple fruit flavors lined with honeysuckle and verbena notes. Offers a gentle, caressing finish. Drink now through 2020. 800 cases made.—J.M.

**92 E. Guigal St.-Joseph White 2016 \$35** Bright, with lots of honeysuckle and orange blossom notes out front, backed by fresh yellow apple and white peach flavors. Shows a flash of mirabelle plum on the finish. Marsanne and Roussanne. Drink now through 2023. 3,333 cases made.—J.M.

**92 Pierre-Jean Villa St.-Joseph White Saut de l'Ange 2016 \$68** The creamed pear and melon fruit is contrasted by lemon shortbread and yellow apple gelée flavors. Light verbena and honeysuckle notes stitch the finish, which ends with a kiss of sweetened butter. Roussanne. Drink now through 2020. 330 cases made.—J.M.

**91 Yves Cuilleron St.-Joseph White Lyseras 2016 \$32** Juicy and open in feel, with a mix of apricot, tangerine and yellow apple fruit flavors mixed with lemon shortbread and verbena notes. Marsanne and Roussanne. Drink now through 2021. 1,625 cases made.—J.M.

## FRANCE

### Rhône / Other Red

**93 Montirius Vacqueyras Le Clos 2016 \$30** Quite ripe, with mouthfilling boysenberry and blackberry confiture notes that show good energy throughout, carried by anise, bramble and apple wood accents through the finish. This will have lots of fans for sure. Best from 2019 through 2024. 1,416 cases made.—J.M.

**92 Domaine de Beaurenard Rasteau Les Argiles Bleues 2016 \$38** Warm and lush waves of raspberry, blackberry and boysenberry compote roll through, laced with graphite and cocoa details and backed by an echo of singed wood on the finish. Drink now through 2022. 500 cases made.—J.M.

**92 Domaine La Boussière Vacqueyras 2016 \$40** Juicy, with a good core of raspberry and boysenberry pâte de fruit flavors. A light brambly edge adds energy through the finish. Pure, with the ripe and fresh profile of the vintage in spades. Drink now through 2020. 75 cases imported.—J.M.

**92 Chêne Bleu Ventoux Abélard 2010 \$85** Ripe and enticing, offering layers of fig, dark currant and blackberry fruit that are well-steeped but still detailed, woven with notes of anise, warm tobacco and roasted alder. Delivers a broad feel on the finish, with the wood playing a prominent role. Very solid. Grenache and Syrah. Drink now through 2022. 75 cases imported.—J.M.

**92 Domaine de la Mordorée Lirac La Reine des Bois 2016 \$43** A core of steeped raspberry and plum fruit is inlaid with singed apple wood, melted licorice and charcoal hints, giving this good range and contrast. The long finish is tightly focused and shows a light mineral echo. Grenache, Mourvèdre and Syrah. Drink now through 2021. 200 cases imported.—J.M.

**91 Domaine de la Mordorée Lirac La Dame Rousse 2016 \$23** Enticingly ripe, with dense raspberry and blackberry paste flavors forming the core while light anise, sweet spice and toast notes fill in around it. A licorice edge takes center stage through the finish. Drink now through . 2,300 cases made.—J.M.

**91 Domaine Le Sang des Cailloux Vacqueyras Cuvée Floureto 2016 \$34** Juicy and fresh, with a ball of cassis and bitter plum fruit leading the way, followed by light mesquite and tobacco notes. The ripe finish has good energy. Drink now through 2020. 600 cases imported.—J.M.

**90 Brotte Cairanne Domaine Grosset 2016 \$78** Focused and fresh, with a graphite beam carrying flavors of cherry, plum and raspberry puree along. Light tea and sandalwood accents add perfume through the finish. Drink now through 2021. 2,780 cases made.—J.M.

**90 Domaine Brusset Cairanne Les Travers 2016 \$27** Lush, with a core of fig and boysenberry confiture rolling through, flecked with licorice, warm fruitcake and cocoa accents. Fruit-driven but with enough spine and definition for balance. For the hedonist crowd. Drink now through 2020. 2,400 cases made.—J.M.

**90 Domaine Brusset Ventoux Les Boudalles 2017 \$13** Pure and refined, with a gentle breeze of unadorned cherry, red currant, violet and mineral notes gliding through on a silky structure. Charming and delightful. Drink now through 2020. 700 cases made.—J.M.

**89 Brotte Cairanne Création Grosset 2016 \$75** Dark cherry and red currant fruit is melded with notes of melted licorice and singed vanilla, backed by a lingering tobacco hint on the finish. Offers a good graphite spine. Drink now through 2020. 10,500 cases made.—J.M.

**89 Château de Montfaucon Lirac 2016 \$78** Gentle-edged, with fresh plum and black cherry fruit that glides through while light sandalwood, blood orange and tobacco notes chime in on the finish. Drink now through 2019. 1,700 cases made.—J.M.

**89 Château de Montfaucon Lirac Baron Louis 2015 \$23** Dark and winy, featuring melted licorice, roasted alder, steeped plum and tobacco leaf notes rolled together. Offers a grippy edge, with the alder element lingering longest, leaving a lightly chewy feel. Drink now through 2020. 3,475 cases made.—J.M.

**89 Domaine de Triennes Méditerranée St.-Auguste 2015 \$20** Ripe and fleshy, with singed alder notes around steeped cherry and plum fruit, backed by light leather and pepper accents. Shows more guts than charm, but a solid pick for backyard grilling. Syrah, Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot. Drink now through 2020. 4,000 cases made.—J.M.

**87 André Brunel Grenache Vin de Pays de Vaucluse 2016 \$77** Bright and fun, with breezy raspberry and pomegranate fruit lined with light savory and tea accents. Reveals a flash of dusty tannins. Drink now. 1,500 cases imported.—J.M.

**87 Delas Ventoux 2017 \$12** Fresh and silky in feel, with pretty anise and tea hints inlaid into a core of gently steeped red currant and plum fruit. The fine-grained structure lets the finish linger prettily. Drink now through 2020. 16,667 cases made.—J.M.

**87 La Vieille Ferme Vin de France 2017 \$77** This offers a bright blast of plum fruit laced with violet notes. Silky through the finish. Carignan, Cinsault, Grenache and Syrah. Drink now. 140,000 cases imported.—J.M.

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## James Molesworth's Recommended Wines From the Rhône Valley

Nearly 950 wines were reviewed for this report. A free alphabetical list of scores and prices for all wines tasted is available at [WineSpectator.com/113018](http://WineSpectator.com/113018). WineSpectator.com members can access complete reviews using the online Wine Ratings search.

### Top 2016 Châteauneuf-du-Pape Reds

WINE	SCORE	PRICE	WINE	SCORE	PRICE
<b>DOMAINE ST.-PRÉFERT</b> Châteauneuf-du-Pape Collection Charles Giraud 2016	99	\$105	<b>CLOS ST.-JEAN</b> Châteauneuf-du-Pape La Combe des Fous 2016	95	\$120
<b>DOMAINE GIRAUD</b> Châteauneuf-du-Pape Grenaches de Pierre 2016	98	\$120	<b>DOMAINE DE CRISTIA</b> Châteauneuf-du-Pape Vieilles Vignes 2016	95	\$95
<b>DOMAINE GIRAUD</b> Châteauneuf-du-Pape Les Gallimardes 2016	97	\$115	<b>DOMAINE GIRAUD</b> Châteauneuf-du-Pape 2016	95	\$55
<b>DOMAINE DE LA JANASSE</b> Châteauneuf-du-Pape Vieilles Vignes 2016	97	\$120	<b>DOMAINE DE LA JANASSE</b> Châteauneuf-du-Pape Chaupin 2016	95	\$85
<b>ROGER SABON &amp; FILS</b> Châteauneuf-du-Pape Le Secret des Sabon 2016	97	\$215	<b>ROGER SABON &amp; FILS</b> Châteauneuf-du-Pape Prestige 2016	95	\$80
<b>DOMAINE ST.-PRÉFERT</b> Châteauneuf-du-Pape Auguste Favier Réserve 2016	97	\$62	<b>CHÂTEAU SIXTINE</b> Châteauneuf-du-Pape 2016	95	\$70
<b>CHÂTEAU DE VAUDIEU</b> Châteauneuf-du-Pape Amiral G. 2016	97	\$120	<b>CHÂTEAU DE VAUDIEU</b> Châteauneuf-du-Pape Val de Dieu 2016	95	\$90
<b>DOMAINE DE BEAURENARD</b> Châteauneuf-du-Pape Boisrenard 2016	96	\$85	<b>LE VIEUX DONJON</b> Châteauneuf-du-Pape 2016	95	\$70
<b>LE CLOS DU CAILLOU</b> Châteauneuf-du-Pape La Réserve 2016	96	\$175	<b>PAUL AUTARD</b> Châteauneuf-du-Pape Juline 2016	94	\$100
<b>CLOS ST.-JEAN</b> Châteauneuf-du-Pape Deus Ex Machina 2016	96	\$150	<b>LE CLOS DU CAILLOU</b> Châteauneuf-du-Pape Les Quartz 2016	94	\$100
<b>DOMAINE FERRANDO</b> Châteauneuf-du-Pape Colombis 2016	96	\$90	<b>DOMAINE DE CRISTIA</b> Châteauneuf-du-Pape Renaissance 2016	94	\$75
<b>DOMAINE DE LA MORDORÉE</b> Châteauneuf-du-Pape La Reine des Bois 2016	96	\$140	<b>VIGNOBLES DIFFONTY</b> Châteauneuf-du-Pape Cuvée du Vatican 2016	94	\$40
<b>CHÂTEAU DE VAUDIEU</b> Châteauneuf-du-Pape L'Avenue... 2016	96	\$120	<b>ROGER SABON &amp; FILS</b> Châteauneuf-du-Pape Réserve 2016	94	\$55
			<b>DOMAINE DE LA SOLITUDE</b> Châteauneuf-du-Pape Cornelia Constanza 2016	94	\$150
			<b>DOMAINE TOUR ST.-MICHEL</b> Châteauneuf-du-Pape Le Lien 2016	94	\$120
			<b>CHÂTEAU DE VAUDIEU</b> Châteauneuf-du-Pape 2016	94	\$55

### Top Châteauneuf-du-Pape Whites

WINE	SCORE	PRICE	WINE	SCORE	PRICE
<b>ROTEM &amp; MOUNIR SAOUMA</b> Châteauneuf-du-Pape White Magis 2015	97	\$115	<b>DOMAINE DU VIEUX TÉLÉGRAPHE</b> Châteauneuf-du-Pape White La Crau 2016	95	\$80
<b>DOMAINE DE BEAURENARD</b> Châteauneuf-du-Pape White Boisrenard 2017	96	\$85	<b>DOMAINE DE BEAURENARD</b> Châteauneuf-du-Pape White 2017	94	\$55
<b>DOMAINE ST.-PRÉFERT</b> Châteauneuf-du-Pape White Cuvée Spéciale Vieilles Clairettes 2016	96	\$322	<b>LUCIEN &amp; ANDRÉ BRUNEL</b> Châteauneuf-du-Pape White Les Cailloux 2016	94	\$55
<b>CHÂTEAU DE BEAUCASTEL</b> Châteauneuf-du-Pape White 2015	95	\$95	<b>CLOS DES PAPES</b> Châteauneuf-du-Pape White 2017	94	\$118
<b>DOMAINE DE BEAURENARD</b> Châteauneuf-du-Pape White Boisrenard 2016	95	\$85	<b>DOMAINE LA ROQUÊTE</b> Châteauneuf-du-Pape White Clos 2016	94	\$52
<b>DOMAINE DE LA JANASSE</b> Châteauneuf-du-Pape White Prestige 2016	95	\$150	<b>CHÂTEAU SIXTINE</b> Châteauneuf-du-Pape White 2016	94	\$70
			<b>CHÂTEAU DE VAUDIEU</b> Châteauneuf-du-Pape White Clos du Belvédère 2017	94	\$80
			<b>CHÂTEAU DE VAUDIEU</b> Châteauneuf-du-Pape White Clos du Belvédère 2016	94	\$80

### Top Gigondas

WINE	SCORE	PRICE	WINE	SCORE	PRICE
<b>CHÂTEAU DE ST.-COSME</b> Gigondas Le Poste 2016	98	\$143	<b>DOMAINE BRUSSET</b> Gigondas Tradition Le Grand Montmirail 2016	93	\$30
<b>CHÂTEAU DE ST.-COSME</b> Gigondas Hominis Fides 2016	97	\$143	<b>DOMAINE DU GRAPILLON D'OR</b> Gigondas 2015	93	\$32
<b>CHÂTEAU DE ST.-COSME</b> Gigondas Le Claux 2016	97	\$143	<b>HALOS DE JUPITER</b> Gigondas 2016	93	\$30
<b>DOMAINE DES BOSQUETS</b> Gigondas La Colline... 2016	96	\$75	<b>GABRIEL MEFFRE</b> Gigondas Domaine de Longue Toque 2016	93	\$44
<b>DOMAINE BRUSSET</b> Gigondas Les Secrets de Montmirail 2016	96	\$75	<b>OGIER</b> Gigondas Dentellis 2015	93	\$25
<b>DOMAINE DES BOSQUETS</b> Gigondas Le Lieu Dit... 2016	95	\$55	<b>DOMAINE LES PALLIÈRES</b> Gigondas Terrasse du Diable 2015	93	\$40
<b>DOMAINE DES BOSQUETS</b> Gigondas Le Plateau... 2016	95	\$75	<b>FAMILLE PERRIN</b> Gigondas Domaine du Clos des Tourelles 2015	93	\$53
<b>DOMAINE BRUSSET</b> Gigondas Les Hauts de Montmirail 2016	95	\$45	<b>ANDRÉ RICHARD</b> Gigondas Domaine de la Tourade Font des Aieux 2016	93	\$34
<b>CHÂTEAU DE ST.-COSME</b> Gigondas 2016	95	\$58	<b>DOMAINE SANTA DUC</b> Gigondas Aux Lieux-Dits 2015	93	\$41
<b>DOMAINE DU GRAPILLON D'OR</b> Gigondas Excellence 2015	94	\$51	<b>BERTRAND STEHELIN</b> Gigondas 2015	93	\$28
<b>FAMILLE PERRIN</b> Gigondas L'Argnée Vieilles Vignes 2015	94	\$84	<b>TARDIEU-LAURENT</b> Gigondas Vieilles Vignes 2015	93	\$49
<b>DOMAINE SANTA DUC</b> Gigondas Les Hautes Garrigues 2015	94	\$75			

## James Molesworth's Recommended Wines From the Rhône Valley

Nearly 950 wines were reviewed for this report. A free alphabetical list of scores and prices for all wines tasted is available at [WineSpectator.com/113018](http://WineSpectator.com/113018). WineSpectator.com members can access complete reviews using the online Wine Ratings search.

### Top Northern Rhône Reds

WINE	SCORE	PRICE	WINE	SCORE	PRICE
M. CHAPOUTIER Ermitage L'Ermite 2015	98	\$565	ALAIN VOGÉ Cornas Les Vieilles Fontaines 2015	97	\$150
M. CHAPOUTIER Ermitage Le Méal 2015	98	\$380	GILLES BARGE Côte-Rôtie Côte Blonde 2015	96	\$90
JEAN-LOUIS CHAVE Hermitage 2015	98	\$325	M. CHAPOUTIER Ermitage Les Greffieux 2015	96	\$240
A. CLAPE Cornas 2015	98	\$165	M. CHAPOUTIER St.-Joseph Le Clos 2015	96	\$200
M. CHAPOUTIER Côte-Rôtie La Mordorée 2015	97	\$225	DELAS Côte-Rôtie La Landonne 2015	96	\$280
M. CHAPOUTIER Ermitage Le Pavillon 2015	97	\$505	E. GUIGAL Côte-Rôtie La Mouline 2014	96	\$525
JEAN-MICHEL GERIN Côte-Rôtie Les Grandes Places 2015	97	\$166	E. GUIGAL St.-Joseph Vignes de l'Hospice 2015	96	\$125
E. GUIGAL Côte-Rôtie La Landonne 2014	97	\$525	R. ROSTAING Côte-Rôtie La Landonne 2015	96	\$180
E. GUIGAL Côte-Rôtie La Turque 2014	97	\$525	GEORGES VERNAY Côte-Rôtie Maison Rouge 2015	96	\$180
R. ROSTAING Côte-Rôtie Côte Blonde 2015	97	\$190	ALAIN VOGÉ Cornas Les Vieilles Vignes 2015	96	\$85

### Top Northern Rhône Whites

WINE	SCORE	PRICE	WINE	SCORE	PRICE
M. CHAPOUTIER Ermitage White L'Ermite 2015	98	\$785	MAISON LES ALEXANDRINS Condrieu 2016	96	\$72
GEORGES VERNAY Condrieu Coteau de Vernon 2016	98	\$180	DELAS Hermitage White Domaine des Tourettes 2016	96	\$105
M. CHAPOUTIER Ermitage White Le Méal 2015	97	\$325	GEORGES VERNAY Condrieu Les Chaillées de l'Enfer 2016	96	\$145
JEAN-LOUIS CHAVE Hermitage White 2015	97	\$325	FRANÇOIS VILLARD Condrieu DePoncins 2016	96	\$68
GEORGES VERNAY Condrieu Coteau de Vernon 2015	97	\$165	FRANÇOIS VILLARD Condrieu Les Terrasses du Palat 2016	96	\$55
FRANÇOIS VILLARD Condrieu Le Grand Vallon 2016	97	\$60			

### Top Rhône Values

WINE	SCORE	PRICE	WINE	SCORE	PRICE
DOMAINE LE COLOMBIER Vacqueyras Vieilles Vignes 2016	93	\$25	CHÂTEAU MONT-REDON Lirac White 2017	90	\$23
PIERRE AMADIEU Vacqueyras La Grangelière 2016	92	\$23	DOMAINE DE LA MORDORÉE Côtes du Rhône La Dame Rousse 2016	90	\$19
BOUTINOT Côtes du Rhône-Villages Cairanne La Côte Sauvage 2015	92	\$20	PIERRE-HENRI MOREL Côtes du Rhône-Villages White Laudun 2016	90	\$17
FRANCK BALTHAZAR SELECTIONS Côtes du Rhône 2016	91	\$23	GUY MOUSSET & FILS Côtes du Rhône 2016	90	\$13
JEAN-LOUIS CHAVE SÉLECTION Côtes du Rhône Mon Coeur 2016	91	\$24	VIGNOBLES DES PASQUIERS Côtes du Rhône-Villages Sablet Domaine des Pasquiers 2016	90	\$18
DOMAINE LE COLOMBIER Vacqueyras Tradition 2016	91	\$18	FAMILLE PERRIN Côtes du Rhône-Villages 2016	90	\$15
MICHEL GASSIER Syrah Costières de Nîmes Les Piliers 2016	91	\$17	CHÂTEAU PESQUIÉ Ventoux Quintessence Red 2016	90	\$25
PASCAL & RICHARD JAUME Vinsobres Domaine Courtois La Grange 2015	91	\$20	PRIEURÉ DE MONTÉZARGUES Tavel 2017	90	\$25
CHÂTEAU DE MANISSY Côtes du Rhône Oracle 2016	91	\$12	CAVE DE RASTEAU Rasteau Ortas Les Peyrières 2016	90	\$16
CHÂTEAU DE MONTFAUCON Lirac Baron Louis 2014	91	\$23	DOMAINE LA ROQUÈTE Ventoux Mégaphone 2016	90	\$23
DOMAINE DE BEAURENARD Rasteau 2016	90	\$25	CHÂTEAU DE ST.-COSME Principauté d'Orange White Le Deux Albion 2017	90	\$22
BIELER PÈRE & FILS Côtes du Rhône-Villages La Jassine 2016	90	\$16	LES VIGNERONS D'ESTEZARGUES Côtes du Rhône Andezon 2016	90	\$13
REGIS & BRUNO BOISSON Cairanne Les Trois Terroirs 2015	90	\$19	BROTTE Cairanne Création Grosset 2016	89	\$15
DOMAINE DE LA BRUNELY Vacqueyras 2015	90	\$25	ANDRÉ BRUNEL Côtes du Rhône-Villages Cuvée Sabine 2015	89	\$16
CLOS DU MONT-OLIVET Côtes du Rhône Vieilles Vignes 2016	90	\$20	M. CHAPOUTIER Lubéron White La Ciboise 2016	89	\$16
JEAN-LUC COLOMBO Côtes du Rhône Les Forêts 2016	90	\$19	DOMAINE DE CRISTIA Côtes du Rhône Vieilles Vignes 2016	89	\$18
HALOS DE JUPITER Costières de Nîmes 2016	90	\$15	DELAS Côtes du Rhône White St.-Esprit 2017	89	\$12
HENRI DE LANZAC Lirac Château de Ségriès Cuvée Réserve 2015	90	\$23	CHÂTEAU DE MONTFAUCON Lirac 2016	89	\$18
LAVAU Côtes du Rhône-Villages White Valréas Domaine La Décelle Réserve 2017	90	\$16			