

*Pierre Amadieu***JAMESSUCKLING.COM** 

Stuart Pigott – Avril 2024

Gigondas Le Pas de l'Aigle 2021 **95/100**

Enormously deep nose of wild blackberries and herbs with a fascinating balsamic element. Gigantic energy and drive on the extremely focused, full-bodied palate. Very chalky tannins are married to intense licorice character in the imposing finish. Picked on October 20 from north-facing vineyards 500 meters above sea level. A pure grenache that was matured for two years in foudre casks. Drinkable now, but best from 2025.

Gigondas Romane Machotte 2022 **93/100**

This excellent Gigondas marries rich forest berry aromas with elegant tannins and an impressive freshness on the full-bodied palate. The chalky character builds at the long, moderately firm finish. Partly from 70-year-old vines, the remainder from 50-year-old vines, all at 350 to 400 meters above sea level. A cuvee of 80% grenache matured in foudres and 20% syrah matured in barriques. Unfiltered. Drinkable now, but best from 2025.

Gigondas Domaine Grand Romane 2022 **94/100**

This has the full body, concentration and spicy complexity that we expect from this appellation. Excellent interplay of elderberry fruit with licorice, wild herb and chocolate character and powerful but plush tannins. Bold but polished finish. A cuvee of 60% grenache, 25% mourvedre (all whole cluster) and 15% syrah, the older vines planted during the 1950s. Bottled unfiltered. This should age very well. Drink or hold.

Cairanne Les Hautes Rives 2022 **92/100**

Stacks of ripe blackberry and blueberry fruit, but bright and fresh, the full-bodied palate well anchored by the firm, healthy, moderately dry tannins. A cuvee of 60% grenache, 25% mourvedre and 15% syrah from north- and west-facing high-altitude vineyards. Drink or hold.

Gigondas Romane Machotte blanc 2023 **92/100**

Lovely lemony freshness with everything from blossoms to candied fruit. Very attractive interplay of restrained creaminess and elegant acidity, with a touch of chalky tannins that build nicely at the finish. The first vintage of this wine. A cuvee of 70% clairette matured in amphorae and neutral oak barriques, with 25% marsanne and roussanne plus 5% viognier that were all vinified in stainless steel. All from organically grown grapes. Drink or hold.

Côtes-du-Rhône Roulepierre rouge 2022 **90/100**

A prototypical Cotes-du-Rhone with plenty of red fruit, candied orange and spicy aromas. Generous fruit on the medium to full-bodied palate plus a good quantity of supple tannins. Long, moderately dry finish. A cuvee of 80% grenache and 20% syrah. Drink now.

IGP Méditerranée Viognier Clairette 2023 **90/100**

Very aromatic with stacks of peachy fruit plus notes of oranges and lemon blossoms. Juicy and lively with a positive touch of citrus peel bitterness that accentuates the freshness at the finish. Just 12.5% alcohol. From organically grown grapes. Vinified entirely in stainless steel. Drink now.

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Stuart Pigott – Avril 2024

Côtes-du-Rhône Roulepierre white 2023**91/100**

Very floral and fresh on the nose for this appellation, with stacks of lemon blossoms and some white peaches. Medium to full-bodied palate, with the creaminess we associate with Cotes-du-Rhone, then plenty of candied lemon freshness at the uplifting finish. A cuvee based on 60% clairette, the rest grenache blanc with a touch of viognier grown on sandy soil. A mix of organic estate fruit and non-organic purchased grapes. Drink now.

Châteauneuf-du-Pape La Paillousse red 2022**93/100**

Masses of red plum fruit are supported by ample, gentle tannins on the very supple, full-bodied palate. Then comes a wealth of delicate spicy notes in the very harmonious finish. Drink now.

Pierre Amadieu

Nicolas Greinacher - 01/2024

Gigondas Le Pas de l'Aigle 2022**92-94/100**

The pale-ruby-colored 2022 Gigondas Le Pas de l'Aigle is medium to full-bodied, savory and complex. Blending 90% Grenache with 10% Syrah, it will mature for two years foudres, with an additional year in bottle ahead of commercial release. This will be necessary, as the firm tannic structure requires times to mellow. Nonetheless, the aromas and flavors already show quite well, including a mingling spice box, strawberry, raspberry, black cherry graphite and a menthol splash.

Gigondas Le Pas de l'Aigle 2021**90/100**

The 2021 Gigondas Le Pas de l'Aigle doesn't reach the same heights as the 2022. Nonetheless, it is a fabulous result in this challenging 2021 vintage. Clocking in at 15% alcohol, it bursts with fragrant licorice, raspberry jam and black jerry aromatics peppery and minty layers add more complexity. Medium to full bodied and juicy, the 2021 Le Pas de l'Aigle delivers solid flavor concentration and a resonating finish.

Gigondas Domaine Grand Romane 2022**91-93/100**

The 2022 Gigondas Domaine Grand Romane will spend 18 months in a combination of french oak barriques (15% new) and old oak foudres. Grippy tannins provide good structure yet demand at least two more years in bottle. Ripe forest strawberry, black cherry, dried herbs and elements of mint nestle underneath firm tannins. Provided everything comes together as it should, this will be a fine Gigondas.

Gigondas Domaine Grand Romane 2021**89/100**

The 2021 Gigondas Domaine Grand Romane is classy and structured. A blend of 65% grenache, 20% Mourvèdre and 15% Syrah, it opens with moderately intense aromas of clove, red fruit, dried herbs and menthol. Medium to full-bodied and concluding with a sapid finish. It possesses firm tannins that should loosen up nicely after one more year in bottle.

Gigondas Romane Machotte 2022**90-92/100**

The 2022 Gigondas Romane Machotte mixes 80% Grenache with 20% Syrah. Red fruit aromatics and nuances of pencil shavings rise up from the glass. Minly and spicy undertones add more complexity. Classic and elegant, this uplifting 2022 wraps it up with spot-on balance and a juicy core of red fruit.

Gigondas Romane Machotte 2021**88/100**

The 2021 Gigondas Romane was cropped at 25 hL/Ha. It goes through twenty-one days of fermentation and maceration in concrete, leading to one year of foudre and barrique aging. The result is a slightly reductive red that gradually releases red fruit aromas, licorice traces and subtle dried herbs. Medium-bodied and well balanced, enjoy this refreshing offering over the next couple of years.

Pierre Amadieu

Jancis Robinson
JancisRobinson.com

Alistair Cooper – Novembre 2023

Gigondas Romane Machotte 2021 **16.5/20**

A subtle floral note, with a dusty and earthy character on the nose. The palate is driven by a core of plump red fruits, firm and vertical tannins and a nice freshness beneath. A subtle mineral-earthy note alongside a cooling, fresh finish.

Gigondas Domaine Grand Romane 2022 **16/20**

The nose is packed full of soft and generous red fruits. A core of ripe fruits is underlaid by good freshness, fine and detailed yet firm tannins. The oak is well integrated and the palate is structured, layered and with a rich, long finish. (AC)

Gigondas Le Pas de l'Aigle 2022 **16/20**

Cocoa nib, sweet spice and red-fruit aromas. Dense and ripe, with firm tannins that dominate the mid palate at the moment. There is plenty of structure here and it needs a little time to soften the edges of the robust tannins. Plenty of fruit here, too, to soak up those tannins just a little closed for now.

Vacqueyras La Grangelière 2022 **16/20**

Waxy red fruits on the nose, attractive and inviting. There is a nice, gentle peppery spice on the palate and a layered finish. Attractive and appealing, it just needs to soften. A nice, medium-bodied effort.

Cairanne Les Hautes Rives blanc 2022 **16/20**

Mealy and slightly closed nose. An attractive, subtle, smoky note of reduction underneath a ripe, textured core. Zesty acidity on the ripe, layered finish.

Cairanne Les Hautes Rives rouge 2022 **15.5/20**

Tasted blind. Both red and dark fruits on the nose. Bags of fresh acidity here and a very firm tannin structure as well the tannins need to settle. Zesty freshness comes through on the racy finish.

Decanter

Matt Walls – Novembre 2023

Cairanne Les Hautes Rives blanc 2022 **90/100**

There's a subtle smoky note on the nose, it lifts the red apple and pear fruit, which has real persistence and a long finish. Powerful, expressive, complex and cleverly made. Floral freshness on the finish and moderate alcohol. Likely to offer good value.

Matt Walls – Novembre 2023

Gigondas Romane Machotte 2022 **91/100**

Surprisingly punchy for a 2022, this has more weight and power than many Gigondas this year. The oak isn't excessive, and serves to frame and focus the fruit. Good length and freshness. Smooth and approachable, well balanced, with the structure to last.

*Pierre Amadieu***JEB DUNNUCK**

Jeb Dunnuck – November 2023

Gigondas Le Pas De L'Aigle 2022 93-95/100

I'd put the 2022 Gigondas Le Pas De L'Aigle up with the crème de la crème of the vintage. Based on 90% Grenache and 10% Syrah that will spend two years in foudre, it has remarkable purity in its ripe redcurrant and strawberry-driven fruit profile as well as complex notes of Provençal spices, crushed stone, and dried flowers. It's medium to full-bodied, beautifully balanced, has fine tannins, and a great finish.

Gigondas Le Pas De L'Aigle 2021 93/100

The flagship release from this terrific estate, the 2021 Gigondas Le Pas De L'Aigle is almost all Grenache (there is 10% Syrah) that sees a longer élevage in foudre. This beauty has a gorgeous nose of ripe black raspberries, blackberries, sandalwood, and Provençal garrigue. While it plays in the more medium-bodied, fresher style of the vintage, it has terrific mid-palate depth, ripe, polished tannins, and a great finish. The 2021 vintage in Gigondas doesn't get much better, and this has tons of appeal today yet will evolve nicely for a solid decade.

Gigondas Romane Machotte 2022 88-90/100

A medium-bodied, charming, elegant Gigondas based on 80% Grenache and 20% Syrah, the 2022 Gigondas Romane Machotte has ample red fruit, some peppery, Provençal garrigue-like aromatics, ripe tannins, and a good finish. It's well-made and incredibly satisfying. Drink bottles on release and over the following 7-8 years.

Gigondas Romane Machotte 2021 88/100

Based on 80% Grenache and 20% Syrah brought up in foudre and used oak, the 2021 Gigondas Romane Machotte has a forward, charming, Provençal style as well as lots of red and black fruits, peppery herb, and saddle leather-like aromas and flavors. It's medium-bodied, balanced, and thoroughly enjoyable. Drink bottles over the coming 4-6 years.

Gigondas Domaine Grand Romane 2022 91-93/100

A fruit-loaded, up-front, impressively concentrated and textured Gigondas, the 2022 Gigondas Domaine Grand Romane (65% Grenache, 20% Mourvèdre, and 15% Syrah) is medium to full-bodied, has soft, integrated tannins, no hard edges, and a great finish. I don't think it's going to be the longest lived Gigondas, but it should shine right out of the gate.

Gigondas Domaine Grand Romane 2021 90/100

The 2021 Gigondas Domaine Grand Romane is always solid. Based on 65% Grenache, 20% Mourvèdre, and 15% Syrah, it has attractive red and black fruits, some spicy wood, leather, and Provençal garrigue aromatics, medium body, sweet tannins, and a good finish. It's a pleasure-bent, textured, outstanding 2021 Gigondas to drink over the coming 5-7 years.

Vacqueyras La Grangelière 2022 89/100

I always enjoy this cuvée, and the 2022 Vacqueyras La Grangelière is a terrific value that readers will love as a house red. Perfumed red and black fruits, sappy flowers, and pretty garrigue and herbal, peppery notes all flow to a medium-bodied, fruit-loaded, charming 2022 that's perfect for drinking over the coming 3-5 years or so.

*Pierre Amadieu***JAMESSUCKLING.COM** 

Stuart Pigott – May 2023

Vacqueyras La Grangelière 2021 **90/100**

This full-bodied and fleshy Southern Rhone red has pronounced aromas of blood orange alongside the big blueberry and black-berry character, making it surprisingly lively and light on its feet. Not so long at the finish, but very drinkable. Drink now.

Côtes-du-Rhône Roulepierre 2021 **91/100**

A remarkably fragrant and elegant wine for this appellation with plenty of violet aromas alongside a wide spectrum of red berry aromas. So fresh and lively at the long, precise finish, it's really hard to believe that this has 14% alcohol! Drink now.

Châteauneuf-du-Pape La Paillousse 2021 **91/100**

Generous and fleshy without any of the opulence that this appellation tends towards, this has a very attractive interplay of spice, pomegranate fruit and summer flower aromas. The solid base of rather fine tannins keep this straight and warmly dry at the long finish. Drink or hold.

Côtes-du-Rhône Grande Réserve 2021 **92/100**

Very expressive nose of black cherries and ripe raspberries with a touch of something animal. This is concentrated and structured on the widescreen palate. So much drive and depth at the bold, but moderately dry finish. A cuvee of grenache and syrah matured in large oak foudres. Drink or hold.

Cairanne Les Hautes Rives 2021 **92/100**

This excellent red Rhone provides a good argument in favor of taking the rather new appellation of Cairanne seriously. In spite of the cooler vintage this has very good ripeness married to a floral delicacy with elegant tannins that, together with the stony acidity, give this a lot of good energy. Should age well. Drink or hold.

Gigondas Romane Machotte 2021 **93/100**

Complex spicy nose with stacks of plum and black berry fruit, plus serious meaty depth. Concentrated and very well structured this is on the cusp of greatness, despite the challenging vintage. Lots of dusty hot earth character at the long expressive finish. Drink or hold.

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Gigondas Le Pas de l'Aigle 2018 **95/100**

Mature and rich but very dry and subtle, this is slightly old-fashioned in a delightful way. Lots of dried orange peel, dried cherry and smoke character, and behind all that the fine tannins build as the wine moves inexorably across the palate like a huge ship plowing through the ocean waves. From old grenache and syrah vines in one of the highest altitude vineyards in this appellation. Drink or hold.

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*Pierre Amadieu***JAMESUCKLING.COM** 

Stuart Pigott – May 2023

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Côtes-du-Rhône Blanc Domaine Grand Romane Terroir d'Exception 2022 92/100

Notes of apples, cooked lemons, honeysuckle and some bay leaves. Medium body with a fruity character. Supple and well balanced with a seductive touch. Flavorful and aromatic with a juicy finish. Drink or hold.

Gigondas Le Pas de l'Aigle 2020 94/100

Aromas of blackberries, dark cherries, dried herbs such as thyme and rosemary, dark chocolate and baking spices. Full body with very fine tannins. Great balance with a velvety texture loaded with cherries and berries, and a harmonious, integrated structure. Textured, long and focused finish. Best after 2027.

Gigondas Gigondas Le Pas de l'Aigle 2019 93/100

A perfumed nose of blackberries, currants, leather, dried thyme, roasted meat and spice box. Full body with fine, firm tannins. Great energy with structure and a fine texture. Vibrant at the center with bright acidity and freshness towards the focused finish. Grenache and syrah. Best after 2029.

*Pierre Amadieu***Wine Spectator**
www.winespectator.com

K. Bieler - April 2023

Gigondas Domaine Grand Romane 2021 93/100

A generous and very polished red, with lush layers of red cherry compote, boysenberry, licorice and violets. Polished and voluptuous on the creamy palate, with tarragon notes. Well-built with fine-grained tannins and graphite driving the long, svelte, cedar-kissed finish. Grenache, Mourvèdre and Syrah. Best from 2026 through 2032.

Châteauneuf-du-Pape La Paillousse 2021 91/100

A darker, crunchier version, with brambly berry and cassis notes that are ripe and showy, yet densely packed. Boasting tobacco, black pepper, pastis, charred mesquite and vanilla accents, this is grounded by smoldering iron and slightly chewy tannins. Grenache and Syrah. Drink now through 2030.

Gigondas Romane Machotte 2021 91/100

Elegant and high-toned, with expressive blackberry, blueberry and smoked plum flavors laced with violet and white pepper. Delivers dusty earth, sweet tobacco and charred mesquite, which add savory dimension to the pretty profile. The persistent finish is lined with snappy acidity and fine-grained tannins. Grenache and Syrah. Drink now through 2030.

Cairanne Les Hautes Rives 2021 89/100

Elegant, with a mix of rose petal, cherry and wild strawberry backed by juicy acidity, black pepper and shaved graphite. Shows nice texture and integration, with fine-grained tannins and a thread of smoke. Grenache, Mourvèdre and Syrah. Drink now through 2027. 2,200 cases made, 350 cases imported.

Côtes du Rhône Grande Réserve 2021 89/100

Charming and fresh, with a nice mix of red cherry, currant, incense and tobacco leaf flavors. Reveals charred meat and rooibos tea notes that add detail through the succulent, mid-weight finish, which shows some chewy tannins. Grenache and Syrah. Drink now. 2,500 cases made, 420 cases imported. -KB

Charming and fresh, with a nice mix of red cherry, currant, incense and

Gigondas Pas de l'Aigle 2020 93/100

A wine with a lot of soul and character, this leans slightly modern, with charred apple wood and sweet cedar nicely polishing a core of fig puree and black cherry. The long, harmonious finish glides through, revealing rooibos tea and smoked garrigue details, while a tug of tannins provide a ballast. Grenache and Syrah. Drink now through 2035

Pierre Amadieu

JEB DUNNUCK

Jeb Dunnuck – March 2023

Gigondas Le Pas De L'Aigle 2018 92/100

As with most 2018s today, the 2018 Gigondas Le Pas De L'Aigle is up-front, charming, and drinking brilliantly. Kirsch, blackberries, toasted spices, and peppery garrigue all give way to a medium-bodied, forward, soft, and utterly delicious Gigondas to enjoy over the coming decade.

Gigondas Le Pas De L'Aigle 2019 94+/100

Tasted out of the bottle, the 2019 Gigondas Le Pas De L'Aigle showed beautifully with its kirsch liqueur, blackberry, herbes de Provence, and toasted spice-driven aromas and flavors. Medium to full-bodied, pure, and seamless on the palate, it's another vintage of this cuvée that will have a lengthy, broad drink window. It should keep nicely through 2035.

Gigondas Le Pas De L'Aigle 2020 92-94+/100

The 2020 Gigondas Le Pas De L'Aigle (90% Grenache and 10% Syrah) is another gem of a wine in the making. Coming from higher elevation parcels and brought up in oak, it has an incredibly Provençal bouquet of ripe cherries, garrigue, candied flowers, and loamy earth. Medium to full-bodied on the palate, it shows the more elegant side of the vintage, has ripe tannins, and is clearly an outstanding (if not quite a bit more) wine that readers will love.

Gigondas Le Pas De L'Aigle 2021 92-94+/100

The flagship from this terrific estate is the 2021 Gigondas Le Pas De L'Aigle, which is mostly Grenache that sees a longer élevage in oak. It shows the more mid-weight style of the vintage yet has beautiful black raspberry and ripe berry fruits, medium body, good mid-palate depth, and ripe, balancing tannins. It's beautifully done, and while it will offer pleasure in its youth, this has enough structure to evolve gracefully in the cellar.

Gigondas Domaine Grand Romane 2021 89-91+/100

The 2021 Gigondas Domaine Grand Romane is 65% Grenache, 20% Mourvèdre, and the rest Syrah. It has a touch more density as well as ripe black fruits, peppery garrigue, and some meaty, leathery nuances. This ruby/purple-hued 2021 is medium to full-bodied, has rock-solid mid-palate depth, ripe tannins, and just a round, charming, delicious style that makes the most of the vintage.

Gigondas Romane Machotte 2021 88-90/100

What should be a forward, charming 2021, the 2021 Gigondas Romane Machotte (80/20 Grenache and Syrah) has up-front cherry, garrigue, and peppery herb notes in a medium-bodied, nicely balanced, enjoyable package. It's going to drink nicely right out of the gate.

Vacqueyras La Grangelière 2021 89/100

A blend of 80% Grenache and 20% Syrah that was destemmed and aged in a mix of barrels and foudre, the 2021 Vacqueyras La Grangelière has a clean, fresh, lively, medium-bodied style as well as traditional notes of red berries, rose petals, peppery garrigue, and spice. It shows the fresher style of the vintage but is balanced, has good ripeness, and solid length on the finish. Enjoy bottles over the coming 7-8 years.

vinOUS

Pierre Amadieu

Josh Reynolds – January 2023

Gigondas Domaine Grand Romane 2021 93-95/100

Saturated ruby. Mineral- and spice-accented black and blue fruit preserve scents show sharp clarity and are complemented by suggestions of vanilla and succulent flowers. Seamless and deep in the mouth, the sweet blueberry, cherry liqueur, spicecake and candied lavender flavors are supported by a core of juicy acidity. It finished impressively long and spicy, with harmonious, slow-building tannins.

Gigondas Le Pas de L'Aigle 2021 92-94/100

Brilliant ruby. The expressive nose initially offers fresh red fruits and potpourri notes, which are complicated by exotic spice and incense hints. Deep but energetic, the sappy, appealingly sweet raspberry and cherry flavors tighten up through the back half. Silky tannins shape a strikingly long, pliant finish that leaves behind suave spicecake and lavender pastille notes.

Gigondas Romane Machotte 2021 91-93/100

Opaque magenta. The fragrant note displays pungent, spice-accented red and blue fruits, potpourri, succulent herbs and baking spices. Offers densely packed yet vibrant raspberry and blueberry flavors that show fine definition and spicy lift. Supple tannins build slowly on the finish, which hangs on with strong tenacity and repeating blue fruit note.

Gigondas Domaine Grand Romane 2020 95/100

Deep, vivid ruby. A highly perfumed and finely detailed bouquet evokes fresh red berries, cherry preserves, exotic spices, candied flowers and a smoky mineral flourish. Smooth and seamless on the palate, the intense raspberry, cherry-cola, spicecake and candied lavender flavors express a compelling blend of power and delicacy. Closes smooth, gently tannic and impressively long, leaving sappy red fruit, spice and floral notes behind.

Gigondas Le Pas de L'Aigle 2020 94-96/100

Deep, brilliant ruby. Intensely fragrant suggestions of ripe red berries, kirsch, exotic spices and candied flowers are accompanied by a vibrant mineral nuance that builds steadily with air. Smooth and seamless in texture, the intense raspberry, cherry-cola, spicecake and lavender flavors convey a deft blend of power and delicacy. Closes smooth, gently tannic and impressively long, leaving sappy red fruit and mineral notes behind.

Gigondas Romane Machotte 2020 93/100

Vivid ruby. Sharply focused cherry, blueberry, licorice and floral scents pick up hints of smoky minerals and succulent herbs with aeration. Juicy and energetic on the palate, the bitter cherry, candied licorice, espresso and lavender flavors firm up steadily through the back half. Youthfully gripping tannins sneak in late on a very long spicy finish that echoes the licorice and cherry notes.

Gigondas Le Pas de L'Aigle 2019 94/100

Dark magenta. Expansive aromas of ripe red and blue fruits, potpourri and licorice are accompanied by smoky mineral and exotic spice nuances. Offers juicy, penetrating raspberry, bitter cherry and floral pastille flavors that become sweeter with aeration. Plush, even tannins add a subtle grip to an impressively long spice-tinged finish that emphatically echoes the blue and floral notes.

Gigondas Le Pas de L'Aigle 2018 93/100

Shimmering ruby-red. A smoke- and spice-accented bouquet displays cherry-cola, black raspberry and pungent floral scents. Expressive sweet red and dark berry and spicecake flavors are complemented by hints of lavender and smoky minerals. Shows fine definition and spicy cut on a long, gently tannic finish that echoes the floral note.

*Pierre Amadieu***JAMESSUCKLING.COM** 

Stuart Pigott – December 2022

Gigondas Romane Machotte 2021 **93/100**

A very impressive Gigondas for the challenging vintage that's got the deep ripeness, wild herb and meaty character we expect from the best wines of this appellation. The fresh plum fruit and summer flower aromas are just beginning to open up. The elegant tannins make this flow gracefully over the palate. Long, precise finish. Drink or hold.

Gigondas Domaine Grand Romane 2021 **94/100**

Complex spicy nose with stacks of plum and black berry fruit, plus serious meaty depth. Concentrated and very well structured this is on the cusp of greatness, despite the challenging vintage. Lots of dusty hot earth character at the long expressive finish. Drink or hold.

Cairanne Les Hautes Rives 2021 **92/100**

This excellent red Rhone provides a good argument in favor of taking the rather new appellation of Cairanne seriously. In spite of the cooler vintage this has very good ripeness married to a floral delicacy with elegant tannins that, together with the stony acidity, give this a lot of good energy. Should age well. Drink or hold.

Gigondas Le Pas de L'Aigle 2018 **95/100**

Mature and rich but very dry and subtle, this is slightly old-fashioned in a delightful way. Lots of dried orange peel, dried cherry and smoke character, and behind all that the fine tannins build as the wine moves inexorably across the palate like a huge ship plowing through the ocean waves. From old grenache and syrah vines in one of the highest altitude vineyards in this appellation. Drink or hold.

Châteauneuf-du-Pape La Paillousse 2021 **91/100**

Generous and fleshy without any of the opulence that this appellation tends towards, this has a very attractive interplay of spice, pomegranate fruit and summer flower aromas. The solid base of rather fine tannins keep this straight and warmly dry at the long finish. Drink or hold.

Vacqueyras La Grangelière 2021 **90/100**

This full-bodied and fleshy Southern Rhone red has pronounced aromas of blood orange alongside the big blueberry and blackberry character, making it surprisingly lively and light on its feet. Not so long at the finish, but very drinkable. Drink now.

Côtes-du-Rhône Grande Réserve 2021 **92/100**

Very expressive nose of black cherries and ripe raspberries with a touch of something animal. This is concentrated and structured on the widescreen palate. So much drive and depth at the bold, but moderately dry finish. A cuvee of grenache and syrah matured in large oak foudres. Drink or hold.

Côtes-du-Rhône Roulepierre 2021 **91/100**

A remarkably fragrant and elegant wine for this appellation with plenty of violet aromas alongside a wide spectrum of red berry aromas. So fresh and lively at the long, precise finish, it's really hard to believe that this has 14% alcohol! Drink now.

*Pierre Amadieu***Wine Spectator**
www.winespectator.com

K. Bieler - December 2022

Côtes du Rhône Domaine Grand Romane white 2021 89/100

A sunny, bright white, with gardenia blossom, honeyed nectarine and juicy lemon notes that stay clean and pure on the palate, thanks to racy acidity and a salty mineral edge.

Cairanne Les Hautes Rives 2020 89/100

Dark and compact, with earth and smoked meat notes infusing a base of plum sauce and savory spices. The solid finish is framed by grippy tannins and pronounced iron minerality.

Vacqueyras La Grangelière 2021 88/100

Shows cassis, plum, raspberry and violet notes that are expressive on the nose, turning savory and somewhat austere on the palate. Gains firmness from charred alder, crushed iron and grippy tannins.

Vinsobres Les Piallats 2021 89/100

A fresh, energetic wine, with violet and wild blackberry flavors up front, this courses with savory acidity and is backed by charred herbs and mesquite.

Côtes du Rhône Roulepierre red 2021 88/100

A tasty red, with floral and cassis notes up front underscored by graphite shavings, toasted mesquite, fresh pepper and a lick of vanilla.

Jancis Robinson
JancisRobinson.com

Alistair Cooper – November 2022

Gigondas Romane Machotte 2021 15/20

Dark fruits, damp earth and grilled meat. Pepper and thyme with firm tannins, cocoa and grilled meat. A textured finish, a ripe and opulent expression of the vintage.

Gigondas Domaine Grand Romane 2021 15.5/20

Dark fruits on the nose, liquorice and spice. Lots of pepper and spice and firm taut tannins – juicy and lots of dark fruits shine through. Intense and ripe but appealing.

Gigondas Le Pas de l'Aigle 2021 15.5/20

Quite mute on the nose, dark fruits, fig and cocoa. Dense palate with firm and ripe tannins, opulent fruit – rich, savoury and attractive.

Vacqueyras La Grangelière 2021 15.5/20

Dark fig on the nose with juicy, vibrant, blue-fruit notes. Ripe mouthfeel with red fruits, a slight herbal twang and moderate, slightly drying tannins that will resolve.

Cairanne Les Hautes Rives white 2021 15.5/20

Freshly cut pears, white pepper and a real sense of fres some nutty notes come through on the palate -attractive

Cairanne Les Hautes Rives red 2021 15/20

Fresh red fruits on the nose with an earthy note beneath. Tight and chewy tannins, tinned strawberry and moderate acidity. Not complex in style, refreshing dans juicy for relatively young drinking.

Pierre Amadieu

drinkrhone.com

John Livingstone-Learmonth – octobre 2022

Gigondas Domaine Grand Romane 2021 * * * * (*)

Full red colour; the nose has a smoky intensity, cordite with red fruits, underpinned by a note of sweetness. It's still on its raising, has potential. The palate bears accomplished content, has style, with discreet oaking that helps to carry it in length. There is quality fruit on board here, and astute oaking as well. It's a well made, good and clear Gigondas.

Gigondas Romane Machotte 2021 * * * *

full red robe; the bouquet takes a savoury, beef stock route, is close-knit, the fruit dark. The palate is well composed of black berry content with linger in the rather fresh tannins, gathers notes of herbes de Provence, a still grainy feel to the tannins. It's well placed to evolve naturally, carried by its clarity and sensible depth of content. The finish is lucid, a spot of tingle there.

Gigondas Le Pas De l'Aigle 2021 * * * *

Dark red; the bouquet has a light top note of moss, seashore, with a floral hint, is well filled, on dark fruit. The palate links well to the nose, carries a bountiful level of content which is agreeably accessible from this early stage. The length is assured, and this gives a promising Gigondas with authority and good conviction There are southern notes, black olives, on the well filled aftertaste .

Wine Spectator

J. Molesworth - October 2022

Gigondas Le Pas de l'Aigle 2019 93/100

An expressive red, with warm fig and raspberry p ate de fruit laced with expressive violet perfume. The impressive finish is driven by roasted garrigue and mineral energy. This is still tightly coiled, however, and will need time for new layers to emerge. Grenache and Syrah. Drink now through 2030.

Gigondas Domaine Grand Romane 2020 92/100

This red boasts bitter cherry, crushed raspberry and red tea flavors that are bold, open and inviting. Tightly coiled and wound on the palate by a firming cage of tannins, this gains savory depth from black pepper and charred mesquite. Though delicious now, this is rendered one for the cellar due to subtly muscular tannins.

B. Sanderson - December 2022

Gigondas Romane Machotte 2020 90/100

An inviting, pretty wine, with high-toned violet and ripe raspberry notes that are both fresh and ripe on the palate. Delivers dusty mineral, singed mesquite and invigorating white pepper accents that add good savory dimension throughout the elegant finish.

Decanter

Matt Walls – August 2022

Gigondas Domaine Grand Romane 2021 92/100

Bright forest berry fruits. Clean and pure, but peculiarly low acidity for the vintage. Soft, melded tannins. Alcohol is fairly high. Gently floral, with decent length.

C tes du Rh one Domaine Grand Romane 2021 90/100

Dried citrus peels on the palate, alongside the flesh and bitter pith of pink grapefruit. Good intensity and bite, but the bitterness might be too much for some. 50-year-old vines grown at 400m near Gigondas.

WINE ENTHUSIAST

Anna Lee C. Iijima - January 2022

Gigondas Le Pas de l'Aigle 2018 93/100

Opulent and heady, this full-bodied red highlights the power and richness of Grenache with just 10% of Syrah blended for freshness and angularity. Packed with concentrated blackberry and cherry flavors and accented by hints of mesquite, tar and sweet spice, it's a mouth-coating wine with fine-grained, integrated tannins that are approachable now. At peak through 2030.

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*Pierre Amadieu***JEB DUNNUCK**

Jeb Dunnuck – January 2022

Gigondas Le Pas de l'Aigle 2019**92-94/100**

Lastly, the 2019 Gigondas Le Pas De L'Aigle comes from a higher elevation vineyard and is just about all Grenache that will spend two years in foudre before release. Absolutely loaded with Provençal goodness, it has sweet red and black fruits, spice, and garrigue notes to go with a medium to full-bodied, richly textured, balanced style on the palate. It's already hard to resist (even as a barrel sample) but will evolve gracefully for 15 years or more if stored properly.

Gigondas Romane Machotte 2020**90-92/100**

The 2020 Gigondas Romane Machotte should easily be outstanding and is another high-quality wine from this producer. Pure red and black fruits, peppery herbs, and spice all flow to a medium-bodied, classy, elegant Gigondas that's very much in the style of this fresher, pure, elegant vintage.

Gigondas Domaine Grand Romane 2020**90-92/100**

The 2020 Gigondas Domaine Grand Romane is more old-school in style and has meaty, spicy, earthy red and black fruits as well as some powerful, chewy tannins on the palate. The tannins will need to be watched, but this is a solid, possibly outstanding bottle of wine in the making. The blend is 65% Grenache, 20% Mourvèdre, and 15% Syrah brought up in very old barrels.

Gigondas Le Pas de l'Aigle 2020**91-94/100**

The flagship 2020 Gigondas Le Pas De L'Aigle is almost exclusively Grenache (there's 10% Syrah) that sees a longer élevage in foudre. Clean red and black fruits, spice, loamy soil, and leather notes all comprise the bouquet, and it's medium to full-bodied, with a balanced, elegant mouthfeel and a great finish. It's unquestionably a beautiful wine in the making, and with its longer élevage, it normally has plenty of up-front charm as well.

Vacqueyras La Grangelière 2020**89-91/100**

The entry level cuvée, the 2020 Vacqueyras La Grangelière is an 80/20 split of Grenache and Syrah. It has a juicy bouquet of bright berry and strawberry fruits as well as some Provençal herbs and pepper. Medium-bodied, pure, and easygoing, it's a total charmer that will drink nicely right out of the gate.

drinkrhone.com

John Livingstone-Learmonth – November 2021

Gigondas Domaine Grand Romane 2020****** (*)**

handsome dark red robe; the bouquet is wide, rich and appealing, carries oak, its depth sure, good definition in its cassis, smoky fruit. The palate has a cool tone through it, spine provided by freshness and oak together, pedigree fruit on either side. It clusters together on a mineral, reserved finish, has good potential, plenty in the locker, is long. Its smoothness of texture appeals, and its length is suave, prolonged, oak once more on the aftertaste.

Gigondas Le Pas de l'Aigle 2020***** (*)**

full red robe; the nose carries grilling, an air of pork scratchings, herbal touches, cold tea leaves, is reserved for now. The palate carries discreet spicing, is upright in shape, influenced by its oak, the red cherry fruit inside clear enough. It has both feet in the cellar, will require time to soft and appeal. The fruit can move forward, has enough depth and flow to achieve that. It's a modern, svelte sort of Gigondas, a little arm's length in feel.

Gigondas Romane Machotte 2020********

attractive full red colour; the nose is profound, based on red fruits, with oaking attached. It can open and stay the course well over time. The palate attacks on a firm wave of red fruited content, has slightly muscular tannins involved, lengthens with a sure hand into a broad finish, blood-iron notes there, notes of cut. It has good shape, will evolve well, carries freshness.

Cairanne Les Hautes Rives red 2020***** (*)**

dark red; the bouquet works well, offers stewed plum fruits from the Grenache, has a neat togetherness, comes with a hint of cocoa. The palate serves cooked plum fruits, a stone fruit emphasis, notes of garrigue late on, shows Cairanne in a true light. The finish develops thrust, is well rounded. It's a shapely wine that gives relaxed pleasure, won't be that long lived given the maturity of the fruit.

Vacqueyras La Grangelière 2020********

dark red; the bouquet is coming along, has an emerging air of blackberry, elderberry, a leafy, mineral tone. The palate is tightly drawn together, holds a firm level of content, the tannins compact, resolute. It's in a primary state, close-knit, with a knuckle of gras that needs time to spread and soften. Its red fruit is peeking out, and can advance further. Its shape is good for a second stage.

*Pierre Amadieu***Decanter**

Matt Walls - December 2021

Gigondas Domaine Grand Romane 2020**92/100**

Good weight and concentration, although the aromatics are discreet for now. This is well-balanced, there's a touch of oak that helps build some weight and length into the wine. Longer than most. Smooth and satisfying. Old vines at 400m, aged for 18 months - 60% in barriques (15% new) and 40% in foudres.

Jancis Robinson
JancisRobinson.com

James Lawther – December 2021

Gigondas Romane Machotte 2020**16/20**

Dark and reserved with a hint of herb and spice. A little austere on the palate but there's an intensity of fruit and solid tannic frame. Will need time to come around but has potential.

Vacqueyras La Grangelière 2020**16+/20**

Attractive red-berry and plum aromas. Well delineated on the palate, the fruit and balance there. Tannins long and fresh giving good persistence on the finish. Seems quite harmonious.

drinkrhone.com

John Livingstone-Learmonth – May 2021

Gigondas Romane Machotte 2019********

dark red; the bouquet has a loose ease about it, offers airs of nettles, herbs, dusty trails, with a little fine tuned black berry fruit, suggests its altitude in its still rather spare delivery. The palate is also fibrous, direct, carries vegetal connections with a crisp fruit that has verve and carries well. It's a linear Gigondas, one that will benefit from time, and can most certainly come together successfully – that is how things should be. Menthol on the aftertaste is preceded by salty moments, all good and local, and it will gradually fill out its flanks over time. It's a long term play. From 2024, decant it.

Gigondas Le Pas de l'Aigle 2019********

attractive dark red; the bouquet has a sunny filling of ripe black berry fruit, notes of oak, crushed nutshells, chocolate present. It's a sleek start, reflects cellar over vineyard for now. The palate holds shapely content, good purity in its dark fruit with lissom tannins in tow, spic, then oak again on the aftertaste. There is a steady, rather tight richness at its heart, and it will gradually lessen its oak effect, so leave until 2025 or so. It's modern, polished Gigondas, not really local as it stands. Decant it.

JEB DUNNUCK

Jeb Dunnuck – October 2020

Gigondas Le Pas De L'Aigle 2019**92-94/100**

The flagship 2019 Gigondas Le Pas De L'Aigle is the normal 90% Grenache and 10% Syrah brought up in cask. More peppery garrigue, cedary spice, dried incense, and both kirsch and blackberry-like fruit characteristics emerge from the glass, and it hits the palate with a medium-bodied, concentrated mouthfeel that carries plenty of structure and depth. As normal, this wine will need 2-4 years of bottle age but will be a classic, outstanding Gigondas that will evolve for over a decade.

Pierre Amadieu

vinous

Josh Reynolds – February 2020

Gigondas Le Pas De l'Aigle 2018 94-96/100

Shimmering violet color. Vibrant raspberry and floral scents are complicated by suggestions of *garrigue*, incense, exotic spices and smoky minerals. Juicy and energetic on the palate, offering deeply concentrated yet energetic red berry, cherry liqueur and spicecake flavors and a suave floral pastille nuance. Fine-grained, even tannins lend gentle grip to an extremely long, smooth finish that leaves sappy red fruit and allspice notes behind. This superb wine is shaping up to be the best one that I have ever tasted from this venerable estate.

drinkrhone.com

John Livingstone-Learmonth – February 2020

Gigondas Le Pas De l'Aigle 2018 * * *

(casks) full red colour; the bouquet has a Grenache-led spiced, red fruit jam, cooked strawberry aroma, comes with a trifle dusty aspect. The palate bears some of the baking of the hot vintage, is compressed, the juice clamped, the tannins firm to dry. It's a sunshine, Southern, grounded wine, which requires keeping to bring more freedom and expression, and to soften it as well: it can do that, will have its moment in the sun later on. Decant it. 15°.

Jancis Robinson
JancisRobinson.com

Richard Hemming – november2019

Gigondas Le Pas de l'Aigle 2018 15.5/20

90% Grenache, 10% Syrah. Aged for 24 months in old oak. Cask sample. Tasted blind. Strawberry and cherry fruit, piquant spices which give good contrast to the ripe fruit, and moderate length that finishes with hot alcohol.

JEB DUNNUCK

Jeb Dunnuck – September 2019

Gigondas Le Pas De L'Aigle 2018 91-93/100

Not yet bottled, the 2018 Gigondas Le Pas De L'Aigle (90/10 Grenache and Syrah) offers a medium-bodied, elegant, seamless style as well as perfumed notes of black raspberries, graphite, spice cabinet, and dried flower-like nuances. It has good density on the mid-palate, outstanding balance, and a great finish, all pointing to a terrific Gigondas that will drink well of over a decade.

Robert Parker
WINE ADVOCATE

Joe Czerwinski – September 2019

Gigondas Le Pas de l'Aigle 2018 93-95/100

Mainly (90%) 65-year-old Grenache grown at 400 meters above sea level on blue clay, Amadieu's 2018 Gigondas le Pas de l'Aigle looks to be another top success. Still in barrel (where it stays for two years), it's full-bodied, supple and rich, with bold raspberry and cherry fruit, a velvety mouthfeel and a long, rich finish marked by ripe tannins.

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