



CÔTES DE PROVENCE 2021

GRAPES ARE SELECTED FROM VINES THAT GROW FROM PARCELS OF SUPERIOR QUALITY. THE BEST QUALITY LOTS BEARING OLD VINES CONSISTING PRIMARILY OF GRENACHE, VERMENTINO AND SYRAH. HARVESTING AT SUNRISE TO NOON. OPTICAL GRAPE SORTING. DESTEMMING AND SLIGHT CRUSHING AT 7-8°C TO AVOID OXIDATION. 90% FREE RUN JUICE. 10% FIRST SLIGHT PRESSING. NO MACERATION. ALCOHOLIC FERMENTATION IN NEW AND SECOND YEAR DEMI-MUIDS (600 L BARRELS). 10 MONTHS BURGUNDIAN STYLE «BÂTONNAGE» TWICE WEEKLY. INDIVIDUAL BARREL TEMPERATURE CONTROL.

JAMESSUCKLING.COM

95/100

A complex and intense rosé. Very serious. Drink or hold. ... there is probably no better example of commitment to a rosé than the Château d'Esclans Côte de Provence Garrus Rosé 2021. Intense, ample and full-bodied with impressive tension, structure and purity, it's a consistently serious great rosé.

the drinks business

94/100

La tête de cuvée du Château d'Esclans made from old-vine Grenache now almost a century old; vinified and aged entirely in French demi-muids; 14% alcohol). This is the most iconic rosé produced today in France and probably the world too. The property wants to encourage comparison with the world's leading white wines and that makes a lot of sense — though it, of course, also shines in this comparative tasting of leading rosé wines. Just a shade more copper and bronze than Les Clans, with the same limpid, crystalline purity — if perhaps just a little more obvious viscosity. There are discernible similarities on the nose too — these are cut from the same cloth — though Garrus is, again, more intense and more concentrated. Raspberry flesh, a hint of red cherry stone, pain d'épices, toasted brioche, grated ginger and a more Burgundian element of straw bales and a gentle nutty natural sweetness that comes from the aging in demi-muids. On the palate this is pure, precise, focused but also incredibly dense and compact for a rosé with an energetic, almost structural, sense of freshness and a brilliant sapidity on the finish, where the cinnamon notes return again with just a hint of mandarin zest and fresh lime. Very impressive. **Colin Hay**



The ultimate expression of rosé from top Provencal producer Château d'Esclans is a fantastic, powerful wine that's been built to last. Indeed, this 2021 expression seems a little too youthful, and would benefit from another few months in the bottle to allow the wonderful mix of flavours to knit together a touch more closely. Nevertheless, there is so much to recommend this fine wine, made using the oldest vines on this property, with its layers of fruit — from white cherry to ripe pear, blood orange to juicy citrus — and complementary characters from barrel ageing, including toast and vanilla cream, along with a woody note of pencil shavings. **Patrick Schmitt MW**

TOM CANNAN'S WINE-PAGES.COM

95/100

Garrus must, I suspect, blow the minds of some tasters. It's enough trying to get ones head around a rosé that sells for more than £100 per bottle, but this wine is also anything but 'showy'. Instead, this blend of Grenache and Vermentino is subtle, restrained and intellectual. It seems obvious that the ambition of Sacha Lichine of Château d'Esclans is to create a pink wine, with the qualities of a fine white Burgundy: vines are 100 years old, and the wine is fermented and aged 10 months in 100% new oak - though the barrels are big 600-litre 'demi-muids', so there no overt 'oakiness' on either nose or palate. Instead, intense and concentrated small red berry fruits mingle with firm lemon and ripe apple, a minerality at the core of the aroma giving a strict but inviting character. In the mouth this is so youthful and will sure improve over a decade or more, though for now it is deliciously powerful and yet linear and taut, those small red berry flavours easing into gentle spice, the subtlest oak creaminess and plenty of shimmering acidity.

Wine Spectator

92/100

Delivers alluring aromatics grounded by generous salty, savory power, with light peach and white cherry flavors highlighted by grilled thyme and rosemary. Creamy and lush, with a persistent finish supported by chalky, smoky minerality. Grenache and Rolle