

TASTING NOTES

2016



ANTONIO GALLONI - VINOUS

88-91/100

The 2016 Ripeau, 90% Merlot and 10% Cabernet Franc, shows great power and density. The wine exudes richness in its deep blue/purplish-hued fruit, and the 100% new French oak adds to the opulent, full-throttle feel. Overall, the 2016 is a big wine with quite a bit of potential. Claude Gros is the consulting winemaker.

JANCIS ROBINSON

16,5 + /20

Very distinctive, sweet and relaxed. Settled and rich but not excessively sweet. Slightly reminiscent of Terre Roteboeuf. Good meat extract stuff with real length.

Drink 2024-2038

JANE ANSON

90/100

Bright and firm fruits, very much on the intense fruit register, but with excellent balance and elongated tannins.

Drink 2027-2050

JEFF LEVE FOR THE WINE CELLAR INSIDER

91/100

Dark in color, this wine offers floral, dark berry, licorice, smoke, chocolate and sweet cherries.

Round, fleshly, forward and fresh, the wine was produced from blending 90% Merlot and 10% Cabernet Franc.

PIERRE CITERNE POUR LA RVF

16-17/20

Issu d'une vinification très spécifique (fermentation à basse température), il persiste dans la voie ambitieuse initiée par le 2015. Un fruit particulièrement dense, encore primaire, qui nourrit une structure puissante mais déjà déliée, d'une grande cohérence.

NEAL MARTIN FOR THE WINE ADVOCATE

89-91/100

The 2016 Ripeau is a blend of 90% Merlot and 10% Cabernet Franc picked between 12-20 October and matured in 100% new oak. It has a hedonistic and decadent bouquet with exotic black cherry, crème de cassis and licorice scents that are lacking delineation and do not really articulate the growing season. The palate then turns volte face and is nicely structured with grainy tannin, a dash of spice and good definition on the finish. I suspect that the aromatics will gain more composure by the time of bottling.

Drink 2021- 2038.

TIM ATKINS

92/100

New to my report this year, this was one of the discoveries of the Saint-Emilion Grand Cru Classé tasting. Comparatively forward and approachable in style, it has silky smooth tannins, some chalky freshness, nuanced oak and a core of plum and bramble fruit. 2020-26.

YVES BECK

91-92/100

Robe pourpre violacé. Bouquet de bonne intensité révélant des notes de fruits confits et d'épices.

A l'aération je relève également des notes de craies et de fruits noirs.

Attaque suave et minérale. Le corps est marqué par une structure vive, dure et chaleureuse en finale. Tannins serrés qui ont la matière pour tenir tête à l'acidité. Un vin séduisant, qui assume bien cet état de fait, car il sait se montrer convaincant de par sa fraîcheur et sa tension. Drink 2022-2041.

LE FIGARO

16/20

Vieille rose, fruits rouges frais, cerises, poivre blanc. Bouche ample, tannins un peu serrés, tendus.

JAMES SUCKLING

90-91/100

This shows transparency and attractive fruit character. Medium body and firm and silky tannins. A little rustic but starting to get serious.