

# Côte-Rôtie 2016

## **Wine advocate**

2016 Chateau de Saint Cosme • Cote Rotie  
View wine

Rating: 93

Price: NA

Drink Date: 2018 - 2025

Reviewed by:  
Joe Czerwinski

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A blend of Syrah from the lieux-dits of le Plomb, Besset, la Viallière and Neve, Saint Cosme's 2016 Cote Rotie was fermented using whole clusters and aged in (mostly) used barrels. It's a sexy, supple Côte Rôtie, with notes of hickory smoke, wood ash and bacon balanced by lush dark-fruit flavors. Slurp it down it over the next 7-8 years while waiting for some of the more tannic examples of the appellation to mature.

## **Jeb Dunnuck**

SAINT COSME Côte Rôtie 2016 – 95 points

“The 2016 Côte-Rôtie comes all from the Côte Brune side of the appellation, which is all schist soils. Fermented with no destemming and aged mostly in older barrels, it's a rock star Côte-Rôtie and offers loads of blackberry fruits, spice, tapenade, cured meats, and pepper. With medium to full body, a deep, layered mid-palate, present tannins, and a huge finish, it needs short-term cellaring but is an undeniably gorgeous Syrah that will have two decades of longevity.”

## **Vinous**

AOP Côte Rôtie, Saint-Cosme, rouge 2016 - Rating 93

Deep magenta. Smoke- and spice-accented aromas of fresh black and blue fruits, minerals, candied violet and olive, along with a hint of cracked pepper that builds in the glass. Sweet, palate-staining cassis, blackberry, floral pastille and cola flavors turn livelier with air and take on exotic spice nuances. Bright and distinctly energetic thanks to a spine of smoky minerality. That minerality carries through the impressively long, spicy finish, which features mounting tannins and lingering florality. Louis Barruol's passion for Syrah, specifically in its original iteration, Serine, is palpable, as anybody who has had the chance to discuss the subject and taste the wine with him will attest. Barruol set up this négociant operation back in 2000 and has been sourcing fruit from a consistent set of growers in the north ever since. Sadly, the piece of the Nève lieu-dit, which sits high up in the Côte-Brune sector of Côte-Rôtie and with which he has worked since the beginning, was recently sold, so it's back to the drawing board to find a new source of fruit. “That's going to be really hard,” he told me. “I love that site but because so many of the best vineyards of the small farmers have been bought by domaines or large wineries, that leaves small négociants, like me, out in the cold.” I found both the 2015 and 2016 vintages to be quite successful for Barruol, who noted that they “couldn't be more different. With 2015 you have power, broad shoulders and structure and with 2016 you have energy, you have more detail. It's more of a terroir vintage for now.” While Barruol is confident that the 2016s will age well “with no worries,” he thinks that the 2015s “are just wines to forget for now and for a while. They are beasts.”

**James Suckling**

SAINT COSME Côte Rôtie 2016 – 94 points

“Stony aromas with sweet spices in abundance, ahead of ripe plums and raspberries. The palate has silky tannins and a very suave, fleshy array of ripe, red plums and nectarines. Long and delicious.”