

Le Claux 2012

Wine spectator

96 points Probably my favorite of the single vineyard releases (although, truthfully, I find the quality among the three almost indistinguishable), the 2012 Gigondas Le Claux has beautiful minerality to go with notions of black fruits, smoked herbs, graphite and liquid violets. A big, full-bodied Gigondas, it never puts a foot wrong, has building, polished tannin and a blockbuster finish that stays focused. Give it a couple years and enjoy bottles through 2032.

2012 Chateau Saint Cosme Gigondas Les Claux (Reviewed in Issue 216) \$90 Louis Barruol's single vineyard releases continue to lead the way in this terrific appellation. The 2012 Gigondas Les Claux was my favorite of his 2012s and offers gorgeous richness and depth, with a seamless, silky texture. It's beautiful even now (I've already drank one of my stash) but will evolve for 15 years or more. Jeb Dunnock 93-96 points : More aromatic and complex compared to the Valbelle, the 2012 Gigondas Le Claux exhibits notions of potpourri, leather, graphite and flowers to go with a full-bodied, elegant and pure profile on the palate. It too doesn't lack for fruit or structure and should have 15-20 years of ultimate longevity. (Not yet released)

Stephen Tanzer

92 - 2012 Château de Saint Cosme Gigondas Les Claux Bright violet color. Pungent black and blue fruit aromas open with air, taking on suave floral and Indian spice character. Stains the palate with sweet blackberry and boysenberry flavors that become more lively with air. This extremely youthful Gigondas finishes with serious power, velvety tannins and a whiplash of sweet dark fruit.

Decanter

Château de St-Cosme, Le Claux

2012 18.5 (95)

£45.46 Cru World Wine

Louis Barruol's single-vineyard wines are among the best in Gigondas. Expressive, vivid, detailed nose of raspberry, juniper and rose. Gorgeous strawberry and damson fruit on the palate. Very fine, elegant, long and balanced. Exceptional, and deserves its price tag. Drink 2017-2030 Alc 14.5%