Valbelle 2009

Wine advocate

88- I had the same issue with the 2009 Gigondas Valbelle, which had shown extremely well from barrel, but the hail damage seems to have given the wine a much more pinched, tannic and astringent side to it. There's plenty of concentration, some very pretty black fruits, licorice and truffle, but the tannins are coarse and the wine seems to suffer a bit from the tannins.

Wine spectator

CHÂTEAU DE ST.-COSME Gigondas Valbelle 2009 Score: 94 Release Price \$58 Country France Region Southern Rhône Issue Oct 31, 2011 Top 100: 2011, Rank: 10

Tasting Note

A gorgeous wine, with an interplay of ripe, dripping blackberry, cassis and plum sauce flavors providing the flesh, offset by smoldering charcoal, tobacco and bittersweet cocoa notes, which provide the angles. The long finish has nice intensity. Best from 2012 through 2022. 1,175 cases made.

—JM