

2016 Domaine Santa Duc product-pdf - Gigondas Aux Lieux-Dits - A 93pt. Blockbuster - Not for the Shy!

Why We're Drinking It

Incredibly vibrant, energetic, lush, and jam-packed Gigondas at a head-spinner of a price. Grenache, Mourvèdre, Syrah and Cinsault (the classic blend) is just off the charts in the great 2016 vintage!

Dating back to 1874, six generations succeed each other at Domaine Santa Duc, each adding their own contribution to its development. Massal selections, biodynamics, whole cluster vinification, fermentation with wild yeasts, minimum intervention, non-filtered wines.... Parcel by parcel, Benjamin Gras maintains this meticulous approach at the head of the estate, engaging this heritage and these skills in the service of two immense terroirs of the southern Rhone Valley.

Vinous, 93 points: *"Dark, shimmering ruby. Cherry-cola, black raspberry and pungent flowers on the spice-inflected nose. Coats the palate with appealing sweet red and dark berry, floral pastille and spicecake flavors that open up slowly through the mid-palate. Smooth, even tannins frame an impressively long, spicy finish that echoes the floral note."*

James Suckling, 92-93 points: *"This has superb fruit-freshness. Aromas of wild cherries, raspberries and poached strawberries, set amid a wealth of freshly picked, wild herbs. Super, vibrant palate with succulent and slickly layered tannins. Long, plush, even and supple. Drink or hold."*

We have only 15 cases -- first come, first served...!

VARIETAL

Rhone Blend

APPELLATION

Gigondas, Rhone Valley, France

ALCOHOL

14.50

SIZE

750ml

BLEND

Rhone Blend

The Story to Know

1874, The first buildings are constructed. Six generations succeed each other at Domaine Santa Duc, each adding their own contribution to its development. Grenache, Mourvèdre, Syrah and Cinsault; the Gras family are committed to bringing out the best in these noble grapes. Massal selections, biodynamics, whole cluster vinification, fermentation with wild yeasts, minimum intervention, non-filtered wines.... Parcel by parcel, Benjamin Gras maintains this meticulous approach at the head of the estate, engaging this heritage and these skills in the service of two immense terroirs of the southern Rhone Valley – Gigondas and Châteauneuf-du-Pape.

Ratings

Vinous, 93 points

"Dark, shimmering ruby. Cherry-cola, black raspberry and pungent flowers on the spice-inflected nose. Coats the palate with appealing sweet red and dark berry, floral pastille and spicecake flavors that open up slowly through the mid-palate. Smooth, even tannins frame an impressively long, spicy finish that echoes the floral note."

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Robert Parker's Wine Advocate, 91-93 points

"The 2016 Gigondas Aux Lieux Dits had been blended at the time of my visit, but not yet bottled. It looks reassuringly

close to how I remember it from last year, with pronounced garrigue notes joined by hints of licorice and blackberries. It's full-bodied, creamy textured and supple, with a long, velvety finish."

Jeb Dunnuck, 91 points

"Leading off the wines tasted from bottle, the classic 2016 Gigondas Aux Lieux Dits offers textbook Gigondas style in its darker fruits, peppery herbs, lavender, and earthy aromas and flavors. With medium to full-bodied richness, beautiful purity, and impeccable balance, it's a no-brainer purchase that's going to have 10-15 years of longevity."
