



PRESS - VINTAGES 2016 through 2022

Châteauneuf du Pape Adrastée

2023	Jeb Dunnuck 2024	(93-95)
2022	<i>Not released in vintage 2022</i>	-
2021	Jeb Dunnuck 2023	93
2021	VertdeVin 2023	94
2020	Jeb Dunnuck 2022	96
2019	Jeb Dunnuck 2021	97
2018	Jeb Dunnuck 2019	(92-94+)
2017	Wine Advocate - Joe Czerwinski 2018	(94-96)
2016	Jeb Dunnuck 2018	98
2016	Vinous - Josh Reynolds 2019	94

Châteauneuf du Pape

2022	Jeb Dunnuck 2023	92-94
2021	Jeb Dunnuck 2022	91
2020	Jeb Dunnuck 2022	94
2019	Wine Enthusiast 2022	95 - Editors' Choice
2019	Jeb Dunnuck 2020	93
2018	Wine Spectator 2020	92
2018	Wine Enthusiast 2021	94 - Editors' Choice
2017	Jeb Dunnuck 2019	94
2016	Wine Enthusiast 2018	93 - Cellar Selection
2016	Jeb Dunnuck 2018	94

Gigondas

2022	Jeb Dunnuck 2023	90-92
2021	VertdeVin 2023	93
2021	Jeb Dunnuck 2022	90-92+
2020	Jeb Dunnuck 2022	94
2019	Wine Spectator 2022	91
2019	Jeb Dunnuck 2021	92
2018	Wine Enthusiast 2021	90
2018	Wine Spectator 2020	92
2017	Wine Enthusiast 2019	94 - Editors' Choice



PRESS - VINTAGES 2016 through 2022

Vacqueyras

2022	Jeb Dunnuck 2023	89-91
2021	VertdeVin	90
2021	Jeb Dunnuck 2022	90-92
2020	Jeb Dunnuck 2022	91
2019	Wine Spectator 2022	90
2019	Jeb Dunnuck 2021	92
2018	Jeb Dunnuck 2020	93
2018	Wine Enthusiast 2021	93 - Editors' Choice
2017	Bettane & Desseauve 2020	14,5/20
2017	Vinous - Josh Raynolds 2020	92
2016	Wine Spectator 2018	92
2016	Bettane & Desseauve 2019	16,5/20

Côtes du Rhône

2023	Jeb Dunnuck 2023	90-92
2022	Jeb Dunnuck 2023	91
2021	Jeb Dunnuck 2022	90
2020	Jeb Dunnuck 2022	90
2019	Jeb Dunnuck 2021	90
2018	Jeb Dunnuck 2020	90
2018	Wine Spectator 2019	91

Costières de Nîmes

2021	Jeb Dunnuck 2022	90
2020	Jeb Dunnuck 2022	90
2019	Wine Spectator 2022	91
2018	Wine Enthusiast 2021	89 - Best Buy



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PRESS - VINTAGES 2016 through 2022

Costières de Nîmes blanc

2023	James Suckling 2024	90
2022	Jeb Dunnuck 2023	90

Grenache

2022	Jeb Dunnuck 2023	91
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Viognier

2022	Jeb Dunnuck 2023	90
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2022 Les Halos de Jupiter Chateauneuf du Pape

September 2024

Yohan Castaing

91

A blend of 85% Grenache, 10% Syrah and 5% Mourvèdre, the 2021 Chateauneuf du Pape primarily features notes of black cherries, with hints of garrigue, cedar and vanilla. Aged in second- and third-use 600-liter demi-muids, it's full-bodied, plush and supple but with a nice spine of acidity running through it, and it has a softly dusty finish.

2021 Les Halos de Jupiter Chateauneuf du Pape

May 2024

Joe Czerwinski

91

A blend of 85% Grenache, 10% Syrah and 5% Mourvèdre, the 2021 Chateauneuf du Pape primarily features notes of black cherries, with hints of garrigue, cedar and vanilla. Aged in second- and third-use 600-liter demi-muids, it's full-bodied, plush and supple but with a nice spine of acidity running through it, and it has a softly dusty finish.

2021 Les Halos de Jupiter Gigondas

May 2024

Joe Czerwinski

90

Mainly Grenache, with just a bit of Mourvèdre, the 2021 Gigondas shows hints of cedar and vanilla, despite claims it was aged in "neutral" demi-muids. It's still a nicely aromatic offering, with minty-herbal nuances, red cherries and hints of black olives. Medium to full-bodied, this excellent wine is dusty and tannic, but those tannins are ripe, and the softly textured finish makes it approachable young.

2022 Les Halos de Jupiter Costieres de Nimes Syrah

May 2024

Joe Czerwinski

(88-90)

Now solely owned by the Gassier family, Les Halos de Jupiter has turned out a lovely 2022 Costieres de Nimes Syrah. Bursting with floral, pepper and blueberry aromas, it almost seems like there's a hint of Viognier, but the blended wine in this case is 5% Mourvèdre. It's medium to full-bodied and the tannins are supple, yet the wine shows decent acids and ample length. At the time of my tasting in summer 2023, it was set to age two years in demi-muids.



JAMES SUCKLING

March, 2024

Halos de Jupiter Costières de Nîmes Blanc 2023 90 Points

A medium-bodied, round and mellow blend of 65% roussanne and 35% grenache blanc, this is supple and balanced with a delicious, fruit-driven finish.



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March 31, 2024

92 - HALOS DE JUPITER Châteauneuf-du-Pape 2021

Displays a nice, earthy dimension -- wet soil, singed garrigue and tobacco leaf -
- infusing a base of sappy plum and mulled cherry. Red tea, sweet spices and
milk chocolate detail the rich palate. Pleasantly chewy in texture, with notes of
iron shavings and smoked incense.

90 - HALOS DE JUPITER Vacqueyras 2021

Floral, with tea rose and lavender accents introducing flavors of black cherry
and plum puree. Fleshy, yet also mineral-driven, with generous graphite notes
and a tug of earth and tar. Supple and fleshy, with appealing black pepper traces
on the finish.

 *Halos de* **JUPITER**

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2024

Nicolas Greinacher

2022 Châteauneuf-du-Pape Halos de Jupiter

90 points

The 2022 Châteauneuf-du-Pape Halos de Jupiter unwinds with fragrant raspberry compote, ripe strawberry, spicy licorice and a suggestion of cedar. Hitting the palate with sweet-tasting fruit, the 2022 boasts soft, gentle tannins and checks out with an expressive finish.

2022 Gigondas Les Halos de Jupiter

91 points

The bold 2022 Gigondas Les Halos de Jupiter showcases intense wood smoke, black cherry compote, strawberry jam and licorice. Touching the palate with sweet tasting fruit, the full-bodied and concentrated 2022 is neatly balanced by fresh acidity and wraps up with a juicy finale. This modern Gigondas is flexing its muscles.

2022 Vacqueyras Les Halos de Jupiter

90 points

The delicious 2022 Vacqueyras outperforms the 2021 I tasted last year. Stacked with ample flavor concentration and gently structured by soft tannins, the full-bodied 2022 opens with pressed violets, raspberry, red cherry and a citric slice of grapefruit. Juicy and generous, this is a delicious Vacqueyras closing with a savory and uplifting aftertaste.

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JEB DUNNUCK

Producer: Halos de Jupiter

Article: Southern Rhône: The 2021s From Bottle and the 2022s from Barrel

While the 2021s from this notable estate were made with input from the late Philippe Cambie, the 2022s were made completely by Château de Nages's Michel Gassier, who was the longtime friend and winemaker alongside Cambie since Halos de Jupiter's first vintage. As always, the goal with these wines is to focus on Grenache from the different appellations, and tasting through these releases is an incredible education in the different terroirs of the region.

2021 Halos de Jupiter Châteauneuf-du-Pape Adrastée 93

All Grenache, the tiny production 2021 Châteauneuf Du Pape Adrastée shows the more elegant style of the vintage with its beautiful strawberry and framboise fruit as well as flowery incense and spicy aromas and flavors. With medium to full-bodied richness, it has fine tannins, beautiful balance, and a great finish.

2021 Halos de Jupiter Châteauneuf-du-Pape 91

Moving to the two Châteauneuf du Papes, the 2021 Châteauneuf Du Pape is a blend of 85% Grenache, 10% Syrah, and the remainder Mourvèdre that was raised in one- and two-year-old French oak Burgundy demi muids. Perfumed black raspberries, flowery incense, sandalwood, and spice give way to a medium-bodied, round, supple, and layered 2021 with ripe tannins and outstanding length.

2022 Halos de Jupiter Châteauneuf-du-Pape 92-94

While they're not sure if an Adrastée will be produced or not, the 2022 Châteauneuf Du Pape will be worth your time and money. Black raspberries, darker strawberries, pepper, and loads of floral notes all define the aromatics, and it's medium-bodied, with a pure, layered, mouth-filling texture, ripe tannins, and a great finish. A blend of 85% Grenache, 10% Syrah, and 5% Mourvèdre that was destemmed and is still resting in used demi-muids, it will have 15 years of overall longevity.

2022 Halos de Jupiter Gigondas 90-92

Based on 90% Grenache and 10% Syrah, the 2022 Gigondas has a rocking bouquet of black raspberries, sandalwood, white pepper, and candied violets. It's medium-bodied, focused, has a firm spine of tannins, and a great finish. It should easily be an outstanding wine.

2022 Halos de Jupiter Vacqueyras 89-91

Not yet bottled, the 2022 Vacqueyras (85% Grenache and 15% Syrah) has a round, ripe, easy going style with medium to full body, an up-front, elegant texture, good ripeness, and fine tannins, without



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a huge amount of overall density and concentration. It should fill out nicely in bottle and has 7-8 years of prime drinking.

2021 Halos de Jupiter Côtes du Rhône 90

The 2021 Côtes Du Rhône checks in as 75% Grenache, 15% Mourvèdre, and 20% Syrah that was all destemmed and brought up in older demi-muids for a year. It has a juicy, medium-bodied, complex style as well as classic red and black fruits, flowery garrigue, and pepper. I love its elegance, and it has ripe tannins as well as a great finish.

2022 Halos de Jupiter Costières de Nîmes Blanc 90

The 2022 Costières De Nîmes Blanc is based on 50% Grenache Blanc, 30% Clairette, and the rest Roussanne. It has a beautiful, fresh, tropical style as well as medium-bodied richness and depth on the palate. It would be a fabulous house white for drinking over the coming couple of years.

2021 Halos de Jupiter Costières de Nîmes 90

A blend of 85% Grenache with a balance of Syrah and Mourvèdre, the 2021 Costières De Nîmes is deep ruby-hued, with a beautiful array of red and black berry fruits as well as spring flowers, violets, and peppery garrigue. It's medium-bodied, has a supple, elegant mouthfeel, good mid-palate density, and a great finish.

2022 Halos de Jupiter IGP Gard Grenache 91

All Grenache that saw a touch of stems, the 2022 IGP Gard Grenache has a pretty, perfumed, more medium-bodied style in its wild strawberry, leather, camphor, and savory floral/incense-like aromas and flavors. I love its balance, and it has fine tannins as well as outstanding length. This gorgeous, pretty, feminine Grenache will keep for 3-5 years.

2022 Halos de Jupiter IGP Gard Viognier 90

A wine that sees a touch of malolactic fermentation, the 2022 IGP Gard Viognier is 100% varietal aged in concrete and demi-muids. It has ripe stone fruits, apricots, and honeyed flower notes in a medium-bodied, balanced, elegant, impressive style that's going to be versatile on the dinner table. It should drink nicely for a couple of years.

- Jeb Dunnuck (November 03, 2023)

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Juillet 2023

By Xavier Lacombe

94 points - Halos de Jupiter, Châteauneuf-du-Pape Cuvée Adrastea 2021

A shiny cherry colour. The nose reveals nuances of fresh strawberries, dried plums and sweet raspberries. A fine, spicy character emerges in a subtle, refined way, with a floral side also developing with fresh rose notes. Full-bodied on the palate, the attack propels us into beautifully bright fruit. A dense, very fresh wine with fine, elegant tannins.

93 points - Halos de Jupiter Gigondas 2021

A shiny cherry colour. Elegant nose of coffee and cedar. Moderate aeration reveals a duo of red and black fruits. The palate is dense and rich, with notes of blackcurrant, blackberry, raspberry and strawberry. This is very ripe fruit that still keeps its crunchiness. The woodiness quickly appears, evoking very pleasant notes of noble woods, but which for the moment mask some of the wine's fruitiness on the mid-palate. It would therefore be wise to keep this wine, and given the quality of each of the parameters, it's well worth the wait! We can clearly see a superb evolution towards tobacco, probably within 4 years. The tannins are clean, assertive, fresh and precise. A very fine example with excellent potential!

Halos de Jupiter Vacqueyras 2021

Attractive ruby purple colour, bright and light. Fresh, fruity nose of blackcurrant and strawberry. White pepper and liquorice soon emerge, adding impetus and complexity. Aeration releases gourmet notes of blackcurrant and raspberry. The attack on the palate is generous and full-bodied, with a fruity edge and a light but lively density. The lovely combination of fruit and spice is quickly apparent. The tannins are gritty on the mid-palate, offering texture but also harshness. This wine needs two years to soften and benefits greatly from aeration, gaining in fruit and density.



JEB DUNNUCK

Southern Rhône's 2020 & 2021

With the unfortunate passing of Philippe Cambie in 2021, the winemaking at Halos de Jupiter is handled by the talented Michel Gassier. I doubt anyone knew Philippe or his winemaking style better than Michel, so I expect there to be little change in the style – or quality – of these wines going forward.

2020 Halos de Jupiter Châteauneuf-du-Pape Adrastée 96

The 2020 Châteauneuf Du Pape Adrastée brings more fruit and texture, yet it still remains perfectly balanced. Tons of ripe red and black fruits, flowery incense, pepper, garrigue, and spice give way to a full-bodied, pleasure-bent, sexy 2020 offering silky tannins, a great mid-palate, and the balance and class to drink well for 15 years or more. This cuvée comes primarily (all?) from the La Crau lieu-dit and is 100% Grenache.

2021 Halos de Jupiter Châteauneuf-du-Pape 91-93

Lastly, the 2021 Châteauneuf Du Pape is based on 85% Grenache, 10% Syrah, and 5% Mourvedre. It's another pure, medium to full-bodied, balanced, impeccably made wine from the label that has textbook aromatics of red and black fruits, iron, graphite, and assorted meaty nuances. The tannins are ripe and nicely integrated, and this is a sure bet to be a terrific, outstanding bottle of wine.

2020 Halos de Jupiter Châteauneuf-du-Pape 94

Looking at the two Châteauneuf du Pape releases, the base 2020 Châteauneuf Du Pape has a pretty, perfumed, complex nose of black raspberries, blackberries, flowery incense, and peppery herbs. It's full-bodied, round, and lush, yet still brings ample structure and balance. Drink it over the coming decade or more.

2021 Halos de Jupiter Gigondas 90-92+

The 2021 Gigondas is spicier and more complex, with a great bouquet of blue fruits, herbes de Provence, sandalwood, and spice box. It shows more red fruits with time in the glass and is medium-bodied, has a great, concentrated mid-palate, and ripe tannins. It's should easily be an outstanding wine with a solid decade of longevity.

2020 Halos de Jupiter Gigondas 94

The 2020 Gigondas offers more classic Gigondas structure, even a touch of austerity, with spicy red and black fruits, medium to full body, notes of peppery herbs and candied flowers, and a great finish. It shows more fruit with air, as well as some obvious minerality on the finish. This is a brilliant bottle of wine that readers should jump on.

2021 Halos de Jupiter Vacqueyras 90-92

My money is on the 2021 Vacqueyras being an outstanding wine, and it certainly does well in the vintage. Lots of classic Vacqueyras blue fruits, peppery herbs, and violet characteristics give way to a medium-bodied, nicely concentrated, balanced barrel sample that shines on all accounts.



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2020 Halos de Jupiter Vacqueyras **91**
Complex black and blue fruits, violets, and peppery, bouquet garni-like notes emerge from the 2020 Vacqueyras, another lush, opulent wine from this talented team that has soft tannins, terrific balance, and a pure, seamless style that's already drinking beautifully.

2021 Halos de Jupiter Côtes du Rhône **89-91**
The 2021 Côtes Du Rhône has plenty of fruit, spicy, Provençal, floral notes, and the fresher, elegant, pretty style of the vintage. A blend of 75% Grenache, 15% Mourvedre, and the rest Syrah, it's another impressive 2021 from this team that has outstanding potential.

2020 Halos de Jupiter Côtes du Rhône **90**
A bigger, richer wine, the 2020 Côtes Du Rhône (75% Grenache, 15% Mourvedre, and 10% Syrah) has both red and black fruits as well as some classic southern Rhône peppery herbs and spice. It's medium to full-bodied, has a layered, opulent mouthfeel, and a great finish. While the Costieres de Nîmes release is all about finesse and elegance, this is more about power and richness, yet it stays wonderfully balanced.

2021 Halos de Jupiter Costières de Nîmes **89-91**
Leading off the 2021 barrel samples, the 2021 Costieres de Nîmes has a meaty, bloody, iron-like character as well as medium body, plenty of ripe, darker berry fruits, good mid-palate density, and solid length on the finish. It certainly has potential and might end up being an outstanding wine.

2020 Halos de Jupiter Costières de Nîmes **90**
The 2020 Costieres de Nîmes is mostly Grenache, with 10% Mourvedre and 5% Syrah. It has a great nose of darker berry fruits as well as some more exotic notions of orange blossom, violets, and flowers. Medium-bodied, and nicely textured on the palate, this seamless, incredibly charming, elegant even, 2020 is perfect for drinking over the coming 4-6 years or so.

- Jeb Dunnuck (11/11/2022)

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Wine Spectator



92 - HALOS DE JUPITER Châteauneuf-du-Pape 2019

Stylish, with a perfumed edge to the mix of cherry, raspberry and plum coulis notes, while hints of lavender, garrigue and shiso leaf underscore the finish. Shows sneaky depth, too. Grenache and Mourvèdre.

91 - HALOS DE JUPITER Gigondas 2019

This has a nice, lush feel, featuring black cherry and blackberry compote flavors that cruise through, with hints of violet, dark chocolate and anise through the finish. A comfort wine. Grenache, Mourvèdre and Syrah.

91 - HALOS DE JUPITER Costières de Nîmes 2019

Ripe and juicy in feel, with a mix of black cherry and raspberry compote notes wrapped in licorice root and garrigue hints. This has a subtle sanguine hint that curls around the finish, adding latent length. Grenache, Mourvèdre and Syrah.

90 - HALOS DE JUPITER Vacqueyras 2019

Stylish, with black cherry and blackberry notes, which meld with singed sandalwood and dried garrigue accents through the dusty finish. Grenache and Syrah.

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JEB DUNNUCK

Southern Rhône's 2019s and 2020s

2020 Halos de Jupiter Châteauneuf-du-Pape Adrastée **95-97**

Lastly, the 2020 Châteauneuf du Pape Adrastée ranks with the crème de la crème of the vintage. All Grenache from 100-year-old vines in the La Crau lieu-dit, it was completely destemmed and is still resting in once-used demi-muids. Gorgeous framboise, ripe black cherries, lavender, violets, and incense all give way to a full-bodied Grenache with a great mid-palate, ultra-fine tannins, and just about perfect balance. It might end up coming close to the 2016 in terms of quality, although it shows a slightly more pretty, elegant character.

2019 Halos de Jupiter Châteauneuf-du-Pape Adrastée **97**

I was blown away by the 2019 Châteauneuf du Pape Adrastée, which is 100% very old vine Grenache from the famed La Crau lieu-dit that was destemmed and aged in once-used 600-liter demi-muids. Ultra-pure, full-bodied, and straight-up seamless on the palate, it has a wonderfully complex bouquet of kirsch liqueur, blackberries, ground herbs, pepper, and new leather, with some floral notes developing as it sits in the glass. It's a head-turning, complex, powerful, yet elegant Châteauneuf du Pape I'd be thrilled to drink any time over the coming 15+.

2020 Halos de Jupiter Châteauneuf-du-Pape **92-94**

Moving to the two Châteauneuf du Pape releases, the base 2020 Châteauneuf du Pape is 85% Grenache, 10% Syrah, and 5% Mourvèdre sourced from vineyards near Courthézon and near Orange. Destemmed and brought up in used demi-muids, it has a terrific perfume of kirsch and blackberry fruits as well as violets, flowery incense, and spice. I love its texture and, as with all of Cambie's wines, it has ripe tannins and impeccable balance.

2019 Halos de Jupiter Châteauneuf-du-Pape **93**

There are two Châteauneuf Du Papes under this label. The 2019 Châteauneuf du Pape checks in 85% Grenache, 10% Syrah, and the balance Mourvèdre, and it was destemmed and brought up in used 600-liter Burgundy barrels. Lots of spiced red fruits, loamy soil, Provençal garrigue, and floral notes define the bouquet, and it's as seamless as they come on the palate, with ripe, polished tannins, and outstanding length. It's already drinking nicely yet is capable of evolving for 10-15 years if stored correctly.

2020 Halos de Jupiter Gigondas **92-94**

More red, blue, and black fruits emerge from the 2020 Gigondas, which displays more textbook sandalwood, peppery herbs, and floral notes with time in the glass. A blend of 90% Grenache and 10% Mourvèdre, it's another ethereal, medium to full-bodied, balanced wine from this team that has lots to love.



2019 Halos de Jupiter Gigondas**92**

Along the same lines, the 2019 Gigondas is hard to resist. It has textbook Gigondas notes of savory red and black fruits as well as sandalwood, ground pepper, and garrigue. These all carry to a medium to full-bodied, round, textured 2019 that's going to put a smile on your face any time over the coming decade.

2020 Halos de Jupiter Vacqueyras**91-93**

The 2020 Vacqueyras is also terrific. Not destemmed and based on 85% Grenache and 15% Mourvedre, it shows the fresher, more lively, pure style of the vintage yet still brings plenty of richness as well as classy blue fruits and some floral, peppery nuances. I suspect it will surpass the 2019.

2019 Halos de Jupiter Vacqueyras**92**

Bottled in June of this year, the 2019 Vacqueyras offers a ripe, full-bodied, sexy style, which is what this appellation delivers in spades in 2019. A blend of 85% Grenache and 15% Mourvèdre, it has both red and black fruits, notes of candied violets and flowery incense, sweet tannins, outstanding balance, and a great finish. Drink this pleasure-bent beauty over the coming 7-8 years.

2020 Halos de Jupiter Côtes du Rhône**90-92**

More blue fruits, violets, and cracked pepper emerge from the 2020 Côtes du Rhône, a medium to full-bodied blend of 75% Grenache, 15% Mourvèdre, and the rest Syrah. I love its balance, and it has ripe tannins, with the more pure, vibrant style of the vintage front and center.

2019 Halos de Jupiter Côtes du Rhône**90**

Lots of violets, candied orange, and assorted dark fruits emerge from the 2019 Côtes du Rhône, a perfumed, exotic, medium to full-bodied effort with sweet tannins and no hard edges. It's one heck of a delicious Côtes du Rhône to enjoy over the coming 4-6 years.

2020 Halos de Jupiter Costières de Nîmes**89-91**

Starting off the barrel samples, the 2020 Costières de Nîmes should be outstanding, with a medium-bodied, elegant, incredibly impressive style as well as complex notes of dark fruits, ground pepper, and hints of orange blossom. Mostly destemmed and brought up in tank, drink it on release and over the following 4-6 years. It's going to be a great value.

- Jeb Dunnuck (11/04/2021)

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CHILL OUT WITH THESE EIGHT RED WINES FOR SUMMER

Many people associate the summer with rosé, but there are also red wines perfectly suited to warmer temperatures. These bottlings often emphasize bright fruit flavors and searing acidity, apropos for even the hottest days of the year.

The next time you're choosing what to drink in the heat of summer, and want something with a little more heft than your average rosé, pop open one of these light and refreshing reds. Don't be afraid to serve them chilled, too.

FROM: A GUIDE TO CHILLABLE RED WINE

Halos de Jupiter 2018 Grenache (Costières de Nîmes); \$14, 89 pts.

Rose petals and raspberry perfume this fruity, forward varietal Grenache. It offers all the juicy, easy fruit that you want from a quaffable red but it's elegant and nuanced too, etched by whiffs of dried thyme, mint and a subtle mineral finish. At peak now—2024. Saranty Imports. **Best Buy**. —Anna Lee C. Iijima

 *Halos de* **JUPITER**

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Wine Spectator



Feb 28, 2021

HALOS DE JUPITER Châteauneuf-du-Pape 2018	92
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Juicy and forward in style, with a tasty mix of crushed raspberry, plum and red cherry fruit flavors laced with red licorice and lined with garrigue and dusty tannins on the finish. Best from 2022 through 2032. 320 cases made, 80 cases imported. –JM

HALOS DE JUPITER Gigondas 2018	92
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Solid, with a mix of ripe and bright blackberry and black cherry fruit mixed with dark tea, singed garrigue and anise notes. Light tarry streak adds some grip on the finish. Grenache and Mourvèdre. Best from 2021 through 2030. 450 cases made, 120 cases imported. –JM

HALOS DE JUPITER Vacqueyras 2018	91
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Winey, with crushed plum and blackberry aromas and flavors lined with singed alder and carried by a graphite note. Late tug of warm earth, while the fruit keeps the upper hand throughout. Grenache and Syrah. Drink now through 2028. 550 cases made, 130 cases imported. –JM

Top Rhône Values

HALOS DE JUPITER Côtes du Rhône 2018	91
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Seductive crushed black cherry and plum purée notes hold sway here, with a licorice snap note and flash of roasted apple wood on the finish. Juicy, compact and tasty. Grenache and Syrah. Drink now through 2021. 2,000 cases made, 450 cases imported. –JM

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JEB DUNNUCK

Southern Rhône: The Charming, Provençal 2018s and the More Concentrated, Classic 2019s

2019 Halos de Jupiter Châteauneuf-du-Pape Adrastée 94-96

The tiny production 2019 Châteauneuf Du Pape Adrastée is all Grenache from the famed La Crau lieu-dit brought up in tank. It ratchets up the intensity and offers a smoking good nose of spiced red and black fruits, roasted garrigue, licorice, and baking spices. Perfectly balanced on the palate, with full-bodied richness and ripe, sweet tannins, it's another brilliant, sexy wine from this estate that's going to drink nicely for 10-15 years, probably longer.

2018 Halos de Jupiter Châteauneuf-du-Pape 92

The 2018 Châteauneuf Du Pape reveals a medium ruby/purple hue as well as a superb bouquet of mulled red and black fruits, camphor, herbes de Provence, dried flowers, and assorted peppery spice-like nuances. With medium to full-bodied richness, a seamless, expansive texture, good mid-palate depth, and a great finish, drink this sexy, incredibly charming and satisfying Châteauneuf du Pape over the coming decade.

2019 Halos de Jupiter Châteauneuf-du-Pape 92-94

Tasted as a barrel sample, the 2019 Châteauneuf Du Pape will certainly be at the same level, or better than, the 2018. Revealing a deep purple hue as well as full-bodied aromas and flavors of blueberries, blackberries, peppery herbs, and smoked earth, this beauty hits the palate with an expansive, concentrated mouthfeel, plenty of tannins, and a great, great finish. It shows the purity and elegance of the vintage yet still bring ample oomph. It's a smoking wine in the making.

2018 Halos de Jupiter Gigondas 90

Perfumed notes Bing cherries, mulberries, candied violets, cedary herbs, and ample spice emerge from the 2018 Gigondas and this medium-bodied, elegant Gigondas has light tannins, a frontend loaded, charming style, and is going to evolve nicely for 5-7 years. It doesn't have the depth or concentration of the 2019 yet is already accessible and undeniably delicious.

2019 Halos de Jupiter Gigondas 92-94

The 2019 Gigondas is another gem of a wine that readers will love. Based largely on Grenache, it has lots of textbook Gigondas spice and cedary herbs notes as well as medium to full-bodied richness, ripe yet present tannins, a terrific sense of minerality, and a great finish. This beauty delivers power paired with elegance, and while it's going to be hard to resist right on release, it's going to have 15 years of longevity.



2018 Halos de Jupiter Vacqueyras 93

The 2018 Vacqueyras shows nicely, with a terrific core of dark, almost blue fruits, as well as complex notes of violets, lavender, and peppery herbs. Nicely textured, medium to full-bodied, and seamless on the palate, it's a beautiful wine that's very much in the pure, elegant style of the vintage.

2019 Halos de Jupiter Vacqueyras 92-94

The 2019 Vacqueyras is similar to the 2018, only more concentrated. Ripe blue fruits, peppery herbs, lavender, and floral notes all define the bouquet, and it's full-bodied, has a great mid-palate, and enough structure to evolve for a solid decade.

2018 Halos de Jupiter Côtes du Rhône 90

The 2018 Côtes du Rhône is a straight-up charming, already complex, hard to resist 2018 that has a ripe, yet incredibly pure, elegant style that's a joy to drink. Possessing pretty red and blue fruits, violets, candied orange, and ample spicy notes, this medium-bodied, beautifully balanced, elegant Côtes du Rhône would make one hell of a house red.

2019 Halos de Jupiter Côtes du Rhône 90-92

The 2019 Côtes du Rhône is a fruit-forward, pleasure bomb of a wine that has loads of ripe red and blue fruits, some classic Southern Rhône peppery herbs and violet notes, medium to full body, and a plush, rounded mouthfeel that's already a joy to drink. Enjoy it over the coming 3-4 years.

2018 Halos de Jupiter Costières de Nîmes 89

Moving to the Costières de Nîmes region, the 2018 Costières De Nîmes offers a charming, medium-bodied, forward style as well as complex notes of red fruits, spring flowers, and Provençal spices. It's not massive yet shines for its elegance, purity, and silky tannins, all making for a delicious 2018 I'd be happy to buy and drink.

2019 Halos de Jupiter Costières de Nîmes 90-92

The 2019 Costières De Nîmes comes from larger appellation located south of Tavel, on the right bank of the Rhône river. Based largely on Grenache, it has a complex bouquet of blueberries, wild strawberries, sappy flowers, and peppery garrigue. With medium to full-bodied richness, a seamless, lively texture, no hard edges, and a great finish, it's certainly an outstanding wine in the making.

- Jeb Dunnuck (10/06/2020)

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From Gigondas Maintains Its Tempo (Feb 2020) by Josh Reynolds:

<p>Les Halos de Jupiter 2017 Gigondas</p> <p>Shimmering ruby-red. Potent, mineral-accented cherry and red berry scents on the highly fragrant nose. Juicy and broad in the mouth, offering spice-laced black raspberry and cherry flavors that pick up a smoky nuance as the wine stretches out. Velvety tannins sneak in on the clinging finish, which leaves behind suggestions of candied licorice and lavender pastille.</p>	<p>92 pts</p> <p>Josh Reynolds Tasting date: February 2020</p>
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<p>Les Halos de Jupiter 2016 Gigondas</p> <p>Brilliant magenta. A highly perfumed bouquet evokes ripe red/dark berries, candied flowers and exotic spices. Chewy, broad and appealingly sweet, offering densely packed black raspberry, cherry compote and spicecake flavors and a suave floral pastille flourish. Gains power and spiciness with air and finishes extremely long, with clinging sweetness and youthful tannic grip.</p>	<p>93 pts</p> <p>Josh Reynolds Tasting date: February 2020</p>
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<p>Les Halos de Jupiter 2015 Gigondas</p> <p>Shimmering ruby-red. Potent, mineral-accented cherry and red berry scents on the highly fragrant nose. Juicy and broad in the mouth, offering spice-laced black raspberry and cherry flavors that pick up a smoky nuance as the wine stretches out. Velvety tannins sneak in on the clinging finish, which leaves behind suggestions of candied licorice and lavender pastille.</p>	<p>92 pts</p> <p>Josh Reynolds Tasting date: February 2020</p>
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From Vacqueyras: The Southern Rhône's Stealth Appellation (Feb 2020) by Josh Reynolds:

<p>Les Halos de Jupiter 2017 Vacqueyras</p> <p>Deep bright-rimmed magenta. Mineral- and smoke-accented cherry, black raspberry and garrigue scents pick up a sexy incense nuance as the wine opens up. Sweet, seamless and energetic on the palate, offering intense red and blue fruit, spicecake and floral pastille flavors that deepen through the back half. Concentrated yet light on its feet, playing power off delicacy with a smooth hand and finishing impressively long, sweet and subtly tannic.</p>	<p>92 pts</p> <p>Josh Reynolds Tasting date: February 2020</p>
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2017 Les Halos de Jupiter Chateauneuf du Pape

Dec 2019	Joe Czerwinski	90+
<p>The 2017 Chateauneuf du Pape is nearly all Grenache, translated into taut raspberry fruit tinged with hints of orange zest and mulling spices. Full-bodied, firm and crisp, it should relax and improve with short-term cellaring. Try it in 2021.</p>		

2017 Les Halos de Jupiter Gigondas

Dec 2019	Joe Czerwinski	91
<p>The 2017 Gigondas features hints of cedar and spice on the nose. A 90-10 blend of Grenache and Mourvèdre, aged in older demi-muids, it delivers plenty of cherry and blackberry fruit on the full-bodied palate, balanced by crisp acids and firm tannins. The most structured of the Halos de Jupiter wines, it could use a year or two of cellaring and should drink well through 2030.</p>		

2017 Les Halos de Jupiter Vacqueyras

Dec 2019	Joe Czerwinski	90
<p>The 2017 Vacqueyras is a classic 85-15 blend of Grenache and Syrah, aged in older demi-muids. Hints of sage and bay leaf accent cherry and apricot notes in this full-bodied wine. It's surprisingly firm and should benefit from a year or two in the cellar.</p>		

2017 Les Halos de Jupiter Côtes du Rhône

Dec 2019	Joe Czerwinski	88
<p>An 80-20 blend of Grenache and Syrah from several different parts of the region, the 2017 Cotes du Rhone delivers slightly stewed, indistinct berry flavors backed by a fine line of tannins. It's still an enjoyable wine to drink over the next 5 years, with ample weight on the palate and a long, silky finish.</p>		

2017 Les Halos de Jupiter Costières de Nîmes

Dec 2019	Joe Czerwinski	89
<p>A bit more concentrated and tannic than the flattering 2018, the 2017 Costieres de Nimes features super ripe black cherries and hints of licorice on the nose. A blend of 85% Grenache, 10% Mourvèdre and 5% Syrah, it's medium to full-bodied, with a slight tannic bite on the finish, just right for pairing with grilled beef or lamb.</p>		

2018 Les Halos de Jupiter Costières de Nîmes

Dec 2019	Joe Czerwinski	(88-90)
<p>Plush and welcoming, the 2018 Costieres de Nimes delivers ripe red berries and hints of spring flowers. Medium to full-bodied, supple and easy-drinking, this blend of 90% Grenache and 10% Syrah is a great value for drinking over the next few years.</p>		

JEB DUNNUCK

Halos de Jupiter is the personal label of superstar oenologue, Philippe Cambie, and the focus is on Grenache from the different terroirs in the Southern Rhône. The 2017s showed brilliantly and are up with the finest wines to date from this label. The 2018 will be a step back, but are nevertheless beautiful, forward, charming wines that has loads of Provencal character.

2017 Halos de Jupiter Châteauneuf-du-Pape Adrastée 96

The flagship from Cambie is the 2017 Châteauneuf Du Pape Adrastée. It's all Grenache (100% destemmed) from the La Crau lieu-dit that's brought up in 1-year-old 600-liter Burgundy barrels. Full-bodied, deep, and opulent, with a super-rich yet seamless, sexy character, it offers a complex bouquet of kirsch, graphite, crushed rocks, and cured meats. It's one of those wines that reminds you of walking through a street market in the south of France and is just loaded with character. It's going to improve with short-term cellaring and have 10-15 years of overall longevity.

2017 Halos de Jupiter Châteauneuf-du-Pape 94

The 2017 Châteauneuf Du Pape had just been bottled at the time of my tasting, which makes this showing even more remarkable. Deep purple-colored, with a brilliant perfume of kirsch and blackberry fruits as well as ample spice and garrigue, it hits the palate with full-bodied richness, ultra-fine tannins, no hard edges, and a great, great finish. A blend of 88% Grenache and 12% Syrah that was all destemmed and aged in once- and twice-used oak, it can be drunk today with incredible pleasure or cellared for over a decade.

2017 Halos de Jupiter Gigondas 92+

The 2017 Gigondas is another winner in the lineup. In 2017 it was not destemmed and is a blend of 90% Grenache and 10% Mourvèdre raised in older demi-muids. Deep purple-colored, with a terrific bouquet of blackberries, spice, incense, and cedarwood, it has classic Gigondas character, medium to full body, good acidity, and ripe tannins. It shows the more straight, focused style on the palate that's common in the vintage and will be even better with another year or two in bottle.

2017 Halos de Jupiter Vacqueyras 92+

I loved the 2017 Vacqueyras and this is always one of my favorites in the lineup from Cambie. Blackberries, violets, ground pepper, and spice all emerge from this beautifully balanced, medium to full-bodied, pretty Vacqueyras that just glides over the palate with no sensation of weight or heaviness. Based on 85% Grenache and 15% Syrah that spent a year in neutral demi-muids, drink this classic, balanced, pleasure-bent 2017 over the coming 7-8 years.



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2017 Halos de Jupiter Côtes du Rhône **89**

Lots of blackberries, cherries, incense, and spice box characteristics emerge from the 2017 Côtes Du Rhône. Medium-bodied, it displays juicy acidity, fine tannins, and a layered, satisfying style. It will be better with another six months in bottle and keep for 4-5 years.

2018 Halos de Jupiter Châteauneuf-du-Pape Adrastée **92-94+**

Coming all from very old Grenache vines in the La Crau lieu-dit and brought up in demi-muids (all neutral), the 2018 Châteauneuf Du Pape Adrastée sports a ruby/plum color as well as more black fruits, ground herbs, pepper, and earth. It's rich, concentrated, has plenty of ripe tannins, and a great finish. I don't see it matching the 2017, but it has more concentration and depth than most and is certainly a terrific wine.

2018 Halos de Jupiter Châteauneuf-du-Pape **92-94**

Mostly from the La Crau (there's a smaller part from sandy soils), the 2018 Châteauneuf Du Pape offers rocking kirsch and spicy notes as well a medium to full-bodied, rounded, supple, sexy style on the palate. It offers more complex tapenade and cedar notes with time in the glass, has a beautiful texture, and will drink nicely right out of the gate.

2018 Halos de Jupiter Gigondas **91-93**

Brought up in a mix of barrels and vats, the 2018 Gigondas is a 90/10 split of Grenache and Mourvèdre that will be bottled next spring. It has a classic bouquet of black raspberries, sandalwood, ground pepper, and spice as well as a beautifully layered, elegant style on the palate yet still packs ample fruit.

2018 Halos de Jupiter Vacqueyras **89-91**

Not destemmed and brought up in 500-liter barrels, the 2018 Vacqueyras is a blend of 85% Grenache and 15% Syrah. Its deep purple color is followed by powerful notes of black and blue fruits, ground pepper, and sappy garrigue. It's rich and medium-bodied, with plenty of fruit and a great finish.

2018 Halos de Jupiter Côtes du Rhône **89-91**

Not yet bottled, the 2018 Côtes Du Rhône should match or exceed the 2017. It has a similar, medium-bodied, sweetly fruited style as well as notable purity of fruit and classic peppery herb and floral notes. It's a winner.

2018 Halos de Jupiter Costières de Nîmes **89-91**

The 2018 Costières De Nîmes should be outstanding as well as a great value. Based on 90% Grenache and 10% Syrah, it has a ripe, rounded, classic Southern Rhône style as well as lots of pure, peppery fruit and spice. Drink it on release and over the following 4-5 years.

- Jeb Dunnuck (8/16/2019)

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Wine Spectator

91 - Halos de Jupiter Côtes du Rhône 2016

Ripe and inviting, with warm plum and raspberry puree flavors backed by light tea, anise and fruitcake notes. Offers a fleshy, open-knit finish.— J.M.

90 - Halos de Jupiter Costières de Nîmes 2016

Tasty, showing plump cherry, plum and blackberry compote flavors underscored with licorice detail and carried by a graphite edge through the finish. Solid. Drink now through 2021. 600 cases imported. — J.M.



October 31, 2018



October 15, 2018

92 - Halos de Jupiter Châteauneuf-du-Pape 2016

Alluring, with dark, mulled plum, fig and blackberry preserve flavors rolling through, flanked by roasted alder hints and spiked by graphite accents on the finish. Fleshy and smoldering in feel. Approachable, but there's no rush here. Best from 2019 through 2026. 450 cases made. –JM

93 - Halos de Jupiter Gigondas 2016

This has a big core of juicy plum, blackberry and red currant fruit that is still balled up, with pretty lavender, anise, tobacco and iron notes just peeking out. Let this unwind in the cellar. Best from 2020 through 2028. 450 cases made. –JM

92 - Halos de Jupiter Vacqueyras 2016

Shows the intense ripe and racy feel of the vintage, with dark plum, black currant and blackberry fruit inlaid with graphite and black tea notes. Focused and long, revealing an echo of singed alder. Best from 2019 through 2023. 550 cases made. –JM

 *Halos de* JUPITER

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2016 Les Halos de Jupiter Chateauneuf du Pape - Adrastée

#238 Aug 2018

Joe Czerwinski

94

Made from Grenache planted in La Crau in 1904, the 2016 Chateauneuf du Pape Adraste is the top wine in the Les Halos de Jupiter lineup this year. It starts off with compelling aromas of black cherries and black raspberries, then delivers a full-bodied palate loaded with concentrated fruit without ever seeming heavy. It's creamy and lush, yet it manages to stay fresh and vibrant despite the ripeness. Good stuff at a realistic price. Bravo!

2016 Les Halos de Jupiter Chateauneuf du Pape

#238 Aug 2018

Joe Czerwinski

92

The luscious 2016 Chateauneuf du Pape boasts oodles of ripe Grenache fruit (the blend is 85% Grenache, 10% Syrah and 5% Mourvèdre). Full-bodied, plush and velvety, it delivers big cherry and apricot fruit, a supple, creamy texture and a long finish. It should drink well for a decade or more.

2016 Les Halos de Jupiter Gigondas

#238 Aug 2018

Joe Czerwinski

90

Potentially one of the longer-lived Les Halos de Jupiter offerings, the 2016 Gigondas is a blend of 88% Grenache and 12% Mourvèdre, matured in a combination of tank and 500-liter barrels. Lifted notes of raspberries and cherries appear on the nose, followed by a medium to full-bodied wine with some chewy tannins, ample concentration and a ripe, silky finish. Drink it over the next decade or so.

2016 Les Halos de Jupiter Vacqueyras

#238 Aug 2018

Joe Czerwinski

90

The full-bodied 2016 Vacqueyras is a big wine but not that rich or textured across the mid-palate, perhaps reflecting the year's generous yields. It's a blend of 85% Grenache and 15% Syrah, vinified entirely as whole clusters, giving it attractive accents of crushed stone and black tea set against a backdrop of ripe black cherries and licorice. Drink it over the next 5 years.

2016 Les Halos de Jupiter Côtes du Rhône

#238 Aug 2018

Joe Czerwinski

89

More concentrated and richer than the Costières de Nîmes, the 2016 Cotes du Rhone—a concrete-aged blend of 80% Grenache and 20% Syrah—combines blueberry and cherry fruit, then adds hints of garrigue and mocha. It's medium to full-bodied, with just the right dash of astringency on the finish to make a good pairing with burgers and the like.

2017 Les Halos de Jupiter Châteauneuf-du-Pape Adrastée		
#238 Aug 2018	Joe Czerwinski	(94-96)
<p>Because of the year's low yields, there's only a tiny amount of the 2017 Chateauneuf du Pape Adraste (one demi-muid and one barrique). What there is looks stunning, boasting an incredibly rich, velvety texture, yet remaining floral and fresh, loaded with black raspberry fruit. It should be a beauty, if you manage to grab any.</p>		
2017 Les Halos de Jupiter Châteauneuf-du-Pape		
#238 Aug 2018	Joe Czerwinski	(91-93)
<p>The prospective blend of the 2017 Chateauneuf du Pape looks excellent. As always, heavily tilted toward Grenache, it offers ripe raspberry and apricot fruit notes and boasts a full-bodied, silky, plush mouthfeel.</p>		
2017 Les Halos de Jupiter Gigondas		
#238 Aug 2018	Joe Czerwinski	(89-91)
<p>Similar to the Vacqueyras, the sample of the 2017 Gigondas seemed slightly dull. Perhaps it was simply in need of racking or sulfuring. The quality of the ripe tannins and the floral, garrigue and black cherry notes was still apparent.</p>		
2017 Les Halos de Jupiter Vacqueyras		
#238 Aug 2018	Joe Czerwinski	(88-90)
<p>Despite attractive floral and garrigue-like notes and plenty of raspberry fruit, a tank sample of the 2017 Vacqueyras lacked the vibrancy expected in such a young wine.</p>		
2017 Les Halos de Jupiter Costières de Nîmes		
#238 Aug 2018	Joe Czerwinski	(89-90)
<p>A tank sample of the 2017 Costieres de Nimes looked reassuringly back on form, offering briary notes of black raspberries, a plush, rich texture and a long, chocolaty finish.</p>		



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JEB DUNNUCK

LE MILLÉSIME... The 2016s from the Southern Rhône

The 2016s are the strongest set of releases to date, and the 2017s aren't far behind. If you love Grenache, you owe it to yourself to try these wines.

2016 Halos de Jupiter Châteauneuf-du-Pape Adrastée **98**

The flagship is the 2016 Châteauneuf-du-Pape Adrastée, which is always 100% Grenache sourced from the famed La Crau lieu-dit, from vines south of Vieux Télégraphe, brought up in once used Burgundy barrels. This beauty is the finest vintage to date and offers an extraordinary bouquet of black raspberries, incense, lavender, and a loamy soil/minerality that emerges with time in the glass. Full-bodied, rich and powerful, it stays lively and graceful on the palate, has building tannins, no hard edges, and a finish that just won't quit. It's a blockbuster to enjoy over the coming 10-15 years.

2016 Halos de Jupiter Châteauneuf-du-Pape **94**

The 2016 Châteauneuf-du-Pape comes from sandy parcels in the appellation and is 85% Grenache, 10% Syrah, and 5% Mourvèdre brought up in once- and twice-used demi-muids. This is a ripe, rounded, opulent, and full-bodied Châteauneuf-du-Pape that's very much in the house style. Deep, flamboyant notes of black raspberries, incense, toasted spices, and garrigue all emerge from the glass, and it hits the palate with ample power and richness, yet always stays lively and elegant. Drink it any time over the coming 10-15 years.

2016 Halos de Jupiter Gigondas **94+**

The 2016 Gigondas (88% Grenache and 12% Mourvèdre) is more straight, focused, and structured compared to the Vacqueyras release. Terrific notes of black cherries, blackberries, graphite, and ground pepper all emerge from this classic expression of the appellation. It picks up more minerality and a touch of chocolate with time in the glass, has a layered, full-bodied style, and a great finish. It's terrific today yet I think it will be even better with 2-4 years of bottle age and it should keep for upward of a decade.

2016 Halos de Jupiter Vacqueyras **93**

Brought up in a mix of 500-liter barrels and tank, the 2016 Vacqueyras (85% Grenache and 15% Syrah) boasts a rounded, sexy style as well as loads of ripe black fruits, licorice, and peppery garrigue. It's a classic 2016 that's incredibly satisfying, offering both intellectual and hedonistic pleasure. It's already great today yet will keep in cool cellars for upward of a decade.



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2017 Halos de Jupiter Châteauneuf-du-Pape Adrastée **95-97**

Deeply colored, the 2017 Châteauneuf-du-Pape Adrastée is all Grenache from the pebbly soils just south of Vieux Télégraphe, on the La Crau plateau, and is aged in used Burgundy barrels. It's a seriously pleasure-bent barrel sample and offers more minerality, black cherries, incense, and violet-like aromas and flavors. Deep, powerful, full-bodied, and yet sexy and seamless, with elegant tannins, it's a rock star effort.

2017 Halos de Jupiter Châteauneuf-du-Pape **92-94**

From a single terroir on the Mont-Redon plateau, which is all rolled stones, the 2017 Châteauneuf-du-Pape (85% Grenache, 10% Syrah, and 5% Mourvèdre) is a gorgeous, layered, ripe, sexy wine that knocks it out of the park in the vintage. Full-bodied, sweetly fruited, opulent and sexy, it's going to drink nicely right out of the gate yet keep for 10-15 years.

2017 Halos de Jupiter Gigondas **91-94**

I love the bouquet of the 2017 Gigondas (90/10 Grenache and Mourvèdre), which gives up tons of black cherries, graphite, crushed rocks, and beautiful spice. Deep, medium to full-bodied, pure and elegant, with building tannin, it's a seamless, beautifully elegant, layered barrel sample.

2017 Halos de Jupiter Vacqueyras **91-93**

Brought up two-thirds in barrel and one-third in vat, the 2017 Vacqueyras (85% Grenache and 15% Syrah) has lots of blueberry blackberry fruits, notes of violets and pepper, medium to full body, good acidity, and a great finish.

2017 Halos de Jupiter Côtes du Rhône **89-91**

A blend of 80/20 Grenache and Syrah, the 2017 Côtes du Rhône gives up ample dark fruits, black cherries, licorice, and herbs. It's medium to full-bodied, has good acidity, and a big, rich, opulent style.

2017 Halos de Jupiter Costières de Nîmes **90-92**

Leading off the 2017s, the 2017 Costières de Nîmes is an undeniably sexy wine that has a sweet nose of black raspberries, kirsch, garrigue, and spice. It's medium to full-bodied, straight-up hedonistic and pleasure-bent, with sweet tannins and a great finish. Drink it over the coming 4-5 years.

- Jeb Dunnuck (8/28/2018)

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Wine Spectator

12 Quintessential Southern French Wines for Under \$20

New reviews of whites and reds from Côtes du Rhône, Costières de Nîmes, Lubéron and more



Tasting Highlights' wine reviews are fresh out of the tasting room, offering a sneak peek of our editors' most recent scores and notes to WineSpectator.com members.

The Southern Rhône is a melting pot of grapes and styles. With more than a dozen appellations featuring both single-variety wines and blends, there's plenty to choose from. This selection of reds and whites shows the essence of the region: While no two wines are alike, they all exemplify the Southern Rhône's appeal—and all for less than \$20 a bottle.

Our whites are all blends that span the region, but are tied by overarching flavors of orchard fruit and honeysuckle. Starting in the west, [Domaine Maby's](#) Lirac is juicy and floral, and [Michel Gassier's](#) Costières de Nîmes exhibits exotic fruit and great acidity. Moving east, the [Domaine de Montine](#) from Grignan Les Adhémar has a distinct nuttiness, while the [M. Chapoutier](#) from Lubéron is bright, with bouncy green plum and apple flavors. These wines contain between three and six different local grapes, from Grenache Blanc to Roussanne to Clairette.

The reds come from four different appellations—Côtes du Rhône, Côtes du Rhône-Villages, Ventoux and Costières de Nîmes—and all share berry and stone fruit characteristics. While the wines of the region tend to be blends, it's not unheard of to see the odd single-variety bottling, like Michel Gassier's red Costières de Nîmes, which is 100 percent Syrah. The wine stands out for its savory flavors of pepper and herbs.

91 - Château de Nages Vieilles Vignes white 2016

Yellow apple and star fruit notes are lively, thanks to crunchy acidity underneath, while light honeysuckle and pear hints check in as well. Tasty. Drink now through 2019. 450 cases imported. - JM

91 - Michel Gassier Syrah 2016

Ripe and sleek, showing plum and cassis notes inlaid with flashes of white pepper, sage and leather. Silky but abundant tannins carry the finish. Drink now through 2021. 750 cases imported. - JM

90 - Halos de Jupiter Costières de Nîmes 2016

Tasty, showing plump cherry, plum and blackberry compote flavors underscored with licorice detail and carried by a graphite edge through the finish. Solid. Drink now through 2021. 600 cases imported.- JM

Wine Spectator - July 26, 2018

 Halos de JUPITER

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Philippe Cambie and his partner, Michel Gassier, who is one of the top producers in Costières des Nîmes, produce a wide range of wines from across the southern Rhône appellations under this label. Readers familiar with the wines made under Cambie's advisement won't be surprised to hear that these Châteauneufs are emphatically perfumed and fruit-driven, with serious depth and supple, well-integrated tannins. Even in structured years like 2015, the Halos de Jupiter wines show well young and, while they definitely have the stuffing and balance to age, they're also extremely accessible soon after release, such is their fruit intensity.

Philippe Cambie told me that what distinguished 2016 in Gigondas was "the extra element of richness but the way that the wines also kept the freshness that's a signature of the appellation." Cambie's partner in this small-but-growing, high-quality négociant operation is Michel Gassier, who himself makes some of the best wines in the Costières de Nîmes at his family's property. Readers familiar with Cambie's consulting work across the southern Rhône won't be surprised to hear that the Halos de Jupiter wines display distinct power, depth and fruit intensity, along with supple, harmonious tannins that make for plenty of up-front appeal. As for their Gigondas, it's a concrete-tank-raised blend of Grenache (85%) and Mourvèdre (15%) sourced from vineyards in the high-altitude, prime Dentelles de Montmirail area, Four Danuga and Les Maurelles.

<p>Les Halos de Jupiter 2016 Châteauneuf-du-Pape Adrastée</p> <p>Deep brilliant ruby. Intense raspberry and cherry aromas are complicated by hints of potpourri, exotic spices and vanilla. Juicy, seamless and impressively concentrated, offering palate-staining red fruit liqueur, spicecake, cola and floral pastille flavors. Distinctly suave and seamless in texture, displaying impressive depth and thrust on the red-fruit- and mineral-driven finish.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">(92-94) pts</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Josh Reynolds Tasting date: April 2018</p>
<p>Les Halos de Jupiter 2016 Châteauneuf-du-Pape</p> <p>Lurid ruby. Intensely perfumed, spice-accented raspberry and incense aromas show excellent clarity thanks to a bright mineral overtone. Concentrated yet lively in style, offering appealingly sweet red and blue fruit, floral pastille and spicecake flavors that pick up a smoky quality with air. Subtle tannins frame the persistent finish, which strongly echoes the red berry and mineral notes.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">(91-93) pts</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Josh Reynolds Tasting date: April 2018</p>
<p>Les Halos de Jupiter 2016 Gigondas</p> <p>Bright ruby. Deeply pitched red and dark berry aromas are complemented by suggestions of candied licorice and <i>garrigue</i>. Sappy and expansive in the mouth, offering sweet raspberry and cherry liqueur flavors along with smoky mineral and lavender flourishes. Shows impressive clarity on the incisive, impressively long finish, which features supple tannins and lingering floral and spice notes.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">92 pts</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Josh Reynolds Tasting date: April 2018</p>
<p>Les Halos de Jupiter 2016 Vacqueyras</p> <p>Youthful violet. Sexy, mineral-tinged red and blue fruit and floral scents pick up a hint of spiciness with air. Juicy and energetic on the palate, offering intense boysenberry and raspberry flavors that deepen slowly on the back half. Shows excellent clarity and spicy cut on the finish, which is framed by silky, even tannins.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">92 pts</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Josh Reynolds Tasting date: November 2018</p>



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