

STEPHEN TANZER'S

INTERNATIONAL WINE CELLAR

CHÂTEAU DE SAINT COSME

2009

2009 Chateau de St. Cosme Gigondas (89-91 pts)

Vivid ruby. Smoky red and dark berries on the nose, along with a hint of dried rose. Silky and smooth in texture, offering sweet raspberry and blackberry flavors. Gains power with air and finishes with good lingering spiciness and a subtle note of mocha.

2009 Chateau de St. Cosme Gigondas Valbelle (90-92 pts)

Deep ruby. A powerfully scented, heady bouquet of cherry compote, fresh flowers, spicecake and minerals. Round and seamless on the palate, offering juicy red fruit and floral pastille flavors and lively acidity. Rich but energetic wine with impressive finishing clarity and cling.

2009 Chateau de St. Cosme Gigondas Les Claux (90-92 pts)

Vibrant ruby. Highly aromatic scents of fresh red berries, Asian spices and smoky herbs. At once deep and energetic, with lively raspberry and cherry flavors enlivened by zesty minerality. The spicy note repeats on the long, juicy, incisive finish.

2009 Chateau de St. Cosme Gigondas Hominis Fides (91-93 pts)

Inky ruby. Sexy, expansive aromas of blackberry, cola and allspice, with notes of apricot and anise adding complexity. Densely packed red and dark fruit flavors coat the palate, with sexy oak spice and floral nuances adding appeal. Rich and silky in texture, finishing with impressive thrust and lingering violet pastille and cola notes.

2009 Chateau de St. Cosme Gigondas Le Poste (91-93 pts)

Glass-staining ruby. Intensely perfumed bouquet evokes blackberry, cherry-cola, olive and smoky Indian spices. The palate shows a lively black raspberry and floral character and a slow-building note of spicecake. Finishes juicy and impressively precise, with excellent finishing bite and smoky persistence. There's 40% syrah in here.

2008 Chateau de St. Cosme Gigondas (89 pts)

Bright ruby. Expansive aromas of black raspberry and spicecake, with notes of rose and allspice adding complexity. Juicy red and dark fruit flavors coat the palate, displaying an attractive floral character. This bright, silky wine finishes with good cut and lingering floral notes.

2008 Chateau de St. Cosme Gigondas Les Claux (90 pts)

Vivid ruby. Highly aromatic bouquet evokes fresh red berries, Asian spices and deeper cherry pit and floral qualities. Intense and energetic, with lively raspberry and cherry flavors supported by zesty minerality. The spicy note repeats on the long, juicy, impressively incisive finish.

2008 Chateau de St. Cosme Gigondas Hominis Fides (91 pts)

Bright ruby. Sexy, high-pitched aromas of raspberry, cherry, spicecake and pungent herbs. Juicy, sharply focused red berry and bitter cherry flavors gain sweetness with air and pick up a suave candied lavender quality. This juicy, precise midweight finishes with noteworthy clarity and smoky persistence.

2008 Chateau de St. Cosme Gigondas Le Poste (91 pts)

Deep ruby. Pungent aromas of blackberry, licorice and violet. Lush and densely packed, with solid grip to its dark fruit, spice and floral pastille flavors. On the serious, brooding side but there's an attractive sweetness to its dark fruit. Finishes with supple tannins and very good persistence.

2006

2006 Château de Saint Cosme, Gigondas (88-90 pts)

Inky ruby. Spicy blackberry and candied plum aromas are enlivened by asian spices and dark chocolate. Firm dark berry flavours are supported by zesty acidity and firmed by youthful tannins. Not an easy style but in no way hard.

2006 Château de Saint Cosme, Gigondas "Valbelle" (90-93 pts)

Deep ruby. Intensely perfumed scents of spicy cherry, cassis, dried flowers and minerals ; smells like a lot of syrah is in here but there is only 10%. Deep bitter cherry and blackcurrant flavours are complemented by cracked pepper and framed by youthful tannins. Finishes with striking sweetness, depth and grip. Very impressive.

2006 Château de Saint Cosme, Gigondas "Hominis Fides" (92-94 pts)

Inky ruby. Ripe raspberry and cherry preserves on the nose, with suave rose, lavender and Asian spices adding complexity. Juicy and sharply focused, offering deep red fruit flavours with liqueur-like intensity but excellent vivacity. Turns darker on the finish, leaving a strong kirsch quality behind. This is a 100% Grenache, from vines over 100 years of age.

2006 Château de Saint Cosme, Gigondas "Le Claux" (92-95 pts)

Inky purple. Explosively perfumed nose offers an exotic bouquet of dark berries, Asian spices, incense and minerals. Strikingly fresh in the mouth, with sweet raspberry and blackberry flavours, silky tannins and an expansive, clinging finish. This is gorgeous. Nobody has any idea how old these wines are, but Barruol believes they were planted around 1880.

2006 Châte au de Saint Cosme, Gigondas "Le Poste" (91-94 pts)

Ruby-red. Seductive cherry and blackcurrant aromas are complicated by spicy licorice and Asian spices. Deep and sweet, with silky red fruit flavours and a slow-building bitter chocolate quality adding firmness. Much more serious than the preceding wines in fact, this may be the only 2006 gigondas here that will really demand patience. There are just four barriques of this juice, and the vine yield was reportedly just 15hl/ha.

2006 Saint Cosme Saint- Joseph (90-92 pts)

Bright purple. Gamey cassis and dark cherry scents, along with minerals, flowers and spices ; this could only be syrah. Fresh and juicy, offering vivid blackberry and blackcurrant flavours, smooth tannins and a persistent cracked pepper character. Barruol thinks that this will age extremely well.

2006 Saint Cosme Côte Rôtie (92-94 pts)

Opaque ruby. Ripe blackberry and plum aromas are complicated by cinnamon and cracked pepper, along with a strong mineral underpinning. Displays fresher red fruits on the palate, with gentle tannins adding grip and structure. Shows excellent finishing focus and length. According to barruol, this contains lot of cote brune fruit and clocked in at just 12.5% alcohol, while 2005 is 13.5%.

2006 Saint Cosme Condrieu (90 pts)

Light gold. Intensely perfumed aromas of vibrant citrus and white peach, dried flowers and dusty minerality. A silky, light bodied but deeply flavoured wine, with sweet pear and candied lemon flavours. Gain depth and power on the close, leaving behind a sappy, peachy quality while maintaining vibrancy. Barruol fears that this might be his last vintage with access to what he considers to be a great vineyard in Malleval.

2005

2005 Château de Saint Cosme, Gigondas (89+ pts)

2005 Chât eau de Saint Cosme, Gigondas "Valbelle" (93 pts)

2005 Château de Saint Cosme, Gigondas "Hominis Fides" (93+ pts)

2005 Saint Cosme, Saint Joseph (90 pts)

2005 Saint Cosme, Côte Rôtie (92 pts)

2005 Saint Cosme, Châteauneuf du Pape (91 pts)

50% grenache and 50% mourvedre, all from La Crau. Inky ruby. Fresh raspberry and kirsch on the nose, with exotic incense, tapenade and lavender notes adding complexity. Deep, brooding bitter cherry and licorice flavours are brightened by juicy acidity. Finishes with impressive grip and thrust, but with a surprising lack of hardness for such a powerful wine with this much mourvedre