

Valbelle 2010

Wine advocate

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Drink: 2012-2027

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Wine spectator

CHÂTEAU DE ST.-COSME Gigondas Valbelle 2010 - 97 points -

This is a backward brute, with a wall of roasted bay leaf, cedar, alder and juniper guarding the core of black currant, fig, prune and plum notes. Heady and dense, but there's plenty of cut on the finish, with a grounding rod of charcoal and singed iron keeping everything upright and focused. Best from 2015 through 2032. 708 cases made. -JM

Stephen Tanzer

(\$70) Vivid ruby. Heady, spice- and floral-accented aromas of candied dark berries and cherry, with a bright mineral overtone. Rich but energetic on the palate, offering sappy blackberry and cherry-cola flavors that show excellent clarity and lift. Fine-grained tannins give shape and grip to a long, smooth, penetrating finish.

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