

*Pierre Amadieu*



#22

Of the ranking of the  
world's best wines  
- December 2020 -

Wine Spectator  
www.winespectator.com  
THE  
**TOP 100**  
THE MOST EXCITING WINES OF 2020

We are thrilled that our **Gigondas Domaine Grand Romane 2017** was named **#22 on the Top 100 Wines 2020 of the Wine Spectator**, the leading American wine expert magazine with 3 million readers worldwide. This recognition encourages us to continue the work that our family and our teams have been doing **for more than 90 years in Gigondas** and in the Southern Rhône Valley.

The Gigondas Domaine Grand Romane **was thought up by Claude and Pierre Amadieu at the end of the 1980s** to create a blend around Mourvèdre from our **high altitude vineyards**. In its northern limit here in Gigondas, this sometimes capricious Provencal grape variety was **introduced very early** on by Pierre Amadieu Sr in the **1950s** around the Romane house, despite the little interest it raised at the time. It **took 8 years of reflection and selection** of superb vineyards to produce this cuvée, which is **now vinified by Jean-Marie**.

The proportion of Mourvèdre (20%) present in this wine makes it **unique among the various Gigondas of our beautiful appellation**. It is blended with 65% Grenache and 15% Syrah, whose vines are rooted on our hillsides

The creation of this cuvée is also based on an **unusual ageing** style: long and shared between **new barrels (15%), old barrels (45%) and foudres (40%)**.

The combination of **our terroir, the blend and this precise ageing process** produces a **powerful and elegant** wine with notes of **red and black berries**, mixed with flavours of **garrigue** and **liquorice**. Its intensity is enhanced by a pleasant **freshness** on the palate, linked to the slow ripening of the **old vines** at an altitude of over 400m.

**2017** was particularly **dry and hot**, and despite low yields, it delivered magnificent grapes with great **concentration**. We are fortunate to have seen a **succession of good vintages** in recent years, enabling us to produce wines of **excellent quality**. So, over the years, you have always **trusted us** for this cuvée that you all know, and it is also **thanks to you** that we have received this award.

This recognition is also shared by **the entire Gigondas appellation** and its winegrowers, who work together and will celebrate the **50th anniversary of our accession to cru status** in 2021.



*Pierre Amadieu***Wine Spectator**  
www.winespectator.com

J. Molesworth - January 2021

**Gigondas Le Pas de l'Aigle 2017****94/100**

Very solid, with plum paste, fig pâte de fruit and black currant preserve flavors pumping through, laced with juniper and garrigue notes and supported by a chalky underpinning on the finish. Best from 2021 through 2035.

**Gigondas Domaine Grand Romane 2018****94/100**

Packed with red- and black-currant fruit inlaid with licorice snap, garrigue and tar notes, this stays racy and focused in feel thanks to a bright iron–mineral streak that runs underneath it all. Rock solid. Best from 2022 through 2038.

**Gigondas Romane Machotte 2018****93/100**

Ripe and suave in feel, with a caressing edge to a mix of crushed plum, cassis and cherry preserve flavors as they glide through. Light mineral and black tea notes add range through the finish, which is sneaky long, leaving a mouthwatering feel. Latent depth too, so worth letting this develop in the cellar. Best from 2021 through 2035.

*Pierre Amadieu***Decanter**

Matt Walls -December 2020

**Vinsobres Les Piallats 2019 91/100**

Potent and rich, but not excessively so, this has a good tannic structure and the necessary acidic precision to bring focus, shape and freshness. Sensible oak regime holds the fruit to the fore, but rounds out the tannins and gives a little length. Saline finish.



WINE ADVOCATE

Joe Czerwinski – November 2020

« This old-school négociant (and estate owner) based in Gigondas has turned out a solid lineup in 2018. »

**Gigondas Romane Machotte 2018 91/100**

The 2018 Gigondas Romane Machotte—an 80-20 blend of Grenache and Syrah, aged in a combination of foudres and barriques—is perfumed and seductive, with hints of violets, roses, herbal tea and dried cherries on the nose. The palate is silky but structured, with some slightly astringent tannins that carry through to the lingering finish, but they're nothing that can't be tamed by some rare beef or lamb, or another year in the cellar. This has turned out even better than I projected from barrel.

**Gigondas Domaine Grand Romane 2018 92/100**

Always among the top wines at this address, the 2018 Gigondas Domaine Grand Romane delivers once again. Hedonistic waves of vanilla and ripe cherries greet the nose, while the full-bodied palate is expansive yet structured, framed by softly dusty tannins that turn silkier on the long finish. While decidedly modern in style, it looks to have the inherent substance and balance to drink well for up to a decade.

**Gigondas Le Pas de l'Aigle 2017 92/100**

From a vineyard at 400 meters above sea level (near the upper limit of the appellation), the 2017 Gigondas le Pas de l'Aigle is a 90-10 blend of Grenache and Syrah, aged several years in oak. Like many of the cuvées that see extended time in barrel, the oak actually seems to recede over time, being most prominent sometime between eight and 14 months. Now that this wine is in bottle, it does reveal hints of mocha, dried spices and cedar, but—more importantly—stronger notes of dark earth and ripe cherries. Full-bodied and velvety, it's a powerful, muscular example of Gigondas that may be consumed young or aged up to a decade.

**Vacqueyras La Grangelière 2018 90/100**

An assemblage of 80% Grenache and 20% Syrah, Amadieu's 2018 Vacqueyras la Grangelière features a bouquet of violets, garrigue, redcurrants and mocha. It's a complex, medium to full-bodied red with a ripe, generous feel on the palate and a lingering, silky finish.

**Cairanne Les Hautes Rives 2018 90/100**

Often overlooked in the Amadieu lineup, the 2018 Cairanne les Hautes Rives is another terrific value. A blend of 60% Grenache, 25% Mourvèdre and 15% Syrah, it offers up dark, earthy scents reminiscent of black cherries, plums and cola, while being full-bodied, round and generous on the palate, with a supple, slightly velvety finish.

**Vinsobres Les Piallats 2018 87/100**

Aged in foudres and older barrels, the 2018 Vinsobres Les Piallats is a blend of 70% Grenache and 30% Syrah. It's distinctively spicy and gamy, with notes of pepper, clove and leather making a substantial impression, backed by mixed berries and horse liniment. Medium to full-bodied, it boasts a fine framework of silky tannins that extend through the vaguely metallic finish. I'd drink this over the near term.

**Côtes du Rhône Roulepière 2018 red 88/100**

A 75-25 blend of Grenache and Syrah, the 2018 Côtes du Rhône Roulepière is a fruit-forward offering with substantial weight for a "simple" Côtes du Rhône. Raspberries, cherries and garrigue come together on the charming nose, while silky tannins frame the palate and linger easily on the finish. Typically retailing for less than \$15, it's a solid value.

# Pierre Amadieu

*Jancis Robinson*  
JancisRobinson.com

Alistair Cooper – November 2020

**Gigondas Romane Machotte 2019** **14,5/20**

80% Grenache, 20% Syrah. Aged for 12 months in oak casks and barrels. Cask sample. Tasted blind. Ripe fruit core is swamped by a cloak of dominant tannins. Medium length but has some good freshness.

**Gigondas Domaine Grand Romane 2019** **14/20**

65% Grenache, 20% Mourvèdre, 15% Syrah. Aged for 18 months in oak barrels (30% new) and in foudres. Cask sample. Tasted blind. Oaky nose with red fruits. Firm and has quite notable oaking on the palate also. The tannins are a little oak-derived and thus rasping.

**Gigondas Le Pas de l'Aigle 2019** **14/20**

90% Grenache, 10% Syrah. Aged in oak for 24 months and a further year in bottle. Tasted blind. Cherry and sweet spice. Quite heavily extracted tannins are a little too prominent against the moderate fruit core.

## Wine Spectator

J. Molesworth - November 2020

**Gigondas Le Pas de l'Aigle 2015** **92/100**

Beefy in feel, with dark currant and fig fruit melding with roasted alder, dried sage and licorice root notes on the finish. Solid tannic spine throughout. Grenache and Syrah. Best from 2021 through 2026.

**Côtes du Rhône Domaine Grand Romane white 2018** **91/100**

This is a pure, fruit-filled delight, brimming with honeysuckle-infused melon, green fig and star fruit flavors. Verbena echoes through the finish. Delicious. Drink now through 2021.

**Cairanne Les Hautes Rives red 2018** **89/100**

Direct, with fresh cherry and raspberry notes backed by a light graphite edge on the finish. Modest in scale, but shows good energy throughout. Grenache, Mourvèdre and Syrah. Drink now through 2021.

**Vacqueyras La Grangelière red 2018** **89/100**

Stylish, with singed sandalwood, sanguine and red tea notes weaving around a light-bodied core of red currant and cherry puree flavors. Drink now through 2021.

**Vinsobres les Piallats 2018** **89/100**

For fans of the funk, as this has a core of steeped plum and blackberry fruit inlaid with hints of sage, chestnut and espresso crema, giving this an old-school feel in the end. Drink now through 2023.

**Côtes du Rhône Roulepieyre 2018** **88/100**

Bright kirsch and anise notes stream through this open, fresh red, with light garrigue and incense hints on the finish. Drink now.

*Pierre Amadieu***JEB DUNNUCK**

Jeb Dunnuck – October 2020

**Gigondas Domaine Grand Romane 2018 90/100**

While the 2018 Gigondas Domaine Grand Romane isn't going to match the brilliant 2017, it's nevertheless an outstanding, beautiful Gigondas that has loads to love. Offering lots of ripe black cherries, black raspberries, peppery herbs, and spice, it hits the palate with medium to full-bodied richness, a rounded, expansive texture, ripe tannins, and a great finish. It's another Provençal, character-filled, incredibly satisfying wine from this estate that should drink nicely for 7-8 years.

**Gigondas Romane Machotte 2018 89/100**

Showing nicely from barrel and now from bottle, the 2018 Gigondas Romane Machotte reveals a medium ruby/translucent color to go with a beautifully Provençal and complex bouquet of wild strawberries, herbes de Provence, cedary spice, and loamy soil. Playing in the medium-bodied, charming, nicely textured style of the vintage, it has loads of charm and is ideal for drinking over the coming 5-7 years.

**Gigondas Domaine Grand Romane 2019 91-93+/100**

As normal, the 2019 Gigondas Domaine Grand Romane is a denser, more black-fruited, mineral-laced effort that has medium to full-bodied richness, loads of fruit, building tannins, and a great finish. This is another serious, impressive Gigondas that should have some upfront charm yet benefit from 2-3 years of bottle age. It will evolve for over a decade.

**Gigondas Romane Machotte 2019 90-92/100**

Moving to the 2019s from barrel, the 2019 Gigondas Romane Machotte reveals a ruby/purple hue as well as a terrific nose of black raspberry and kirsch fruits supported by plenty of cedary spice and dried garrigue like nuances. Medium to full-bodied and nicely concentrated, with ripe tannins, it's a beautiful Gigondas in the making that should drink nicely right out of the gate, yet also evolve for 7-8 years, if not longer.

**Gigondas Le Pas De L'Aigle 2017 93+/100**

The flagship from this solid estate is the 2017 Gigondas Le Pas De L'Aigle and it checks in as 90% Grenache and 10% Syrah that sees a longer élevage in tank followed by a year in bottle before release. Revealing a more medium ruby color that's slightly translucent, it has a terrific, classic 2017 bouquet of spiced red fruits, Provençal garrigue, ground pepper, and loamy soil, with a terrific sense of limestone induced minerality that comes through with time in the glass. Hitting the palate with medium to full-bodied richness, it has beautiful overall balance, plenty of mid-palate depth, and enough tannins to warrant another 2-3 years of bottle age. It's beautifully done and just a Provençal, satisfying, already complex, Gigondas that's going to evolve for 10-15 years.

**Gigondas Le Pas De L'Aigle 2019 92-94/100**

The flagship 2019 Gigondas Le Pas De L'Aigle is the normal 90% Grenache and 10% Syrah brought up in cask. More peppery garrigue, cedary spice, dried incense, and both kirsch and blackberry-like fruit characteristics emerge from the glass, and it hits the palate with a medium-bodied, concentrated mouthfeel that carries plenty of structure and depth. As normal, this wine will need 2-4 years of bottle age but will be a classic, outstanding Gigondas that will evolve for over a decade.

**Vacqueyras La Grangelière 2018 89/100**

The 2018 Vacqueyras La Grangelière is a total charmer, offering plenty of ripe strawberry and blackberry fruits intermixed with notes of spring flowers and spice. This gives way to a plump, Provençal, medium-bodied effort that displays the vintage's forward, charming, delicious style. It's ideal for enjoying over the coming 4-5 years, if not a little longer.

**Vacqueyras La Grangelière 2019 89-91/100**

Not yet bottled, the 2019 Vacqueyras La Grangelière is cut from the same cloth but has slightly more mid-palate density as well as length on the finish. Pretty notes of red and black fruits, spring flowers, candied violets, and spice all emerge from this plump, easygoing, medium to full-bodied effort. It's another wine to drink in its first 5-7 years.

# Pierre Amadieu

## drinkrhone.com

John Livingstone-Learmonth – August 2020

### Cairanne Les Hautes Rives rouge 2018 \* \* \*

Dark red; large, grilled bouquet, soaked red cherries or griottes, has a fat sunny outlook, a curve of ripeness, is typical Cairanne in that respect, with the slight refinement. The palate bears slightly peppery content, cooked red fruits, some dynamism in the tannins which are chewy, raw. This is the first bottling, is demanding, the next will have had some large barrel raising extra. It's rugged, but genuine.

### Cairanne Les Hautes Rives blanc 2019 \* \* \* (\*)

Fine yellow robe; peach fruit, soft aroma, has a little aniseed direction that helps, dried fruits, butter also. There are low-key oak notes. The palate springs out well, carries a fresh outer, a firm inner, has a firm grapey flavour. This is stout, for la table, has tang also. The Clairette rose gives a note of rose petal near the finish, joli that is. Harvested 10 September. There's plenty here to involve the mind as well as the palate.

### Tavel La Gravinière 2019 \* \* \*

Full, appealing red robe, its brightness handsome. The bouquet is replete, full of red berry fruits, a good summer mix of raspberry and strawberry, carries some of the vintage sweetness. The palate bears an intense level of red cherry, tangy, charry stone flavour, is decisive and very clear on the finish. It has a little developing still to do, and will emerge with a more open display in a few months. The fruit is under restraint, but well cut. It's a serious Tavel, for boldly flavoured dishes.

### Vin de Pays Viognier - IGP Méditerranée 2019 \* \* \* (\*)

Fine yellow robe; there's a sherbet buzz about the nose, with dashings of pear, apricot, with a note of licorice. It's a bouncy opening. The palate comes with immediate white fruits, with a keen acidity towards the finish. It's a well channelled Southern white, with enough tempo to serve for the aperitif, the length good and fresh. There are flashes of fruit along its busy path, with a note of tannic grip, darkness on the finish – that renders it suitable for la table as well, chicken dishes ideal.



Josh Reynolds - February 2020

### Gigondas Le Pas de l'Aigle 2017 93-94/100

Vivid ruby-red. Ripe red/blue fruits, pungent flowers, incense and exotic spices on the hugely perfumed nose. Sweet and expansive on the palate, offering deeply concentrated raspberry liqueur, boysenberry, candied lavender and fruitcake flavors that pick up a smoky mineral nuance with air. Supple, even tannins add shape and subtle grip to the impressively long, sappy finish, which repeats the red fruit and floral notes.

### Gigondas Romane Machotte 2018 93-95/100

Deep, brilliant red. A deeply perfumed bouquet evokes ripe red/blue fruits, incense and vanilla. A sexy floral nuance builds as the wine opens up. Offers sweet, concentrated raspberry, boysenberry, candied lavender and spicecake flavors that steadily become more lively as the wine stretches out. Displays sharp delineation and emphatic spicy thrust on a impressively long, floral-dominated finish that's framed by supple, slow-building tannins.

### Gigondas Domaine Grand Romane 2018 92-94/100

Glistening ruby-red. Pungent aromas of ripe cherry and dark berries punctuated by suggestions of smoked meat and vanilla. In a wild but controlled style, offering sweet cassis, cherry liqueur, allspice and mocha flavors that firm up quickly on the back end. Opens up on the long, youthfully tannic finish, which leaves sappy red/dark berry and spice notes behind.

### Gigondas Le Pas de l'Aigle 2018 94-96/100

Shimmering violet color. Vibrant raspberry and floral scents are complicated by suggestions of *garrigue*, incense, exotic spices and smoky minerals. Juicy and energetic on the palate, offering deeply concentrated yet energetic red berry, cherry liqueur and spicecake flavors and a suave floral pastille nuance. Fine-grained, even tannins lend gentle grip to an extremely long, smooth finish that leaves sappy red fruit and allspice notes behind. This superb wine is shaping up to be the best one that I have ever tasted from this venerable estate.

*Pierre Amadieu***drinkrhone.com**

John Livingstone-Learmonth – February 2020

**Gigondas Romane Machotte 2018** \* \* \* \*

Shiny dark robe; the bouquet has a live air of blackberry, blackberry jelly fruit, with a little menthol, tea leaves in the mix, influences that lift it. The palate resounds well via its stylish, elegant black fruits, with purity in the fruit, and fine tuning in the tannins. The juice is well concentrated, and fluid at the same time, as it finishes. The length is good. This has good shape, will evolve nicely.

**Gigondas Domaine Grand Romane 2018** \* \* \* \* (\*)

Shiny dark red; the nose is broad, sustained, gives a concerted aroma of raspberry fruit with side notes of dried herbes de Provence – the fruit stands up well. The palate involves oaking on the attack, runs with well collected red fruits, mulberry for example, and tannins that have inner strength, real resolve. It has racy notes in a firm filling. Its bright approach appeals, and the aftertaste is well juiced. Good length, good shape here.

**Gigondas Le Pas De l'Aigle 2018** \* \* \*

Full red colour; the bouquet has a Grenache-led spiced, red fruit jam, cooked strawberry aroma, comes with a trifle dusty aspect. The palate bears some of the baking of the hot vintage, is compressed, the juice clamped, the tannins firm to dry. It's a sunshine, Southern, grounded wine, which requires keeping to bring more freedom and expression, and to soften it as well: it can do that, will have its moment in the sun later on. Decant it.

**Wine Spectator**

J. Molesworth - November 2019

**Gigondas Le Pas de l'Aigle 2016** 94/100

Ripe and vivid, with beautiful flow to the mix of dark plum, fig and blackberry preserve flavors, carried by a swath of licorice root and tobacco. Swirls of black tea and mesquite show on the finish, which reveals well-buried chalky minerality. Should cellar nicely. Best from 2022 through 2035.

*Jancis Robinson*  
JancisRobinson.com

Richard Hemming – November 2019

**Gigondas Domaine Grand Romane 2018** 15.5/20

65% Grenache, 20% Mourvèdre, 15% Syrah. Aged for 18 months in oak. Cask sample. Tasted blind. Potent oak influence gives a strong spicy complexity to the nose, and leads the palate too. There is correct red fruit too, but it plays second fiddle to the oak. Aggressive tannic grip. Might settle with time ? Drink 2022–2028

**Gigondas Le Pas de l'Aigle 2018** 15.5/20

90% Grenache, 10% Syrah. Aged for 24 months in old oak. Cask sample. Tasted blind. Strawberry and cherry fruit, piquant spices which give good contrast to the ripe fruit, and moderate length that finishes with hot alcohol.

**Gigondas Romane Machotte 2018** 15/20

80% Grenache, 20% Syrah. Aged for 12 months in old oak. Cask sample. Tasted blind. Dry, tart palate with simple fruit and light spicing.

**Vacqueyras La Grangelière 2018** 16/20

80% Grenache, 20% Syrah. Aged in old oak. Tank sample. Tasted blind. Well-defined red fruit with soft tannins and a slight iodine note on the finish. Reasonably light body gives this good drinkability.

*Pierre Amadieu***JEB DUNNUCK**

Jeb Dunnuck – September 2019

**Gigondas Domaine Grand Romane 2018 89-91/100**

The 2018 Gigondas Domaine Grand Romane is charmer and shows the vintage style with its upfront dark fruits, cedary spice, and earthy aromas and flavors. Medium-bodied and nicely textured on the palate, it offers plenty of fruit and is going to drink nicely right out of the gate.

**Gigondas Romane Machotte 2018 90-92/100**

In the same ballpark, the 2018 Gigondas Romane Machotte is another ripe, forward, fleshy Gigondas that's going to have plenty of upfront appeal. Complex notes of ripe strawberries, black raspberries, cedarwood, and dried garrigue all emerge from this medium-bodied Gigondas that's ideal for enjoying over the coming 5-7 years.

**Gigondas Le Pas de l'Aigle 2016 95/100**

A beautiful wine, the flagship 2016 Gigondas Le Pas De L'Aigle is a normal blend of 90% Grenache and 10% Syrah that spent a full two years in oak casks before bottling. Ruby/purple-colored with intense notes of black raspberries, cassis, garrigue, and flowery incense, it hits the palate with medium to full-bodied richness, a layered, multi-dimensional texture, and building tannins that give plenty of cut and definition on the finish. Taking plenty of time to open up, it's going to benefit from 2-3 years of bottle age and shine for 10-15 years. It's a class act.

**Gigondas Le Pas De L'Aigle 2017 91-94/100**

The flagship cuvée is the 2017 Gigondas Le Pas De L'Aigle, which comes from a northwest-facing parcel located at the foot of the Dentelles at an elevation of 400 meters above sea level. It has a complex, lively perfume of spring flowers, rose petals, mulberries, and kirsch to go with a medium to full-bodied, silky style on the palate. It doesn't have the density of the 2016, yet it certainly isn't far off. It's going to benefit from short-term cellaring and keep for a decade.

**Gigondas Le Pas De L'Aigle 2018 91-93/100**

Not yet bottled, the 2018 Gigondas Le Pas De L'Aigle (90/10 Grenache and Syrah) offers a medium-bodied, elegant, seamless style as well as perfumed notes of black raspberries, graphite, spice cabinet, and dried flower-like nuances. It has good density on the mid-palate, outstanding balance, and a great finish, all pointing to a terrific Gigondas that will drink well of over a decade.

**Vacqueyras La Grangelière 2018 89-91/100**

Always a charmer, the 2018 Vacqueyras La Grangelière is no exception and has plenty of red and black fruits, savory herbs, and peppery notes as well as a medium-bodied, supple, textured style on the palate that's going to drink great right from the gate.

**Cairanne Les Hautes Rives 2018 90-92/100**

Based on 60% Grenache, 25% Mourvèdre, and the rest Syrah, the 2018 Cairanne Les Hautes Rives is still again all in tank and sees no oak whatsoever. This ripe, sexy, textured 2018 offers medium to full-bodied notes of strawberries, black raspberries, ground pepper, and dried flowers. It's Provençal, supple, and again, beautifully textured.

**drinkrhone.com**

John Livingstone-Learmonth - January 2019

**Gigondas Le Pas De l'Aigle 2017 \* \* \* \***

Sound, quite full red robe; there's a lead air of crushed pistachio nutshells, an inlay of stylish raspberry fruit, a vegetal connection on the nose. The palate holds savoury, content, a willing raspberry coulis or jam flavour which persists well, with clarity on the finish. It collects some of the cool features of Gigondas, and the smooth texture reminds me of a wine from sandy soils. This is promising, elegant, aromatic.

*Pierre Amadiéu*


WINE ADVOCATE

Joe Czerwinski – September 2019

**Gigondas Romane Machotte 2017 90/100**

The 2017 Gigondas Romane Machotte is full-bodied and tannic, yet it still manages to turn silky on the finish. It starts off floral and peppery, then adds ample black cherry fruit on the palate. An 80-20 blend of Grenache and Syrah, it's a solid effort.

**Gigondas Le Pas de l'Aigle 2016 93/100**

Amadiéu's top cuvée, the 2016 Gigondas le Pas de l'Aigle is 90% old-vine Grenache and 10% Syrah planted at 400 meters above sea level (near the top of the appellation). Hints of clove, leather and cedar accent a mix of red and black fruit, including hints of cola. Medium to full-bodied, this concentrated, complex wine should be at its best in another year or two and drink well for the next 4-5 years.

**Gigondas Domaine Grand Romane 2018 91-94/100**

Penetrating aromas of Bing cherries and mossy stones lead the way in the 2018 Gigondas Domaine Grand Romane, a blend of 65% Grenache, 20% Mourvèdre and 15% Syrah. It's full-bodied, supple and round, fleshed out but ripe stone fruit, then it finishes firm and tannic.

**Gigondas Romane Machotte 2018 87-89/100**

An 80-20 blend of Grenache and Syrah, the medium to full-bodied 2018 Gigondas Romane Machotte is supple and nearly ready to drink, despite still being in oak. Cherries and peaches round out this plush-textured wine that lingers on the finish.

**Gigondas Le Pas de l'Aigle 2018 93-95/100**

Mainly (90%) 65-year-old Grenache grown at 400 meters above sea level on blue clay, Amadiéu's 2018 Gigondas le Pas de l'Aigle looks to be another top success. Still in barrel (where it stays for two years), it's full-bodied, supple and rich, with bold raspberry and cherry fruit, a velvety mouthfeel and a long, rich finish marked by ripe tannins.

**Cairanne Les Hautes Rives 2018 89-91/100**

The 2018 Cairanne les Hautes Rives looks very promising, with its scents of cola, black cherries and spice. It's dark, earthy and supple, medium to full-bodied, rich and velvety.



JancisRobinson.com

Richard Hemming - November 2018

**Gigondas Le Pas de l'Aigle 2017 17/20**

90% Grenache, 10% Syrah. Cask sample. Tasted blind. Excellent red-fruit ripeness with a cranberry and redcurrant character and complementary herby notes. Pure, vivid and expressive – a real glassful of pleasure. The tannins are still very furry, but that will soften and there is great potential for further complexity. Warm alcohol but it matches the flavour intensity. Drink 2021-2031

November 2017

**Gigondas Le Pas de l'Aigle 2016 17/20**

Syrupy, rich and thick on the nose and palate. Forceful and flavoursome with deliciously ripe raspberry fruit and soft, supple tannin. Drink 2018-2030

*Pierre Amadieu***JEB DUNNUCK**

Jeb Dunnuck – September 2018

**Gigondas Le Pas de l'Aigle 2017****92-94/100**

The flagship from Amadieu is the 2017 Gigondas Le Pas De L'Aigle, which is 90% Grenache and 10% Syrah sourced from a higher elevation (400 meters), northwest facing parcel of 65-year-old vines. It's aged two years in cask and held for a year in bottle before release. Deep purple colored, with a ripe, forward bouquet of blackberries, smoked earth, and cedary spice, this beauty has considerable elegance, medium to full body, fine tannins, and a great finish.



WINE ADVOCATE

Joe Czerwinski – September 2018

**Gigondas Le Pas de l'Aigle 2017****92-94/100**

The 2017 Gigondas le Pas de l'Aigle, a 90-10 Grenache-Syrah blend from near the top of the appellation, will spend another year or so in oak, but for now, it's an incredible whirlwind of fruit, swirling together raspberries and blueberries in a fun, supple but full-bodied wine.

**Gigondas Le Pas de l'Aigle 2015****92/100**

Amadieu's 2015 Gigondas le Pas de l'Aigle is a chewy, tannic blend of 90% Grenache and 10% Syrah that should start to soften in another couple of years. Cherries and dusty earth notes mingle easily on the nose and palate, lingering on the finish.

November 2017

**Gigondas Le Pas de l'Aigle 2016****93-95/100**

Amadieu's top cuvée, and a stellar barrel sample, the 2016 Gigondas le Pas de l'Aigle comes from old-vine Grenache and Syrah planted at 400 meters above sea level (near the top of the appellation). As this wine typically spends 24 months in oak, it may pick up more cedar and vanilla notes, but for the moment it looks very pure. Kirsch-like aromas are followed by a fantastically supple and creamy palate that manages to be full without being heavy, then masses of ripe tannins mount on the lingering finish. Let's hope this level of quality is representative of what will go into the bottle next year.

**VINOUS**  
explore all things wine

By Josh Reynolds - April 2018

**Gigondas Le Pas de l'Aigle 2016****92-94 points**

Lurid ruby-red. Potent, mineral-accented raspberry liqueur and cherry aromas are complemented by suggestions of incense, vanilla and exotic flowers. Velvety in texture and impressively concentrated, offering sweet red berry and cherry preserve flavors that are lifted by a spine of juicy and spicy snap of white pepper. Plush yet energetic in style, finishing on an emphatic floral note, with excellent clarity and harmonious tannins that build slowly.

**drinkrhone.com**

John Livingstone-Learmonth – December 2017

**Gigondas Le Pas De l'Aigle 2016 \* \* \* \* \***

Dark red. The nose gives a lucid aroma of cherry-raspberry fruit, has a coulis style, appealing sweetness, glistens with juvenile brilliance, shows some oak in the background. The palate is the home to most attractive Grenache red fruits, red cherries with a suave style and juicy content. The mid-palate is very well filled, the balance is good, and the purity of the fruit striking – it's crystal-line. The oak will require another four years or so to fuse into it. A most winning bottle awaits, full of the clarity of Gigondas.