

*Pierre Amadieu***JEB DUNNUCK**

Jeb Dunnuck – March 2023

Gigondas Le Pas De L'Aigle 2018 92/100

As with most 2018s today, the 2018 Gigondas Le Pas De L'Aigle is up-front, charming, and drinking brilliantly. Kirsch, blackberries, toasted spices, and peppery garrigue all give way to a medium-bodied, forward, soft, and utterly delicious Gigondas to enjoy over the coming decade.

Gigondas Le Pas De L'Aigle 2019 94+/100

Tasted out of the bottle, the 2019 Gigondas Le Pas De L'Aigle showed beautifully with its kirsch liqueur, blackberry, herbes de Provence, and toasted spice-driven aromas and flavors. Medium to full-bodied, pure, and seamless on the palate, it's another vintage of this cuvée that will have a lengthy, broad drink window. It should keep nicely through 2035.

Gigondas Le Pas De L'Aigle 2020 92-94+/100

The 2020 Gigondas Le Pas De L'Aigle (90% Grenache and 10% Syrah) is another gem of a wine in the making. Coming from higher elevation parcels and brought up in oak, it has an incredibly Provençal bouquet of ripe cherries, garrigue, candied flowers, and loamy earth. Medium to full-bodied on the palate, it shows the more elegant side of the vintage, has ripe tannins, and is clearly an outstanding (if not quite a bit more) wine that readers will love.

Gigondas Le Pas De L'Aigle 2021 92-94+/100

The flagship from this terrific estate is the 2021 Gigondas Le Pas De L'Aigle, which is mostly Grenache that sees a longer élevage in oak. It shows the more mid-weight style of the vintage yet has beautiful black raspberry and ripe berry fruits, medium body, good mid-palate depth, and ripe, balancing tannins. It's beautifully done, and while it will offer pleasure in its youth, this has enough structure to evolve gracefully in the cellar.

Gigondas Domaine Grand Romane 2021 89-91+/100

The 2021 Gigondas Domaine Grand Romane is 65% Grenache, 20% Mourvèdre, and the rest Syrah. It has a touch more density as well as ripe black fruits, peppery garrigue, and some meaty, leathery nuances. This ruby/purple-hued 2021 is medium to full-bodied, has rock-solid mid-palate depth, ripe tannins, and just a round, charming, delicious style that makes the most of the vintage.

Gigondas Romane Machotte 2021 88-90/100

What should be a forward, charming 2021, the 2021 Gigondas Romane Machotte (80/20 Grenache and Syrah) has up-front cherry, garrigue, and peppery herb notes in a medium-bodied, nicely balanced, enjoyable package. It's going to drink nicely right out of the gate.

Vacqueyras La Grangelière 2021 89/100

A blend of 80% Grenache and 20% Syrah that was destemmed and aged in a mix of barrels and foudre, the 2021 Vacqueyras La Grangelière has a clean, fresh, lively, medium-bodied style as well as traditional notes of red berries, rose petals, peppery garrigue, and spice. It shows the fresher style of the vintage but is balanced, has good ripeness, and solid length on the finish. Enjoy bottles over the coming 7-8 years.

vinOUS

Pierre Amadieu

Josh Reynolds – January 2023

Gigondas Domaine Grand Romane 2021 93-95/100

Saturated ruby. Mineral- and spice-accented black and blue fruit preserve scents show sharp clarity and are complemented by suggestions of vanilla and succulent flowers. Seamless and deep in the mouth, the sweet blueberry, cherry liqueur, spicecake and candied lavender flavors are supported by a core of juicy acidity. It finished impressively long and spicy, with harmonious, slow-building tannins.

Gigondas Le Pas de L'Aigle 2021 92-94/100

Brilliant ruby. The expressive nose initially offers fresh red fruits and potpourri notes, which are complicated by exotic spice and incense hints. Deep but energetic, the sappy, appealingly sweet raspberry and cherry flavors tighten up through the back half. Silky tannins shape a strikingly long, pliant finish that leaves behind suave spicecake and lavender pastille notes.

Gigondas Romane Machotte 2021 91-93/100

Opaque magenta. The fragrant note displays pungent, spice-accented red and blue fruits, potpourri, succulent herbs and baking spices. Offers densely packed yet vibrant raspberry and blueberry flavors that show fine definition and spicy lift. Supple tannins build slowly on the finish, which hangs on with strong tenacity and repeating blue fruit note.

Gigondas Domaine Grand Romane 2020 95/100

Deep, vivid ruby. A highly perfumed and finely detailed bouquet evokes fresh red berries, cherry preserves, exotic spices, candied flowers and a smoky mineral flourish. Smooth and seamless on the palate, the intense raspberry, cherry-cola, spicecake and candied lavender flavors express a compelling blend of power and delicacy. Closes smooth, gently tannic and impressively long, leaving sappy red fruit, spice and floral notes behind.

Gigondas Le Pas de L'Aigle 2020 94-96/100

Deep, brilliant ruby. Intensely fragrant suggestions of ripe red berries, kirsch, exotic spices and candied flowers are accompanied by a vibrant mineral nuance that builds steadily with air. Smooth and seamless in texture, the intense raspberry, cherry-cola, spicecake and lavender flavors convey a deft blend of power and delicacy. Closes smooth, gently tannic and impressively long, leaving sappy red fruit and mineral notes behind.

Gigondas Romane Machotte 2020 93/100

Vivid ruby. Sharply focused cherry, blueberry, licorice and floral scents pick up hints of smoky minerals and succulent herbs with aeration. Juicy and energetic on the palate, the bitter cherry, candied licorice, espresso and lavender flavors firm up steadily through the back half. Youthfully gripping tannins sneak in late on a very long spicy finish that echoes the licorice and cherry notes.

Gigondas Le Pas de L'Aigle 2019 94/100

Dark magenta. Expansive aromas of ripe red and blue fruits, potpourri and licorice are accompanied by smoky mineral and exotic spice nuances. Offers juicy, penetrating raspberry, bitter cherry and floral pastille flavors that become sweeter with aeration. Plush, even tannins add a subtle grip to an impressively long spice-tinged finish that emphatically echoes the blue and floral notes.

Gigondas Le Pas de L'Aigle 2018 93/100

Shimmering ruby-red. A smoke- and spice-accented bouquet displays cherry-cola, black raspberry and pungent floral scents. Expressive sweet red and dark berry and spicecake flavors are complemented by hints of lavender and smoky minerals. Shows fine definition and spicy cut on a long, gently tannic finish that echoes the floral note.

*Pierre Amadieu***JAMESSUCKLING.COM** 

Stuart Pigott – December 2022

Gigondas Romane Machotte 2021 **93/100**

A very impressive Gigondas for the challenging vintage that's got the deep ripeness, wild herb and meaty character we expect from the best wines of this appellation. The fresh plum fruit and summer flower aromas are just beginning to open up. The elegant tannins make this flow gracefully over the palate. Long, precise finish. Drink or hold.

Gigondas Domaine Grand Romane 2021 **94/100**

Complex spicy nose with stacks of plum and black berry fruit, plus serious meaty depth. Concentrated and very well structured this is on the cusp of greatness, despite the challenging vintage. Lots of dusty hot earth character at the long expressive finish. Drink or hold.

Cairanne Les Hautes Rives 2021 **92/100**

This excellent red Rhone provides a good argument in favor of taking the rather new appellation of Cairanne seriously. In spite of the cooler vintage this has very good ripeness married to a floral delicacy with elegant tannins that, together with the stony acidity, give this a lot of good energy. Should age well. Drink or hold.

Gigondas Le Pas de L'Aigle 2018 **95/100**

Mature and rich but very dry and subtle, this is slightly old-fashioned in a delightful way. Lots of dried orange peel, dried cherry and smoke character, and behind all that the fine tannins build as the wine moves inexorably across the palate like a huge ship plowing through the ocean waves. From old grenache and syrah vines in one of the highest altitude vineyards in this appellation. Drink or hold.

Châteauneuf-du-Pape La Paillousse 2021 **91/100**

Generous and fleshy without any of the opulence that this appellation tends towards, this has a very attractive interplay of spice, pomegranate fruit and summer flower aromas. The solid base of rather fine tannins keep this straight and warmly dry at the long finish. Drink or hold.

Vacqueyras La Grangelière 2021 **90/100**

This full-bodied and fleshy Southern Rhone red has pronounced aromas of blood orange alongside the big blueberry and blackberry character, making it surprisingly lively and light on its feet. Not so long at the finish, but very drinkable. Drink now.

Côtes-du-Rhône Grande Réserve 2021 **92/100**

Very expressive nose of black cherries and ripe raspberries with a touch of something animal. This is concentrated and structured on the widescreen palate. So much drive and depth at the bold, but moderately dry finish. A cuvee of grenache and syrah matured in large oak foudres. Drink or hold.

Côtes-du-Rhône Roulepierre 2021 **91/100**

A remarkably fragrant and elegant wine for this appellation with plenty of violet aromas alongside a wide spectrum of red berry aromas. So fresh and lively at the long, precise finish, it's really hard to believe that this has 14% alcohol! Drink now.

*Pierre Amadieu***Wine Spectator**
WWW.WINESPECTATOR.COM

K. Bieler - December 2022

Côtes du Rhône Domaine Grand Romane white 2021 89/100

A sunny, bright white, with gardenia blossom, honeyed nectarine and juicy lemon notes that stay clean and pure on the palate, thanks to racy acidity and a salty mineral edge.

Cairanne Les Hautes Rives 2020 89/100

Dark and compact, with earth and smoked meat notes infusing a base of plum sauce and savory spices. The solid finish is framed by grippy tannins and pronounced iron minerality.

Vacqueyras La Grangelière 2021 88/100

Shows cassis, plum, raspberry and violet notes that are expressive on the nose, turning savory and somewhat austere on the palate. Gains firmness from charred alder, crushed iron and grippy tannins.

Vinsobres Les Piallats 2021 89/100

A fresh, energetic wine, with violet and wild blackberry flavors up front, this courses with savory acidity and is backed by charred herbs and mesquite.

Côtes du Rhône Roulepierre red 2021 88/100

A tasty red, with floral and cassis notes up front underscored by graphite shavings, toasted mesquite, fresh pepper and a lick of vanilla.

Jancis Robinson
JancisRobinson.com

Alistair Cooper – November 2022

Gigondas Romane Machotte 2021 15/20

Dark fruits, damp earth and grilled meat. Pepper and thyme with firm tannins, cocoa and grilled meat. A textured finish, a ripe and opulent expression of the vintage.

Gigondas Domaine Grand Romane 2021 15.5/20

Dark fruits on the nose, liquorice and spice. Lots of pepper and spice and firm taut tannins – juicy and lots of dark fruits shine through. Intense and ripe but appealing.

Gigondas Le Pas de l'Aigle 2021 15.5/20

Quite mute on the nose, dark fruits, fig and cocoa. Dense palate with firm and ripe tannins, opulent fruit – rich, savoury and attractive.

Vacqueyras La Grangelière 2021 15.5/20

Dark fig on the nose with juicy, vibrant, blue-fruit notes. Ripe mouthfeel with red fruits, a slight herbal twang and moderate, slightly drying tannins that will resolve.

Cairanne Les Hautes Rives white 2021 15.5/20

Freshly cut pears, white pepper and a real sense of fres some nutty notes come through on the palate -attractive

Cairanne Les Hautes Rives red 2021 15/20

Fresh red fruits on the nose with an earthy note beneath. Tight and chewy tannins, tinned strawberry and moderate acidity. Not complex in style, refreshing dans juicy for relatively young drinking.

17 mars 2023

Page 4

Pierre Amadieu

drinkrhone.com

John Livingstone-Learmonth – octobre 2022

Gigondas Domaine Grand Romane 2021 * * * * (*)

Full red colour; the nose has a smoky intensity, cordite with red fruits, underpinned by a note of sweetness. It's still on its raising, has potential. The palate bears accomplished content, has style, with discreet oaking that helps to carry it in length. There is quality fruit on board here, and astute oaking as well. It's a well made, good and clear Gigondas.

Gigondas Romane Machotte 2021 * * * *

full red robe; the bouquet takes a savoury, beef stock route, is close-knit, the fruit dark. The palate is well composed of black berry content with linger in the rather fresh tannins, gathers notes of herbes de Provence, a still grainy feel to the tannins. It's well placed to evolve naturally, carried by its clarity and sensible depth of content. The finish is lucid, a spot of tingle there.

Gigondas Le Pas De l'Aigle 2021 * * * *

Dark red; the bouquet has a light top note of moss, seashore, with a floral hint, is well filled, on dark fruit. The palate links well to the nose, carries a bountiful level of content which is agreeably accessible from this early stage. The length is assured, and this gives a promising Gigondas with authority and good conviction There are southern notes, black olives, on the well filled aftertaste .

Wine Spectator

J. Molesworth - October 2022

Gigondas Le Pas de l'Aigle 2019 93/100

An expressive red, with warm fig and raspberry p ate de fruit laced with expressive violet perfume. The impressive finish is driven by roasted garrigue and mineral energy. This is still tightly coiled, however, and will need time for new layers to emerge. Grenache and Syrah. Drink now through 2030.

Gigondas Domaine Grand Romane 2020 92/100

This red boasts bitter cherry, crushed raspberry and red tea flavors that are bold, open and inviting. Tightly coiled and wound on the palate by a firming cage of tannins, this gains savory depth from black pepper and charred mesquite. Though delicious now, this is rendered one for the cellar due to subtly muscular tannins.

B. Sanderson - December 2022

Gigondas Romane Machotte 2020 90/100

An inviting, pretty wine, with high-toned violet and ripe raspberry notes that are both fresh and ripe on the palate. Delivers dusty mineral, singed mesquite and invigorating white pepper accents that add good savory dimension throughout the elegant finish.

Decanter

Matt Walls – August 2022

Gigondas Domaine Grand Romane 2021 92/100

Bright forest berry fruits. Clean and pure, but peculiarly low acidity for the vintage. Soft, melded tannins. Alcohol is fairly high. Gently floral, with decent length.

C tes du Rh one Domaine Grand Romane 2021 90/100

Dried citrus peels on the palate, alongside the flesh and bitter pith of pink grapefruit. Good intensity and bite, but the bitterness might be too much for some. 50-year-old vines grown at 400m near Gigondas.

WINE ENTHUSIAST

Anna Lee C. Iijima - January 2022

Gigondas Le Pas de l'Aigle 2018 93/100

Opulent and heady, this full-bodied red highlights the power and richness of Grenache with just 10% of Syrah blended for freshness and angularity. Packed with concentrated blackberry and cherry flavors and accented by hints of mesquite, tar and sweet spice, it's a mouth-coating wine with fine-grained, integrated tannins that are approachable now. At peak through 2030.

17 mars 2023

Page 5

*Pierre Amadieu***JEB DUNNUCK**

Jeb Dunnuck – January 2022

Gigondas Le Pas de l'Aigle 2019**92-94/100**

Lastly, the 2019 Gigondas Le Pas De L'Aigle comes from a higher elevation vineyard and is just about all Grenache that will spend two years in foudre before release. Absolutely loaded with Provençal goodness, it has sweet red and black fruits, spice, and garrigue notes to go with a medium to full-bodied, richly textured, balanced style on the palate. It's already hard to resist (even as a barrel sample) but will evolve gracefully for 15 years or more if stored properly.

Gigondas Romane Machotte 2020**90-92/100**

The 2020 Gigondas Romane Machotte should easily be outstanding and is another high-quality wine from this producer. Pure red and black fruits, peppery herbs, and spice all flow to a medium-bodied, classy, elegant Gigondas that's very much in the style of this fresher, pure, elegant vintage.

Gigondas Domaine Grand Romane 2020**90-92/100**

The 2020 Gigondas Domaine Grand Romane is more old-school in style and has meaty, spicy, earthy red and black fruits as well as some powerful, chewy tannins on the palate. The tannins will need to be watched, but this is a solid, possibly outstanding bottle of wine in the making. The blend is 65% Grenache, 20% Mourvèdre, and 15% Syrah brought up in very old barrels.

Gigondas Le Pas de l'Aigle 2020**91-94/100**

The flagship 2020 Gigondas Le Pas De L'Aigle is almost exclusively Grenache (there's 10% Syrah) that sees a longer élevage in foudre. Clean red and black fruits, spice, loamy soil, and leather notes all comprise the bouquet, and it's medium to full-bodied, with a balanced, elegant mouthfeel and a great finish. It's unquestionably a beautiful wine in the making, and with its longer élevage, it normally has plenty of up-front charm as well.

Vacqueyras La Grangelière 2020**89-91/100**

The entry level cuvée, the 2020 Vacqueyras La Grangelière is an 80/20 split of Grenache and Syrah. It has a juicy bouquet of bright berry and strawberry fruits as well as some Provençal herbs and pepper. Medium-bodied, pure, and easygoing, it's a total charmer that will drink nicely right out of the gate.

drinkrhone.com

John Livingstone-Learmonth – November 2021

Gigondas Domaine Grand Romane 2020****** (*)**

handsome dark red robe; the bouquet is wide, rich and appealing, carries oak, its depth sure, good definition in its cassis, smoky fruit. The palate has a cool tone through it, spine provided by freshness and oak together, pedigree fruit on either side. It clusters together on a mineral, reserved finish, has good potential, plenty in the locker, is long. Its smoothness of texture appeals, and its length is suave, prolonged, oak once more on the aftertaste.

Gigondas Le Pas de l'Aigle 2020***** (*)**

full red robe; the nose carries grilling, an air of pork scratchings, herbal touches, cold tea leaves, is reserved for now. The palate carries discreet spicing, is upright in shape, influenced by its oak, the red cherry fruit inside clear enough. It has both feet in the cellar, will require time to soft and appeal. The fruit can move forward, has enough depth and flow to achieve that. It's a modern, svelte sort of Gigondas, a little arm's length in feel.

Gigondas Romane Machotte 2020********

attractive full red colour; the nose is profound, based on red fruits, with oaking attached. It can open and stay the course well over time. The palate attacks on a firm wave of red fruited content, has slightly muscular tannins involved, lengthens with a sure hand into a broad finish, blood-iron notes there, notes of cut. It has good shape, will evolve well, carries freshness.

Cairanne Les Hautes Rives red 2020***** (*)**

dark red; the bouquet works well, offers stewed plum fruits from the Grenache, has a neat togetherness, comes with a hint of cocoa. The palate serves cooked plum fruits, a stone fruit emphasis, notes of garrigue late on, shows Cairanne in a true light. The finish develops thrust, is well rounded. It's a shapely wine that gives relaxed pleasure, won't be that long lived given the maturity of the fruit.

Vacqueyras La Grangelière 2020********

dark red; the bouquet is coming along, has an emerging air of blackberry, elderberry, a leafy, mineral tone. The palate is tightly drawn together, holds a firm level of content, the tannins compact, resolute. It's in a primary state, close-knit, with a knuckle of gras that needs time to spread and soften. Its red fruit is peeking out, and can advance further. Its shape is good for a second stage.

17 mars 2023

Page 6

*Pierre Amadieu***Decanter**

Matt Walls - December 2021

Gigondas Domaine Grand Romane 2020**92/100**

Good weight and concentration, although the aromatics are discreet for now. This is well-balanced, there's a touch of oak that helps build some weight and length into the wine. Longer than most. Smooth and satisfying. Old vines at 400m, aged for 18 months - 60% in barriques (15% new) and 40% in foudres.

Jancis Robinson
JancisRobinson.com

James Lawther – December 2021

Gigondas Romane Machotte 2020**16/20**

Dark and reserved with a hint of herb and spice. A little austere on the palate but there's an intensity of fruit and solid tannic frame. Will need time to come around but has potential.

Vacqueyras La Grangelière 2020**16+/20**

Attractive red-berry and plum aromas. Well delineated on the palate, the fruit and balance there. Tannins long and fresh giving good persistence on the finish. Seems quite harmonious.

drinkrhone.com

John Livingstone-Learmonth – May 2021

Gigondas Romane Machotte 2019********

dark red; the bouquet has a loose ease about it, offers airs of nettles, herbs, dusty trails, with a little fine tuned black berry fruit, suggests its altitude in its still rather spare delivery. The palate is also fibrous, direct, carries vegetal connections with a crisp fruit that has verve and carries well. It's a linear Gigondas, one that will benefit from time, and can most certainly come together successfully – that is how things should be. Menthol on the aftertaste is preceded by salty moments, all good and local, and it will gradually fill out its flanks over time. It's a long term play. From 2024, decant it.

Gigondas Le Pas de l'Aigle 2019********

attractive dark red; the bouquet has a sunny filling of ripe black berry fruit, notes of oak, crushed nutshells, chocolate present. It's a sleek start, reflects cellar over vineyard for now. The palate holds shapely content, good purity in its dark fruit with lissom tannins in tow, spic, then oak again on the aftertaste. There is a steady, rather tight richness at its heart, and it will gradually lessen its oak effect, so leave until 2025 or so. It's modern, polished Gigondas, not really local as it stands. Decant it.

JEB DUNNUCK

Jeb Dunnuck – October 2020

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.



Pierre Amadiou

vinOUS

Josh Reynolds – February 2020

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.

drinkrhone.com

John Livingstone-Learmonth – February 2020

Gigondas Le Pas De l'Aigle 2018 * * *

(casks) 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. 15°.



Jancis Robinson
JancisRobinson.com

Richard Hemming – november2019

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.

JEB DUNNUCK

Jeb Dunnuck – September 2019

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.



ROBERT PARKER
WINE ADVOCATE

Joe Czerwinski – September 2019

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, Amadiou'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.

17 mars 2023

Page 8