



## Highly Recommended (continued) 16.5-18.49pts



### Château la Grave, Expression, Minervois 2009 16.5

£9.14 Essentially Wine, Peter Watts **E**

Open scent of lightly cooked strawberries. Light, pure and fragrant with nice mineral notes, good acidity and a nice long finish. Sleek textured and supple with a firm core. Very appetising and pretty. **Drink:** 2011-2015. **Alc:** 13%



### Château Maris, 10 Years, Minervois-La Livinière 2009 16.5

£12.99 Waitrose

Lively and lifted fragrant plum, berry and cherry fruit perfume. Rich, suave and quite concentrated, with lovely ripeness. A taste of the south. It has good elegance and complexity with grip, vibrancy and structure. Good classy length. **Drink:** 2011-2013. **Alc:** 14.5%



### Gérard Bertrand, Terroir, Minervois 2009 16.5

£14.99 Thierry's

Fragrant, floral, red fruit, cassis, spice and oak perfume. A vibrant, modern style offering natural purity and depth. Quite lush and forward with plenty of upfront fruit. A long, complex finish and acidity freshens it. **Drink:** 2011-2015. **Alc:** 14%

## 3-STAR WINES Recommended 14.5-16.49pts

| WINE   | SCORE | TASTING NOTE  | ALC   | DRINK     | PRICE                 | STOCKISTS                                   |
|--|-------|---|-------|-----------|-----------------------|---|
| Château la Dournie, Elise, St-Chinian 2008                       | 16.38 | Pepper, herb, tapenade and concentrated red fruit aroma. Good depth of fruit, lively and fresh with a good savoury finish. Firm and quite elegant.                    | 14%   | 2011-2014 | £9.59-£10.20 <b>E</b> | Everywine, No2 Pound St, Noble Green, Slurp |
| Château de Pennautier, Cabardès 2010                             | 16.33 | Spice, herbal notes, mulberries and cassis on the nose. Has a firm, fresh streak of acidity with fresh cherry/ berry fruit heart. Appealing in a Bordeaux style.      | 13%   | 2011      | £6.99 <b>E</b>        | Majestic                                    |
| Château Millegrand Mourral, Les Hauts de Mourral, Minervois 2009 | 16.33 | Berry nose overlaid with coconut, cherry and tapenade. Very ripe attack of black plum and dried fruit. A solid mouthful but nothing to dislike. Well judged.          | 14%   | 2011-2016 | N/A UK                | www.bonfilswines.com                        |
| Château St-Jacques d'Albas, Minervois 2007                       | 16.33 | Simple nose of spicy fruit. Light, fruity and mature with some noticeable tannin. Appetising and appealing - very moreish.  | 14.5% | 2011-2014 | £12                   | Goedhuis                                    |
| Domaine Paul Mas, Mas de Mas, St-Chinian 2010                    | 16.33 | Ripe, spicy nose of pepper, raspberry and currant leaf. Light, graceful and charming palate which is easy drinking. Attractive peppery fruit.                         | 14%   | 2011      | £10.49                | Old Butchers Wine Cellar, Stratford's       |
| Benjamin Darnault, Minervois 2010                                | 16.25 | Jammy nose with a hint of rubber, dark fruit, violet, peach and smoke. Florality persists on the palate as does the freshness. Lovely lift on the finish. Attractive. | 13.5% | 2011-2013 | £9.49 <b>E</b>        | Naked Wines                                 |
| Château Moureau, Minervois 2010                                  | 16.25 | Polished, charming aromas of berry and plum. Ripe, pure fruit with savoury tannins adding interest. Elegant and long with depth and character. Well made.             | 13.5% | 2011-2014 | £8.29 <b>E</b>        | Corney & Barrow                             |
| Château de Paraza, In Vino Veritas, Minervois 2010               | 16.17 | Primary fruit and ripe spiciness on the nose. Spicy fruit palate with black cherry notes, a tannic streak and a ripe and deep finish. Sunshine in a glass!            | 15%   | 2011      | N/A UK                | +33 6 17 87 51 46                           |
| Château Ste-Eulalie, Plaisir d'Eulalie, Minervois 2009           | 16.17 | A wild scent of Carignan: crushed raspberries, earth and hay. Light, aromatic wine with fresh strawberries, herbs and redcurrant flavours. Excitingly different.      | 14%   | 2013-2016 | £6.75 <b>E</b>        | Tanners, The Wine Society                   |
| Château Cabezac, Grande Cuvée Belvèze, Minervois 2007            | 16.13 | Good solid, slightly leathery, berry fruit, tar and oak aroma. Supple and smooth palate with excellent structure supporting. Has lavish oak, presence and vigour.     | 14.5% | 2011-2013 | £34                   | Just Great Wine                             |
| Château d'Oupia, Nobilis, Minervois 2008                         | 16.13 | Fragrant rose, leather, sweat, grilled meat and bright berries. Super fruity with nice texture and freshness. Has a creamy finish, good acidity and some zest.        | 14%   | 2011-2014 | £15.45                | Christopher Piper                           |
| Cave de Roquebrun, Roches Noires, St-Chinian-Roquebrun 2009      | 16    | Pepper, spice, black cherry and fleshy fruit aromas. Good extraction, ripeness and concentration. Young and succulent with a firm streak of youthful tannin.          | 13%   | 2011-2015 | £11.99                | Raisin Social                               |
| Domaine de Fenouillet, Combe Rouge, Faugères 2009                | 16    | Aromas of smoke, spice, mint, vanilla and dark fruit. Bright and attractive fruit, supple tannins and a stream of elegant ripeness. Pretty and well made.             | 13%   | 2011      | N/A UK                | www.vignobles-jeanjean.fr                   |
| Domaine La Combe Blanche, La Galine, Minervois-La Livinière 2008 | 16    | Firm spice and dry oak nose. Simple, juicy blackcurrant palate with grip. It has nice concentration and scents of garrigue herbs. Has a promising finish.             | 14.5% | 2013-2015 | £11.50                | Leon Stolarski                              |
| Laurent Miquel, Saga Pegot, Faugères 2007                        | 16    | Lovely nose of spice, cherry, meat, cream, vanilla and oak. Good complexity and depth, offering spice, vanilla and fruit. Powerful, persuasive and quite long.        | 14.5% | 2011      | £17.99                | PLB Group                                   |
| Domaine Ollier-Taillefer, Castel Fossibus, Faugères 2008         | 15.9  | Rich, dark plum, mint, spice and grilled meat nose. Attractive palate with plenty of upfront fruit. Robust and enjoyable with enough acidity to keep it fresh.        | 13.5% | 2011      | £16.99                | Wines Unfurled                              |
| Château Castigno, Secret des Dieux, St-Chinian 2008              | 15.88 | Leather, shoe polish, Syrah and earthy aromas. Showing evolution, this has a meaty palate with firm oak, good acidity and drying tannins. Polished wine.              | 14%   | 2011-2015 | N/A UK                | www.chateaucastigno.com                     |
| Domaine de la Borie Blanche, Minervois 2010                      | 15.88 | Sweet, crunchy and smoky black fruit, and some animal hints. Lively with rich, ripe fruit, purity of flavour and has immediate appeal. Deep and elegant.              | 13.5% | 2011-2013 | £7.50 <b>E</b>        | Coe Vintners                                |
| Domaine du Tabatau, Lo Tabataire, St-Chinian 2010                | 15.88 | Hedgerow, spicy fruit, chocolate, berry, mint and violet aroma. Soft palate with good acidity, silky texture and chalky tannins. Promising and understated wine.      | 13.5% | 2011      | £9 <b>E</b>           | Joseph Barnes                               |
| Les Vignobles Foncalieu, Apogée, St-Chinian 2008                 | 15.88 | Complex herb, spice, savoury oak, chocolate, cassis and leather nose. Impressive extraction, supple and concentrated spicy Syrah fruit and excellent persistence.     | 14.5% | 2012-2016 | £19.95 <b>E</b>       | City Beverage                               |
| Château Castigno, St-Chinian 2008                                | 15.83 | Aroma of raspberry compote, a lick of oak and spice. Supple, fleshy, flashy and powerful red with lots of vibrant cherry fruit. The finish has some finesse.          | 14%   | 2011      | N/A UK                | www.chateaucastigno.com                     |
| Château de Pennautier, Terroirs d'Altitude, Cabardès 2008        | 15.83 | Smoky, vegetal nose. Appealing, with herbal hints and very nice grippy tannins. Everything comes together in this elegant, mineral, terroir-driven wine.              | 13%   | 2012-2015 | £9.99 <b>E</b>        | Majestic                                    |
| Château Millegrand, Fûts du Chêne, Minervois 2009                | 15.83 | Spicy tapenade and simple crushed berry nose. Nice juiciness and pure fruited style with the opulence of Minervois. Has good ripeness and elegance too.               | 13.5% | 2011      | £9.15 (2008)          | Ellis of Richmond                           |