



Decanter Gigondas 2018

Tasted by Matt Walls (at 2018 En primeur tastings, Rhône Valley, 01 Oct 2019)

Domaine du Terme, Réserve, Gigondas, Rhône, France, 2018 93

This is deep and concentrated with dark plum, damson, bay and juniper. It's powerful on the palate, dense but fresh with good balancing acidity and a long finish. Quite a tannic style, that will take a while to come around, but will give a lot of pleasure. It's more dramatic than elegant with a nice sense of textural relief alongside a little touch of menthol. Good value. 20% whole bunch, no oak, four years maturation in tank before bottling.

Drinking Window 2024 - 2031

Domaine du Terme, Célestin, Gigondas, Rhône, France, 2018 95

A cuvée unique to the 2018 vintage, marking the purchase of the estate 100-years-ago by their great-grandfather Célestin from another branch of the family. Grown on the Hauts Garrigues near Santa Duc, co-fermented Grenache and Mourvèdre, the Syrah fermented separately. The first time the estate has experimented using demi-muids for maturing the wine - length of élevage as yet undecided. This has vibrant berry fruit and a touch of cold wood ash. It's an upright style, with fairly grippy tannins – it's shapely, long and deep with a nice sense of freshness. There are no excesses – all very well balanced, this should age with interest. A very successful experiment, hopefully to be repeated.

Drinking Window 2021 - 2030