The Wine Advocate Joe Czerwinski Issue 244 End of August 2019

AOP Gigondas 2017 vintage

2017 Domaine du Grapillon d'Or • Gigondas (91-93)

An 80-20 Grenache-Syrah blend, the 2017 Gigondas boasts blackberry and mulberry fruit. It's dark and intense but already approachable, being full-bodied, supple and graced with soft, gentle tannins. Crisp acids on the finish make a pleasant counterpoint without being jarring, serving to bring focus and length. Tasted twice, with consistent notes.

2017 Domaine du Grapillon d'Or • Gigondas Excellence (93-95)

The 2017 Gigondas Excellence (tasted on two separate occasions) seems to have lost the green streak that gave me pause last year, instead offering intense black cherry and plum notes highlighted by hints of violets, leather and cola. It's full-bodied, expansive and supple, with a long, velvety finish. It's a 60-40 blend of Grenache and Syrah, aged in tank.

AOP GIGONDAS 2018 Vintage

2018 Domaine du Grapillon d'Or • Gigondas (91-93)

There will be no Excellence this year, so all of the old-vine material is in the 2018 Gigondas. It's dark-fruited (blackberries and black cherries), full-bodied and velvety, with terrific balance and ripeness, even if it's slightly less concentrated and more peppery than the previous two vintages. Tasted twice, with consistent notes.



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