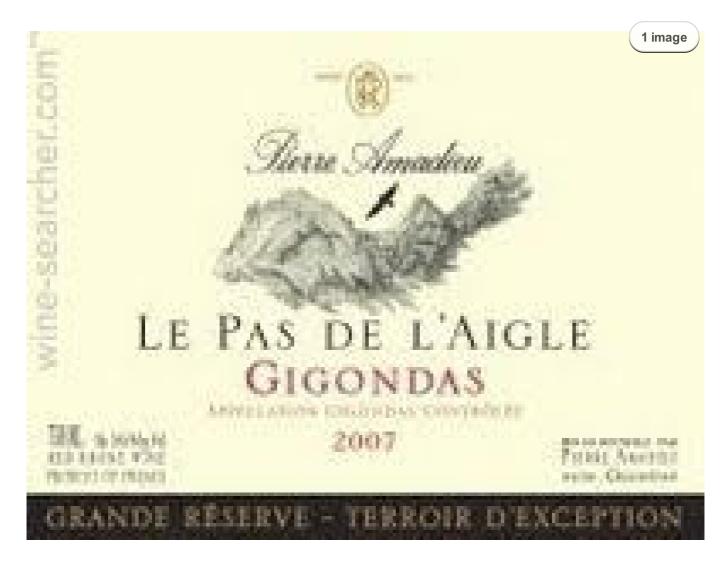




Recently Tasted Wines



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Michael Hastings/Winston-Salem Journal | Posted 5 days ago

Here's a new batch of wine reviews:

—Pierre Amadieu La Pas de L'Aigle 2009 Gigondas, \$33. Aromas of dark fruit and pepper. On the palate, there's licorice, pepper, tobacco, dark cherry and blackberry. Long finish. Still showing plenty of tannins at 7 years of age. Excellent. Available at Total Wine.

—Quanta Terra 2011 Douro Grand Reserva, \$30, Portugal. Aromas of dark fruit and earth. Flavors of juicy blackberry, cherry, wild game and minerals. Ripe and rich, with a lingering finish.

Well-balanced. Very good.

- —Donnafugata Sur Sur Grillo, \$18, Sicily, Italy. Floral and citrus aromas on this dry white, followed by lemon, peach, mineral and floral flavors on the palate. Long finish. A refreshing wine, made for seafood. Very good.—Tommasi 2015 Le Rosse Pinot Grigio, \$17, Italy. Aromas and flavors of citrus, peach and tropical fruit. Crisp but also soft and round. Nicely balanced. Very good.
- —Saint Aix 2015 Rose, \$17, Coteaux D'Aix en Provence, France. Strawberry aromas. Strawberry, cherry and cranberry flavors. Crisp and dry. Very good.
- —Leviathan 2012, \$48, Ca., This Bordeaux blend has 45 percent cabernet sauvignon, 25 cabernet franc, 16 percent merlot and 14 percent syrah. This big, juicy red has smoky, dark-fruit aromas followed by smooth blackberry and black currant and plum flavors. Medium tannins, long finish, nice structure and balance. Very good.—Loveblock 2012 Pinot Noir, \$27-\$37, Central Otago, New Zealand. Berries, violets and mushrooms on the nose. Cherry, pencil, eucalyptus and earth on the palate, with a tart cherry finish. Very good.
- —Cade 2012 Cabernet Sauvignon, \$64, Napa Valley, Ca. Cedar and blackberry aromas. Flavors of fresh and dried dark fruit and dried herbs. Long finish. Perhaps a bit hot, but otherwise nicely balanced. Very good.
- —Vina Real 2015 Rosado, \$15, Rioja, Spain. This blend of 85 percent viura and 15 percent tempranillo from the well-known Real winery has floral and strawberry aromas, followed by strawberry, raspberry and rhubarb flavors. Very good.
- —Piazzo 2014 Piemonte Barbera, \$12, Italy. Soft red fruit, roses on the nose. On the palate, cherry, raspberry and herbs. Lingering finish with a touch of cinnamon. Good acidity and balance. Very good.
- —Monopole 2015 Rioja Blanco, \$13, Spain. Floral and peach aromas. On the palate are more peach, plus lemon and mineral flavors. A crisp, refreshing white. Very good.
- —Falesco Tellus 2013 Merlot, \$16, Umbria, Italy. Aromas of dried herbs. On the palate: plum, spice, touches of cocoa and smoke. Medium body. An enjoyable Italian take on merlot. Very good.
- —Santa Margherita 2011 Chianto Classico Riserva, \$27, Italy. Cherries and herbs on the nose. Bright cherries on the palate. Smooth, with good acidity and balance. Good plus.
- —Robert Mondavi 2014 Private Selection Bourbon-Barrel-Aged Cabernet Sauvignon, \$14, Monterey County, Ca. Cedar, smoke and vanilla on the nose. Dark fruit, vanilla and toasty oak on the palate. Nice and smooth. Good.
- —Barton & Guestier Chateau Magnol 2012 Haut-Medoc Cru Bourgeois, \$24, Bordeaux, France. This Bordeaux blend is 48 percent merlot, 40 percent cabernet sauvignon and 12 percent cabernet franc. It has aromas of red fruit and herbs. On the palate are red currant, herbs and a touch of cherry. Medium finish. Good.
- —Saved Magic Maker 2014 Rose, Ca., \$20. This dry rose blends Grenache, Pinot Noir, Cabernet Franc, and Sangiovese. It has strawberry and flowers on the nose and strawberry, cherry and citrus on the palette. Quite dry, but fruity with good acidity. Good.
- —Rotari Rose, \$14, Trento, Italy. A sparkling rose made from 75 percent pinot noir and 25 percent chardonnay. Yeasty, medium dry, enjoyable. Good.
- —Cavas Hill 1887 Rosado Cava, \$13, Spain. Sparking rose with yeasty aromas and ripe cherry flavors. Good.—Le Volte Dell'Ornellaia 2013 Toscana, \$31, Italy. Cherry aromas, followed by flavors of cherry, plum and herbs. Lingering finish, well-balanced. Very good.

- —Domaine Bousquet 2013 Malbec, \$18, Tupungato Valley, Mendoza, Argentina. Made from organic grapes, this smooth red has meaty aromas and flavors of dark cherries and tar, with a long finish. Very good.
- —Montes Spring Harvest 2015 Sauvignon Blanc, \$13, Leyda Valley, Chile. Grassy, tropical aromas. Flavors of lemon, lime, grapefruit and tropical fruit. Good.
- —Falesco Tellus 2015 Chardonnay, \$16, Umbria, Italy. Peach, tropical, citrus and mineral aromas and flavors. Fruity but dry. Good.
- —Falesco Vitiano 2015 Rosato, \$12, Italy. This dry rose blends sangiovese, cabernet sauvignon, merlot and aleatico. It has aromas of strawberry and roses. Flavors are a mix of strawberry, plum and cranberry. A deeply colored rose. Good.
- —Falesco Tellus 2013 Cabernet Sauvignon, \$16, Umbria, Italy. Blackberry and cedar aromas. Blackberry and spice flavors. A bit thin. OK.

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