

ESTATE CUVÉE 2021

TASTING DATE 10/31/2023

rating 98

The 2021 Estate Cuvée (a 20th-anniversary edition) is composed of 50% Syrah, 30% Cabernet Sauvignon and 20% Petit Verdot. Its aromas are highly complex and pure! Chocolate-covered cherry and crushed blueberry scents are complemented by wafts of thyme, sage, vanilla, dark spices and savory tones, plus soaring violet perfume. The full-bodied palate is polished and effortlessly balanced, offering powdery tannins, a bright spine of acidity and a tremendously long finish laced with spice and floral perfume. This elegant, expressive blend will be long lived in the cellar.

CÔTE A CÔTE 2021

TASTING DATE 10/31/2023

RATING 96+

The 2021 Côte a Côte is a blend of 37% Grenache, 32% Syrah and 31% Mourvèdre that combines power and elegance, concentration and weightlessness. The glass reveals a deep well of aromas—maraschino cherry, blueberry, licorice, rooibos tea and autumn leaves emerge from the glass and are made even more complex by undertones of earth and spice. The full-bodied palate is plush, supple and generous, though its chocolaty, floral fruit is perfectly ripe. It has a foil of mouthwatering acidity, flinty accents and a long, very latent finish. It will take several years in bottle to fully unfurl.

CABERNET SAUVIGNON 2021

TASTING DATE 10/31/2023

RATING 97

The 2021 Cabernet Sauvignon Reserve is an elegant, effortlessly balanced Cabernet reminiscent of Bordeaux. Its aromas are very pure and unwind continually as the wine spends time in the glass. A core of cassis is accented by scents of cedar, bouquet garni, blackcurrant bud, coffee beans and dried lilac. The palate is exceptionally elegant, its core of mineral-driven flavors supported by pixelated tannins and a focused spine of acidity. It has a long, latent finish streaked with spice and will develop savory complexity in bottle over the next 15-20 years.

CHLOÉ 2021 (RELEASING SPRING 2024)

TASTING DATE 10/31/2023

RATING 96+

The 2021 Cuvée Chloe is a blend of co-fermented Syrah (64%), Grenache (23%), Grenache Blanc (8%) and Graciano (5%). It has pure aromas of cassis, milk chocolate, lilac, thyme, tobacco and graphite with undertones of sage and juniper. The full-bodied palate is effortlessly balanced, its concentrated fruit framed by powdery tannins and focused acidity, and it has a long, layered finish. It's youthfully latent and will take several years in bottle to unfurl completely.

FOR HER 2021 (RELEASING SPRING 2024)

TASTING DATE 10/31/2023

RATING 95+

The 2021 is a co-fermented blend of 59% Syrah, 30% Graciano and 11% Viognier. It has pure, inviting scents of blackcurrant, blueberry, coffee, milk chocolate, thyme and tea leaves, blossoming to savory and meaty tones as it spends time in the glass. The medium-bodied palate is light on its feet, with powdery tannins, focused acidity and a long finish laced with spicy accents. It will benefit from 3-5 years in bottle.

ESTATE OPTIMUS 2021

TASTING DATE 10/31/2023

rating 95

The 2021 Optimus is an elegant, polished blend of 55% Syrah, 27% Cabernet Sauvignon and 18% Petit Verdot. It takes plenty of air to reveal maraschino cherry, blueberry, leather, aniseed, gravel dust and garrigue aromas. The full-bodied palate offers expansive, spicy fruit framed by powdery tannins and focused acidity, and it has a long, latent finish. It will benefit from 3-5 years in bottle.

INSPIRACIÓN 2021

TASTING DATE 10/31/2023

RATING 94+

The 2021 Inspiracion is a co-fermented blend of 49% Grenache, 30% Cabernet Sauvignon, 15% Syrah and 6% Grenache Blanc. It has deep scents of maraschino cherry, blueberry, game meats, licorice, soy sauce and blackcurrant bud. Although the palate is youthfully coiled at this stage, driven by graphite rather than upfront fruit, it has a harmonious structure of pixelated tannins and focused acidity and a long, layered finish with a flourish of spicy accents. It unwinds dramatically as it airs and will benefit from several years in the cellar.

LES DEMOISELLES 2021

TASTING DATE 10/31/2023

RATING 94+

The 2021 Cuvée Les Demoiselles is composed of 80% Mourvèdre and 20% Syrah. It opens with flinty, meaty tones that give way to scents of blackcurrants, blueberries, licorice, garrigue and floral tinges. The full-bodied palate is elegantly styled with graphite-laced blue fruit, a frame of dusty tannins, focused acidity and a long, ethereal finish. It's developing a bit more slowly than the other 2021s from L'Aventure and will reward several years in the cellar.