



The new releases are gorgeous. The 2023 Chloé, which in recent vintages has been leaning toward a fresher style, is still balanced but structured, intense and built for the long haul. The For Her, a co-fermented blend of 58% Syrah, 30% Graciano and 12% Viognier, is the wine of the vintage for L'Aventure. This remains one of the absolute top estates in the region—a well-deserved reputation.

- Eric Guido, June 2025

For Her 2023

RATING 97

The 2023 For Her is impossible to ignore, with a peppery blackberry burst up front complemented by nuances of grilled rosemary, dusty earth and sweet violets. It seduces with its deep textural girth, nearly velvety in feel, with savory wild berry fruits and a saline resonance toward the close. A resonance of cola and lavender lingers over a coating of sweet tannins as the 2023 finishes with incredible length and concentration yet remains remarkably fresh. This is a truly stunning vintage of For Her.

Cabernet Sauvignon 2023

RATING 96

The 2023 Cabernet Sauvignon impresses with its lifted, vibrant bouquet, as perfumed wild berry fruits mingle with rose petals, incense and nuances of shaved cedar. It is classy and refined, with soothingly round textures and peppery red and black fruits complicated by a tinge of graphite minerality. The energy here is admirable, despite its power and structure, as sweet tannins frame the experience under an air of dark inner florals. Nearly a minute goes by as the 2023 continues to resonate on the palate. Simply spellbinding.

Estate Reserve 2023

RATING 96+

Intensely spiced, the 2023 Estate Reserve mixes cedar box, pine, incense, dried sage, crushed stone and mentholated blackberries. It is youthfully dense, tightly focused, silken yet almost sultry in character, with mineral-encased red and black fruits that flood the senses, leaving a coating of edgy tannins in their wake. Heroically structured and incredibly long, the 2023 leaves a minty freshness to counterbalance a tart blackberry saturation through the long, tension-filled finale. Bury this unbridled beast in the cellar.

Le Grand Verdot 2023

RATING 95+

The 2023 Le Grand Verdot is understated in the glass, with a lifted, airy bouquet of dusty dried roses, nuances of white pepper, crushed raspberries and a beguiling hint of cinnamon spice that emerges with time. This sweeps across the palate with ease, silken in form, with supple red berry fruits and inner rose tones that slowly drench the senses in primary concentration. Dark and potent, this leaves a subtle citrus twang to offset its fine tannins, as the 2023 tapers off long and structured. Patience will be required for this Petit Verdot-heavy blend to come fully into focus.

Côte A Côte 2023

RATING 95

The 2023 Côte A Côte, celebrating its 20th anniversary bottling, displays a darkly alluring blend of violets, lavender, nuances of crushed stone and citrus-tinged blackberries. This is a pleasure on the palate, seamlessly silken in feel, with polished red and blue fruits ushered across a stream of fresh acidity. It firms up through the finish, long, structured yet energetic, with a saline flourish and an air of sage that lingers. The 2023 Côte A Côte performs like a well-muscled ballerina.

Chloé 2023

RATING 94

The 2023 Chloé is darkly floral and intense, with a whiff of exotic spice, animal musk and crushed ashen stones, giving way to dried black cherries. It is racy and sleek, with silky textures and bright red fruits propelled by a vibrant core of acidity as violet inner florals arch across the palate. This leaves a wild tinge of tangerine and clove as edgy tannins tug at the senses, while hints of currant fade.

Inspiración 2023

RATING 94

The 2023 Inspiración mixes crushed wild berries with a cascade of sweet herbs, pine shavings and ground hints of dusty earth. It is cool and collected, with silken textures and polished red and black fruits, coming across as poised yet elegant with a core of black raspberry and tactile mineral saturation. Licorice lingers under an air of violet inner florals as the 2023 leaves a tart sensation that forces the palate to salivate despite its firm tannins.

Optimus 2023

RATING 93

The 2023 Optimus is bright and vibrant, with a burst of crushed raspberries, sweet sage and pine shavings. Silken yet spry, it races across the palate with rose-laced red berry fruit and a licorice tinge. Edgy tannins resonate, offset by a residual bump of brisk acidity as the 2023 finishes long yet remarkably fresh. This is deceptively approachable today, yet also built for the cellar.