

J.L. Chave

as reviewed by Nick Stock

August 29, 2018

Hermitage Blanc 2017

Tasted as a set of components. Attractive expressive fruits in the peach and dried-pear zone. Lemon citrus with savory aromas of spiced biscuits and river stones too. Powerful stone-fruit flavors, building to ripe dark peaches. The texture runs from chalky to pithy and right through to a more compressed stony finish. Super long, complete and focused. White Hermitage is all about texture and this is a lesson in exactly that. Barrel sample. **95-96 points.**

Hermitage Rouge 2016

A wealth of florals with spiced dark chocolate, peppery notes, graphite, dark stones and grilled meats. There's a very concentrated core of red and black fruit on the palate, weighing deep into the middle with super fine yet strong tannins wrapping up the wine. There is also enduring red-fruit freshness emerging into the finish. This is a great Hermitage that will deliver incredible age potential and enjoy an esteemed life in bottle. Barrel sample. **97-98 points.**

Saint-Joseph Blanc 2017

Plenty of honey and peaches with a rich, ripe mouthfeel. The palate delivers immense weight and exceptional textural richness in a seamless shape. Finishes with concentrated peach fruit flavors. Really powerful. Tank sample. **93-94 points.**

Saint-Joseph Rouge 2016

Super floral. Violets, fragrant and fine-ground white peppers, dark plums and black stones, spices and dark chocolate notes too. The palate has finesse, detail, power and impressive balance. There's a plump red-fruited core that is really

muscular. Expansive body building to an astutely balanced and elegant finish. Graphite to close. Brilliant. Barrel Sample. **95-96 points.**

Selection Côtes-du-Rhône Rouge “Mon Coeur” 2016

An array of brambly red and dark berries with a wealth of plush and ripe tannins that deliver a round, smooth and approachable mouthfeel. **91 points.**

Selection Hermitage Blanc “Blanche” 2014

Attractive stone fruits framed in chamomile and honeysuckle florals. Quite crisp on the palate. This has subtly spiced pears and lemons in a plush, open and still elegant mode. Drink or hold. **93 points.**

Selection Hermitage Rouge “Farconnet” 2013

Aromas of dark roasted herbs with a peppery edge. A strong palate with really impressive dark plums, blackberries and dark chocolate. Rich and plush tannins, too. This is excellent! Drink or hold. **94 points.**

Selection Saint-Joseph “Offerus” 2015

Primarily estate fruit with outside components. This has an array of dark cherries and spiced dark plums, as well as a fresh, vibrant and plush core wrapped in crisp yet silky tannins. Drink or hold. **92 points.**

