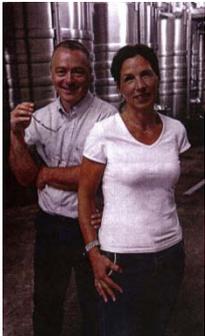


« The Rhône Passes the Test »



« We only did one *remontage* (pumping over the juice in vat) and one *pigeage* (punching down the cap) a day, decreasing as the fermentation slowed, because it was so easy to extract tannins, » says Claire Darnaud-McKerrow, who helps make the wines at Delas alongside head winemaker Jacques Grange. « And there was a longer *élevage* than usual, for sure. »

The Delas St-Joseph Ste. Épine 2013 shows what smart winemaking was able to coax from 2013. The wine, sourced from vines planted on granite hillsides above the town of St-Jean-de-Muzols, offers a blaze of pure black cherry, loganberry and plum fruit lined with subtle notes of violet and incense.

Delas winemakers Jacques Grange (left) and Claire Darnaud-McKerrow expertly managed the effects of a cooler vintage in 2013 to produce a range of outstanding reds and whites.

95/100	La Landonne Delas Côte Rotie 2012	93/100	François de Tournon Delas Saint Joseph 2013 Ripe and concentrated without sacrificing cut, this lets a pure beam of raspberry and blackberry coulis rush forth, backed by mouthwatering anise, black tea and iron notes. Latent grip allows the finish to linger.
95/100	Les Bessards Delas Hermitage 2012		
94/100	La Galopine Delas Condrieu 2014 Bold, bright and very juicy, with pineapple, white peach, nectarine, clementine and anise notes that bounce through a heath-lined finish. Not shy at all and thoroughly delicious. Drink now through 2017.	92/100	Haute Pierre Delas Châteauneuf-du-Pape 2012 This has a sleek, racy feel, with red currant, pomegranate and plum flavors, lined with mouthwatering licorice root and cinnamon notes. The finish has ample grip, but this is fresh in feel, featuring tangy sanguine notes and a lingering alder edge. Best from 2017 through 2025.
94/100	Sainte Epine Delas Saint-Joseph 2013		
94/100	Domaine des Tourettes Delas Hermitage White 2013 Features a lovely mouthfeel, with caressing mango, peach and papaya flavors draped over racy bitter almond, orange zest and verbena notes. The long finish picks up green plum, salted butter and bitter almond notes. Approachable and well-integrated already, but this should easily stretch out with cellaring. The balance is impeccable. Drink now through 2025	92/100	Domaine des Grands Chemins Delas Crozes-Hermitage 2012 Sleek and refined, with a light dusting of cocoa powder over the core of damson plum, cherry and raspberry fruit. Lovely violet and white pepper notes gild the finish, which reveals a lingering iron accent. Drink now through 2020.
93/100	Clos Boucher Delas Condrieu 2013 This sports a lively, juicy feel, with honeysuckle and chamomile notes running alongside the core of rich yellow apple and melon flavors. The open, flattering finish is decidedly fruit-driven, but pure and bright. Drink now through 2017	90/100	Le Clos Delas Crozes-Hermitage 2013 Solid, with a core of steeped cherry and plum fruit, augmented by roasted juniper and dried star anise notes. Shows a grippy edge through the finish, delivering exceptional stuffing and length for the vintage. Drink now through 2017.
93/100	Delas Cornas Chante-Perdix 2013	88/100	Les Launes Delas Crozes-Hermitage 2013 Shows a dark plum and cherry fruit core, laced with singed alder, pepper and sanguine notes. Just a touch shy on flesh, with the woody edge winning out on the finish. Drink now through 2016

