

Jean-Louis Chave

Reviewed by James Molesworth October 2019

Hermitage White 2016

Remarkably concentrated yet poised, with acacia and honeysuckle notes leading the way for a core of creamed melon, quince, mirabelle plum and white nectarine flavors. The long brioche- and salted butter–fueled finish shows terrific cut for a wine of this weight, ending with a lingering beeswax hint. A stunner. (98 points)

Hermitage 2016

Youthfully tight, this features a cloak of tarry-edged tannins draped over a core of well-steeped red and black currant and blackberry fruit. Long and driven, with notes of humus, black tea, singed alder and tobacco leaf streaming alongside the fruit from start to finish, this ends with a hint of smoldering cast iron. (97 points)

St.-Joseph 2016

Alluring, with black tea and singed alder hints curling around a core of gently steeped black cherry and blackberry flavors. The very silky

and refined structure carries the fruit through a beguiling finish, while olive, sanguine, iron and savory hints peek in. (95 points)

Sélection Hermitage Farconnet 2015

Ripe and fleshy, with an open-knit personality to the mix of steeped blackberry and black cherry compote flavors, backed by anise, smoldering black tea and loam notes. Offers well-integrated grip, making this approachable while giving it staying power. (94 points)

Sélection Hermitage White Blanche 2015

Ripe and enticing in feel, with a waxy-edged core of creamed yellow apple, nectarine and mirabelle plum notes, infused liberally with warm brioche and toasted macadamia nut accents, all while maintaining cut and focus through the finish. (94 points)

St.-Joseph Clos Florentin 2016

This features a slightly hefty core of steeped plum and blackberry fruit, gliding along suavely enough, while flashes of juniper, pepper, tobacco and iron fill in throughout. Very tightly focused through the finish, with edgy grip that will need cellaring to settle in. (94 points)

