

89 Pts Château Maris Old School Rosé 2011

A crisp, refreshing rosé that does everything right, the 2011 Old School Rosé, made from 100% direct press Cinsault, offers up a light salmon/pink color to go with a beautiful bouquet of lively red currants, spiced cherries, salty minerality, and rose petal. Every bit as good on the palate and very Provencal in style, with a light, medium-bodied texture, racy acidity, and a clean finish, this is a perfect dry rose for a hot summer day, and it should be enjoyed over the coming 6 to 12 months. **(89 pts.)**

2010 Château Maris Grenache Gris Brama (*France, Languedoc Roussillon, Languedoc, Minervois-La Livinière*)

An absolutely fabulous white that's 100% Grenache Gris from vines averaging between 50-70 years in aged, from a single plot, the 2010 Château Maris Grenache Gris Brama delivers a brilliant array of fresh, focused tropical fruits, honeysuckle, lemon rind, and buttered almonds on the nose. Aged in a combination of new and used oak, this definitely sports a hint of barrique, yet the overall freshness and purity is exceptional, and the wine has more than enough richness and depth to handle it. Medium-bodied, racy, and pure on the palate, with a lovely, elegant texture that's lifted by the wine's acidity, this top-notch white opens up over the evening, so don't be afraid to give it some air prior to serving. It should continue to shine for 2-3 years, if not quite a bit longer. **(93 pts.)**

2008 Château Maris Grenache Nouvelles Fraiches (*France, Languedoc Roussillon, Languedoc, Minervois-La Livinière*)

Beautifully done and a blend of 100% Grenache that's aged for 12 months in foudre, the 2008 Château Maris Grenache Nouvelles Fraiches delivers a noteworthy bouquet of spiced red cherries and earthy, mineral-like qualities that, with air, slowly opens up to show additional leafy herbs, peppered steak, licorice, and hints of flowers. On the palate, the wine is medium-bodied and balanced, with an upfront, fruit driven character, excellent freshness, and a focused, clean finish that has you looking for another sip. Lively, fresh, and energetic, this outstanding Grenache needs a short decant if drinking anytime soon, and will drink well for 3-5 years. **(90 pts.)**

2009 Château Maris Carignan Continuité de Nature (*France, Languedoc Roussillon, Languedoc, Minervois-La Livinière*)

A blend of 90% Carignan and 10% Grenache that was harvested in early October and aged for 18 months in oak vats, the 2009 Château Maris Carignan Continuité de Nature is a beauty! Loaded with aromas of black currants, sweet tobacco and assorted herbs, earth, toasted spices, and a saline like minerality, this outstanding wine is medium to full-bodied and beautifully proportioned, with layers of fruit, a classy, elegant texture, and solid length on the finish. As with the Grenache, this benefits from a short decant and will shine for 4-6 years easily, although it's hard to resist now! **(91 pts.)**

2009 Château Maris Syrah La Touge (*France, Languedoc Roussillon, Languedoc, Minervois-La Livinière*)

The 2009 Château Maris Syrah Minervois-La Livinière La Touge is a blend of 85% Syrah and 15% Grenache, all from limestone and alluvial soils, that was aged for 12 months in 30% new oak prior to being bottled unfinned and unfiltered (like all of their wines). It displays excellent Syrah character with spicy dark fruits, loads of meaty qualities, ground pepper, wild herbs, and hints of olive to go with a medium+ bodied, rich palate feel. This has solid underlying acidity, as well as quality tannin on the finish, all suggesting it will evolve gracefully for 3-5 years. **(89 pts.)**

2009 Château Maris Syrah Les Planels (*France, Languedoc Roussillon, Languedoc, Minervois-La Livinière*)

The largest scaled in the lineup, and also the most modern, with noticeable sweet oak, the 2009 Château Maris Syrah Les Planels is 100% Syrah, from the estate's top plots, that was aged for 12 months in oak before being bottled unfinned and unfiltered. Formerly known as their Old Vine Syrah, it exhibits terrific aromatics of crème de cassis, raspberry liqueur, smoked beef, spice-cabinet and hints of bacon fat that carry into a full-bodied, gorgeously proportioned and balanced Syrah. This too needs an hour of air to shine, has fantastic richness, and a juicy, lively finish and overall feel that keeps you coming back for more. It will drink well for upwards of 5-8 years, possibly even longer. **(92 pts)**