

TASTING NOTES

TANNERS WINES

2006 GEWÜRZTRAMINER, LA CAVES DES VIGNERONS DU PFAFFENHEIM, PFAFFENHEIM, ALSACE, FRANCE

The Pfaffenheim Co-operative was founded in 1957 and has some 220 producers with 235 hectares between them. Horn is the co-op's foremost brand and many of their wines are medal winners, especially in Paris. Founded in 1957 by the growers of the villages of Pffafenheim and Gueberschwir, the Pfaffenheim Co-operative, is one of the leading co-operatives in Alsace with some 220 producers and 235 hectares of vines between them, many on the quality sloping vineyards. All grapes are handpicked and much investment has gone into the winery.



Fine, richly textured Gewurztraminer from the co-operative at Pfaffenheim. A spicy, rose petal nose then a firm, fruit-filled palate, with typical lychee and Turkish Delight flavours. Fresher and crisper than many, it is also dry.

2007 PETIT CHABLIS, DOM JEAN-MARC BROCARD, CHABLIS, FRANCE

Jean-Marc Brocard is one of the most consistent and highly regarded producers of Chablis, fermenting all his wines in stainless steel to fully express the fruit and terroir.

Zippy, fresh with a flinty side to it, the vintage here has bestowed a little more complexity than usual, with an attractive, lemony character that comes through in the finish.

2006 CHÂTEAU DOISY-DAËNE, BORDEAUX GRAND VIN SEC, DUBOURDIEU, BORDEAUX, FRANCE

The Dubourdieu family bought this 14 hectare property in 1924 and produced the first dry white in a sweet wine area in 1949. Production is split between the two wines, the dry Bordeaux Grand Vin Sec and the sweet 2me cru Sauternes, using modern methods and judicious quantities of new oak. A tiny amount of the extraordinary L'Extravagant de Doisy-Daëne is made in the best years, and rivals Yquem in every dimension.

The dry Bordeaux Grand Vin Sec has elegant fruit with a hint of oak. Consistently good.

2008 WIDE RIVER SHIRAZ, ROBERTSON, SOUTH AFRICA

Robertson Valley is situated 160 kilometres from Cape Town, between the base of the Langeberg Mountains and the lower reaches of the Breede River. This location provides the ideal balance for grape growing of unlimited sunshine and mild sea breezes, combined with water from the river to supplement the very low annual rainfall. Forty-three local growers, many of them fourth generation, supply the modern winery with grapes from a total of 2000 hectares of vineyard.

Easy going, soft red with plenty of spicy, peppery fruit, this has good hedgerow berry flavours and power. Shiraz is proving to be a very popular and successful grape variety in the Cape.

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2004 GRAN MARIUS RESERVA SELECCION, BODEGAS PIQUERAS, ALMANSA, SPAIN

Situated in Almansa, 100km inland from Valencia and Alicante, Bodegas Piqueras concentrates on producing quality wines in small quantities, in stark contrast to most other bodegas in the region. Founded in 1915 it is owned and run by Mario Bonete with his sons Juan and Angel.

Deep ruby red with succulent plum and prune aromas. Sweet strawberry, damson and stewed plum flavours on the palate are complemented by creamy vanilla and toasty, spicy oak. Rich and dark. Great with lamb, steak and cheese dishes.



2005 CHÂTEAU LA TOUR DE BY, MÉDOC, BORDEAUX, FRANCE

The situation of these vineyards is quite stunning, overlooking the Gironde estuary. The gravel soil of the area forces the vines to set down deep roots and the wines are extremely consistent with quality fruit being the key. There are 75 hectares under vine that produces excellent full-flavoured claret with lovely aromatics which develop further with extended bottle age. This is very traditionally styled Médoc.

A favourite estate which always makes a very correct wine with supple blackcurrant fruit and well-balanced oak. There is a tower in the vineyards which gives wonderful views across the Gironde.