

# Château Raspail Gigondas 2011

CSPC# 765616

750mlx12

14.5% Alc./Vol.

open

## Grape Variety Appellation

60% Grenache, 28% Syrah, 12% Mourvedre  
Gigondas (Appellation d'Origine Protégée)

<http://www.chateauneuf.dk/gigondas/en/gigen9.htm>

## General Info

Chateau Raspail has a remarkable history as it was built for money earned by buying and then selling a roman statue (replica of Diadumenos Polyclitus) discovered by excavations in Vaison-la-Romaine and then bought by Eugene Raspail (1812-1888) for a reasonable price and shortly after sold to British Museum for 25.000 Francs. These money enabled Eugene Raspail to build Chateau Raspail situated by vineyards he had inherited from his father. In the years when the chateau was built the phylloxera attacked the vines in Europe in the 1860-ties. After that some years passed by before vines again were planted by another owner of Chateau Raspail. Chateau Raspail reminds of an Italian villa and this is because Eugene Raspail in his younger days were exiled in Italy because of revolutionary activities. In 1979 the legendary Gabriel Meffre bought Chateau Raspail and its vineyards. After the death of Gabriel Meffre his empire was divided between his three children. The oldest son Jacques Meffre inherited around 300 ha. of vineyards, mostly at Plan de Dieu or Cotes du Rhone. The headquarter of his domains is Domaine Bois des Dames in Violès, today managed by his son Hugues Meffre. The daughter Sylvette - married Brechet - became the owner of Chateau de Vaudieu in Chateauneuf du Pape and Domaine des Bosquets in Gigondas. Even if you still see Sylvette as *gérant* it's the sons Laurent and Julien who make the practical decisions.

His son Christian Meffre inherited Chateau Raspail together with other properties: Chateau de Ruth (St. Cécile-les-Vignes), Chateau Saint Jean (Travaillan sold in 2009) and Domaine de Valori (Courthézon). Today his son François Meffre takes decisions about the winemaking even though Cristian is still the *gérant*

## Vineyards

Average age of vines: 30 years.  
110 hectares including 43 hectares in Gigondas, and the remaining vineyards on the plain. 60% Grenache, 30% Syrah and 10% Mourvedre.  
Soil: boulders, gravel, fine sand, silt, clay, limestone  
Exposure plots: South / Southwest

## Vinification/ Maturation

Manual harvest. destemmed, varieties vinified apart, 3-4 week process, with cap punching, part vat emptying/refilling, steel and unlined concrete vat  
Ageing: 1 ½ years in concrete vats; unfinned, filtered

## Tasting Notes

Tender and appealing nose of dark, very ripe fruits, chocolate and licorice.. mellow and so tender. Aromatically balanced, complex and powerful palate at the same time, on fruits' stones, plums, graphite, licorice... pure expression of Old Grenache... ample and silky, tender and chewy... attractive and "cheers' catching" ... The length does reveal few years ageing potential still.

## Serve with

It accompanies harmoniously red meat and game.

## Production

30,000 bottles made

## Cellaring

Drink now to 2020

## Scores/Awards

**90 points** - Jeb Dunnuck, Wine Advocate #210 - December 2013

**17 points** - Decanter.com - January 2014

**16 points** - Gault & Millau

**Gold Medal** - Concours Vignerons Indépendants de Paris 2014



**Reviews** *"The 2011 Gigondas (60% Grenache, 30% Syrah and 10% Mourvedre aged 12 months in concrete vats) is a knockout effort that offers up beautiful spice, crushed flowers and copious, sweet red fruits that flow to a medium to full-bodied, elegant and perfumed Gigondas. Showing the vintage profile with its exuberant personality, this classy 2011 will dish out loads of pleasure over the coming 6-7 years. Drink now-2020."*  
- JD, Wine Advocate

*"Intense nose of blackberries and spices with lovely herbal undertones. Jolly fruit start, nicely plump and fluid, with local character, herbs present. Length is sound, rolls well. Good for country cooking."*  
-decanter.com

*"The warm notes slide in the mouth on a carpet of black fruits. Aromatic nuances are soon to unfold in a spicy veil. Its creamy frame features notes of fruity coffee beans."*  
- www.gaultmillau.fr

*"A superb medium bodied, rich, ripe Gigondas from this historic estate founded by Eugene Raspail (Boulevard Raspail etc). The wine is now made by the highly talented Christian Meffre. From the excellent 2011 vintage this is an attractive wine for early drinking, with a good 6-7 years ahead of it. Delicious and good value Southern Rhône wine."*  
- fromvineyardsdirect.com

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