

"It is impressive to see a maison the size of Louis Roederer delivering such outstanding quality from biodynamically farmed grapes. The work they are doing really sets a benchmark for other larger producers to follow." —Nick Stock, Senior Editor | JAMESSUCKLING.COM \overline{T}



VARIETALS 60% PINOT NOIR 40% CHARDONNAY

DOSAGE 8 G/L





CRISTAL 2013

"The blend of Cristal itself is derived from 45 candidate parcels, which are included or excluded each year on the basis of extensive tasting. These parcels are defined by soils with a high concentration of active calcium carbonate, and all boast vines that are a minimum of 35 years old. Most of the Pinot Noir in Cristal comes from northeasterly exposed Verzenay, Beaumont-sur-Vesle and Verzy, which produce wines with serious acid structure, as well as holdings in Aÿ and Mareuil-sur-Aÿ, which bring a bit more textural plenitude and fruit to the blend. The cuvée's Chardonnay component—which typically represents 40% of the blend—derives from prime parcels in Avize, Mesnil-sur-Oger, Cramant and Oger." - William Kelley | The Wine Advocate

98
POINTS

"I've revisited Roederer's 2013 Cristal four times since I reviewed it in April of this year—including several times from my own cellar—and I had to admit that even my lavish praise didn't do it full justice. Combining the cool-vintage cut of 2008 with the more completely mature fruit of 2012, the 2013 Cristal might well be said to represent the perfect combination of the two from a purist's perspective. The wine unwinds in the glass with notes of crisp orchard fruit, white flowers, almond paste and citrus oil, followed by a medium to full-bodied, seamless and multidimensional palate that's intense but weightless, with racy acids, a pinpoint mousse and a long, penetrating finish. Drink the 2008 Cristal on its own, and you're unlikely—to put it mildly—to have any complaints; but compare it directly with the 2013 and you'll see Roederer's rapid progress in the vineyards writ large."

98
POINTS

JAMESSUCKLING.COM

T

"This is quite chalky with firm phenolics that frame the wine beautifully. It's medium-to full-bodied with strawberries and earth. Dense, linear and intense. Hints of brioche and pie crust at the end. Very structured and gorgeous. Salty and lightly chewy. One third of the base wines fermented and aged in oak. Connoisseur Champagne. From organic vineyards of the Roederer domains. Smaller production than normal. Seven years on the lees. Give it two or three years to open."

96
POINTS
Decanter

"The peak of drinkability is between 15 and 20 years from the harvest; so says Jean-Baptiste, but he has not spared the taster the wondrous early impression of perfection in the making. A soft gold with glistening highlights, like the river meadow at dawn; the nose effortlessly marries a panoply of flavours, the citric grip nodding to hints of passion fruit and Mirabelle plum, with hazelnut and almond signalling the grace of development. Texturally generous, yet tightly wound, taut and flinty yet ripe and open, the wine faithfully underlines the vigneron's philosophy, every nuance of its template deftly rehearsed and charmingly enacted."

96
POINTS
Wine Spectator

"Exotic hints of tangerine and candied ginger are an enticing entrance for this vivid Champagne, accenting a finely meshed range of ripe green apple and cassis fruit, with rich notes of chopped almond, brioche and lemon curd. An underscoring streak of salinity gains momentum through the mouthwatering finish, echoing as it rides the plushly creamy mousse. This is decadence in a sleek and graceful package. Pinot Noir and Chardonnay. Drink now through 2033."