

My top three

John Livingstone-Learmonth

■ **Domaine St-Gayan 2010** This is as good as the still excellent 1990 St-Gayan. It is full of muscle, charge and life, with a polished, fulfilling finish. Jean-Pierre Meffre is part biologist, part meteorologist, part farmer, and lets his instinct do much of the work: balance, power and deftness feature here.

18.5/20pts (95/100pts) Drink 2014-2033

■ **Domaine Les Pallières, Les Racines**

2011 Wine from a real Garden of Eden tucked away off the main road between Gigondas and Sablet. Not just that, a wine that gets both mind and senses racing. It captures the solid, compact fruit virtues of Gigondas, but also the smoky coolness of its late ripening vineyards. Be patient, and thou shalt be rewarded. **17 (90)**

Drink 2014-2029

■ **Domaine du Gour de Chaulé, Cuvée**

Tradition 2011 A 10-hectare estate run by Aline Bonfils and her daughter Stéphanie Fumoso who returned to the domaine in 2007 after a career in IT. Whole-bunch fermentation, concrete-vat maturation and a calm approach: the wines are allowed to capture the garrigue essences of the area – pine, and herbs – all very evocative.

17 (91) Drink 2013-2019