

vinous

91 pts

Birichino 2013 Zinfandel Saint Georges Old Vines Vignes Nonagenaires

Central Coast, Central Coast

Red wine from United States

Drinking window: 2018 - 2023

Deep red. Fresh cherry and candied plum on the fragrant, spice-tinged nose. Smooth, fleshy and gently sweet, offering plump red berry and cherry flavors that are sharpened by mouthwatering acidity and a hint of white pepper. Shows good lift and energy on the silky, smoothly tannic, fruit-driven finish. A distinctly elegant style of Zinfandel.

Josh Reynolds. Tasting date: June 2015

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92 pts

Birichino 2013 Grenache Besson Vineyard Old Vines Vignes Centenaires

Central Coast, Central Coast

Red wine from United States

Drinking window: 2019 - 2025

Brilliant red with a bright rim. Spice- and mineral-accented raspberry and cherry scents show very good clarity and a sexy floral topnote. Silky, sweet and concentrated, offering juicy red fruit and lavender flavors and a zesty kick of white pepper that builds on the back half. Plays power off of liveness deftly and finishes long and sappy, with fully integrated tannins and resonating spiciness. Fans of the elegant school of southern Rhône red wines should check this one out.

Josh Reynolds. Tasting date: June 2015

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90 pts

**Birichino 2013 Cinsault Bechthold
Vineyard Old Vines Vignes Centenaires
Mokelumne River**

Lodi, Central Coast

Red wine from United States

Drinking window: 2018 - 2024

Vivid red. Dark berries, cherry, licorice and a hint of botanical herbs on the nose. Bitter cherry and blackcurrant flavors unfold slowly with air, picking up hints of black tea and dark chocolate. Deeply pitched yet lively wine with firm closing grip and fine-grained framing tannins.

Josh Reynolds. Tasting date: June 2015

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92 pts

Birichino 2013 Pinot Noir Lilo Vineyard

Santa Cruz Mountains, Central Coast

Red wine from United States

Drinking window: 2018 - 2023

Deep, bright red. Pungent aromas of raspberry, cherry skin, candied rose and smoky minerals. Sharply focused cherry and red berry preserve flavors are brightened by a smoky mineral nuance, picking up a floral pastille quality with air. More lithe and nervy than the relatively brooding

Saint Georges bottling. The wine's sappy, energetic finish repeats the red berry note and lingers with strong spicy tenacity.

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91 pts

Birichino 2013 Pinot Noir Saint Georges

Central Coast, Central Coast

Red wine from United States

Drinking window: 2017 - 2022

Dark red. Black raspberry, cola and fresh flowers on the deeply perfumed nose. Appealingly sweet, deep and expansive in the mouth, offering pliant red and dark berry and floral pastille flavors that are brought into focus by zesty acidity. Blends richness and energy smoothly, finishing with very good clarity and sweet fruity persistence.

Josh Reynolds. Tasting date: June 2015

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89 pts

Birichino 2013 Malvasia Bianca

Monterey, Central Coast

White wine from United States

Drinking window: 2016 - 2018

Light, green-tinged yellow. Aromas of fresh citrus and pit fruits, with a hint of beeswax emerging slowly. Shows good clarity and lift on the palate, offering juicy peach and tangerine flavors that tighten up on the back half. Closes on a spicy note, with good cling and a touch of bitter peach pit.

Josh Reynolds. Tasting date: June 2015

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90 pts

**Birichino 2013 Malvasia Bianca Petulant
Naturel**

Monterey, Central Coast

White wine from United States

Drinking window: 2015 - 2017

Hazy gold color. Ripe nectarine, poached pear, honey and pungent flowers on the deeply perfumed nose. Plush, expansive and spicy on the palate, offering ripe orchard and pit fruit flavors and a jolt of candied ginger. The gingery quality drives a long, sappy finish that picks up a suggestion of lavender. Wild stuff, and sure to work well with a range of highly seasoned or full-flavored foods, especially cheeses and charcuterie.

Josh Reynolds. Tasting date: June 2015

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90 pts

Birichino 2014 Vin Gris

California, California

Rosé wine from United States

Drinking window: 2015 - 2018

Pale orange-pink. Sharply focused nose displays scents of redcurrant, strawberry and orange zest lifted by a suave floral topnote. Dry and racy on the palate, offering bitter red berry skin flavors and a hint of honeysuckle. Fleshes out on the finish, which hangs on with very good floral tenacity. I really like the purity and elegance of this pink wine.

Josh Reynolds. Tasting date: June 2015

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90 pts

Birichino 2014 Muscat Canelli

Monterey, Central Coast

Sweet White wine from United States

Drinking window: 2015 - 2019

Very pale straw. Heady, exotic aromas of fresh pit fruits, mango and honey, with a suggestion of lemon pith adding vibrancy. Silky, sweet and also racy on the palate, offering intense tropical and pit fruit flavors and an emphatic jolt of candied ginger. Quiet lithe for a sweet wine, with strong finishing cut and spicy persistence.

Josh Reynolds. Tasting date: June 2015

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91 pts

**Birichino 2014 Chenin Blanc Jurassic Park
Vineyard Old Vines Vignes Trentenaires**

Santa Ynez Valley, Central Coast

White wine from United States

Drinking window: 2019 - 2024

Bright yellow. Fresh tangerine, white peach and pear aromas are complemented by a deeper honeyed nuance. Fleshy and seamless on the palate, offering bitter pear skin and peach pit flavors and a more succulent melon nuance, with a spine of juicy acidity adding structure. Weighty yet lithe wine with strong closing thrust and a sexy building floral note. As impressive a New World Chenin as I've had in a long time, and built to age.

Josh Reynolds. Tasting date: June 2015