

**Chateau Puech-Haut**  
<http://puech-haut.fr/>

Easily one of the top estates in the Languedoc (if not southern France), Chateau Puech Haut lies just outside the village of Saint-Drezery and is owned and run by Gerard Bru, with consulting help from Philippe Cambie. They produce a number of cuvees, with their entry level efforts representing superb values, and their top cuvees being able to stand toe to toe with the greatest wines in the world

This superb estate is owned by Gerard Bru, who has hired some of the finest winemakers in the world as consultants (Michel Rolland, Claude Gros and now Philippe Cambie). Bru makes a number of cuvees (some too expensive for this value report) including two terrific rose offerings.

*One of the highlight tastings of my more than two weeks spent in the Languedoc and Roussillon, Chateau Puech-Haut covers a whopping 170 hectares (100 of which are under vine) that are located outside the village of Saint-Drezery, roughly 10 miles north of Montpellier. Created in 2000 by Gerard Bru, who sold his business and created the estate, Puech-Haut has employed the likes of Michel Rolland, Claude Gros, and now Philippe Cambie, to aid in the winemaking. Despite the change in consultants, the style here has remained relatively constant, with the older vintages showing the same hedonistic, yet fresh and lively profiles that are found in the current releases. The on-site cellar master is Mathieu Ciampi. To my palate, this estate is at the top of its game and the wines go from strength to strength, what showing can be achieved with low yields and a focus on making the best wine possible. In addition to incredible quality, the entire lineup stacked with value. Unfortunately, the upper-tier efforts are made in small quantities and don't see much distribution. In addition to the current releases, I was able to take a look back at some older vintages to see how these hold up. I'm more than happy with the showings and it reaffirms my belief that these, rich, concentrated efforts have no problem evolving gracefully for a number of years.*

*Get them if you can!*

**Review by Jeb Dunnuck**  
**eRobertParker.com # 212 (Apr 2014)**

## The Reds

### **2013 Chateau Puech-Haut Coteaux de Languedoc Prestige**

A Proprietary Blend Dry Red Table wine from Coteaux du Languedoc, Languedoc Roussillon, France

#### **93 Points - eRobertParker.com # 211 (Feb 2014)**

The 2013 Coteaux du Languedoc Prestige (which was already in bottle at the time of this tasting) is a blend of 55% Grenache and 45% Syrah aged all in concrete tank. Fresh, elegant and thrillingly pure, with first rate aromas of blackberry, fresh plum, and licorice and ground herbs, it is decidedly sexy and forward, yet stays perfectly balanced, with juicy acidity and fine tannin on the finish. Enjoy this superb value over the coming 4-5 years (although it will evolve longer)

### **2012 Chateau Puech-Haut Coteaux de Languedoc Prestige**

#### **91 Points - eRobertParker.com # 1113 (Nov 2013)**

The inexpensive 2012 Prestige Coteaux du Languedoc is a blend of 55% Grenache (60-75-year-old vines) and 45% Syrah (40-year-old vines) aged 12 months in concrete. It is a disarmingly juicy, complex, full-bodied, dark ruby/purple-colored effort displaying a sweet kiss of lavender, acacia flowers, pepper, black raspberries and kirsch. Round, generous and medium to full-bodied with elegance as well as flavor authority, this pure, beautifully textured 2012 should continue to drink well for another 3-5 years

### **2012 Chateau Puech-Haut Coteaux du Languedoc Saint Drezero Tete de Belier**

A Proprietary Blend Dry Red Table wine from Coteaux du Languedoc, Languedoc Roussillon, France

#### **93 – 95 Points - eRobertParker.com # 211 (Feb 2014)**

Looking at their red Tete de Belier cuvee, and the only vintage not in bottle, the 2012 Coteaux du Languedoc Saint Drezero Tete de Belier is comprised mostly of Syrah, with smaller parts Grenache and Mourvedre. Inky-colored, with fabulous aromas and flavors of cassis, black cherry, licorice and olive, it stays fresh and lively on the palate, with full-bodied richness, a great mid-palate and no shortage of length. It should be bottled by the time you read this report and have 10-12 years or more of ultimate longevity

### **2011 Chateau Puech-Haut Coteaux du Languedoc Saint Drezero Tete de Belier**

#### **94 Points - eRobertParker.com # 212 (Apr 2014)**

A similar blend and aged 16-18 months in new, one an two-year- old barrels (the Grenache component is aged all in tank), the 2011 Coteaux du Languedoc Saint Drezero Tête de Béliér offers up ample black cherry, licorice, ground hers and hints of graphite to go with a concentrated, full –bodied, voluptuous and ripe profile on the palate. Possessing sweet tannin, superb mid-palate depth and an overall balanced, harmonious feel, it's a fantastic 2011 from the South of France. Drink it over the coming 8-9 years.

## **2010 Chateau Puech-Haut Coteaux du Languedoc Saint Drezero Tete de Belier**

### **96 Points - eRobertParker.com # 212 (Apr 2014)**

Even better, the 2010 Coteaux du Languedoc Saint Drezero Tete de Belier is Hermitage-like with its incredible perfume of cassis, licorice, roasted meats and scorched earth. Full-bodied, layered and fabulously concentrated, it has first-rate purity of fruit, ripe underlying tannin and impressive concentration. It will be even better in another couple of years and have 10-15 years of longevity, possibly more

## **2009 Chateau Puech-Haut Coteaux du Languedoc Saint Drezero Tete de Belier**

### **95 Points - eRobertParker.com # 212 (Apr 2014)**

Also superb, and the first vintage for this cuvee, the 2009 Coteaux du Languedoc Saint Drezero Tete de Belier shows lots of similarities to the 2011 with its ripe, voluptuous and sexy style. Blackberry, dried, spices, licorice, chocolate and ample ground herbs are just some of the nuances here, and it hits the palate with full-bodied richness and depth, no hard edges and sweet tannin. Enjoy this beauty over the coming 7-8 years.

## **2011 Chateau Puech-Haut Coteaux du Languedoc Saint Drezero Quercus**

A Grenache Dry Red Table wine from Coteaux du Languedoc, Languedoc Roussillon, France

### **97 Points - eRobertParker.com # 212 (Apr 2014)**

The Quercus cuvee is a 100% Grenache (named after an oak tree in the vineyard) that's aged half in concrete tank and half in new 600-liter demi-muids. Looking first at the current release, the 2011 Coteaux du Languedoc Saint Drezero Quercus offers spectacular Grenache flair with flamboyant kirsch, blackberry, licorice, spring flowers and ample minerality all soaring from the glass. A Chateauneuf du Pape look-alike, this full-bodied beauty has no hard edges, a voluptuous, layered texture and a superb mid-palate. Enjoy it over the coming decade

## **2009 Chateau Puech-Haut Coteaux du Languedoc Saint Drezero Quercus**

A Grenache Dry Red Table wine from Coteaux du Languedoc, Languedoc Roussillon, France

### **95 Points - eRobertParker.com # 212 (Apr 2014)**

Ever so slightly more red fruit-driven, with kirsch, strawberry, garrigue, licorice and dried flowers, the 2009 Coteaux du Languedoc Saint Drezero Quercus (100% Grenache aged in equal parts concrete tank and new demi-muids) is similarly styled on the palate, with a seamless, hedonistic profile that should put a smile on anyone's face. Drinking beautifully now, it should continue to shine through 2019 or so

## **2011 Chateau Puech-Haut Coteaux du Languedoc Saint Drezero Recantou**

A Proprietary Blend Dry Red Table wine from Coteaux du Languedoc, Languedoc Roussillon, France

### **97 Points - eRobertParker.com # 212 (Apr 2014)**

A 100% Syrah cuvee that sees 16 months in new French oak, the 2011 Coteaux du Languedoc Saint Drezero Recantou is spectacular on all accounts and I even flirted with the idea of a higher score. Inky purple in color, with fabulous, Hermitage-like aromas of raspberry, violets, powdered rock and spice, it flows onto the palate with full-bodied richness, incredible concentration, fine, polished tannin and blockbuster length. Easily one of the finest Syrahs to come out of the region, it will have 15 years or more of ultimate longevity

## **2009 Chateau Puech-Haut Coteaux du Languedoc Saint Drezero Recantou**

A Proprietary Blend Dry Red Table wine from Coteaux du Languedoc, Languedoc Roussillon, France

**95 Points - eRobertParker.com # 212 (Apr 2014)**

Almost as good, and certainly in a similar vein, the 2009 Coteaux du Languedoc Saint Drezero Recantou thrills with its over-the-top decadence and richness. Licorice, chocolate, toasted spice, graphite and a similar minerality all show here, and it is full-bodied, gorgeously textured and decadent on the palate. Not for those craving delicacy or lightweight aromas or flavors, it's a superb, character-filled beauty to enjoy over the coming decade or so

**2011 Chateau Puech-Haut Coteaux du Languedoc Saint Drezero Bosc Negre**

A Proprietary Blend Dry Red Table wine from Coteaux du Languedoc, Languedoc Roussillon, France

**95 Points - eRobertParker.com # 212 (Apr 2014)**

Looking at their Mourvedre-dominated cuvee (roughly 80% Mourvedre and 20% Grenache with the Mourvedre aged in new barrels and the Grenache in tank), the 2011 Coteaux du Languedoc Saint Drezero Bosc Negre (which translates to "Black Wood" and named after the woods located near the vineyard) is an inky-colored, big and structured effort that will require another year or two in bottle to become civilized. Assorted dark fruits, mineral, earth, violets and chocolate nuances are the core, and it hits the palate with full-bodied richness, fabulous mid-palate depth and serious structure that emerges on the finish. There's still some oak to integrate as well, so give it another year or three, and plan on consuming bottles over the following decade or more.

**2009 Chateau Puech-Haut Coteaux du Languedoc Saint Drezero Bosc Negre**

A Proprietary Blend Dry Red Table wine from Coteaux du Languedoc, Languedoc Roussillon, France

**95 Points - eRobertParker.com # 212 (Apr 2014)**

More exotic and perfumed, the 2009 Coteaux du Languedoc Saint Drezero Bosc Negre (same blend/elevation as the 2011) is another massive wine from this producer that stays brilliantly balanced and light on its feet, with no apparent heaviness or weight. Exhibiting notions of cassis, flowers, citrus blossom and orange peel, with full-bodied richness and depth on the palate, it should continue to impress through 2021.

**2009 Chateau Puech-Haut Coteaux du Languedoc Saint Drezero Cante Lebre**

A Proprietary Blend Dry Red Table wine from Coteaux du Languedoc, Languedoc Roussillon, France

**96 Points - eRobertParker.com # 212 (Apr 2014)**

Getting a big "Wow" in my notes and one of the most southern Rhone-like in the lineup, the 2009 Coteaux du Languedoc Saint Drezero Cante Lebre is a spectacular blend of mostly Grenache (aged in tank), with smaller components of Syrah and Mourvedre that were aged all in new oak barrels (of which the wine shows no trace). In addition, this cuvee wasn't made in 2011, with the bulk of the juice going into the Tete de Belier bottling. Gorgeous all around, with ample blackberry, kirsch, spice box, garrigue and melted licorice notes, it flows onto the palate with a full-bodied, decadent and hedonistically styled profile that never puts a foot wrong. Staying lively, fresh and balanced (which is remarkable for a wine of this size), it is a joy to drink and absolutely hard to resist. Count me a fan. It should continue to thrill over the coming 5-8 years

**2011 Chateau Puech-Haut Coteaux du Languedoc Saint Drezero Reboussier**

A Proprietary Blend Dry Red Table wine from Coteaux du Languedoc, Languedoc Roussillon, France

**94 Points - eRobertParker.com # 212 (Apr 2014)**

The first (and so far only) vintage for this cuvée, the 2011 Coteaux du Languedoc Saint Drezerly Reboussier is 100 % Carignan that comes from minuscule yields and 80+- years-old vines. Aged 12 months in new oak, it offers ripe, layered and rich aromas and flavors to go with full-bodied richness and bright acidity on palate. Black raspberry, toasted oak, licorice and charred earth all emerge from the glass, and it continues to evolve in the glass, showing superb purity and a voluptuous style. Enjoy it over the coming decade.

**2011 Chateau Puech-Haut Coteaux du Languedoc Pic Saint Loup Clos du Pic**

A Proprietary Blend Dry Red Table wine from Pic St Loup, Coteaux du Languedoc, Languedoc Roussillon, France

**94 Points - eRobertParker.com # 212 (Apr 2014)**

Moving to the Clos du Pic bottling, this cuvee is a blend of Mourvedre and Syrah that's aged all in new barrels. While not made in 2012 (and I'm not sure with regards to 2013), the 2011 Coteaux du Languedoc Saint Drezerly Clos du Pic is a superb effort that offers the classic richness and texture of the estate, yet stays remarkable well focused, delineated and pure. Black raspberry, chocolate, underbrush, pepper and crushed flowers drive the bouquet, and it's full-bodied, concentrated and layered, with notable overall freshness and purity, especially in the vintage. It's superb now, and I can't imagine it not evolving gracefully for over a decade

**2010 Chateau Puech-Haut Coteaux du Languedoc Pic Saint Loup Clos du Pic**

A Proprietary Blend Dry Red Table wine from Pic St Loup, Coteaux du Languedoc, Languedoc Roussillon, France

**95 Points - eRobertParker.com # 212 (Apr 2014)**

Exhibiting additional minerality, with ample black raspberry, ground herbs, earth, licorice and underbrush aromas and flavors, the 2010 Coteaux du Languedoc Saint Drezerly Clos du Pic shines for its elegance and purity as much as for its depth and richness. Full-bodied, concentrated and impressively balanced, with perfect integration of its fruit, acid and tannin, it can be enjoyed anytime over the coming 10-15 years

**2009 Chateau Puech-Haut Coteaux du Languedoc Pic Saint Loup Clos du Pic**

A Proprietary Blend Dry Red Table wine from Pic St Loup, Coteaux du Languedoc, Languedoc Roussillon, France

**95 Points - eRobertParker.com # 212 (Apr 2014)**

The 2009 Coteaux du Languedoc Clos du Pic is the most up-front, exuberant and downright hedonistic of the bunch. Offering notes of garrigue, kirsch, chocolate and ground pepper, it is full-bodied, layered and just drinking brilliantly. Hard to resist now, it will continue to shine for another 5-7 years at least.

**2010 Chateau Puech-Haut Coteaux du Languedoc Saint Drezerly la 40Eme**

A Proprietary Blend Dry Red Table wine from Coteaux du Languedoc, Languedoc Roussillon, France

**95+ Points - eRobertParker.com # 212 (Apr 2014)**

The La 40eme cuvee is a non-destemmed blend of Syrah and Grenache that's aged 12-14 months in demi-muid. It's only made in top vintages, and has only been produced in 2002, 2007 and 2010. Looking first at the 2010 Coteaux du Languedoc Saint Drezerly la 40eme, it's a slightly exotic, floral effort with complex olive, creme de cassis, pepper and crushed flower-like aromas and flavors to go with a full-bodied, seamless and elegant feel on the palate. Polished, lively and with fantastic purity, as well as

sound underlying structure, it should benefit from short-term cellaring and evolve gracefully for 10-12 years

**2013 Chateau Puech-Haut Coteaux du Languedoc la Closerie du Pic**

A Proprietary Blend Dry Red Table wine from Coteaux du Languedoc, Languedoc Roussillon, France

**93 – 96 Points - eRobertParker.com # 211 (Feb 2014)**

Even better, and one of the best values I've tasted in a long, long time, the 2013 Coteaux du Languedoc La Closerie du Pic is a new cuvee that's made for importer Eric Solomon. Coming all from the Pic Saint Loup region and a blend of equal parts Syrah and Grenache vinified all in concrete tank (the Syrah is then aged 12 months in new and one-year-old barrels), it offers extraordinary aromas of violets, spring flowers, creme de cassis and licorice in a full-bodied, voluptuous and massively textured package. While a big wine, it carries itself beautifully and has fantastic freshness, fine tannin and a seamless finish that keeps you coming back to the glass. Count me a fan, and at the price, it should not be missed!

## ***The Whites and Rose***

### **2013 Chateau Puech-Haut Coteaux du Languedoc Saint Drezerly Prestige (Blanc)**

A Proprietary Blend Dry White Table wine from Coteaux du Languedoc, Languedoc Roussillon, France

#### **91-94 Points - eRobertParker.com # 212 (Apr 2014)**

Looking first at his whites from barrel, the 2013 Coteaux du Languedoc Saint Drezerly Prestige Blanc is an awesome blend (especially when you consider that there are over 4000 cases produced) of Roussanne Marsanne that offers a full-flavored profile with notions of brioche, lemon curd and hints of honeyed tropical fruits all emerging from the glass. Gorgeously fresh, with medium to full-bodied richness, it's superb white to buy by the case.

### **2012 Chateau Puech-Haut Coteaux du Languedoc Saint Drezerly Prestige (Blanc)**

A Proprietary Blend Dry White Table wine from Coteaux du Languedoc, Languedoc Roussillon, France

#### **92 Points - eRobertParker.com # 212 (Apr 2014)**

Moving to the bottled whites, the 2012 Coteaux du Languedoc Saint Drezerly Prestige Blanc gives up exuberant, perfumed notes of pineapple, buttered citrus, almond paste and crushed rock-like minerality in its full-bodied, voluptuously styled personality. Knockout stuff that deserves a classy meal, it should drink nicely for 3-4 years, if not longer.

### **2010 Chateau Puech-Haut Coteaux du Languedoc Saint Drezerly Prestige (Blanc)**

#### **91 Points - eRobertParker.com # 212 (Apr 2014)**

Still going strong, with a lively, fresh profile, the 2010 Coteaux du Languedoc Saint Drezerly Prestige blanc offers classic citrus, caramelized peaches, brioche and lemony qualities in its medium to full-bodied, rich and nicely textured personality. It should continue to hold and evolve gracefully for a number of years, but it's time to drink up.

### **2013 Chateau Puech-Haut Coteaux du Languedoc Saint Drezerly Tete de Belier (Blanc)**

A Proprietary Blend Dry White Table wine from Coteaux du Languedoc, Languedoc Roussillon, France

#### **(93-95) Points - eRobertParker.com # 212 (Apr 2014)**

Even more impressive, the 2013 Coteaux du Languedoc Saint Drezerly Tete de Belier Blanc (made from Roussanne, Marsanne, Grenache Blanc, Viognier and a few other varieties) will be bottled in April or May of this year. The top cuvee, it offers fabulous richness and depth as well as complex, ripe aromas of white flowers, lemon curd, apricot and toast. Voluptuously textured on the palate, yet also beautifully fresh and focused, it will be best with food, and should drink nicely for 2-3 years

**2012 Chateau Puech-Haut Coteaux du Languedoc Saint Drezero Tete de Belier (Blanc)**

A Proprietary Blend Dry White Table wine from Coteaux du Languedoc,Languedoc Roussillon,France

**94 Points - eRobertParker.com # 212 (Apr 2014)**

More pure, focused and layered, the 2012 Coteaux du Languedoc Saint Drezero Tete de Belier Blanc is the standard Roussanne, Marsanne, Grenache Blanc and Viognier blend. White peach, tangerine, hints of flowers and ample minerality all flow from this beauty. Full-bodied, layered and precise on the palate, it has a fabulous blend of richness, purity and focus. Enjoy it over the coming couple of years.

**2011 Chateau Puech-Haut Coteaux du Languedoc Saint Drezero Tete de Belier (Blanc)**

A Proprietary Blend Dry White Table wine from Coteaux du Languedoc,Languedoc Roussillon,France

**95 Points - eRobertParker.com # 212 (Apr 2014)**

The same blend as the 2012, the 2011 Coteaux du Languedoc Saint Drezero Tete de Belier Blanc is flat out awesome. Locked and loaded with notions of white peach, marzipan, crème brulee and toast, it flows onto the palate with a full-bodied, seamless and overall elegant profile that carries remarkable richness and length. One of the top whites I was able to tasted for this report, it's a fabulous wine that I wish every reader could taste.

**2010 Chateau Puech-Haut Coteaux du Languedoc Saint Drezero Tete de Belier (Blanc)**

A Proprietary Blend Dry White Table wine from Coteaux du Languedoc,Languedoc Roussillon,France

**93 Points - eRobertParker.com # 212 (Apr 2014)**

Moving to the 2010 Coteaux du Languedoc Saint Drezero Tete de Belier Blanc, it's slightly more rich and full, and while it lacks that extra edge of precision found in the 2011, it has gorgeous aromas of mineral, honeycomb, almond and creme. Full-bodied, rich, textured and layered, enjoy it with food over the coming couple of years, although it won't fall off a cliff anytime soon and will certainly have an interesting evolution beyond that

**2013 Chateau Puech-Haut Coteaux du Languedoc Saint Drezero Quercus Blanc**

A Proprietary Blend Dry White Table wine from Coteaux du Languedoc,Languedoc Roussillon,France

**(92-94) Points - eRobertParker.com # 212 (Apr 2014)**

Last of the barrel samples, the 2013 Coteaux du Languedoc Saint Drezero Quercus Blanc is mostly Grenache Blanc that was fermented in new 500-liter barrels. Sporting a green tinge to its light yellow color, it has fabulous typicity with loads of green herbs, stone fruits, citrus blossom and mineral all soaring from the glass. Focused, pure, elegant and seamless, it-s a killer bottle of white wine to drink over the coming 2-4 years

**2013 Chateau Puech-Haut Coteaux du Languedoc Pic Saint Loup la Closierie Rose**

A Proprietary Blend Dry Rose Table wine from Pic St Loup,Coteaux du Languedoc,Languedoc Roussillon,France

**90 Points - eRobertParker.com # 212 (Apr 2014)**

A new effort that's from the superb Pic Saint Loup region, the 2013 Coteaux du Languedoc Pic Saint Loup La Closierie Rose is comprised mostly of Cinsault, yet incorporates smaller parts of Syrah and Grenache. Showing loads of fruit, with ample strawberry, peach and floral notions, it is superb on the palate, with bright acidity, medium body and an overall classy profile. Drink it over the coming year.



**2013 Chateau Puech-Haut Coteaux du Languedoc Cuvee Prestige Rose**

A Proprietary Blend Dry Rose Table wine from Coteaux du Languedoc, Languedoc Roussillon, France

**91 Points - eRobertParker.com # 211 (Feb 2014)**

A fabulous rose that's perfect for hot summer day quaffing (I know, as I go through more than a case every year), the 2013 Coteaux du Languedoc Prestige Rose is a direct press of 70% Grenache and 30% Cinsault aged all in stainless steel vats. Very light pink in color, it gives up fresh, crisp aromas of rose petal, white peach and hints of melon in its medium-bodied, clean, elegant and hard-to-resist personality. Buy it by the case and enjoy it over the coming summer months.

**2013 Chateau Puech-Haut Coteaux du Languedoc Saint Drezero Tete de Belier Rose**

A Proprietary Blend Dry Rose Table wine from Coteaux du Languedoc, Languedoc Roussillon, France

**93 Points - eRobertParker.com # 212 (Apr 2014)**

Moving to the roses, I reviewed their 2013 Prestige Rose earlier this year, and it remains a year-in, year-out purchase that shouldn't be missed (see my "New Releases by Eric Solomon" in Issue 211 for this review). Looking at their top rose, which is based mostly on Mourvedre (their take on a Bandol Rose), the 2013 Coteaux du Languedoc Saint Drezero Tete de Belier Rose is one the best roses I've ever tasted