



# THE WINE FRONT



## ABBOTTS & DELAUNAY Alto Stratus Carignan 2012

Rated : 94 Points

A lot more elegant than you'd think. Shows some of the oak maturation here, cedary, slightly resinous, but smoothed and weaved into the depth of dark, tannin-bound fruit that rolls across the palate. Medium-bodied with a wildness, tinged with mint, sage and earth, showing some subtle gaminess and dried blood character. The wine sits in fine shape – opulent without weight, trims to a pointy and puckering finish. Very classy. Great expression of carignan. I like everything about this.



## ABBOTTS & DELAUNAY Boréas Faugères 2012

Rated : 93 Points

Fruit pops out of the glass – shows that gentle liquor-like sweetness of carbonic maceration, but there's more serious, savoury, dark fruit surrounding it. It's a wonderful perfume, a real dive-in-and-discover kind of bouquet where you pick out a complex array of scents. Juicy and crisp, but with depth of flavour, the palate rolls with more savoury-sweetness, a touch of garrigue and flint-like minerality, finishing long and with good pucker. There's a dusting of pepper and some undergrowth character in the mix too. This is ballistically delicious, complex in its layering, but so great to drink now. I want a boar rillettes and some pickles, STAT



## ABBOTTS & DELAUNAY Cumulo Nimbus Minervois 2012

Rated : 90 Points

Has a ripeness and sweetness to perfume; candied-fruit, cassis and jubes. Touch of licorice and some light herbal character in the mix too. Jubey, slippery and generous across the palate, but tannins still give trim and there's a fresh acid wash that helps lift the wine. Crisp and fine to close, more voluptuous up front. Good drink, not particularly complex, but should go well with some maturity to mellow out the sweetness somewhat.



## ABBOTTS & DELAUNAY Zéphyr Limoux 2013

Rated : 89+ Points

Touch of flint, smoke and wet stone but accompanied by the chorus of green apple, lemon blossom and citrus pith. Freeeshhh. Woody flavours, green apple and citrus characters, finishes with a touch of resin. It's reserved and restrained, tangy, long and jangly, and all up equals quite a satisfying drink. It'll show better with some time to integrate the quite pronounced oak, but still has charm as is, and you can see, no doubt, fruit quality in this wine. Stay tuned.



## ABBOTTS & DELAUNAY Languedoc Réserve 2013

Rated : 89 Points

Summer orchard scents, spice, seaspray – glorious perfume. So fresh. Takes you to the seaside. Cool and crisp to taste, a light slick glide of fruit across the palate, finishes pinpoint with citrusy acidity and a clip of green herb/cucumber freshness. Gosh, great drinking to be had here. Easy pleasure.