

**WINE ADVOCATE, VINTAGE 2012**  
**Vins Rouges / Red Wines**

**Ferraton Père & Fils Crozes-Hermitage La Matinière (89-91)**

Moving to the traditional reds, the 2012 Crozes-Ermitage La Matinière should be a smoking value. Offering up juicy, even jammy, notes of black cherry, blackberry, good minerality and tinges of leather and peppery meatiness, it is medium to full-bodied, voluptuously textured and has gorgeous fruit. Buy it by the case and enjoy it over the coming 7-8 years.

**Ferraton Père & Fils Crozes-Hermitage Les Pichères (90-92)**

While there were five lieu-dit releases (single vineyard bottlings) in 2011, there are six in 2012. The 2012 Crozes-Ermitage Lieu-Dit Les Pichères, which is 100% Syrah, mostly from sandy soils, gives up loads of smoked meats, bacon and charred toast to go with a core of cassis and currant-styled fruit. Medium-bodied, rich and textured, with beautiful, fine tannin emerging on the finish, it should drink nicely for over a decade.

**Ferraton Père & Fils Crozes-Hermitage Le Grand Courtil (89-91)**

The 2012 Crozes-Ermitage Le Grand Courtil is a soft, supple and sexy effort that reveals ample black cherry, currants, licorice and loamy earth qualities in its medium-bodied, easygoing profile. Enjoy it on release and over the following 5-6 years.

**Ferraton Père & Fils Saint-Joseph La Source (88-90)**

The 2012 St.-Joseph La Source also has loads of potential. More elegant and streamlined than the La Matinière, with ample black raspberry, crushed flowers and spice, this medium-bodied, fresh and impressively focused Syrah should drink nicely for 5-7 years.

**Ferraton Père et Fils St Joseph Lieu Dit Paradis (89-91)**

More medium-bodied and finesse-driven, with pretty aromas and flavors of raspberry, spring flowers, underbrush and spice, the 2012 St.-Joseph Lieu-Dit Paradis offers a forward, seamless and elegant profile that will be perfect for drinking over the coming 7-8 years.

**Ferraton Père & Fils Saint-Joseph Lieu-dit Saint-Joseph (90-92)**

Along the same lines quality-wise, the 2012 St.-Joseph Lieu-Dit St.-Joseph offers up notions of smoked herbs, olive, licorice and charcoal, as well as loads of sweet cassis and blackberry fruit that emerge with more time in the glass. Medium to full-bodied, with notable purity of fruit, a supple, creamy texture, and serious length, it's a knockout St. Joseph to drink over the coming decade.

**Ferraton Père & Fils Cornas Les Grands Mûriers (89-91)**

More mid-weight, yet still showing the wildness of the appellation nicely, the 2012 Cornas Les Grands Mûriers exhibits classic plum, chocolate, violets and roasted meat-like aromas and flavors. This medium-bodied, nicely textured effort has good (not great) mid-palate depth, fine tannin and impressive length on the finish. Enjoy it over the coming 7-8 years.

**Ferraton Père & Fils Cornas Lieu-dit Patou (90-92)**

Moving to the Cornas releases, of which there are two, the 2012 Cornas Lieu-Dit Patou is easily my favorite. Coming from the southern part of the appellation and exhibiting gorgeous dark fruits, smoked earth, tar and meaty notes, with ample black currant and assorted dark fruits, this medium to full-bodied effort hits the palate with a chewy, broad and textured profile that's hard to resist. Staying fresh and lively, with the freshness of the vintage, it should benefit from short-term cellaring and have over a decade of longevity.

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#### **Ferraton Père & Fils Châteauneuf du Pape Le Parvis (90-92)**

A step up, the 2012 Chateauneuf du Pape Le Parvis shows the house style with its pure, lively and elegant profile. Crushed flowers, crunch berry fruit, incense and cherry blossom-like qualities all emerge from the glass and this medium to full-bodied 2012 has solid concentration, and excellent purity. It will have a solid 8-10 years of longevity. Drink 2014-2022.

#### **Ferraton Père & Fils Cornas Lieu-dit Les Eygats (86-89)**

Less successful, the 2012 Cornas Lieu-Dit Les Eygats is more mid-weight, without the mid-palate density of the Patou. It also shows more oak in its toast, graphite and raspberry-styled profile. Still a pretty, deftly textured effort, it should have 7-8 years of longevity.

#### **Ferraton Père & Fils Côte Rôtie L'Eglantine (90-92+)**

The most perfumed and complex in this lineup, the 2012 Cote Rotie L'Eglantine dishes up fabulous black raspberry, bacon fat, smoke, flowers and assorted earthy nuances to go with a medium to full-bodied, textured and sweetly fruited profile on the palate. Gaining steam in the glass, with building richness, it's a beautiful effort that will deliver the goods for over a decade.

#### **Ferraton Père & Fils Côte Rôtie Lieu-Dit Montmain (89-91)**

The 2012 Cote Rotie Lieu-Dit Montmain also has a touch of unintegrated oak in its spice, caramelized fruit and toasty bouquet. Medium-bodied, elegant and lively, with good mid-palate depth and a creamy, sexy texture, it should benefit from a year or two in the cellar and drink nicely through 2022.

#### **Ferraton Père & Fils Hermitage Les Miaux (91-93+)**

Richer and more concentrated, the 2012 Hermitage Le Miaux is knockout stuff. Smoke, earth, powdered rock, licorice and chocolate (among other things) are all ground by a fabulous core of cassis and black raspberry-styled fruit. A medium to full-bodied 2012, with fantastic mid-palate depth, gorgeous purity of fruit and enough tannin to warrant another year in the cellar, it should evolve gracefully for 12-15 years.

#### **Ferraton Père & Fils Ermitage Les Dionnières (93-95+)**

More serious and impressive, the 2012 Ermitage Les Dionnieres is loaded with meaty dark fruits, tar, charred earth and spice-box aromas and flavors. Full-bodied, voluptuously textured and gorgeously pure, it's a blockbuster to drink over the coming 10-15 years.

#### **Ferraton Père & Fils Ermitage Le Méal (92-95)**

In the same ballpark and from one of the warmest terroirs in the appellation, the 2012 Ermitage Le Meal is a fabulous-looking barrel sample that exhibits classic black raspberry, spring flowers, smoke, spice-box and massive minerality in its full-bodied, sweetly fruited, yet tight and focused personality. Showing fine tannin and serious length on the finish, this beauty will benefit from a handful of years in the cellar and thrill for 15 years or more.

#### **Ferraton Père & Fils Cotes du Rhône Samorens (88-90)**

Also impressive, the 2012 Cotes du Rhone Samorens (rouge) dishes up tons of sweet berry fruit, ground pepper, flowers and licorice to go with a pure, lively and elegant feel on the palate. Improving in the glass, it too is a classy effort. Drink now-2018.

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**Vins Rouges / Red Wines**

**Ferraton Pere et Fils Cotes du Rhone Villages Plan de Dieu**

**88**

Made from almost all Grenache and aged all in concrete, the 2012 Cotes du Rhone Plan de Dieu has outstanding potential. Rich and chewy, with solid concentration and texture, it gives up darker-styled fruits, spice and edgy minerality on the nose. Showing the freshness and purity of the vintage, it's a superb value and should drink nicely for 5-7 years. Drink 2014-2019.

**WINE ADVOCATE, VINTAGE 2012**  
**Vins Blancs / White Wines**

- Ferraton Père & Fils Crozes-Hermitage La Matinière** **88**  
Looking first at the traditional, non-single vineyard whites, the 2012 Crozes-Ermitage La Matiniere Blanc, which is all Marsanne, offers up a light gold color to go with aromas and flavors of tangerine, citrus, apricots and subtle buttery nuances that emerge with time in the glass. Medium-bodied and more mineral-driven on the palate, this lightly textured, elegant and fresh effort should be consumed over the coming couple of years.
- Ferraton Père & Fils Saint-Péray Le Mialan** **89**  
More rich and layered, the 2012 St.-Peray Le Mialan offers classic buttered citrus, white currant and tinges of apricot in its medium-bodied, juicy and nicely focused personality. Showing a solid mix of both richness and freshness, it's a serious effort to drink over the coming 4-5 years.
- Ferraton Père & Fils Saint-Joseph Blanc La Source** **90**  
Also fresh and lively, with up-front white peach, citrus rind, crushed rock and honeysuckle, the 2012 St.-Joseph La Source Blanc (all Marsanne) is beautifully put together on the palate, with medium-bodied richness, integrated acidity and a clean, refreshing feel. It's a rock solid value to drink over the coming 4-5 years or more.
- Ferraton Père & Fils Condrieu Les Mandouls** **91**  
The 2012 Condrieu Les Mandouls is a fresh, lively Condrieu that shows the appellation nicely. Apricot, crushed stone, white flowers and freshly sliced peaches are just some of the nuances here and this medium-bodied, lively white has impressive length on the finish. Enjoy it over the coming 3-5 years.
- Ferraton Père & Fils Saint-Joseph Blanc Les Oliviers** **91**  
Looking at the 2012 selections parcellaires releases, starting with the whites, the 2012 St.-Joseph Les Oliviers Blanc is a ripe, textured, borderline voluptuous white that offers notions of golden peaches, apricot, honey and stone fruit-like aromas and flavors. Medium to full-bodied, rich and loaded with fruit, it possesses vibrant acidity that keeps it lively and fresh. Enjoy it over the coming 4-5 years.
- Ferraton Père & Fils Ermitage Le Méal** **92**  
The star of this lineup is the 2012 Hermitage Le Miaux Blanc. Named after the old name of the Le Meal lieu-dit, this knockout Marsanne dishes out classic tangerine, honeysuckle, wild flowers and tinges of peach to go with a medium to full-bodied, beautifully pure and elegant palate feel. Classy all around, with excellent richness and length that stays nicely focused, it should have over a decade of longevity.
- Ferraton Père & Fils Ermitage Le Reverdy Blanc** **94**  
Even better, the 2012 Ermitage Le Reverdy Blanc is an off-the-charts blend of equal parts Roussanne and Marsanne. Gorgeously-styled, with honeyed apricots and assorted stone fruits, white flowers and striking minerality, this full-bodied, voluptuously textured beauty has fantastic purity of fruit, great acidity and blockbuster length. Enjoy it over the coming decade or more.
- Ferraton Père & Fils Cotes du Rhône Samorens** **89**  
A tank-aged blend of Grenache, Clairette and Bourboulenc, the 2012 Cotes du Rhone Blanc Samorens is a smoking value. Exhibiting notions of white currants, citrus blossom and hints of white flowers, this medium-bodied, focused white has racy acidity and brilliant focus on the finish. It's fresh enough for a hot summer day, yet also has character and class. Drink it over the coming 2-3 years. Drink now-2016.