



# La Chapelle White

HERMITAGE

le Chevalier de Sterimberg

VINTAGE 2022



**JANE ANSON** (July 2024)

**95** points /100

Intense and precise, riven with citrus, oyster shell and salted cracker, with grip and lift that runs from the opening notes to the finish, a delicious white wine that plays with reduction, can drink now but it really will reward several years in bottle. Particularly impressive to maintain this sculpted juice in such a hot vintage.

**JAMES SUCKLING** (April 2024)

**95** points /100

A vibrant, precise and dense blend of 87% marsanne and 13% roussanne. The nose expresses aromas of kumquats, citrons, verbena, wild herbs and mild spices. It's medium-bodied with bright acidity. Sharp and intense, with such drive. Powerful, with a succulent development on the mid-palate. Refined and lively with a long, focused finish. Drink or hold.

**COLIN HAY** (September 2024)

**96** points /100

Hyper-fresh, crunchy in its fruit profile and succulent in the mid-palate with excellent tension, poise and energy for such a hot vintage. Candlewax and candle smoke. Celendine, camomile and perhaps a hint of green tea. Blood orange. Wild herbs – oregano and marjoram. Viscous. This is always amongst the freshest wines of Hermitage, despite its richness, breadth and depth, and it is here once again. Tense. Rich. Harmonious and yet dynamic and energetic. Croquant and with fabulous upward thrusts of citrus freshness breaking through the sumptuous rich exterior. Pure and glistening, with a brilliant éclat.

**MATTHEW JUKES** (May 2024)

**19** points /20

It is exciting to spot the label adjustment in this vintage, bringing this noble Chevalier alongside its red sibling. The Roussanne and Marsanne grapes come from clay-limestone loess in Maison Blanche and Murets Plateaux, and the stony sloping hillsides of Rocoules and Murets, and it is these subtly different building blocks are only numbed and muddled with overzealous oak maquillage. I have been watching this wine remove layer upon layer of artefact over the years, and in 2022, you will find yourself in the presence of unfettered purity and resonance. Hints of honeysuckle and faint nectarine stone, with which peach skin, thyme, rosemary and mint make this the gentlest and most demure aromatherapeutic session imaginable. The texture is sheer heaven – light and airy but powerfully long and rigid. This is a postcode-accurate wine like no other Northern Rhône white I can think of, and I am confident it can only gather momentum and grace as it ages. 'Haunting' and 'elegant' are words I am guilty of using too often when writing about noteworthy white wines. I will have to be more selective because this wine is the model for these descriptors in the future.