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Vinicola del Priorat

SEP/OCT 14

By Josh Reynolds

2013 Vinicola del Priorat Clos Gebrat Priorat

89

(\$22) (40% garnacha, 35% carinena, 15% merlot, 5% syrah and 5% cabernet sauvignon): Bright violet color. Smoky, youthfully primary aromas of redcurrant and cherry skin, with a hint of white pepper adding lift. Spicy and tightly wound on entry, then fleshier in the middle, offering bitter cherry and floral pastille flavors plus a hint of black tea. Closes with good tangy bite and cut, with dusty tannins adding grip.

2012 Vinicola del Priorat Onix Fusio Priorat

90

(\$33) (40% carinena, 40% garnacha and 20% cabernet sauvignon): Bright purple. Smoky, oak-spiced black and blue fruits on the perfumed nose. Pliant blackberry and cherry compote flavors show good depth and pick up notes of licorice and mocha with air. Open-knit and appealingly sweet, finishing with strong punch and smooth, even tannins.

2011 Vinicola del Priorat Clos Gebrat Priorat

89

(\$22) (40% garnacha, 35% carinena, 15% merlot, 5% syrah and 5% cabernet sauvignon): Brilliant ruby. Spice-accented aromas of black raspberry, cherry and violet, plus a subtle hint of smokiness that builds in the glass. On the palate, fleshy, open-knit cassis and bitter cherry flavors are sharpened by a peppery element. Finishes with firm tannic grip, a touch of bitter chocolate and good length.

2011 Vinicola del Priorat Clos Gebrat Crianza Priorat

91

(\$32) Opaque ruby. Sexy, oak-spiced cherry compote and dark berry aromas are lifted by zesty mineral and cracked pepper notes, with vanilla and woodsmoke qualities in the background. Shows very good energy on the palate, offering bitter cherry and blackcurrant flavors that pick up a spicy nuance with air. Finishes taut, focused and long, with strong punch and smooth tannins sneaking in late.

(The Artisan Collection, www.theartisancollection.com)