

## PREMIER GRAND CRU CLASSÉ

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# Robert Parker's Wine Advocate # 206 – April 2013

92 - 94

Exotic notes of Christmas fruitcake, cedar wood, cassis, espresso roast and chocolate soar from the glass of this sensual, impressively well-endowed 2012. Full-bodied with silky tannin and well-integrated wood, this beauty is a tribute to the impeccable viticulture and fermentation techniques of Neipperg and his head consultant, Stephane Derenoncourt. This wine will be drinkable upon release and should evolve for 15 years. From brilliant proprietor Stephan von Neipperg, this nearly 50-acre vineyard on the foothills of the limestone plateau of St.-Emilion enjoyed low yields of 28 hectoliters per hectare, and the final blend consisted of equal parts Merlot and Cabernet Franc. The natural alcohol is 13.5%, about average on the Right Bank in this vintage.

### Decanter - April 2013

17.25/20 pts (90+/100 pts)

An equal share of Merlot and Cabernet Franc. Fragrant and floral. Attractive mid-palate fruit then long, firm finish. Well judged. (James Lawther MW)

### Jancis Robinson – April 2013

17

50% Merlot, 50% Cabernet Franc – more than usual. Deeply coloured with purple rim. Strong Cabernet Franc character comes through: really zesty fruit with graphite layers. Attractive combination of fruit and dark savour, with the oak showing firmly on the finish at the moment (80% new). But it is fresh too, the tannins fully ripe and compact but not heavy. (JH)

#### Bettane & Desseauve - Avril 2013

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Élégante structure, tannin fin, dans la suavité, ne joue pas la surpuissance, mais a parfaitement compris que la clé du millésime est l'élégance.



Vignobles Comtes von Neipperg