

2001 CELLERS FUENTES GRAN CLOS

RATING: 93 POINTS

DRINK: 2006-2021

The 2001 Gran Clos, a blend of 50% Grenache, 40% Carignan, and 10% Cabernet Sauvignon, is a big offering. An inky/purple color accompanies sweet aromas of blueberries, blackberries, crushed stones, and flowers. It possesses a velvety texture, a juicy mid-palate, and a long, concentrated, full-bodied, tannic finish. Give it 2-3 years of cellaring, and enjoy it over the following 12-15.

—ROBERT PARKER (APR 2004)

1995 J M FUENTES GRAN CLOS

RATING: 89 POINTS

DRINK: 1998-2013

This is the debut vintage for the 5-acre J. M. Fuentes estate, located in the promising appellation of Priorato. Just under 400 cases of this wine were made. A blend of 80% Grenache, 10% Cabernet Sauvignon, and 10% Carignan, the wine possesses a dark ruby/purple color, dense, kirsch, jammy cherry, toasty aromas, rich, medium to full-bodied, flavors, and wonderful glycerin and sweetness in the long finish. Still an infant in terms of development, it should last for 10-15 years.

—ROBERT PARKER (APR 1998)

2000 CELLERS FUENTES EL PUIG

RATING: 87 POINTS

DRINK: 2004-2009

The medium-bodied 2000 El Puig is an elegant, understated, restrained effort displaying mineral, flower, blueberry, and raspberry fruit characteristics. It needs to be drunk over the next 4-5 years.

—ROBERT PARKER (APR 2004)

2001 CELLERS FUENTES EL PUIG

RATING: 91 POINTS

DRINK: 2007-2014

The compelling 2001 El Puig (a blend of 40% Grenache, 38% Carignan, 18% Cabernet Sauvignon, and the rest Syrah and Merlot) boasts great richness, aromatic complexity, and stature. Blue, red, and black fruits along with notions of liquid minerals, flowers, and toasty oak dominate this rich, impressively built 2001. Give it 2-4 more years of cellaring.

—ROBERT PARKER (APR 2004)

1999 J M FUENTES GRAN CLOS

RATING: 90 POINTS

DRINK: 2003-2013

This limited production cuvee from Priorato is a blend of 70% old vine Grenache and 30% Carignan. The dark ruby/purple-colored 1999 Gran Clos offers up gorgeous aromas of kirsch liqueur, raspberries, and melted licorice. Pure, medium to full-bodied, elegant, and long in the finish, it will drink well for a decade.

—ROBERT PARKER (FEB 2003)

1998 J M FUENTES GRAN CLOS

RATING: 90 POINTS

DRINK: 2004-2019

This internationally-styled effort from Priorato is a blend of 70% Grenache, 20% Carignan, and 10% Cabernet Sauvignon. It displays aggressive levels of toasty new oak as well as concentrated black currant and kirsch liqueur characteristics. While full-bodied, pure, and rich, the oak needs to become better integrated to justify my rating. Nevertheless, there is plenty of depth, and the fruit quality is impeccable. Cellar this 1998 for 3-4 more years, and enjoy it over the following 15+.

—ROBERT PARKER (AUG 2001)

2000 J M FUENTES GRAN CLOS

RATING: 93 POINTS

DRINK: 2003-2015

This limited production cuvee from Priorato is a blend of 70% old vine Grenache and 30% Carignan. Lush, fat, and fleshy is the opaque purple-colored 2000 Gran Clos. Deep, pure, full-bodied, and impressive, it reveals notions of melted licorice intermixed with kirsch liqueur and raspberry fruit. It should drink well for 10-12 years.

—ROBERT PARKER (FEB 2003)