

Wine Spectator – 31/08/2006.

Syrah Shines in Southern France. Two contrasting vintages provide plenty of flavors from Languedoc and Roussillon. By Kim Marcus.

- *Domaine de l'Hortus*, located at the foot of the Montagne de l'Hortus in Pic Saint Loup, produced the powerful yet silky *Hortus Grande Cuvée 2003*-...- many of the best wines come from the Coteaux du Languedoc, a wide-ranging appellation that encompasses scattered top terroirs. The leader of the pack in the Coteaux is Jean Orliac at Domaine de l'Hortus. His Pic St-Loup *Grande Cuvée 2003* is almost Burgundian in style, with elegant, seductive red fruit flavors and silky tannins.- ... – another interesting white is the Domaine de l'Hortus Grande Cuvée, a ripe and structured blend of mostly barrel-fermented Chardonnay, topped off by tank-fermented Viognier. Both these wines (with Prieure St-Jean de Bebian) come from low-vineyards, a key to quality in the south.- Kim Marcus.

2003 Coteaux du Languedoc Pic Saint Loup Domaine de l'Hortus Grande Cuvée : 93.

Powerful, exotic and luscious red fruit, meat and Asian spice. Silky tannins. Chocolate and licorice filled finish. Drink now through 2015.

2004 Vdp du Val de Montferrand Domaine de l'Hortus Grande Cuvée : 91.