

Champagne Lilbert-Fils Cramant (Côte des Blancs)



This winemaker of great tradition has long been the reference point for grand cru Cramant.

-Bettane & Desseauve

Lilbert is one of the best-kept secrets in Champagne.

-Michael Franz, winereviewonline.com, December 2017

Lilbert makes classic Côte des Blancs champagnes of great purity, finesse and expression. They emphasize a brisk raciness and intensely chalky minerality, and while both the Perle and the vintage wine demonstrate the intensity and complex depth of old-vine chardonnay, they are focused much more on elegance and harmony than on power. The only problem with these wines is finding them, as the tiny production is eagerly snapped up upon release by a near-cult following of clientele around the world.

-Peter Liem, Champagne Guide 2014

Grand Cru Blanc de Blancs NV

Suave, mineral-driven citrus and orchard fruit aromas are complicated by jasmine, green tea, sweet butter and iodine. Nervy and pure on the palate, offering intense lime, orange pith and green apple flavors that flesh out with aeration. The mineral quality comes back emphatically on the finish, which clings with excellent tenacity and appealing floral character.

92 points- Josh Reynolds, Vinous Media, January 2015

The following have also reviewed this wine:

- 92 points- Alison Napjus, The Wine Spectator, November 15, 2017
- 92 points- Allen Meadows, Burghound #67, 3rd Quarter 2017
- 91 points- John Gilman, View from the Cellar #69, May-June 2017
- 90+ points- John Gilman, View from the Cellar #65, September-October 2016
- 91 points- Allen Meadows, Burghound #64, 4th Quarter 2016
- 93 points- Alison Napjus, The Wine Spectator, Web, October 2015
- 92 points- Alison Napjus, The Wine Spectator, November 30, 2014
- 93 points- Wayne Belding, winereviewonline.com, September 16, 2014
- 91 points- Josh Reynolds, Stephen Tanzer's International Wine Cellar, December 2013
- 91 points- Alison Napjus, The Wine Spectator, Web 2013
- 94 points- Michael Franz, winereviewonline.com, May 1, 2012
- 91+ points- John Gilman, View from the Cellar, #34, July-August 2011
- 91 points- Allen Meadows, Burghound.com, #36, 4th quarter, 2009
- 91 points- Antonio Galloni, The Wine Advocate, #192
- 94 points- Ed McCarthy, winereviewonline.com, May 9, 2006

Blanc de Blancs “Perle” NV

This gorgeous effort begins with a notably restrained nose that only reluctantly offers up shy scents of lemon rind, green apple and cool pear. The refreshing and equally cool flavors are strikingly refined and energetic with an exceptionally fine bead to the supporting mousse, all wrapped in wonderfully authoritative, balanced and focused finish that lasts and lasts. This understated and ultra-pure effort is flat out terrific combining power and finesse.

94 points- Allen Meadows, Burghound.com , 1st quarter, 2013

The following have also reviewed this wine:

- 94 points- Michael Franz, winereviewonline.com, December 2017
- 92 points- Antonio Galloni, Vinous Media, December 2017
- 93 points- Wine & Spirits Magazine (Year’s Best Champagnes), December 2017
- 93 points- Alison Napjus, The Wine Spectator, November 15, 2017
- 92 points- John Gilman, A View from the Cellar, #69, May-June 2017
- 93 points- Josh Reynolds, Vinous Media, January 2015

2010 Blanc de Blancs Cramant

The vintage-dated bottling from Libbert-Fils hails entirely from their vineyards in the village of Cramant, with the 2010 having been finished with a dosage of five grams per liter. The wine spent fully five years aging on its fine lees prior to disgorgement. The bouquet is deep, complex and very classy, offering up scents of pear, apple, toasted almond, lovely limestone minerality, a touch of crème patissière, spring flowers and plenty of upper register smokiness. On the palate, the wine is pure, full-bodied, crisp and complex, with a rock solid core, frothy mousse, excellent focus and grip and a very long, very well-balanced and still fairly youthful finish. This is quite easy to drink today, but it is clearly still climbing in quality and four or five years in the cellar are going to return handsome dividends! Excellent juice. 2016-2035+

93 points- John Gilman, The View from the Cellar #65, September-October 2016

This is stylistically similar to the NV Brut with its distinctly understated nose that is no more expressive though it is more complex as the cool, restrained and airy aromas display subtle notes of various citrus, white orchard fruit, floral and discreet yeast elements. There is excellent intensity to the racy flavors where the supporting effervescence is even finer on the bone dry, crisp and inviting finish. This is quite a bit drier than the 5 g/L of RS would suggest and while it’s not austere, it flirts with it. I would describe this as a ‘sipping’ Champagne rather than a ‘gulpable’ one as this classy effort demands attention. I would further note that this is very, very young and I wouldn’t touch a bottle for another 6 to 8 years. In a word, lovely.

93 points/ 2022+- Allen Meadows, Burghound #67, 3rd Quarter 2017

Fine and minerally, with chalk and smoke accents underscoring the flavors of baked pear, almond biscotti and spring blossom, all riding the satin-like mousse. Intense and racy on the lasting finished.

93 points- Allison Napjus, The Wine Spectator, November 30, 2017

The following has also reviewed this wine:

94 points – Wine & Spirits Magazine (Year’s Best Champagnes), December 2017