

The Washington Post

By [Dave McIntyre](#), Published: January 7 2014

Recommendations

★ ★ ★ Exceptional

Domaine Sainte Cécile du Parc

Notes Franches 2010

★ ★ ★

Languedoc, France

The Languedoc region has become France's wine laboratory, and this beautiful wine shows what can be achieved with modern vineyard techniques (such as dense spacing) and organic farming on ancient soils (the land has been growing grapes for more than a century). The blend is cabernet franc with some merlot, a Bordeaux mix unusual for this part of France. The wine is dense and heady, with savory herbs and dark berries and grippy tannins that seem to come from deep within the earth. Alcohol by volume: 14.5 percent.