

Champagne Lilbert-Fils Cramant (Côte des Blancs)



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

Blanc de Blancs NV

"This is made of equal parts 2005 and 2004, blended from Cramant, Chouilly and Oiry. It's brisk and lively, showing vibrant notes of grapefruit, lemon peel and fresh apple, underlined by a firm presence of chalk. While it's an intensely soil-driven wine, this in no way detracts from its sheer drinkability, and I have a lot of trouble keeping any of this wine in the glass. It's outstanding in quality for a non-vintage brut."

Peter Liem, ChampagneGuide.net (rated one and one-half of three stars; last tasted 11/08)

The following have also reviewed this wine:

91 points- Josh Reynolds, Stephen Tanzer's International Wine Cellar (December, 2011)

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)

2005 Blanc de Blancs

"The 2005 Lilbert-Fils vintage Brut is a beautiful example of Cramant chardonnay..."

John Gilman, View from the Cellar, #34 (July-August 2011)

"Vivid yellow-gold. Pungent aromas of pear, orange zest, jasmine, chalk and spices, with a suave note of toasty lees in the background. At once fleshy and energetic on the palate, offering zesty citrus and orchard fruit flavors that pick up minerality with air. Finishes taut and precise, with lingering notes of musky herbs and bitter citrus zest. This should age nicely."

92 points- Josh Reynolds, Stephen Tanzer's International Wine Cellar (November/December 2011)

2004 Blanc de Blancs

“Light, bright yellow with a fine bead. Highly expressive aromas of pink grapefruit, lemon zest, honeysuckle and dusty minerals. Nervy but surprisingly deep, offering palate-staining citrus and pear flavors and an exotic floral quality on the back end. The mineral element adds urgency to the long, sappy, very precise finish. I really like this wine's balance.”

92 points- Josh Reynolds, Stephen Tanzer's International Wine Cellar (Nov/Dec 2009)

The following has also reviewed this wine:

91 points- Antonio Galloni, The Wine Advocate, #192

2002 Blanc de Blancs Cramant

“This is made from two vineyards in Cramant: three-quarters of it comes from old vines in Les Buissons, on the flanks of the Butte de Saran near Chouilly, and the rest of it is from Moyens, on the Cuis side of the village. The old-vine Cramant character is immediately apparent, with a dark, brooding depth and complete, nearly three-dimensional feel. There's a hint of currant-like fruitiness in the center that becomes more prominent with air, surrounded by complex aromas of pear, lemon peel and verbena, all pinned down by an insistent note of chalk. It's utterly gorgeous in its harmony and poise, demonstrating a strong personality while remaining discreetly refined and composed. Give it another decade or more in the cellar and you will be amply rewarded.”

Peter Liem, ChampagneGuide.net (rated two and one-half of three stars)

The following have also reviewed this wine:

92 points- Allen Meadows, Burghound.com, Issue 36 (4th quarter, 2009)

92 points- Bruce Sanderson, Wine Spectator (May 6, 2009)

96 points- Michael Franz, winereviewonline.com (December 25, 2007)