

Élément de Ch Civrac 2007 Côtes de Bourg 16.5 Drink now
100% Merlot, but made in the style of Pinot Noir. Strawberry, slight stalk tones, definite earthy and gamey character. Certainly akin to Beaune with smoke, light body, and light tannin. In fact, this is so Pinot-esque in style they had difficulty in achieving the Côtes de Bourg classification, the powers that be claiming it was too atypical to carry the appellation. Easy-going but absolutely spot-on and decidedly better than many low-priced Merlots or Pinots, offering a very decent level of complexity. 11.5% (RH)

Jancis Robinson.com, 9 Jan 2009 by Richard Hemming