



# LA PÈIRA

EN DAMAISELA

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[March 2013](#)

## Genius Loci: Andrew Jefford in Decanter on the La Pèira Vintages 2005-10



La Pèira Bois de Pauliau | Photo Credit: Georges Souche

"They could be the work of a genius"

Andrew Jefford - Decanter - March 2013

Andrew Jefford writing at [Decanter.com](http://Decanter.com) on a recent vertical tasting of the La Pèira vintages 2005-2010 suggests, "They could be the work of a genius".

After casting around for possibilities, he finally settles on *Genius Loci*, the Roman term for the protective spirit of a place.

That place? The *Bois de Pauliau* (pictured above) where the ground is "deep glacial rubble", "stony, but not austere", and "bright but ventilated"; "For the Languedoc, it feels almost Médoc-like".

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As for the wines: "Every time I get a chance to taste these wines, they bring me uncommon pleasure. They are concentrated, perfumed, fleshy, heady, allusive and beguiling. Every bottle is drained to the last drop. As I polish the glasses afterwards, I begin looking forward to the next time."

## The Vertical Tasting

"I tasted La Pèira 2005 to 2010, and Matissat 2007 to 2010. These wines are expensive (£63 per bottle for La Pèira, and £50 for Matissat, from Berry Bros) [\$130.00, and \$105 in the US], but worth it for anyone whose circumstances allow purchases of that sort. The decent Les Obriers is £15.95 from the same source, but I would rather save up and have one bottle of the indecent La Pèira than four of Les Obriers. Las Flors at £27 is perhaps the canniest buy: La Pèira writ small. (That's still large.)"

## Andrew Jefford's Notes on the Wines

### La Pèira 2005

La Pèira 2005: "profound, and good for a half-century of ageing"

"I don't suppose they'll ever make another wine like the 2005 La Pèira (for which yields were a barely sane 9 hl/ha): this Gargantua of the Languedoc remains rich, mouth-coating, essence-like, profound, and good for a half-century of ageing." Andrew Jefford Decanter March 2013 [[Wine Searcher link for La Pèira 2005](#)

[vintage](#)]

### La Pèira 2006

La Pèira 2006: "the most beautiful of all so far; more Venus de Milo than Gargantua"

"If you have any of the 2006 La Pèira — lucky you. In aesthetic terms, I think this is the most beautiful of all so far; more Venus de Milo than Gargantua. Milky, gentle, graceful, poised and Pomerol-like, with perfectly judged black-fruit ripeness and svelte, sumptuous tannins." Andrew Jefford Decanter March 2013 [[Wine Searcher link for the La Pèira 2006 vintage](#)]

### La Pèira 2007

La Pèira 2007: "The 2007 is the Grange of the set"

"The 2007 is the Grange of the set: a multi-layered, exotic cocktail of everything you might want a wine from hereabouts to be, with cascading texture and depth." Andrew Jefford Decanter March 2013 [[Wine Searcher link for the La Pèira 2007 vintage](#)]

### La Pèira 2008

La Pèira 2008: "Just as good, for me, is the 2008"

"Just as good [as the 2007], for me, is the 2008: less evident extravagance than in the 2007, but more elemental complexity, as elderberries take over from plums, leather and meat qualifies the fruit, and the finish grows stonier." [[Wine Searcher link for the La Pèira 2009 vintage](#)]

### La Pèira 2009

La Pèira 2009: "deep-drizzled ripeness, perfume and incipient sweetness"

"I once called La Pèira a liqueur of the garrigue, and the 2009 seems to summarise that deep-drizzled ripeness, perfume and incipient sweetness." [[Wine Searcher link for the La Pèira 2019 vintage](#)]

### La Pèira 2010

La Pèira 2010: "another monument-in-waiting: peacock-like in terms of its aromatic allusions"

"The 2010 looks like another monument-in-waiting: peacock-like in terms of its aromatic allusions (plant essences, crushed roots and pounded stones). It's hard to believe that this powerful and searching wine contains no Mourvèdre." [[Wine Searcher link for the La Pèira 2010 vintage](#)]