

Bargylus 2009 Syria

17

Full bottle 1,356 g. 50% Syrah, 25% Cabernet Sauvignon and 25% Merlot.

Lustrous shaded garnet with a ruby-to-rust rim. Very rich and gorgeous on the nose. Not quite as dense and concentrated as the three following vintages on the palate but sweet and beguiling until the finish which is just – only just – starting to dry out. But this is still very much a vigorous, persistent, intriguing, highly distinctive wine made in a unique corner of the world. (JR)

Producer	Bargylus
Appellation	Syria
Region	Syria
Country	Syria
Colour	Red
Alcohol	14.8%
Score	17
When to drink	2018 – 2030
Published on	24 Jun 2025
Date tasted	16 Jun 2025
Reviewer	Jancis Robinson

Bargylus 2010 Syria 16.5+

Full bottle 1,333 g. 60% Syrah, 20% Cabernet Sauvignon and 20% Merlot.

Blackish shaded garnet. These wines hold their colour very well! Good tang to this on the nose somehow – I might take it for a Super Tuscan; it has the same sort of glamour (and alcohol!). Sweet palate entry. This wine really massages the inside of the mouth until the tannins kick in – much more markedly than on the 2011 and 2012. Were extraction techniques different in 2010? This tastes like the produce of a particularly dry growing season, but perhaps they all are? There's a certain sweet ink quality. Thanks to those tannins, I'd ideally wait awhile for this, or aerate it avidly. (JR)

Producer	Bargylus
Appellation	Syria
Region	Syria
Country	Syria
Colour	Red
Alcohol	15.5%
Score	16.5 +
When to drink	2026 – 2036
Published on	24 Jun 2025
Date tasted	16 Jun 2025

Bargylus 2011 Syria

17

Full bottle 1,330 g. 60% Cabernet Sauvignon, 20% Syrah and 20% Merlot.

Slightly less deep, rich garnet colour than the 2012. Cabernet takes the stage on the nose of this vintage – very much the dominant force and therefore a slightly slimmer, fresher wine than the 2012 – though arguably more conventional. What might I take it for if served it blind? There's a hint of something vaguely cheesy on the nose and very ripe blackcurrants on the finish. I might veer towards Napa but it's not quite as sweet as a stereotypical Napa Cab. And there's an extra spicy dimension. Finishes dry and appetising. (JR)

Producer	Bargylus
Appellation	Syria
Region	Syria
Country	Syria
Colour	Red
Alcohol	14%
Score	17
When to drink	2021 – 2033
Published on	24 Jun 2025
Date tasted	16 Jun 2025

Bargylus 2012 Syria

17.5

Full bottle (with dried-out cork still in the neck) 1,350 g. 60% Syrah, 20% Cabernet Sauvignon and 20% Merlot.

Still vibrant deep garnet with ruby rim. Powerfully ripe, well-developed and well-integrated nose. Very alluring. Eastern promise indeed! Spicy, fully evolved, warm-climate Syrah held in check by the structure of Cabernet. Long, complex with ripe balsam notes on the finish. (JR)

Producer	Bargylus
Appellation	Syria
Region	Syria
Country	Syria
Colour	Red
Alcohol	14.5%
Score	17.5
When to drink	2020 – 2030
Published on	24 Jun 2025
Date tasted	16 Jun 2025
Reviewer	Jancis Robinson