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Isaac James Baker, who is currently chipping away at a master's in fiction writing, has worked as a freelance writer, editor, and reporter. He's worked the wine bar, the harvest, the crush, and is attempting to make Chardonnay in Virginia. Follow him [@IsaacJamesBaker](#).

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[Review: 2011 Calmel + J Joseph Saint-Chinian](#) - *France, Languedoc, Saint-Chinian*

SRP: \$13

Aromas of juicy blackberries and plums, smoke, sweet lavender, charcoal. Nice grip to the tannins, pervasive freshness, it forms a silky texture. Darker and more structured than the 2011 Faugeres, this wine shows rich blackberry and currant fruit, mixed in with a hefty dose of pepper, dusty soil and smoke. A nice kick of lavender and rosemary on the finish. Full and plush, but there's a lot going on in here. 60% Syrah, 30% Grenache and 10% Carignan. (89 points IJB)