

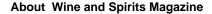
## CHAMPAGNE BOLLINGER

Extra brut R.D. - 2nd Disgorgement 2002



## 97 POINTS

"When we tasted the 2002 Grande Annee in 2012 the wine earned 95 points, impressive for its pale chalk power, its muscularity and the freshness it expressed as a ten-year-old wine. It had the scent of a sunny meadow. With two years of additional time on the lees and a lower dosage, the R.D. version of that wine is more extreme. If you break it apart you might consider how the barrel-aged base wines from 23 crus intensify the structure, or how the acidity of the vintage has sustained the bright, buzzing freshness of the peach and apple flavors. The fruit seems to be wedded to rock, so strong is the chalk streak of limestone. And yet the resonance of the wine, subsuming all of those factors, brings it together in a sumptuous texture, making it a pleasure to drink even now. It's more sensible, however, to wait. In ten years, this should begin to fulfill its promise, at the start of its prime."



Founded in 1982, Wine & Spirits is published eight times a year and read by over 200,000 members of America's wine community. Consumers and wine professionals read the magazine for information on established and up-and-coming regions and producers, the art and science of viticulture, industry happenings and food and wine pairing. Wine & Spirits, the only wine publication to win the James Beard award five times for excellence in wine writing, evaluates more than 13,000 bottlings every year.





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