

PRESS REVIEW

Years 2024-2021

Le Monde

January 21st, 2020



The organic spirit of Albéric Bichot

Proud of his 47 certifications, this Burgundian producer advocates a “change of mindset” regarding the use of pesticides.

His christian name may be unusual, but he himself tends not to put himself above the parapet. Albéric Bichot shows all the signs of disarming modesty: softly spoken, attentive, simply dressed and gently smiling. Surrounded by a group of grape pickers and sat at the end of the table, he shows no signs of being the boss. He calls them his colleagues and they, in return, speak of “our estates”. He explains “there are no gurus or worker hierarchy”.

Does he take on too much? He is after all one of the four largest traditional wine merchants in Burgundy: since 1996, he has been head of the house of Albert Bichot in Beaune, a family business that goes back six generations. He manages 105 hectares of vineyard and six domaines which extend from the north to the south of the region, taking in Chablis, Moulin-à-Vent, Côte-de-Nuits and Côte-de-Beaune.

He also buys in grapes from 70 partner growers across a further 350 hectares: grapes that will end up as Albert Bichot wine. No less than 137 different wines in fact, reflecting the veritable mosaic that is the Burgundy vineyard. The smallest production is of the magnificent Richebourg Grand Cru - barely 300 bottles, the fruit of a parcel of just 0.06 ha of vines. The largest is the fine Chablis that comes from Domaine Long-Depaquit (40 hectares), producing an average of 180,000 bottles a year. He employs 172 people and runs a business that turns over €60 million. What’s more, he is the dominant buyer at the historic Hospices de Beaune wine auction, spending €2.8 million in 2019.

“A honeypot for big money”

He is therefore a man of stature, living in an elegant house in Pommard. However, before taking you to look at his vines, he shows you his prestigious neighbours in Morey-Saint-Denis where a steep track divides two vineyards. On the one side, Clos de Tart which belongs to François Pinault, on the other Clos des Lambrays which belongs to Bernard Arnault - two minute vineyards that these two business moguls each bought for a fortune. “This area is a honeypot for big money.”

Albéric Bichot is worried about the investors who are driving land values. “When I hear that there is a vineyard for sale, it is often very expensive and too late. I would be foolish to saddle the business with debt simply for the sake of a couple of rows of vines; I prefer to buy the grapes I need”. He has a saying “In Bourgogne, values are in decline but value is on the up”.

One of his values is to take an active interest in his neighbours. “We live here in vineyards packed tightly side by side. We cannot just shut ourselves up in our château: we must coexist with our neighbours, respect the community. Especially because this is an oasis where we have full employment - we need to remind ourselves how lucky we are.”

It has to be said that Albéric Bichot is keen to support the region as much as his own estates. For example he is patron of no less than six festivals and events, one of which is “Livres en Vignes” (Books amongst the Vines) at the Clos Vougeot. Does he feel Burgundian? “Of course! I have travelled widely, but I have my roots here.....”. In fact in 1983, he undertook his first expedition to the far north of Canada, accompanied by Nicolas Vanier. He also went as far as Adélie Land in Antarctica (Adélie is the christian name of his daughter), has shining eyes when he talks about the writer Jack London, spent a day in 1989 in Polynesia with Paul-Emile Victor, his childhood hero, and met Jean-Louis Etienne before his second expedition to Canada’s far north in 1997.

“My convictions are a result of my travels”. Key is that wine harms neither nature nor those who live in the vines. He explains “We must never forget that wine is a luxury product, not a necessity. We can get by without luxuries, especially if they are harmful. It is totally reasonable that society expects grape growers to be accountable for the pesticides they use. In the vineyard we need a change of mindset.”

This is precisely what he is practising. His 36 hectares of vineyard in Côte-de-Nuits, Côte-de-Beaune and Côte Chalonnaise have had organic certification with Ecocert since 2014. The 65 hectares of Domaine Long-Depaquit in Chablis were certified Haute Valeur Environnementale (HVE) - Level 3, the highest level - in 2019. He is currently undertaking some major trials on organics there in 9 hectares of Premier and Grand Cru vineyards to understand better the nature of the soils in this coolest part of Burgundy. Furthermore, 30 hectares of the grapes that he buys in are also organically farmed, and this figure will continue to increase. As he reasons with his neighbours “If their land is treated with chemicals, we should at least talk about it!”

With wines from 47 different appellations certified as organic, Albert Bichot probably offers the largest variety of organic wines in Burgundy. But the certification has only been mentioned on the wine labels since 2018. “What point is there in making a song and dance about being organic only to revert to conventional viticulture two years later when there is a difficult year?” 2019, for instance, was chaotic climatically and the harvest was half that of 2018. But such ups and downs will not make him change course. “We are totally committed to this, we have reviewed all our processes and we have trained our workers accordingly” explains Christophe Chauvel, vineyard manager, who adds “I have seen estates that go organic for short-term commercial advantage and end up giving up on it. Whereas here, you cannot imagine how excited I am about it.”

2022 Côte de Nuits reds

Assistant technical director Cyrille Jacquelin (who is also responsible for the Clos Frantin wines) commented that 2022 "initially confronted us with similar concerns that manifested themselves in 2021 but because almost everyone, us included, is now pruning later, we managed to largely avoid any serious frost damage. However, our vines in Gevrey did suffer some June storm damage that had a minor effect on yields. The flowering passed reasonably well with relatively little shatter though June, which was warm and wet, did have a short period where the mildew was threatening but once the season turned dry and hot, it was quickly over. There was however some blocage due to hydric stress and as such, the véraison was extended. This also complicated picking dates so we started with the Bichot vines on the 25th of August and then followed with the domaine vines on the 30th. The fruit was clean and ripe so there wasn't much sorting necessary. Yields were the best we've had since 2018 at between 40 to 45 hl/ha with pretty much perfect potential alcohols between 13 and 13.5%. Acidities, while certainly not high, were sufficient to avoid problems and maintain the proper balance. We used from 25 to 35% whole clusters, which I think helped with the freshness that the wines are displaying today. As to the wines, I wouldn't describe them as exactly classic, they have just the right amount of ripeness and freshness to be appealing while allowing the underlying terroir to be recognizable. In sum, I really quite like the wines, both qualitatively and stylistically." I would agree with Jacquelin as these are some of the best wines I've seen from the maison side of Bichot in several vintages.

2022 Bourgogne Côte d'Or Secret de Famille: 86 **TOP VALUE SELECTION**

Bright aromas include those of both red and dark pinot fruit, spice and a whiff of violet. There is fine richness, especially for a wine at this level, to the vibrant flavors that possess good volume that seems to build on the rustic and acceptably persistent finish. While this could be enjoyed young, I suspect that 2 to 3 years of keeping would help to add depth. 2025+

2022 Bourgogne Côte d'Or "Clos Frantin" Domaine du Clos Frantin: 86-89

Bright and fresh aromas include those of red cherry, raspberry and an interesting hint of spiced tea. There is good volume and richness to the delicious middleweight flavors that possess a succulent mid-palate. This is a very good effort for its level and one that should repay a few years of keeping if desired. 2026+

2022 Gevrey-Chambertin "Les Murots" Domaine du Clos Frantin: 89-91

Deft but not invisible wood frames ripe and distinctly earthy and sauvage-suffused aromas that enjoy a floral top note. There is both excellent intensity and volume to the delicious medium-bodied flavors that are supported by unusually bright acidity in the context of the 2022 vintage, all wrapped in a balanced, youthfully austere and only moderately rustic finale. This crunchy effort could be enjoyed young or held for up to a decade. 2030+

2022 Gevrey-Chambertin "Les Evocelles": 89-92 **TOP VALUE SELECTION**

This is the most floral wine in the range at present with a cool and restrained array of red and blue pinot fruit, violet, lavender and crushed fennel aromas. The notably refined and intense middleweight flavors also flash ample minerality on the beautifully textured and youthfully austere finale. This is an excellent Gevrey villages and worth your interest. 2030+

2022 Nuits St. Georges 1^{er} Cru "Chaînes Carteaux": 90-93

Here the wood is slightly more prominent though still discreet on the slightly riper liqueur-like aromas of red and black cherry, earth and a hint of crushed fennel. There is even better energy to the middleweight flavors that are a combination of power and seductiveness, all wrapped in a less refined but more complex finale. This is clearly from Nuits but not to the point of rusticity. 2032+

2022 Nuits St. Georges 1^{er} Cru "Château-Gris": 89-92

A cool, airy and ripe nose combines notes of both red and dark currant, spice and a violet top note. There is better volume and richness than usual to the overtly mineral-driven middleweight flavors that conclude in a moderately austere and lingering finish. At least some patience should prove to be beneficial. 2030+

2022 Morey St. Denis 1^{er} Cru "Les Sorbets": 90-92

A deft application of wood easily permits the cool and relatively perfumed aromas of red berries, dark currant and warm earth to be appreciated. The finer medium-bodied flavors are plump and round while retaining a lovely sense of vibrancy that carries over to the nicely long and balanced finish where the supporting tannins are noticeably fine-grained. 2030+

Burghound.com 2022 Vintage Selections: The "Top Value Wines" are those that are generally available in the marketplace at a price point of no more than approximately \$100 US; The "Sweet Spot Wines" section addresses the wide gulf between the under \$100 Top Value wines and the generally over \$350 "Don't Miss Wines."

2022 Côte de Nuits reds**2022 Vosne-Romanée *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: 89-91**

A spicier and less earthy combination features notes of the very pretty essence of red cherry, exotic tea and a hint of incense. There is once again and really lovely texture to the succulent and nicely refined medium weight flavors that possess fine mid-palate density where the dry extract helps to buffer the moderately firm tannic spine supporting the powerful finish. 2030+

2022 Chambolle-Musigny 1^{er} Cru "Les Chabiots": 91-93

There is enough reduction present to overshadow the fruit though a touch of spice does peek through the funk. The rich and caressing medium weight flavors possess a seductive mid-palate texture that contrasts somewhat with the powerful, serious and solidly constructed finish that offers excellent length. There is a perceptible hint of warmth but overall, this is quite promising provided you cellar it for at least a few years first. 2032+

2022 Chambolle-Musigny 1^{er} Cru "Les Amoureuses": 91-94**SWEET SPOT WINE**

This is also moderately reduced at present. Otherwise there is both good richness and vibrancy to the utterly delicious medium-bodied flavors that exude evident minerality on the tightly wound, balanced and youthfully austere finale that also displays a touch of backend warmth. This is both lovely and classy though clearly in need of at least mid-term cellaring. 2034+

2022 Vosne-Romanée 1^{er} Cru "Les Malconsorts" *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: 92-94

(from a large 1.76 ha parcel). Here the even spicier nose is comprised by notes of red cherry, dark currant and a lovely array of floral elements. There is excellent volume, concentration and power to the vibrant larger-bodied flavors that retain good focus on the dusty, sappy, firmly austere and compact finale. It's indisputably built-to-age and extended patience will absolutely be necessary. 2034+

2022 Latricières-Chambertin Grand Cru: 92-94

Enough wood to merit mentioning frames spicy, cool and airy aromas of various red berries, the sauvage, plenty of floral influence as well as a hint of wet stone character. There is again excellent volume to the impressively intense medium weight flavors that brim with both minerality and dry extract where the latter helps to buffer the firm tannins supporting the youthfully austere, compact and built-to-age finale. Good stuff but patience needed. 2034+

2022 Clos de Vougeot Grand Cru *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: 91-94

(from a .72 ha parcel). More evident wood and menthol nuances stop short of fighting with the cool and surprisingly high-toned aromas of ripe essence of red currant and soft earth scents. There is impressive richness to the succulent, even seductive, medium weight plus flavors that also flash focused power on the firm, youthfully austere and highly compact finish. Like the Malconsorts, this is a 'buy and forget you own it' wine. 2034+

2022 Echézeaux Grand Cru *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: 90-92

(from a .99 ha parcel in Champs Traversin). Relatively generous wood actually does fight somewhat with the spicy and fresh mix of mostly red cherry and lavender scents. The rich, plump and seductively textured medium weight flavors possess good punch. There is sufficient structure for this to age and improve over the next 15 years that much more depth may well develop. 2034+

2022 Grands-Echézeaux *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: 92-94

(from a .6 ha parcel). An attractively spicy nose combines a wide range of elements that include red and dark cherry, raspberry, violet, exotic tea and sandalwood. The super-sleek yet solidly intense and powerful big-bodied flavors are shaped by firm yet relatively fine-grained tannins on the youthfully austere finish. This is a big wine with the structure to match and as such, it's very much going to need a long snooze in a cool cellar. 2037+

2022 Chambertin *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: 92-95

Here the moderately wooded nose is sufficiently reduced as to be difficult to properly read. More interesting are the supple and caressing but quite punchy larger-bodied flavors that brim with minerality on the austere, compact and saliva-inducing finish that delivers simply huge length. This does need to develop better depth but given the extended potential aging curve, more complexity will almost certainly develop. 2037+

2022 Richebourg Grand Cru *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: 92-95

A moderately toasty nose grudgingly offers up its aromas of exotic tea, orange peel, various red berries and a nice array of floral elements. The rich and bold yet reasonably refined larger-scaled flavors possess fine mid-palate density thanks to the mouthcoating sap that helps to buffer the very firm and austere tannic spice shaping the impressively long finale. This is borderline old school in style so it's not going to drink well early, indeed I would advise not even thinking about opening a bottle for at least 10 years. 2037+

Burghound.com 2022 Vintage Selections: The "Top Value Wines" are those that are generally available in the marketplace at a price point of no more than approximately \$100 US; The "Sweet Spot Wines" section addresses the wide gulf between the under \$100 Top Value wines and the generally over \$350 "Don't Miss Wines."

CHABLIS 2022



Christy Canterbury MW

2022, Chablis Moutonne Grand Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit

Neon yellow in color, this vibrates with youthful energy and quivering acidity. The richly fruited medium body tastes of pluots and nectarines layered with sweet spices. The pastry crust flavors of the finish go on and on. As usual, this is a dynamo of a wine. It's impressive now but will only become more enticing.

95

2022, Chablis Les Clos Grand Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit

The pristine clean fruit soars from the glass: sweet yellow plums, ripe jackfruit and lemon zest. The medium body is finely balanced by tightly wound acidity. Fresh mushroom and chalk undertones break into the solid finish.

95

2022, Chablis Bougros Grand Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit

Incredibly floral with delicate spring flowers, this turns into liberally spiced baked peaches and crumble topping on the palate. Voluptuous, layered and vibrant, this was the most immediately charming of the Grand Crus at this domaine. But its marked concentration shows that it will show well down the road, too.

95

2022, Chablis Les Vaudésirs Grand Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit

This shows an enticing apple cider and tarte tatin nose. The attack is broad and showy with excellent juiciness and ample concentration. The structure is finessed and seamless, effectively hidden behind all of the baby fat. This will be a crowd pleaser!

94

2022, Chablis Les Blanchots Grand Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit

Italian lemon ice, baked puff pastry and kitchen spice sing on the nose. The fruit purity is impressive, and the sculpting acidity gracefully structures the medium body. Gimonnet says this wine tends to firm up once it has been in bottle for a while. So try one early if you can't resist, but then let the others sit for several years.

94

2022, Chablis Les Preuses Grand Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit

Neon yellow in color, this has a dashing, forward nose of toasted spices, pie crust and juicy pears. The palate is tantalizingly smooth, and the acidity is fresh but integrated. The finish adds on a light pastry cream note.

94

2022, Chablis Les Vaucopins 1er Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit

Clean and fresh with golden apple core, sea salt and Brazil nut, this is layered, nuanced and compelling. Winemaker Louis Gimonnet says that the grapes here—on vines sitting on a 45% slope—are microscopic in size!

93

2022, Chablis Montmains 1er Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit

Notably ripe and flatteringly fruity, this is a mouthful of succulent cantaloupe and buttered, toasted brioche. The palate has a lightly custardy feel, but there is ample, supporting acidity. This is a rather voluptuous Premier Cru that is good for those looking for a less chiseled bottling.

92

2022, Chablis Les Lys 1er Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit

Fresh brie and chalk start off the aromas. The medium-bodied palate has good flavor concentration with generous, earthy undertones. The medium finish has a crunchy texture, making this a great wine for the table.

92

2022, Chablis Les Vaillons 1er Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit

This smells of dried spices. The supple palate has good, apple-driven intensity before the finish layers on water crackers and raw oatmeal.

92

2022, Chablis Les Beugnons 1er Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit

Few producers declare Les Beugnons on the label. Tucked into the end of the Valvan valley, it offers a relatively cool expression of the bigger and generally sunny Vaillons climat. Yellow apple skin, freshly-drawn milk and almonds mesh on the crisp, lively palate.

91

2022, Chablis, Domaine Long-Depaquit

Surprisingly textured on the attack for a wine that sees only stainless steel, this feels bright with acidic tang. Herbs, straw and flint dominate the nose and palate, giving this a leaner profile than many of the more fruit-driven Chablis village wines in this vintage.

88



VINTAGE 2022



Taster: William Kelley

January 2024

It had been some years since my last visit to this historic producer, and my tasting with Alberic Bichot and technical director Matthieu Mangenot focused on their domaine cuvées, all farmed organically and certified as such, complemented by some of the highlights of their négociant portfolio. The various domaine holdings are managed separately by independent teams in the Côte d'Or, divided between Domaine de Clos Frantin and the Château Gris, both in Nuits-Saint-Georges, and the Domaine de Pavillon in Pommard, reinforcing the link between the vines and the winery. The style here is elegant and understated, privileging purity of fruit and gentle extraction, a formula that worked well in 2022. Whites are bottled under Diam technical closures to ensure consistency in aging from bottle to bottle. All in all, as the notes attest, this is a very solid portfolio that reflects the house's progress over the last decade.

COTE DE NUITS REDS

Chambertin Grand Cru Domaine du Clos Frantin 2022

93-95

There are only four barrels of the 2022 Chambertin Grand Cru, but it's the king of the cellar chez Bichot, bursting with aromas of cherries, dark berries, smoked duck, exotic spices and orange rind. Full-bodied, ample and satiny, it's layered and concentrated, with a deep core of lively fruit and a long, resonant finish.

Echezeaux Grand Cru Domaine du Clos Frantin 2022

90-92

From a parcel that's gradually being replanted with superior vine genetics, the 2022 Echézeaux Grand Cru delivers notes of plums, berries, petals and spices, followed by a medium to full-bodied, bright and fine-boned palate, with good persistence on the finish.

Clos de Vougeot Grand Cru Domaine du Clos Frantin 2022

90-92

The 2022 Clos de Vougeot Grand Cru opens in the glass with aromas of raspberries, plums, spices and blood orange, followed by a medium to full-bodied, supple and layered palate that's suave and charming; indeed, it's less overtly structured than the domaine's Malconsorts.

Vosne-Romanée 1^{er} Cru Les Malconsorts Domaine du Clos Frantin 2022

90-92

The 2022 Vosne-Romanée 1er Cru Les Malconsorts opens in the glass with notes of plums, sweet exotic spices and petals, followed by a medium to full-bodied, ample and vibrant palate that's quite youthfully structured, as is often the case with this site.

Chambolle-Musigny 1^{er} Cru Les Amoureuses 2022

92-94

Wafting from the glass with notes of cherries, sweet red berries, petals, licorice and spices, the 2022 Chambolle-Musigny 1er Cru Les Amoureuses is medium to full-bodied, satiny and pure, with a pretty, perfumed core of fruit framed by melting tannins, concluding with a saline finish.

Chambolle-Musigny 1^{er} Cru Les Chabiots 2022

90-91

Notes of petals, red berries and orange oil introduce the 2022 Chambolle-Musigny 1er Cru Les Chabiots, a medium to full-bodied, ample and fine-boned wine with a pure core of fruit, lively acids and a saline finish.

Morey-Saint-Denis 1^{er} Cru Les Sorbets 2022

90-92

Produced from purchased fruit, the 2022 Morey-Saint-Denis 1er Cru Les Sorbets bursts with aromas of plums, spices, raw cocoa and orange zest. Medium to full-bodied, ample and lively, it's supple and polished, concluding with a saline finish.

Gevrey-Chambertin Les Evocelles 2022

89-91

The 2022 Gevrey-Chambertin Les Evocelles opens in the glass with notes of pretty berries, petals, orange zest and cherry. Medium to full-bodied, bright and satiny, it's lively and saline, reflecting this hillside lieu-dit's stony soils.

Vosne-Romanée Domaine du Clos Frantin 2022

88-90

From Mazières and Damodes, the 2022 Vosne-Romanée offers up aromas of red berries, petals, orange zest and spices, followed by a medium to full-bodied, ample and seamless palate that's suave and charming.

Bourgogne Côte d'Or Pinot Noir Domaine du Clos Frantin 2022

88

The 2022 Bourgogne Côte d'Or Clos Frantin derives from vines located around the domaine in Nuits-Saint-Georges. Offering up aromas of plums, cherries and spices, it's medium-bodied, supple and succulent, with supple tannins and bright acids.



January 2024

VINTAGE 2022



Taster: William Kelley

COTE DE BEAUNE REDS

Corton Grand Cru Clos des Maréchaudes Domaine du Pavillon 2022 91-93

The 2022 Corton Clos des Maréchaudes Grand Cru unwinds in the glass with aromas of red berries, sweet plums, licorice and spices, followed by a medium to full-bodied, ample and layered palate that's deep, concentrated and lively, exhibiting more texture and plenitude than its premier cru counterpart.

Aloxe- Corton 1^{er} Cru Clos des Maréchaudes Domaine du Pavillon 2022 90-92

Aromas of sweet berries, vine smoke, spices and raw cocoa introduce the 2022 Aloxe-Corton 1er Cru Clos des Maréchaudes, a medium to full-bodied, satiny and lively wine that's charming and precise.

Pommard 1^{er} Cru Les Rugiens Domaine du Pavillon 2022 91-93

The 2022 Pommard 1er Cru Les Rugiens is one of the high points of Bichot's portfolio, offering up aromas of plums, red berries, rose petals and raw cocoa, followed by a medium to full-bodied, sweet and fleshy palate that's lively, layered and nicely concentrated.

Pommard Clos des Ursulines Domaine du Pavillon 2022 88-90

From a monopole exploited by Bichot, the 2022 Pommard Clos des Ursulines reveals aromas of red berries, plums, orange zest and smoke, followed by a medium-bodied, lively and fine-boned palate that's suave and charming, underpinned by bright acids and framed by powdery tannins.



WHITES

Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru Domaine du Pavillon 2022 92-94

Aromas of pear, waxy citrus, peach and hazelnuts introduce the 2022 Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru, a full-bodied, satiny and layered wine that's racy and concentrated, with bright acids and a saline finish. It's derived from a parcel in climat Languettes in Aloxe.

Beaune 1^{er} Cru Clos des Mouches Domaine du Pavillon 2022 91-93

The 2022 Beaune 1er Cru Clos des Mouches is lovely, revealing aromas of crisp orchard fruit, white flowers, citrus zest and wet stones, followed by a medium to full-bodied, satiny and chiseled palate that's racy and vibrant, with bright acids and a chalky finish. It's derived from a parcel at the very top of the slope, below the tree line.

Meursault 1^{er} Cru Les Charmes Domaine du Pavillon 2022 90-91

Notes of buttery orchard fruit, white flowers and fresh pastry introduce the 2022 Meursault 1er Cru Charmes, a medium to full-bodied, broad and rich wine with a satiny attack that segues into a fleshy core of fruit, concluding with a succulent finish.

Meursault Domaine du Pavillon 2022 89

Aromas of white flowers, pear, green apple and almond paste introduce the 2022 Meursault Village, a medium to full-bodied, ample and satiny palate that's seamless, giving and charming.

Nuits-Saint-Georges Les Terrasses Château-Gris 2022 90

From some 0.70 hectares of low-yielding terraced vines comes the 2022 Nuits-Saint-Georges Blanc Les Terrasses, a medium-bodied, ample and incisive wine redolent of citrus zest, white flowers and crisp orchard fruit. With impressive concentration and cut, it's a strong effort from the Bichot team.

Bourgogne Côte d'Or Chardonnay Secret de Famille 2022 87

The 2022 Bourgogne Côte d'Or Blanc Secret de Famille derives from the Côte de Beaune. Offering up aromas of pear, honeycomb and white flowers, followed by a medium-bodied, ample and satiny palate, it's lively and mouthwatering, concluding with a delicately honeyed finish.





Sarah Marsh MW

Burgundy 2022: Chablis Report

2022, Chablis Moutonne Grand Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit 94-95

La Moutonne is a 5.8-acre (2.35ha) plot, 95% in Vaudésirs and 5% in Les Preuses, on the warm slope at the mouth of the Vaudésir valley. Elegance and tension combine with greater harmony than Vaudésir. It is silkier and more instantly at ease, and the finish is intensely lingering, with bright fluidity. 2028–2040.

2022, Chablis Les Clos Grand Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit 95

From three plots about 60, 30, and 29 years old. Caramel and flowers. Rich and generous up-front, neatly woven with ripe fruit and slicing freshness. A complete and balanced wine, with supple generosity and intensity. Powerful but so elegant, fresh, and sophisticated. 2028–2040.

2022, Chablis Les Vaudésirs Grand Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit 94-95

Almost warmer than Les Clos, and at the top it is much riper than at the bottom, with a 40–50% slope. Picked all together. Rich aroma. It is seductive and ripe up-front, and super-intense, but not broad. Quite the opposite. Incredibly focused and powerful on the finish as if squeezed into a tube. Exceedingly long and very salty. This really needs time. Probably the richest, but also one of the best, 2022 Vaudésir that I tasted. 2028-2040 .

2022, Chablis Les Blanchots Grand Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit 93-94

Full, elegant, and airy. This is breezy fresh. Fine, slivery quality. Volume and intensity, yet it sparkles on the delicate and persistent finish. 2028–2035.

2022, Chablis Bougros Grand Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit 93-94

From vines more than 70 years old, and 9,000 vines per hectare, on the Côte de Bouguerots. It's rich, generous, and punchy. Powerful shoulder, savory minerality and intensity to finish. 2028–2036.

2022, Chablis Les Preuses Grand Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit 92-93

The parcel is on the plateau. Floral aromas, white peach, scented. All matured in 500-liter barrels. Silky and seductive and ripely rich, yet it has very lively, fresh acidity. Flows across the palate to a long and satin-textured finish. 2028–2036.

2022, Chablis Les Vaucopins 1er Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit 92

A thin topsoil, with a depth of 32 inches (80cm) at most, all on a 35–50% slope. Massal selection, planted in the 1950s and '60s. Tiny concentrated berries. Usually this parcel yields only 35hl/ha, and in 2022 it was just 25hl/ha. Uses a touch of oak to give some roundness, as this is very mineral. Straight, focused, and concentrated; it has good tension and wet stone to finish. Vitality and tight edges. Channeled. Love it. 2027-2035.





Charles Curtis MW

Vintage 2022

CHAMBERTIN GRAND CRU Domaine du Clos Frantin: 96

Bichot's 0.17-hectare holding at the top of the slope has produced an evocative, lovely wine with a forward pomegranate and red plum fruit with hints of spice, smoke, and earth. The texture is silky and more approachable than the 2020 vintage at a similar point. The vines are worked by horse and farmed organically, with everything done by hand—truly 'à l'ancien' in the best way. The results speak for themselves since this is a delicious wine. It will be drinkable reasonably early on but has the substance for long-term ageing.



MOREY-SAINT-DENIS 1^{ER} CRU LES SORBETS: 94

Very 'Côte de Nuits' in style, this lovely wine features a rich blackberry fruit aroma with hints of earth and spice. The texture is rich and dense, with a pleasant persistence to the finish. The grapes are purchased from a large plot down-slope from the Clos des Lambrays and Clos de Tart on the other side of town in the premier cru. Some producers spell this climat Les Sorbès. The grapes are partially destemmed and gently fermented before ageing in cask (one-third new).



POMMARD 1^{ER} CRU LES RUGIENS Domaine du Pavillon: 94

The Rugiens from Domaine du Pavillon enchants with its subtle depth of plummy fruit aromas and hints of earth and smoke. The texture is tannic but not overly so, and there is an interestingly supple quality to the texture that makes this wine intriguing. The grapes come from a third of a hectare located next to the Hospices parcel, just above Chaponnières. The wine is mainly destemmed and carefully fermented before ageing in cask (half new). Wait three to five years before opening for optimal results.



POMMARD CLOS DES URSULINES, Monopole, Domaine du Pavillon: 94

Picked early but not excessively so (3 – 6 September), this monopole of Bichot's Domaine de Pavillon has produced a wine with bright plum and cherry aromas and a hint of fresh violets. The texture is silky and approachable, yet it does not lack the tannin one looks for in Pommard. The vineyard team made several passes through the vineyard to ensure that the wine retained a charming freshness, and the result was lovely.



SAVIGNY-LES-BEAUNE LES GRANDS PICOTINS Domaine du Pavillon: 93

This lively, expressive wine has bright notes of blue and purple fruit — plums, blueberries, fresh violets — and an attractively lively texture with light body and medium pressure. Alain Serveau relates that he has always had a 'defensive strategy' on extraction, preferring a delicate expression of Pinot, ideally suited to this elegant terroir. The domaine organically farms 0.57 hectares in this climat on the alluvial soils of the Rhoin; the grapes are mostly destemmed and gently fermented before ageing in cask over two winters (20% new).



CORTON-CHARLEMAGNE GRAND CRU Domaine du Pavillon: 94

Bichot owns a parcel of just over a hectare in the slightly reddish soils of Corton Languettes that produces this alluring Corton Charlemagne with aromas of ripe apricot, quince, and a suggestion of acacia flowers and spice. The texture is dense, almost chewy — Alain Serveau notes, 'It has almost the structure of a red'. In fact, the parcel was one planted to Pinot, but Serveau prefers the Chardonnay, which they pick early (4 September in 2022) to preserve freshness.



MEURSAULT 1^{ER} CRU LES CHARMES Domaine du Pavillon: 94

The initial attack of the Meursault Charmes from Domaine du Pavillon is rich with aromas of ripe apple and peach with hints of flowers, butter, and hazelnut. On the palate, the richness continues with a delightful depth. The wine, however, is not heavy since it is balanced by fresh acidity and an almost tannic tactile sense that makes the wine 'chewy' and helps propel it to an elegantly lingering finish. The grapes are from three parcels that total 1.17 hectares; two are in Charmes Dessus, and a small one is in Charmes Dessous.



NUITS-SAINT-GEORGES LES TERRASSES, Monopole, Château Gris: 94

Les Terrasses is Bichot's proprietary name for their 0.67 parcel of Chardonnay atop the lieu-dit Les Crots. In this cool, steep site in a former limestone quarry, the Chardonnay is planted on individual stakes (en echalas) and worked by hand. The wine it produced has a lovely, crisp, lemony acidity, even in a hot year like 2022. The grapes are picked by hand and carefully sorted before pressing and fermentation in cask (one-third new), where the wine will age over two winters.





Jasper Morris MW

2022: THE VINTAGE REPORT

REDS FROM COTE DE NUITS

2022, Latricières-Chambertin Grand Cru 94-97

Picked by the Bichot team on 5th September. This looks and smells like it was picked at the right moment. A fine mid purple with a wealth of luscious red fruit balanced by good acidity. Full of energy, a quality fresh but deep raspberry, with length as well. Drink from 2030-2040.

2022, Chambertin Grand Cru, Domaine du Clos Frantin 94-96

Rich mid purple. The nose offers a regal suave density. Very complete, an exciting very balanced wine. The fruit returns in little waves of red fruit and there is a decent persistence. Drink from 2030-2040.

2022, Clos-Vougeot Grand Cru, Domaine du Clos Frantin 93-96

An attractive bright purple. Little fruit on the nose because Clos Vougeot doesn't do that in youth. Fills the mouth in its well-structured way, a shaving of coconut, very intense pure raspberry fruit, absolutely portraying a clean-cut, lantern-jawed image. Drink from 2032-2040.

2022, Echezeaux Grand Cru, Domaine du Clos Frantin 92-95

One of the slightly darker purple colours, with a ripe and dark edged fruit. I sense the whole bunches more here than in the Clos Vougeot. Becomes more nuanced further back on the palate, with greater energy to the fruit. I was not sure from the nose but the palate works with a good balance between the slightly riper fruit profile and the acidity. Drink from 2030-2038.

2022, Vosne-Romanée Malconsorts 1er Cru, Domaine du Clos Frantin 93-96

A fine deep purple, with brilliance. The bouquet has the energy which we expect with that extra note of headiness. The Malconsorts opens out gorgeously and is kept fresh by a good thread of acidity. Pure, long, fine, lifted, medium plus bodied but there is a little bit of majesty here nonetheless. Drink from 2030-2038.

2022, Chambolle-Musigny Les Chabiots 1er Cru 90-93

A fine mid crimson purple. This has an underlying elegance, and an acidity which, with the colour, indicates an early harvest or at least less ripe grapes. Still, that works with me. Pretty and quite good length. Drink from 2028-2035.

2022, Morey-St-Denis Les Sorbets 1er Cru 91-93

More crimson than purple. A delightful nose, not too oaky, savoury in the good sense. Fine intensity, a little sucrosity, interesting wine with its own Morey character. There is a nobility which starts to emerge. Drink from 2029-2036.

2022, Vosne-Romanée, Domaine du Clos Frantin 90-93

A blend of Damodes du bas and Basses Maizières, picked on 3rd and 7th September. Attractive mid purple. Some nobility to the nose but in a discreet way. This is happily balanced with excellent class, heady Vosne fruit, even some spice, then a firmer tannin, but this works really well. Damodes gives the lift, Maizières the body. Drink from 2028-2035.

2022, Gevrey-Chambertin Les Evocelles 90-92

A pleasing rich purple. The bouquet has an agreeable succulence. Very slightly raisiny on the nose, but with enough acidity to work on through. A few tannins. The grapes come in from two producers, one of whom picks late (14th September), more than a week after the other, which one can see in the wine at this stage. Drink from 2028-2033.

2022, Bourgogne Côte d'Or, Domaine du Clos Frantin 88-89

Fresh mid purple. Quite a lively nose. Some whole bunches here on the best pinots. There is quite significant density here, with a slightly more astringent finish, but good length, it is almost as if one can taste different pinot plants. Quite an interesting wine, I would enjoy drinking this. Drink from 2025-2027



94-97



93-96



93-96



Jasper Morris MW

REDS FROM COTE DE BEAUNE, COTE CHALONNAISE AND BEAUJOLAIS

- 2022, Corton Clos des Maréchaudes Grand Cru, Domaine du Pavillon** 91-93
A dense dark colour, with oak and clearly a bit of reduction at the moment. A significant weight of fruit, on the cusp of red and black, with an excellent energy. Drink from 2029-2037.
- 2022, Pommard Les Rugiens 1er Cru, Domaine du Pavillon** 92-95
The holding is next to the Hospices de Beaune in Les Rugiens Bas. A solid mid purple. The bouquet does not immediately speak, though the fruit is evidently adequately ripe. There is a massive sense of power on the palate, all in a lifted red fruit. This Rugiens shows the intensity of the lower part, but more the red fruit idiom of above. Excellent intensity to finish, very promising! Drink from 2030-2038.
- 2022, Pommard Clos des Ursulines, Domaine du Pavillon** 89-92
Mid purple with a lighter rim. The bouquet displays primarily a clean red fruit of some class, with a touch of coconut from the oak. The mix of oak and Pommard tannins leaves a little youthful bitterness, and there are some blackcurrants in the fruit, so maybe a touch of reduction. Still, I am left with a positive feeling from the harmony and the quality of the fruit. Drink from 2028-2036.
- 2022, Mercurey Champs-Martin 1er Cru, Domaine Adélie** 89-90
Lovely bright purple, lots of energy here. A fine quality of pinot fruit in this Mercurey, good density, a tighter finish with some tannins but not excessive. Ripe and dark fruit caught at the right time. Drink from 2025-2028.
- 2022, Rochegrès Moulin-à-Vent, Domaine de Rochegrès** 92
No deeper in colour than the straight Moulin-à-Vent but here the particularity of the terroir comes out more easily on the nose, despite oak ageing. Destemmed, which worked well with the straight Moulin-à-Vent, but here there is more of everything, some plummy red fruit but a little more in black, a fine firm structure and good length. Much more complex at the finish. Drink from 2037-2032.
- 2022, Moulin-à-Vent, Domaine de Rochegrès** 88-90
A very dense purple, almost opaque. Rich and punchy, might this be overdone? The palate says no. Super-succulent but more in a vivid red fruit than black, good grains of tannins, a little point of acidity and fine length. Stays with you. Drink from 2026-2030.

WHITES

- 2022, Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru, Domaine du Pavillon** 92-94
Grapes grown in Les Languettes, picked on 4th September. Clear lemon yellow. This is not one of the more opulent wines, more a clean white fruit intensity. Very powerful on the palate, slightly taking over from the detail at the moment. Plenty of oak. Perhaps a little four square, though there is clearly a proper wine beneath. Drink from 2030-2036.
- 2022, Meursault Les Charmes 1er Cru, Domaine du Pavillon** 92-93
Fresh bright yellow. Very Charmes on the nose and here the oaking absolutely matches the wine. Very intense, adequate power, a little biscuit touch, enough acidity, and a clarity in the fruit profile. Weight, length, charm, all that we expect. Drink from 2029-2035.
- 2022, Beaune Clos des Mouches 1er Cru, Domaine du Pavillon** 91-93
Mid yellow colour. Plenty of sunny opulence on the nose. Just a bit four square, maybe a 161/49 issue, with a spicy richness, a mini feeling of Alsace Pinot Gris, without exaggeration. A wine which is true to its own particular style. Picked early on 30th August. Drink from 2027-2033.
- 2022, Nuits-St-Georges Les Terrasses, Château Gris** 90-91
Les Terrasses includes a plot converted from 1er cru red where it didn't ripen well enough. Excellent intensity, a slight banana touch, a little oak behind. Well-made and with some character. Austere but rich. Drink from 2026-2029
- 2022, Mercurey Les Champs-Michaux, Domaine Adélie** 88-90
Mid lemon yellow. 15-20% new wood shows on the nose, but will integrate. Pure white fruit, then coconut from the oak, before refining to a slimmer finish, with good length. Just needs time for fruit and oak to integrate then will make a fine white Mercurey. Drink from 2025-2028.
- 2022, Bourgogne Côte d'Or Chardonnay Secret de Famille** 88-90
A fuller yellow colour. The sunshine shows a little more than usual on the nose, ripe yellow plum fruit on the palate, a little warmth behind, then good acidity. A touch of toast from the barrel, very good length. This is an avowedly opulent style. Drink from 2025-2027.
- 2022, Mâcon-Lugny Les Charmes** 89
Mid lemon yellow. The bouquet offers very typical Mâconnais sunny, southern chardonnay, fruit. Does what it says on the tin, with good flesh, enough acidity and just a touch of the muscatty style to finish, yet also some underlying stones as well. Drink from 2024-2026.
- 2022, Bourgogne Aligoté Champ Renard, Domaine Adélie** 87-88
Pale lemon. A proper Aligoté nose with some energy behind. Very promising. A little bit of barrel delivers some weight behind, this will make an attractive wine with some keeping capacity. Flesh is present but well contained. Drink from 2024-2027.



Jasper Morris MW

CHABLIS 2022: THE VINTAGE REPORT

Tasted: October 2023

2022, Chablis Moutonne Grand Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit 93-96

Mid lemon yellow. A chiselled nose, powerful yet without perfumed. Picked on the right day. A little suggestion of passion fruit here, which adds complexity without taking us over the top. Moutonne has harnessed the ripeness very well and delivers a clear-cut intensity, as well as the ripeness of the fruit. Drink from 2030-2040.

2022, Chablis Les Clos Grand Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit 92-95

Bright full lemon colour with greener notes behind. Floral though with more latent power than that suggests. There is no doubting the intensity of white fruit across the palate, lemons and apples joining the white fruit at the finish, then a more headily perfumed note at the very end, muscat and passion fruit, which suggests that it was time to pick these grapes. Drink from 2028-2035.

2022, Chablis Les Vaudésirs Grand Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit 93-94

Glowing primrose colour. Evidently a fleshier wine, that is apparent from the nose. Very classy, a whisper of coconut from the oak, a surge of attractive fruit behind, not too much tension but certainly intensity. Good length with appley notes appearing at the very back. Drink from 2027-2034.

2022, Chablis Les Vaucopins 1er Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit 93

Picked 1st September, to kick off the harvest. A lemon touch to the colour but the bouquet is in pure white fruit. The fruit is clearly ripe enough, in fact perfectly judged and the pure white apple fruit extends very nicely at the back. The limestone speaks and we answer, yes please. Drink from 2025-2030.

2022, Chablis Les Blanchots Grand Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit 92-93

Mid lemon and lime colour. The bouquet is more reticent than the 1ers crus. This has elegance on the palate though plus a surprising sucrosity, not always typical of Blanchot. Quite intense, white fruit more than flowers, fair length. Drink from 2026-2033.

2022, Chablis Les Vaillons 1er Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit 92

Pretty lemon yellow. Some stony energy to the fruit, attractively ripe on the palate, properly nuanced behind, very good length and the yellow fruit continues through, attached at the hip to the mineral qualities. Drink from 2025-2030.

2022, Chablis Les Beugnons 1er Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit 92

Mid lemon yellow. A fine bouquet with fruit weight, and a real quality on the nose with some depth of fruit behind. Quite intense, not yet showing everything. Excellent fresh acidity behind, then a softer finish to the fruit. Drink from 2025-2030.

2022, Chablis Domaine Long-Depaquit 87

Mid lemon yellow. Quiet at first but soon the Chablisian character emerges. Plenty of weight here, quite juicy. Drink from 2024-2027.





Jancis Robinson MW

REDS

MOULIN-À-VENT Domaine de Rochegrès 2022 : 16.5

Polished, serious. Really complete and refreshing for quite long ageing. Still quite firm tannins on the end. Drink 2024-2030.

MERCUREY 1^{ER} CRU LES CHAMPS MARTIN Domaine Adélie 2022: 16

Bright garnet. Very direct, open, raspberry fruit with some very fine tannins. Drink 2024-2029.

SAVIGNY-LES-BEAUNE GRANDS PICOTINS Domaine du Pavillon 2022: 16.5

Bright garnet. Broad and plummy. Fun and accessible. Although underneath there is structure too. Promising! Drink 2024-2029.

POMMARD CLOS DES URSULINES Domaine du Pavillon 2022: 16.5

Oddly for this appellation, this tastes quite evolved! Very polished and almost drinkable now. Interesting mulchy character underneath. Reverberates on the finish. Chapeau! More Côte de Beaune than typical Pommard, and Bichot admit this is almost more Volnay. Drink 2024-2030.

CORTON GRAND CRU CLOS DES MARECHAUDES Domaine du Pavillon 2022: 17

Deep garnet. Rich perfume. Neat and fresh and balanced. Really very charming indeed. Drink 2024-2035.

MOREY-SAINT-DENIS 1^{ER} CRU LES SORBETS 2022: 17.5

Garnet and pale rim. Lift and perfume. Beautiful balance. Silky, appetising and so charming already! Long. It's already so gorgeous. Drink 2024-2034.

NUITS-SAINT-GEORGES 1^{ER} CRU CHÂTEAU-GRIS 2022: 16.5

Deep, vibrant crimson. Powerful nose. Still quite dominated by oak but lots of very pretty fruit underneath. Sinewy, muscular. (Bichot also make an unusual white village-level Nuits, Les Terrasses, from the vineyard next door.) Drink 2027-2037

VOSNE-ROMANÉE 1^{ER} CRU LES MALCONSORTS Domaine du Clos Frantin 2022: 17

Just above the grands crus. Bichot is the largest owner of Malconsorts.

Mid crimson. Not a showy nose but it suggests some hidden depths. Racy and pacy. Wait for this to bloom. Quite a bit of optimistic fine tannin on the long, throbbing finish. Good potential! Drink 2028-2040.

LATRICIÈRES-CHAMBERTIN GRAND CRU 2022: 17.5+

Mid garnet. Rich nose with some delicacy. This dances! Very fine tannins. Still embryonic but the fruit is convincingly well balanced. Very pretty, true example of the climat. Quite delicate. Drink 2028-2040.

CLOS-DE-VOUGEOT GRAND CRU Domaine du Clos Frantin 2022 : 17.5+

Shaded garnet. Introvert but convincing nose. Then a great spread of complex fruit on the palate. Still very young but pure and promising even if not showy. Drink 2029-2042.





Jancis Robinson MW

WHITES

BOURGOGNE ALIGOTÉ CHAMP RENARD Domaine Adélie 2022: 16

Quite a powerful nose. Stewed-pears flavour and quite a bit of acid on the end. Drink 2023-2025.

MÂCON-MILLY LAMARTINE 2022: 16

Cooler and slimmer than many a Mâconnais wine, a characteristic of Milly-Lamartine apparently. Fresh and crisp. Mid length. Well behaved. Drink 2023-2026.

BOURGOGNE CÔTE D'OR CHARDONNAY SECRET DE FAMILLE 2022: 16.5

Very important cuvée for the house as it allows them capacity to produce affordable wine for consumers. There's very little Meursault and Puligny, for example, available – as well as it being expensive. The Bourgogne Côte d'Or appellation demands lower yields and higher vine density than AOC Bourgogne. Some bought-in grapes, especially from outlying areas of famous villages.

Strong lime notes and oak savour. Pretty well structured and long. Should age a while. Definitely no lack of freshness from the hottest vintage ever! Still a little chewiness on the end. Drink 2023-2027

POUILLY-FUISSÉ 1^{ER} CRU CLOS REYSSIÉ 2022: 16.5

Commercial director Benoit Bruot comments that the new Pouilly-Fuissé premiers crus mean that Pouilly-Fuissé sells in more markets as an alternative source of premiers crus to the villages to the north. Though technical director Matthieu Mangenot noted that not all producers use the premier cru designation as they find the yield restrictions too strict. East-facing slope in Chaintré, historically superior.

Quite rich nose and then very citrus on the palate. Restrained, not that full-bodied, but with good ageing potential. Drink 2024-2029.

CORTON-CHARLEMAGNE GRAND CRU Domaine du Pavillon 2022: 17

Rich and tense on the nose – good! Much nervier than most. Lots to chew on and nothing too sweet. Drink 2026-2034.

CHABLIS GRAND CRU MOUTONNE Domaine Long-Depaquit 2022: 17

Surprisingly ripe nose. Though deep-breathing reveals some of the stony character and fine acidity. Chalky finish. Vibrant. Drink 2024-2030.





Andy Howard MW

Chablis 2022: top-scoring wines

Chablis lovers can delight in 2022, hailed as a year to snap up. Those who got it right produced wines with both freshness and ripe fruit flavours, alongside crispness and signature salinity.



② TOP-QUALITY PRODUCER Albert Bichot, Domaine Long- Depaquit, Grand Cru Moutonne Monopole

96

The unofficial 'eighth grand cru climat', Moutonne is a very exciting wine in 2022. Very sophisticated, with purity, lift and precision on nose and palate, freshened with saltiness and iodine notes to finish. Concentrated with ripe fruit character and a lovely balance between power and elegance. Needs time before broaching. Tank sample, tasted blind. **Drink** 2026-2037

Domaine Long-Depaquit, Chablis Grand Cru Les Clos

95

Quite subtle and restrained on both nose and palate. Plenty of warmth of fruit, but as yet quite restrained. Lovely, salty, zesty notes promise a lot in the future. Ripe peach fruit characters develop with a few minutes in the glass. This will be a great example of Les Clos once in bottle. Tank sample.

Domaine Long-Depaquit, Chablis 1er Cru Les Vaucopins

93

Domaine Long-Depaquit is the Chablis arm of the Bichot family. Vaucoupin is one of their signatures and in 2022 it shows a great combination of sun-ripened peach fruit on the palate, balanced by zesty acidity and a hint of white pepper. Lovely purity here. Manages to be both powerful and elegant at the same time. Already drinking nicely, this has the concentration to age very well.





2022 Chablis

As I noted last year, long-time régisseur (estate manager) Matthieu Mangenot has been kicked upstairs as the saying goes to join the Bichot team in Beaune. He has been replaced by the young Louis Gimonnet, who took over the direction of the domaine as of July 2021. If the family name seems familiar to Champagne fans, it should as he is a member of the Gimonnet family. Gimonnet's take on the 2022 vintage was that the "growing season was much less complicated than that of 2021 though we did have four consecutive nights of frost that did cause some damage. What saved us is that the contre-bourgeois (base or secondary buds) developed, which wasn't the case in 2021. While the flowering passed reasonably well, the vines did suffer some shatter. Thereafter the summer was very hot and dry but in contrast to 2019 and 2020, we basically had very little sunburned fruit. Véraison was relatively homogenous, which obviously is a good thing from the standpoint of picking as one can go quickly due to the fact that the fruit is uniformly ripe. We picked from the 1st of September and the fruit could not have been cleaner, which also helped with respect to picking quickly. However, on the 4th it rained between 30 and 40 ml and it was remarkable how fast the vines took up the water and transferred it to the fruit. It was almost as though there were two different types of fruit, that picked before versus that picked afterwards and not surprisingly, they produced two different kinds of wine. That picked early had better acidities, potential alcohols and concentration while the later picked fruit was the reverse. Yields were good without being high and potential alcohols varied between 12 and 13.2%. As to the wines, they keep changing month by month and while I don't think 2022 is going to produce classic Chablis, they are utterly delicious and I suspect most of them are going to be enjoyed young for their seductive fruit."

2022 Chablis Domaine Long-Depaquit: 87-89

A ripe, fresh and bright nose features notes of various white orchard fruit, citrus and iodine. The rich, fleshy and plum middleweight flavors offer reasonably good depth and persistence on the clean, moderately dry and bitter lemon rind-inflected finish. This could be enjoyed young or aged for 4 to 7 years as desired. 2026+

2022 Chablis 1er Cru Les Lys Domaine Long-Depaquit: 90

A more elegant and more complex nose offers up its combination of sea breeze, just sliced apple, mineral reduction and hint of zest. There is again good richness and concentration to the medium weight flavors that conclude in a sneaky long and youthfully austere finish that delivers better depth. This isn't exactly classically styled but it's attractive all the same. 2027+

2022 Chablis 1er Cru Les Beugnons Domaine Long-Depaquit: 90

A slightly riper nose is otherwise quite compositionally similar to the Les Lys. The sleek and nicely detailed medium-bodied flavors also conclude in a youthfully austere finale where a touch of bitter lemon slowly emerges. This could use better depth but a few years of keeping should help. 2027+

2022 Chablis 1er Cru Les Vaillons Domaine Long-Depaquit: 91

Subtle but still perceptible wood is present on the aromas of prominent mineral reduction, white pepper and poached ripe pear. The super-sleek, delicious and vibrant middleweight flavors possess an unusually refined mid-palate mouthfeel that contrasts markedly with the borderline rustic if impressively long finish. This could also use more depth though again a few years of keeping should prove beneficial. 2027+

2022 Chablis 1er Cru Montmains Domaine Long-Depaquit: 90-93

There is a bit more wood influence on the slightly exotic nose of white peach and lychee with a pretty floral top note and just enough Chablis typicity to be interesting. The concentrated and tautly muscular flavors possess fine mid-palate density as well as outstanding length on the balanced and moderately dry finale. This possesses fine development potential and it is noticeably more structured than the Vaillons. 2030+





2022 Chablis

2022 Chablis Grand Cru Les Blanchots *Domaine Long-Depaquit: 91-94*

Here too moderately generous wood is present on the ripe and layered aromas of pear confit, wet stone and the hallmark floral top notes. I very much like both the refined texture and intensity of the precise medium-bodied flavors that display focused power on the impressively long, balanced and dry finale. Fine potential here. 2030+

2022 Chablis Grand Cru Les Vaudésirs *Domaine Long-Depaquit: 92-94*

While hardly subtle, the oak regimen is a bit tamer on the pure, cool and elegant nose of ripe essence of pear, apple, spice and ocean breeze scents. The caressing yet quite intense middleweight flavors possess a lilting mouthfeel before culminating in an agreeably dry and overtly stony finale. This is excellent and as with all of the best examples of the appellation, a wine of finesse. 2030+

2022 Chablis Grand Cru Bougros *Domaine Long-Depaquit: 92-95*

Very generous wood openly fights with the exotic and ripe yet quite fresh nose that freely offers up a combination of white and yellow fruit aromas that are laced with hints of iodine, shellfish and mineral reduction. There is terrific, indeed almost painful, intensity to the bigger-bodied yet still refined flavors that exude an evident stoniness on the powerful and superbly long finale. This firm age-worthy effort is also excellent. 2032+

2022 Chablis Grand Cru Les Preuses *Domaine Long-Depaquit: 92-95*

Here the wood treatment is far more subtle though again, by no means invisible on the cool, pure and unmistakably Chablis-like nose of quinine, petrol, spice, iodine and citrus confit aromas. Once again there is really beguiling texture to the succulent yet solidly intense and powerful medium-bodied flavors that deliver outstanding length on the youthfully austere, balanced and Zen-like finale. This too is quite impressive. 2032+

2022 Chablis Grand Cru Les Clos *Domaine Long-Depaquit: 91-94*

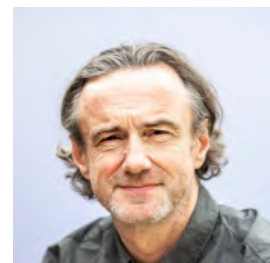
Generous wood and vanilla nuances wood frame cool and exuberantly fresh aromas of citrus, apple and ocean brine. There is borderline painful intensity to the imposing and tautly muscular larger-scaled flavors that retain a lovely sense of refinement on the powerful, balanced, bone-dry and built-to-age finale. As is usually the case with this wine, it's going to require at least a few years of patience to develop better depth and better integrate. 2032+

2022 Chablis Grand Cru Moutonne *Domaine Long-Depaquit: 91-94*

More moderate wood influence more easily allows the softly exotic aromas of white and yellow peach, apricot and sweet almond paste along with limited Chablis typicity. The rich and quite full-bodied flavors also possess a beautiful texture that is succulent and generously proportioned while retaining good punch and balanced on the sneaky long finish. This is very much built-to-age and it's a wine with a proven track record for successfully doing so. 2032+



CHABLIS 2022



Neal Martin

July 2023

Producer: Domaine Long-Depaquit

The **2022 Chablis Montmains 1er Cru** is aged 20% in barrel for nine months. It has a pretty nose of yellow fruit, combining nicely with wet stone and subtle fern-like scents. The palate is well-balanced with fine acidity, good concentration and a discrete pepperiness coming through towards its cohesive finish. This is a well-made, flavorsome Montmains. **90**

The **2022 Chablis Les Vaucopins 1er Cru** sees 15% aged in barrel and the rest in stainless steel for nine months. It has a bright nose with yellow fruit, wet stone and light beeswax aromas. The palate has an insistent grip on the entry, a pleasing, slightly waxy texture with just the faintest honeyed note on the finish. Just a quite delicious Vaucopins to enjoy over 6-10 years. **90**

The **2022 Chablis Bougros Grand Cru** aged entirely in barrel for nine months, has a fine, primal, honeysuckle and beeswax-scented bouquet that opens nicely in the glass. The palate is well-balanced with a fine line of acidity, quite precise with peach skin and tangerine touches, an underlying spiciness coming forth with aeration. This should meld together nicely with time in bottle. **91-93**

The **2022 Chablis Les Blanchots Grand Cru**, sees 25% aged in barrel and the remainder in stainless steel for nine months, plus five months where the entire blend is aged in stainless steel. The nose has a surprising steeliness that other Grand Crus find difficult to manifest: focused and mineral-driven. Not austere, but reserved. The palate is well-balanced with a fine bead of acidity, citrus-fresh with touches of pear and nectarine. Again, quite reserved and holding back on the finish. This represents a competent combination of classicism and the vintage's exotic tendency. **91-93**

The **2022 Chablis Les Preuses Grand Cru** aged entirely in barrel for nine months, feels a bit muted on the nose with grapefruit, lime and touches of crushed stone. You just want more presence and vitality. The palate is more promising, with some lovely peach and mango notes and a taut line of acidity, finishing with a degree of tension. There is more to give here; I would tuck bottles away for 3-4 years. It's biding its time. **90-92**

The **2022 Chablis Les Clos Grand Cru** is two-thirds aged in stainless steel and the remainder in wooden barrel for nine months, plus five months, whereby the entire blend is raised in vat. The nose has good intensity: green apple and light kiwi fruit, leesy at the moment but well defined. The palate is taut on the entry with fine depth, well-judged acidity, and smooth in texture with hints of Conference pear mixed with a quite spicy peppery notes towards the finish. Good potential. **90-92**

The **2022 Chablis Moutonne Grand Cru**, the 2.25ha monopole of Long-Depaquit, is matured 75% in stainless steel and the remainder in barrel for nine months, plus five months in stainless steel. It has an attractive bouquet with more mineralité and Chablis DNA than the Les Preuses, with touches of oyster shell coming through with time. The palate is well-balanced with a crisp line of acidity, red apple, pear and grapefruit, finishing with a dash of spice. Primal in style, so cellar this for 3-4 years. There's good potential. **91-93**



Published on June 23rd, 2023

CHABLIS 1^{ER} CRU LES VAUCOPINS Domaine Long-Depaquit 2022

Score: 93 Points

Restrained and tight, showing notes of stones, chalk and white apricots. It's medium-bodied and light-footed with a chalky texture. Long and persistent mineral notes. Try from 2024.

CHABLIS 1^{ER} CRU LES VAILLONS Domaine Long-Depaquit 2022

Score: 92 Points

I like the minerality here with notes of sea shells, green apples, touch of white pepper and pears. It's medium-bodied with a creamy, sleek and fresh palate. Lovely refreshing, stony finish. Drink or hold.

CHABLIS Domaine Long-Depaquit 2022

Score: 89 Points

Nice clarity of fruit here with aromas of sliced pears, apples and peaches. Wet stones follow on the palate. It's clean and medium-bodied, with a more simple finish. Drink now.

MERCUREY LES CHAMPS-MICHAUX Domaine Adélie 2022

Score: 92 Points

Apricot stones, yellow nectarines, toasted hazelnuts and mangoes here. Some salted yellow plums. Full-bodied and flavorful, with tasty fleshy yellow fruit and an energetic finish. From organically grown grapes. Drink now.

POUILLY-FUISSÉ 2022

Score: 90 Points

This has aromas of baked apples, cream, hazelnuts and lemon curd. Creamy and supple, with a full body, and nice freshness too. So drinkable. Drink now.

SAINT-VÉРАН 2022

Score: 90 Points

A creamy Saint-Veran with peaches, pears, apples and pie crust on the nose, alongside a sprinkling of salted almonds. Full-bodied and satisfying. Drink now.

MÂCON-LUGNY LES CHARMES 2022

Score: 89 Points

Ripe stone fruit here with nectarines, golden apples, pears and mango stones. It's full-bodied and with some wet stone freshness to close. From the plateau of Macon-Lugny. Drink now .





June 2023



PLATINUM MEDALS

GRANDS-ÈCHEZEAUX GRAND CRU 2021
Domaine du Clos Frantin
97/100

VOSNE-ROMANÉE 1^{er} CRU LES MALCONSORTS 2021
Domaine du Clos Frantin
97/100

MEURSAULT 1^{er} CRU LES CHARMES 2021
Cuvée Bahezre de Lanlay
Hospices de Beaune
97/100



GOLD MEDALS

CLOS DE VOUGEOT GRAND CRU 2021
Domaine du Clos Frantin
95/100

POMMARD 1^{er} CRU LES RUGIENS 2021
Domaine du Pavillon
95/100

NUITS-SAINT-GEORGES LES TERRASSES 2021
Château-Gris
95/100



SILVER MEDALS

NUITS-SAINT-GEORGES 1^{er} CRU CHÂTEAU-GRIS 2021
91/100

NUITS-SAINT-GEORGES 1^{er} CRU CHÂÎNES CARTEAUX
2021
91/100





**INTERNATIONAL WINE CHALLENGE
2023**

2 TROPHIES

5 GOLD MEDALS

4 SILVER MEDALS




BURGUNDY WHITE TROPHY

for

MEURSAULT 1^{ER} CRU LES CHARMES

Cuvée Bahezre de Lanlay Hospices de Beaune 2021

Classically rich and rounded Meursault with baking spice aromas. Scented oak and a touch of creme fraiche. Oatmeal and honey flavours linger on the finish.

MEURSAULT TROPHY

GOLD MEDAL

96 points



- 

**MAZIS-CHAMBERTIN GRAND CRU Cuvée Madeleine Collignon
Hospices de Beaune 2021**

GOLD MEDAL

Rich opulent nose with gorgeous red and black fruit a judicious use of well integrated cedar oak. Hint of tobacco cocoa powder and a touch of savoury complexity. rich concentrated finish. 95 POINTS
- 

CLOS DE VOUGEOT GRAND CRU Domaine du Clos Frantin 2021

GOLD MEDAL

Delicate raspberry ethereal perfumed aromas. Rich ripe firm dark plums and cherries on the palate, deftly balanced with juicy acidity, precisely integrated vanilla and chocolate, silky texture in the mouth long perfumed lingering finish. 95 POINTS
- 

VOSNE-ROMANÉE 1^{ER} CRU LES MALCONSORTS Domaine du Clos Frantin 2021

GOLD MEDAL

Dry savouriness touch of smoke touch of liquorice, a pretty wine delicate and refined core of morello cherry fruit. Lovely balance between fruit and perfume and savouriness. 95 POINTS
- 

NUITS-SAINT-GEORGES LES TERRASSES Château-Gris 2021

GOLD MEDAL

Fresh citrus and honeycomb nose with oatmeal undertones. Stylish with patisserie spices on the oak. Lots of milky and a strong mineral finish. 95 POINTS





INTERNATIONAL WINE CHALLENGE 2023

2 TROPHIES
5 GOLD MEDALS
4 SILVER MEDALS



POMMARD 1^{ER} CRU LES RUGIENS Domaine du Pavillon 2021

SILVER MEDAL

Saline and smoky notes - fresh crunchy red fruits with hints of cocoa. Fresh finish.

93 points



NUITS-SAINT-GEORGES 1^{ER} CRU CHÂTEAU-GRIS 2021

SILVER MEDAL

Medium ruby hue with ripe juicy red fruits, lifted by violets and fresh cranberries on the palate. Bright acidity and a fine, elegant length.

93 points



NUITS-SAINT-GEORGES 1^{ER} CRU CHÂÎNES CARTEAUX 2021

SILVER MEDAL

Ruby jewel like hue, packed with raspberry and cherry fruit, lively acidity for refreshing sipping .

90 points



MERCUREY LES CHAMPS MICHAUX Domaine Adélie 2021

SILVER MEDAL

Light match strike with flint on nose. Grapefruit, good acidity, spicy, complex, fresh and vibrant .

92 points



Published on July 22nd, 2022

CHABLIS Domaine Long-Depaquit 2021

Score: 90 Points

An aromatic wine for a regular Chablis, with plenty of fresh-lemon, white-peach and tarte-au-citron character. Cooler and crisper on the palate than the nose suggested, but that makes it very clean and refreshing. Good length, the finish nicely supported by a touch of tannin. Drink now.

SAINT-VÉРАН 2021

Score: 90 Points

There's plenty of ripe mirabelle and melon fruit here, but the acidity is quite crisp at the front of the medium-bodied palate. Good depth and length. A touch of positive tannin at the finish. From the northern part of this appellation, where the soils are quite similar to those of Pouilly-Fuisse. Drink now.

MÂCON-LUGNY LES CHARMES 2021

Score: 89 Points

Plenty of ripe mirabelle and apricot fruit gives this round and lively Macon plenty of appeal, and almost completely masks a hint of rusticity. You only feel it directly right at the finish, but this still has very satisfactory harmony, in fact it is very round. From the plateau of Macon-Lugny. Drink now.



Published on March 20th, 2023

FLEURIE LA MADONE 2021

Score: 89 Points

A light-bodied Fleurie that's got plenty of pretty floral aromas, but also a gentle touch of tannin and a crisp stony acidity. Drink now while the red berry fruit is still lively.

MOULIN-A-VENT LE ROC DOMAINE DE ROCHEGRÈS 2021

Score: 90 Points

A solid Moulin-a-Vent that has the black fruit and delicate earthiness we look for in the wines from this appellation. Lively acidity on the quite bold palate. Long finish with plenty of licorice character. Drink or hold.

Tasted by Andy Howard MW

CHABLIS GRAND CRU LES CLOS Domaine Long-Depaquit: 94

Cool, understated with plenty of concentration and structure waiting to flesh out over the next three to five years. A restrained Les Clos with plenty of smoky characters emphasising the vibrant notes of orange zest on the palate. Very subtle wood adds to the complexity. A fine wine in the making and a very good result for new winemaker Louis Gimonnet.

CHABLIS 1^{ER} CRU LES VAILLONS Domaine Long-Depaquit: 91

A fine blend of white peach and pear fruit on the palate, some lifted floral notes and plenty of drive on the finish. New winemaker here, Louis Gimonnet, is bringing his own interpretation to this significant domaine, part of the important Bichot group. Should age well for three to four years.

CHABLIS 1^{ER} CRU LES LYS Domaine Long-Depaquit: 91

A plush, rounded Les Lys with plenty of acidity to keep the palate in check. Mineral notes on the finish. Plenty going on here - this wine will benefit from at least six months ageing in bottle as everything is still very primary. But there is no shortage of concentration and the wine will continue to develop well.



Tasted by Charles Curtis MW

MEURSAULT 1^{ER} CRU LES CHARMES Domaine du Pavillon: 92

The Charmes from Domaine du Pavillon is slightly closed at first but opens with time to show a lush, ripe fruit with more honeyed character than the village-level wine. The texture shows the concentration from the low yields (17 hl/ha) —it is dense with extract, but the acidity is concentrated as well, and the overall balance is vibrant and lively. The grapes come from three parcels that total 1.17 hectares, two in Charmes Dessus and one in Charmes Dessous.

MEURSAULT Domaine du Pavillon: 92

The village-level Meursault from Domaine du Pavillon boasts ripe aromas of quince, lemon peel, spice, and butter on the initial attack. The flavours continue with impressive definition and depth, leading to a remarkably well-balanced texture with fresh acidity, plenty of extract, and enough stuffing to carry it to a lingering finish. The grapes come from five parcels totaling 2.3 hectares, all located in the northern part of the village between the town and the border with Volnay.





Jancis Robinson MW

REDS

VOSNE-ROMANÉE 1^{ER} CRU LES MALCONSORTS Domaine du Clos Frantin 2021: 16.5+

Some real pace on this wine and quite a bit of tannin too. A little bitter on the end but good fruit on the way there.

VOSNE-ROMANÉE Domaine du Clos Frantin 2021: 16

Rich and solid – not quite as pacy as a typical Vosne. Some depth and pleasure here already.

NUITS-SAINT-GEORGES 1^{ER} CRU CHÂTEAU-GRIS 2021: 16.5

Rich, layered, dramatic, verging on flashy! Lots going on here – who says Nuits is dull...?! Quite a powerhouse! Tannin currently in evidence but the fruit should come to the fore eventually.

CORTON GRAND CRU CLOS DES MARECHAUDES Domaine du Pavillon 2021: 16.5++

Rich, dense and somehow rather sparkling-bright on the nose! The note of bitterness on the end is positive rather than negative in this case. But it tapers to a point on the end at the moment. Needs time.

BOURGOGNE CÔTE D'OR PINOT NOIR Domaine du Clos Frantin 2021: 16

Light and very much leaning in to the vintage character. There is some ripeness and even richness as well as the very modern transparency. Nice!

BOURGOGNE CÔTE D'OR PINOT NOIR SECRET DE FAMILLE 2021: 15.5

Sweet and seems a little simple after all the energy of the Moulin-à-Vent! But there is pure black-cherry fruit – less funky, and perhaps more mainstream, than the Clos Frantin counterpart.

MOULIN-À-VENT Domaine de Rochegrès 2021: 16.5

Edgy and lively with real punch, fruit and direction. Long, quite impressive.



WHITES

CHABLIS 1^{ER} CRU LES MONTMAINS Domaine Long-Depaquit 2021: 16

Bone dry and mineral – true to Chablis. A little riper than some, and maybe a little too ripe for Chablis purists?

CHABLIS GRAND Cru LES CLOS Domaine Long-Depaquit 2021: 16.5

Lots of edge and life with excellent energy and definition. Too young now.

Meursault 1^{ER} CRU LES CHARMES Domaine du Pavillon 2021: 16.5

Both rich and precise – well done! Lots of pleasure delivered. Definitely has premier-cru, if not grand-cru, weight. All stops pulled out for maximum impact and length.

Bourgogne CÔTE D'OR CHARDONNAY SECRET DE FAMILLE 2021: 16

Broad and creamy with a streak of lime to keep it zippy. Lots of acidity in here!

Bourgogne ALIGOTÉ CHAMP RENARD Domaine Adélie 2021: 16

A bit ordinary on the nose. Sufficient fruit and breadth on the palate – quite a surprise in fact! Grip and ripe fruit with a hint of passion fruit.

Mercurey LES CHAMPS-MICHAUX Domaine Adélie 2021: 16+

Lots of fruit here. With acidity and more precision than many Côte Chalonnaise whites.





Jasper Morris MW

2021, Clos-Vougeot Grand Cru, Domaine du Clos Frantin 93-95
The bouquet offers a mix of intelligent oaking with a certain amount of raspberry fruit. The detail, as ever in young Clos Vougeot, is more muted. Yet there is an impressive weight on the palate with a light pepperiness at the finish. I like the way the fruit builds towards the back, and this should emerge well hereafter. Drink from 2027-2033.

2021, Vosne Romanée 1er Cru Les Malconsorts, Domaine du Clos Frantin 93-95
Pure beautiful purple, with the nose of exceptional hedonistic class associated with this vineyard. One can detect the remains of a little reduction in the mouth, which holds it back a fraction at this stage, but this is still a really good wine underneath and will be thoroughly exciting. It has the Malconsorts magic. Drink from 2026-2032

2021, Vosne Romanée, Domaine du Clos Frantin 88-91
Quite an elegant bouquet, with perfumed alpine strawberries. This continues through on the palate, softly elegant, few tannins behind, will be ready relatively early, and attractive. Drink from 2025-2029.

2021 Chambolle-Musigny Les Chabiots 1er Cru 90-92
Rather attractively perfumed. Sensual red fruit in a softer style, a slight toughening of tannins behind, but the rest of the barrel maturation should sort that. Discreet yet charming finish. Should be good. Drink from 2026-2030.

2021, Pommard Les Rugiens 1er Cru, Domaine du Pavillon 90-93
There is a little more oak showing on the nose which holds the fruit back. However, it does emerge, especially on the mouth, and fills the mouth quite nicely in a similar flavour profile to Ursulines, perhaps a little more raspberry than cherry. Drink from 2027-2031.

2021, Pommard Clos des Ursulines, Domaine du Pavillon 89-91
An immediately delicious bouquet with some depth, ripe cherry and raspberry, very good. Enough structure to prove its Pommard origins but just the right amount of high class fruit alongside with fine acidity. Drink from 2026-2030.

2021, Aloxe-Corton Clos des Maréchaudes 1er Cru, Domaine du Pavillon 89-92
A slight coffee grain toasty reduction to the nose. Then more depth of red fruit on the palate. One expects suppleness in the Maréchaudes but the wood and or reduction has slightly tightened up the framework. Drink from 2026-2030.

2021, Bourgogne Côte d'Or Clos Frantin, Domaine du Clos Frantin 88
There is some weight of sound pinot fruit on the nose. In fact, I find an impressive depth in the mouth, strawberry with a touch of raspberry, and good acidity. Plenty to like here. Drink from 2024-2026.

2021, Meursault Les Charmes 1er Cru, Domaine du Pavillon 89-92
The bouquet is backward, but the fruit works well on the palate with good acidity to back it up. Quite full bodied, predominantly white fruit, a little citrus. Drink from 2026-2030.

2021, Meursault Domaine du Pavillon 88-90
A little touch of coconut on top of some fatter fruit. Significant density, good acidity, while the personality still awaits development, but this should make a sound full-bodied Meursault. Drink from 2025-2029.

2021, Nuits-St-Georges Les Terrasses, Château-Gris 88-90
Unusually, this is mostly Gobelet pruned though they are switching to Guyot with much better results. Fresh yellow colour, and once again quite oaky. The oak adds a lactic note to the palate. Plenty of fruit density too with a slightly spicy finish.

2021, Mercurey Les Champs Michaux, Domaine Adélie 86-88
There is some weight of fruit on the nose, and some oak. Fleshy with just a touch too much oak at the moment but this may be tidied up by the bottling.

2021, Bourgogne Chardonnay Côte d'Or Secret de Famille 87
In bottle. Relatively high-toned nose. Yellow and white fruit with a crystalline note to refresh the finish. There is good intensity here, they have worked hard to produce an impressive blend this year. Drink from 2024-2026.

2021, Bourgogne Aligoté Champ Renard, Domaine Adélie 87
In bottle. This is a softly perfumed Aligoté with peaches on the palate. Rather delicious, the acidity is folded into the generous weight of the (not frozen) fruit. Delicious, more than classical, though some more typical greengages return to finish. Drink from 2023-2026.



93-95



93-95



Jasper Morris MW

2021: THE VINTAGE REPORT - CHABLIS WINES

2021, Chablis Moutonne Grand Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit

93-95

Clear bright lemon yellow. There is a weight here in quite a different style to the intensity of Les Clos. Really mouthfilling, with no feeling of a more difficult year. This year's Moutonne has a complex finish with generous white fruit, some citrus, just avoiding the vegetal, perhaps more Côte d'Or fruit weight, and very persistent. Extremely good. Perfect acidity as well. Drink from 2026-2033.

93-95



2021, Chablis Les Clos Grand Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit

92-95

Mid yellow colour. White fruit infuses the bouquet. This has a classical Chablis structure, with intense kimmeridgian energy at the back. The fruit is medium bodied for Les Clos but the balance is perfectly in place and the finish pleasingly persistent. A step up here. Nervy lemons at the very back. Drink from 2026-2032.

2021, Chablis Les Vaudésirs Grand Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit

91-94

Pale primrose colour, a little more fruit showing, then greater generosity on the palate, and a well balanced mouthfeel ending in some saline notes at the back. There is adequate tension to support the fairly generous white fruit. Drink from 2026-2030.

2021, Chablis Les Blanchots Grand Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit

90-93

Pure pale yellow. Not so much on the nose, light white fruit. Not so floral as Blanchots can sometimes be. Quite refined on the palate, linear rather than rounded, a light dash of citrus at the back, quite persistent. Drink from 2025-2029.

92-95



2021, Chablis Les Vaucopins 1er Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit

91

Pretty mid lemon yellow. There is a little more power to the bouquet, and fruit weight behind. Indeed, I can find a lot more on the palate. Juicy with some exotic aromatics, peaches and ripe pears, and then a fine clean finish with a light coating of minerals. More flesh than the stony Vaillons. Drink from 2024-2027.

2021, Chablis Les Vaillons 1er Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit

90

Fine pale lemon. The bouquet has a vegetal reduction which soon blow off to leave the stones beneath. Soft white fruit through the middle, then a more biting acidity, lightly lemon scented at the back. Will make a sound Vaillons for drinking moderately soon. Drink from 2024-2026.

2021, Chablis Les Beugnons 1er Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit

91

Pretty mid lemon yellow. Quite perfumed with some citrus notes, and some lees feel. Pretty on the palate though softer than in a classic year. This Beugnons shows the priceless quality of making the palate salivate. Drink from 2024-2027.

2021, Chablis, Domaine Long-Depaquit

87

Mid lemon yellow. Properly Chablisian austerity on the nose and a suggestion of some fruit weight, a little bit leaner in the mouth, all made in tank but a light toasty feel nonetheless. Lemongrass notes, agreeable. Drink from 2023-2025.



2021 Chablis

Long-time *régisseur* (estate manager) Matthieu Mangenot has been kicked upstairs as the saying goes to join the Bichot team in Beaune. He has been replaced by the young Louis Gimmonet, who took over the direction of the domaine as of July 2021. If the family name seems familiar to Champagne fans, it should as he is a member of the Gimmonet family. Gimmonet's take on the 2021 vintage was, like most of his peers, that the "growing season was really complicated. A mild winter and early bud break were the perfect conditions for damage from an April frost and thus we protected the vines for 6 nights. Thereafter there were attacks of both mildew and oidium and because the summer was often wet, it made getting into the vineyards to apply treatments very tricky. Remarkably, we even had oidium post-véraison, which is unusual but even more unusually, it attacked the bunches which obviously makes sorting all the more difficult. September was sunny but maturities seemed largely stuck and we were then hit by an attack of botrytis, which was an increasing concern before we finally started picking on the 21st of September. We continued through to the 3rd of October where we finished up with our parcel of Blanchots. It was necessary to seriously sort and then press gently because the skins were so fragile from the botrytis. Pressing gently isn't really a problem but it does take more time and when you're in a hurry, it's an inconvenience if you don't have multiple presses. Then it was necessary to do an equally serious lees settling, which was complicated by the fragile skins which tended to break into small pieces. All of these factors contributed to yields that were only 30% of normal, which is to say that they ranged from 14 to 23 hl/ha. Overall, my take on the 2021s is that they are a work in progress because they change from month to month. Happily, they seem to be getting better, which bodes well for their ultimate quality."

2021 Chablis 1er Cru Les Lys *Domaine Long-Depaquit: (89-91)*

A cooler nose reluctantly offers up its array of iodine, oyster shell, floral and much more discreet citrus wisps. There is good volume and richness to the vibrant and delicious medium-weight flavors where the more persistent, clean and moderately austere finish is also shaped by bright but not drying acidity. 2026+

2021 Chablis 1er Cru Les Beugnons *Domaine Long-Depaquit: (89-91)*

A slightly riper nose flirts with exoticism in the form of white peach and lychee that adds breadth to the aromas of citrus confit and quinine. There is more volume and power though not the same finesse to the caressing and punchy flavors that also culminate in a clean, dry and solidly long finale. 2027+

2021 Chablis 1er Cru Les Vaillons *Domaine Long-Depaquit: (90-93)*

Here too the expressive nose plays on the edge of exoticism though there is a bit more classic Chablis character present in the form of seashore, shellfish, white pepper and pretty floral wisps. The rich and generously proportioned medium bodied flavors possess a beguiling texture thanks to the abundant dry extract. It is promising and worth considering. 2028+

2021 Chablis 1er Cru Montmains *Domaine Long-Depaquit: (89-92)*

This too displays a phenolic element to the citrus-inflected aromas of tidal pool, acacia and essence of pear. The generously proportioned flavors possess excellent volume before concluding in a caressing but punchy, stony and bitter lemon rind finish where a touch of wood slowly emerges. 2028+

2021 Chablis Grand Cru Les Blanchots *Domaine Long-Depaquit: (90-93)*

A somewhat troubled nose displays post-malo aromas of lactic and reduction. More interesting are the sleek, fresh, delicious and overtly mineral-driven bigger bodied flavors that exhibit fine length on the compact, primary and sneaky long finish. This too will undoubtedly benefit from additional *élevage* as it's promising. 2029+

2021 Chablis Grand Cru Les Vaudésirs *Domaine Long-Depaquit: (91-94)*

This is also mildly funky aromatically while exhibiting an interesting touch of pineapple. Otherwise, there is almost painful intensity to the refined and beautifully delineated middleweight flavors that possess an almost delicate texture while terminating in a compact and primary finish where a touch of wood surfaces. This notably firm effort is already more complex than the Blanchot and a wine that should age well over the next decade. 2031+

2021 Chablis Grand Cru Les Preuses *Domaine Long-Depaquit: (91-93)*

Here too the nose is somewhat difficult with its aromas of generous wood, menthol, lactic nuances and exotic fruit. The succulent, round and seductively textured flavors are delicious while the lingering and mildly warm finish is shaped by lemon-tinged acidity. This will need at least a few years to develop better depth. 2029+

2021 Chablis Grand Cru Les Clos *Domaine Long-Depaquit: (91-94)*

An interesting and mildly atypical nose displays notes of orange peel, pineapple, oyster shell and wood nuances. The impressively concentrated and powerful broad-shouldered flavors possess excellent size and weight along with almost painful intensity on the bone-dry and hugely long finale. 2031+

2021 Chablis Grand Cru Moutonne *Domaine Long-Depaquit: (92-94)*

A very pungent nose consists of firm reduction and wood toast. The larger-scaled and impressively rich flavors brim with dry extract that helps to buffer the notably firm acid spine shaping the bone-dry, austere and powerful finish. This too should age effortlessly over at least the next decade. 2031+

WINE ENTHUSIAST

www.winemag.com

Published on December 31st, 2022



Roger Voss

ROCHEGRES MOULIN-À-VENT *Domaine de Rochegrès 2020*

94 POINTS

The wine from the best parcels in the Rochegrès vineyard has ripe tannins along with great black-cherry fruits and a serious character. The wine's acidity and spice are great elements in this powerful wine. It should definitely be aged further. Drink from 2024.



MOULIN-À-VENT *Domaine de Rochegrès 2020*

93 POINTS

The Domaine de Rochegrès has produced this rich, full-bodied wine. It is packed with fruit and a firm core that will allow it to age. Drink from 2024.



FLEURIE LA MADONE 2020

92 POINTS

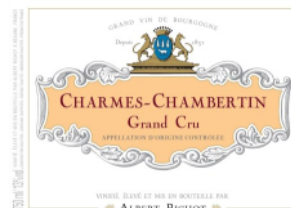
The wine is rich, structured and full of ripe berries. It is an ebullient wine—rich, but also with a fresher side. The wine is dense and will age further. Drink from 2023.



Published on August 8th, 2022

CHARMES-CHAMBERTIN GRAND CRU 2020**98 Points**

Very complex nose with lots of spice and some savory notes. Deep and densely structured, but so refined. Builds to a bold crescendo, yet is always very precise, making a strong argument for why the Grand Crus of Gevrey-Chambertin have gained a special reputation. Drink or hold.

**ECHÉZEAUX GRAND CRU Domaine du Clos Frantin 2020****Score: 96**

A very elegant and refined Echezeaux that nimbly moves over your palate. Underplayed power and very fine tannins make this a shy beauty, but if you give it time and attention then you will be amply rewarded. Very silky and delicate, long finish. From organically grown grapes. Drink or hold.

VOSNE-ROMANÉE 1^{ER} CRU LES MALCONSORTS Domaine du Clos Frantin 2020**Score: 95**

Striking nose, with delicate herbal notes, as well as great sour-cherry fruit. Suave and succulent, this flows over the palate in a great arc, in spite of the firm core. Very long and classically elegant finish. From organically grown grapes. Drinkable now, but best from 2024.

NUITS-SAINT-GEORGES 1^{ER} CRU CHÂTEAU-GRIS, Monopole 2020**Score: 95**

A stunningly sensual Nuits-Saint-Georges with stacks of red-fruit character. Such a beautiful balance of fine tannins and ripe fruit, the finish very refined and precise. Just glides off into the distance. From a 5-hectare terraced vineyard. From organically grown grapes. Drink or hold.

FIXIN 2020**Score: 93**

This is a strong argument for taking this underrated appellation a lot more seriously. The depth and ample body of a very good Gevrey-Chambertin is married to a degree of freshness that those wines don't always have. The serious, beautifully integrated tannin structure drives the long finish. Drink or hold.

ALOXE-CORTON 1^{ER} CRU CLOS DES MARÉCHAUDES, Monopole, Domaine du Pavillon 2020**Score: 94**

Very fresh sour-cherry nose with a hint of hibiscus. Ripe and concentrated, but with sleekness and coolness that make it compelling. Stacks of ripe tannins give this very clear contours right through the long, generous finish. From organically grown grapes. Drink or hold.

POMMARD CLOS DES URSULINES, Monopole, Domaine du Pavillon 2020**Score: 94**

Black is black! Intense blackberry, damson- plum and bitter-chocolate aromas. Generous, powdery tannins that easily carry the ample body and are beautifully balanced by the sweet black fruit. Very long, ripe finish that's intense and complex, but does not push the envelope a jot too far. From organically grown grapes in a 4-hectare clos, a real one with walls around it. Drink or hold.

SANTENAY 1^{ER} CRU CLOS ROUSSEAU 2020**Score: 91**

What a subtle red-fruit nose this Santenay Premier Cru has. Firm structure, but the wine handles it well. Medium-bodied with pleasantly dry tannins that are married to bright cassis fruit. Drink or hold.

BEAUNE CLOS DE L'ERMITAGE 2020**Score: 95**

Very expressive nose of sour cherries and summer flowers! Stunning fruit and freshness, the palate feeling a lot lighter than it really is, and that helps it move so gracefully over the palate. Long, very clean and bright finish. From a site above Beaune Clos des Mouches with very stony soils. Drink or hold.

SAVIGNY-LÈS-BEAUNE 2020**Score: 92**

A joyful Savigny-Les-Beaune! Full black cherry with a touch of mulberry and hibiscus on the nose. And the tannins are correspondingly ripe on the generous palate. I love the zesty freshness at the long finish. Drink or hold.

MERCUREY 1^{ER} CRU CHAMPS-MARTIN Domaine Adélie 2020**Score: 90**

Attractive sour-cherry and cassis nose leads you into this medium-bodied and quite tannic Mercurey 1er Cru. Stacks of fruit and lively acidity, the long finish firm and quite mineral. From organically grown grapes. Drink or hold.

BOURGOGNE CÔTE D'OR PINOT NOIR SECRET DE FAMILLE 2020**Score: 92**

Such a joyful red Burgundy. Bursting with black cherry fruit, this has a wonderful harmony of effusive fruit and healthy yet discreet tannins. Long finish with fine tannins and lively acidity. A rather little-known appellation that only exists since 2017 and this wine comes mainly from vineyards around Nuits-Saint-Georges, Chambolle-Musigny and Morey-Saint-Denis. Drink or hold.

Published on August 8th, 2022

CORTON-CHARLEMAGNE GRAND CRU Domaine du Pavillon 2020**Score: 96**

Not at all the austere Corton that the old wine books lead you to expect! Plenty of orange-zest and orange-blossom aromas, but also flinty and earthy notes. Rich and creamy at the front, but then it turns in a much more serious and stony direction. However, even here the structure is wrapped in ripe stone-fruit character. From organically grown grapes from the southeastern side of this famous site. Drink or hold.

CHABLIS GRAND CRU LES VAUDÉSIRS Domaine Long-Depaquit 2020**Score: 94**

Deep, smoky nose with fine mirabelle and candied-lemon notes, plus a hint of fresh nuts. Rich and creamy, with excellent concentration, the chalky minerality building beautifully at the complex finish. Zero new oak and just 25% vinified in oak barrels. Drink or hold.

CHABLIS 1^{ER} CRU LES VAUCOPINS Domaine Long-Depaquit 2020**Score: 93**

Lovely lemon-curd and tarte-au-citron aromas with hints of spring flowers. As ripe as it is elegant, with a silky mid-palate for Chablis, but everything fits together very neatly. Long, mineral finish with a hint of oak tannin giving it some firmness. From an almost 5-hectare holding in the steep part of this site. Drink or hold.

MEURSAULT 2020**Score: 91**

This Meursault makes quite a statement. Bold nose of mirabelle and candied orange with a touch of toast, then an equally bold palate, in which the oak underlines the ample body, giving the wine an emphatic dryness that some may find a bit much, while other chardonnay fans will delight in it. Drink or hold.

BEAUNE 1^{ER} CRU CLOS DES MOUCHES Domaine du Pavillon 2020**Score: 92**

A rich white Burgundy, showing plenty of pineapple and a touch of grapefruit with some vanilla from oak. Impressive tannin structure that compensates well for the moderate acidity on the fleshy palate. From organically grown grapes. Drink or hold.

MEURSAULT 1^{ER} CRU LES CHARMES Domaine du Pavillon 2020**Score: 95**

All you want in wine from this famous Meursault Premier Cru site! Rich and creamy with tons of stone fruit and every bit as much chalky minerality, and together they really dance across your palate. Wonderful, citrusy freshness at the very long, ripe yet elegant finish. Very polished. From organically grown grapes. Drink or hold.

BOURGOGNE CÔTE D'OR CHARDONNAY SECRET DE FAMILLE 2020**Score: 92**

A serious white Burgundy that's easy to understand. Full nose of fresh hazelnut, toast and pear. I love the complex texture of the this well-structured wine, in which fruit, body and fine tannins are neatly interwoven. A rather little-known appellation that only exists since 2017, and this wine only comes from vineyards directly on the Cote slopes around Meursault and Puligny-Montrachet. Drink or hold.





A Bullseye for Bichot

By Michael Apstein

Jun 1, 2022

The house of Albert Bichot made an outstanding line-up of both red and white Burgundies in **2020**, no mean feat since the growing conditions made success with both colors difficult because of the heat. Many critics, myself included, have raved about the overall success of the 2020 vintage for white Burgundies. I was equally enthusiastic about the reds initially, but now, having tasted a greater range of them, I realize that there is enormous variability among them. Some are spectacular and others, reflecting the heat of the growing season, are overblown, heavy, and alcoholic. However, my enthusiasm for the whites, from the Chablis in the north to the Mâconnais in the south, remains strong.

I tasted only two wines from Bichot during my three visits to Burgundy in the fall of 2021 and March 2022, a stellar **Corton-Charlemagne**, and an equally superb **Corton Grand Cru Clos des Maréchaudes**, so I was especially pleased when they sent me a dozen samples nicely packaged in glass-stopper-sealed 200-ml bottles. Among the samples was **Corton Grand Cru Clos des Maréchaudes**, which showed just as beautifully from the 200-ml tasting sample as it did from the normal 750-ml bottle from which it was poured in March. It reinforced my opinion of the stature of the wine. It also assured me that the samples overall were in good condition and accurately reflected the wines.

Founded in 1831, Albert Bichot, still a family-run business, is one of Burgundy's venerable négociants. Like other top houses such as Maison Louis Jadot, Maison Louis Latour, and Maison Robert Drouhin, they both own vineyards throughout Burgundy and buy grapes or must from growers. The wines Bichot makes from their own vineyards are bottled under the names of six different domaines, which are, moving, from north to south, the 165-acre Domaine Long-Depaquit in Chablis, the 18.5-acre Domaine du Clos Frantin and almost 9-acre Château Gris in Nuits-St.-Georges, (both in Côte du Nuits), the 38-acre Domaine du Pavillon in Pommard (Côte de Beaune), and the almost 20-acre Domaine Adélie in Mercurey (Côte Chalonnaise) and the 13-acre Domaine du Rochegrès in Moulin-à-Vent (Beaujolais).

Not only was Bichot successful with both colors, they succeeded with both their négociant bottlings and their domaine wines.

Bichot's charming **Fleurie La Madone** had just the right amount of spice and energy to balance its fruitiness (**90 pts**). It's delicious now.

With a seamless combination of red fruit and earthy notes, their floral **Beaune Clos de l'Ermitage** showed just how enticing a village red wine can be in 2020 (**93 pts**). Enjoyable even now, a few years in the cellars with amplify its charms.

Bénigne Joliet, owner of the famed **1er Cru Clos de la Perrière** monopole in **Fixin** sells a bit of his harvest to Bichot. In 2020 Bichot made an elegant wine showing the darker-fruited and alluring character of the Côte de Nuits (**93 pts**). This one will benefit from up to a decade in the cellar.

From the Domaine Adélie comes a delightful **Mercurey En Pierre Milley** delivering bright, cherry-like fruit offset by a hint of stoniness that makes it ideal for current consumption (**90 pts**).

In contrast, the Domaine du Pavillon's velvety **Volnay 1er Cru Les Santenots**, needs time. It's poised, possessing lovely structure and concentration without a trace of heaviness (**94 pts**).



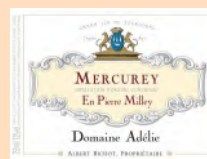
90 pts



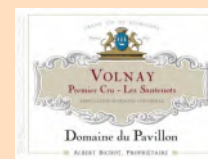
93 pts



93 pts



90 pts



94 pts



A Bullseye for Bichot

By Michael Apstein

Jun 1, 2022

The Clos de Maréchaudes vineyard on the east-facing side of the hill of Corton is emblematic of the complexities of Burgundy: a portion is classified as Grand Cru, whereas another portion was only awarded Premier Cru status. Bichot's youthful **Corton Grand Cru Clos des Maréchaudes** (1.3-acre monopole of the Domaine du Pavillon) displays an appealing iron-tinged character. Layered and luxurious, it is truly worthy of its Grand Cru status. It's explosive, yet not heavy, with invigorating acidity that keeps it fresh (**96 pts**). You will be rewarded for a decade of cellaring.

Turning to the whites, we come to Bichot's lip-smacking **Bourgogne Aligoté Champ Renard** from Domaine Adélie. Though ripe for Aligoté—here, again, the vintage speaking—it nonetheless has the great verve you'd expect from that grape. It's a refreshing white that's sure to cut through this or next summer's heat and humidity (**91 pts**).

Bichot's white, **Bourgogne Hautes-Côtes de Nuits**, may lack the breeding of the best Côte de Beaune whites, but it has good density, is amiable and refreshing, and will be more affordable than its Côte de Beaune cousins (**90 pts**).

If you needed more evidence that village wines should be embraced, look no further than **Domaine du Pavillon's Meursault**. Rich, creamy and energetic, it towers above many lesser producers' Premier Crus (**93 pts**). With its 165 acres, the Domaine Long-Depaquit is a long-time leader in Chablis.



Their monopole, **Moutonne**, a nearly 6-acre plot, 95 percent of which lies in Vaudésir and the remainder in Les Preuses, is unique, spanning two Grand Cru vineyards in the heart of the appellation, but carrying the name of neither. Though I didn't taste it this round, it's always one of their top Chablis.

Domaine Long-Depaquit's youthful and penetrating **Chablis Les Vaudésirs** is ripe yet stone-y and tight as a coiled spring (**94 pts**). Chablis-lovers should put this in their cellars for a decade. In the meantime, look for their floral and mineral **Chablis 1er Cru Les Vaucopins**, which is seemingly delicate, but amazes with its presence and length (**93 pts**).

In short, judging from these samples, you can close your eyes and point when buying Bichot's 2020 and be very happy. These wines are pure, reflective of their origins, balanced and—most important—energetic. Not a single one is hot, disjointed or overdone.



96 pts



91 pts



90 pts



93 pts



93 pts



93 pts



2022 Decanter WORLD WINE AWARDS PLATINUM

PLATINUM MEDAL
CLOS DE LA ROCHE GRAND CRU
Hospices de Beaune
Cuvée Cyrot Chaudron 2020
 97/100



GOLD MEDALS

MOREY-SAINT-DENIS 1^{ER} CRU LES SORBETS 2020
 96/100

FIXIN 1^{ER} CRU CLOS DE LA PERRIÈRE 2020
 95/100



SILVER MEDALS

VOSNE-ROMANÉE 1^{ER} CRU LES MALCONSORTS 2020
Domaine du Clos Frantin
 93/100

BEAUNE 1^{ER} CRU CLOS DES MOUCHES 2020
Domaine du Pavillon
 93/100

CHABLIS GRAND CRU LES PREUSES 2020
Domaine Long-Depaquit
 91/100

MEURSAULT 1^{ER} CRU LES CHARMES 2020
Hospices de Beaune Cuvée Albert Grivault
 90/100





May 2022

INTERNATIONAL WINE CHALLENGE 2022

7 TROPHIES
6 GOLD MEDALS
5 SILVER MEDALS

FRENCH WHITE TROPHY

for

MEURSAULT 1^{ER} CRU LES CHARMES
Hospices de Beaune Cuvée Albert Grivault 2020



Aromatic and intense with mealy, spicy citrus fruits on the nose. The palate is rounded, concentrated and expressive with a mineral core and a tapering, spicy finish.

WHITE BURGUNDY TROPHY
MEURSAULT TROPHY
GOLD MEDAL
97 points



INTERNATIONAL PINOT NOIR TROPHY

for

CLOS DE LA ROCHE GRAND CRU
Hospices de Beaune Cuvée Cyrot Chaudron 2020



Intense brooding aromatics of sweet crusted raspberries and spice. This has a wonderful intensity of ripe fruit but there's a hint of over ripeness, it's bold and structured with great balance of ripe fruit and savoury structure.

RED BURGUNDY TROPHY
CLOS DE LA ROCHE TROPHY
GOLD MEDAL
96 points





Taster: Bruce Sanderson

Published on www.winespectator.com

COTE DE NUITS REDS

93 ALBERT BICHOT Vosne-Romanée 1er Cru Les Rouges Domaine du Clos Frantin 2020

Succulent and layered, revealing cherry, black currant, violet, mineral and toasty oak aromas and flavors. Lithe and defined, with a vibrant structure and a long fruity, minerally aftertaste. Best from 2024 through 2038.

93 ALBERT BICHOT Fixin 1er Cru Clos de la Perrière 2020

A classy red, with supple cherry, strawberry, floral and mineral flavors underscored by a deft touch of new oak. Balanced, with the refined structure exerting itself as this winds down on the lingering, spicy finish. Impressively elegant. Best from 2024 through 2040.

92 ALBERT BICHOT Vosne-Romanée Domaine du Clos Frantin 2020

Packing a mix of floral, red fruit and spice aromas and flavors, this red boasts cherry, strawberry, rose, cinnamon, oak and earth notes. Firms up on the finish, suggesting short-term cellaring. Drink now through 2032.

91 ALBERT BICHOT Gevrey-Chambertin Les Evocelles 2020

A succulent, even tangy red, exuding blackberry, boysenberry, earth and spice flavors. Delivers dusty tannins, along with a flash of tobacco on the finish. Drink now through 2032.

89 ALBERT BICHOT Bourgogne Côte d'Or Clos Frantin 2020

A suave, velvety Bourgogne, expressing black cherry, blueberry and earth flavors, with integrated tannins and fine, spicy length. Drink now.

COTE DE BEAUNE REDS

94 ALBERT BICHOT Corton Grand Cru Clos des Maréchaudes Domaine du Pavillon 2020

Delivers depth, with a well of black cherry shaded by earth, sweet spice, vegetal and iron notes. Balanced, approachable even, with a supple texture and terrific length. A mineral underpinning gathers steam through the finish. Best from 2024 through 2040.

93 ALBERT BICHOT Volnay 1er Cru Les Santenots Domaine du Pavillon 2020

Oaky, yet there is a beam of dark berry fruit underneath as well as a mineral component. The structure is marked by both high acidity and dusty tannins. Racy and intense overall, with a long black cherry and blackberry aftertaste. Best from 2024 through 2040.

92 ALBERT BICHOT Pommard 1er Cru Les Rugiens Domaine du Pavillon 2020

A sleek, intense style, with ripe blackberry, pomegranate and earth flavors accented by oak spice. This has a graphite edge, too, accentuated by bracing acidity. A bit compact on the finish for now, yet lingering. Best from 2025 through 2043.

92 ALBERT BICHOT Aloxé-Corton 1er Cru Clos des Maréchaudes Domaine du Pavillon 2020

A round wine, saturated with black cherry, blackberry, iron, earth and violet aromas and flavors. Shows well-defined structure throughout, and finishes long and compressed. Best from 2024 through 2036.

92 ALBERT BICHOT Beaune 1er Cru Les Bressandes Domaine du Pavillon 2020

This graceful red is highlighted by ripe black cherry, blackberry, vanilla and resinous oak aromas and flavors. Vibrant acidity drives the long finish, where firm tannins emerge. Best from 2024 through 2040.





Taster: Bruce Sanderson

Published on www.winespectator.com

COTE DE BEAUNE & COTE CHALONNAISE REDS

91 ALBERT BICHOT Savigny-lès-Beaune 1er Cru Les Peuillets 2020

Packed with juicy black cherry and blackberry fruit, this red is firmly structured and lively. Delivers violet, mineral and oak spice details, which add depth as this cruises to the lingering finish. Best from 2024 through 2033.

91 ALBERT BICHOT Beaune Les Epenottes Domaine du Pavillon 2020

A fluid, polished red, offering cherry, blackberry, floral and spice flavors. Firm and linear, with a solid line of tannins on the lingering finish. Fine balance overall. Best from 2024 through 2036.

91 ALBERT BICHOT Beaune Clos de l'Ermitage 2020

A tightly wound version, this reveals black cherry, blackberry and wood shavings in the grip of sinewy tannins. The iron fist, velvet glove analogy fits this red. Best from 2024 through 2038.

90 ALBERT BICHOT Aoxe-Corton 1er Cru Les Fournières Domaine du Pavillon 2020

A rich version, this sports black cherry, plum and earth flavors backed by dense tannins and bright acidity. Closes up slightly on the finish for now, where spice elements linger. Best from 2023 through 2030.

90 ALBERT BICHOT Aoxe-Corton Domaine du Pavillon 2020

A balanced, flowing red highlighted by bright black cherry and blackberry flavors. Shows a touch of spice from the oak treatment, with lively acidity driving the juicy finish. Drink now through 2030.

90 ALBERT BICHOT Savigny-lès-Beaune Les Grands Picotins Domaine du Pavillon 2020

Rich and vibrant, this red is laced with cherry, blackberry and spicy oak flavors. Open-knit, displaying balance and fine length, with a hint of blood orange on the finish. Best from 2023 through 2032.

90 ALBERT BICHOT Meursault (red) Domaine du Pavillon 2020

Offers black cherry and blackberry flavors embraced by resinous oak, leaving a coating of tannins. This has a nice core of blackberry, black cherry and violet flavors. Two hours of aeration brought this into better focus, so decant now or age 2-3 years. Best from 2025 through 2037.

90 ALBERT BICHOT Chorey-Lès-Beaune 2020

Bright and fruity, sporting black cherry and blackberry flavors and a kiss of oak spice. Light tannins line the finish, and this is charming and enjoyable now. Drink now through 2028.

90 ALBERT BICHOT Mercurey En Pierre Milley Domaine Adélie 2020

A bright red, offering pure cherry, raspberry and violet flavors. Elegant and balanced, ending in a mouthwatering impression. Drink now through 2030.





Taster: Bruce Sanderson

Published on www.winespectator.com

COTE DE BEAUNE & COTE DE NUITS WHITES

93 ALBERT BICHOT Meursault 1er Cru Les Charmes Domaine du Pavillon 2020

Shows ample concentration and structure, framing the peach, citronella, butterscotch and clove flavors. The texture verges on oily, just pulling back as this turns more precise on the citrusy aftertaste. Best from 2024 through 2030.

91 ALBERT BICHOT Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru Domaine du Pavillon 2020

Lean and infused with lemon, earth and mineral flavors. Balanced and racy, picking up chalk dust and a tactile feel on the lemony finish. Best from 2024 through 2032.

91 ALBERT BICHOT Nuits-Saint-Georges Les Terrasses Château-Gris 2020

An almost ethereal white, with white flowers and lemon serving as the main flavor themes. This has a texture that verges on creamy, with an underlying mineral element. Fine length. Drink now through 2028.

90 ALBERT BICHOT Beaune 1er Cru Clos des Mouches Domaine du Pavillon 2020

Delivers a mix of lemon and melon flavors accented by star fruit and oak spice. Reveals an earthy, stony element that adds another dimension as this fades gracefully. Drink now.

89 ALBERT BICHOT Meursault Domaine du Pavillon 2020

A sleek, crisp white, revealing peach, apple, lemon and a touch of honey. Open-knit yet firm, with baking spices adorning the lingering finish. Drink now through 2026.

89 ALBERT BICHOT Mercurey Les Champs-Michaux Domaine Adélie 2020

Delivers delicate floral, lemon and apple flavors wrapped in toasty oak and supported by a bracing structure. Long? with an aftertaste of oak spice. Drink now through 2026.

90 ALBERT BICHOT Viré-Clessé 2020

Creamy in texture, boasting apple pie, baking spice and earth flavors. Broad and expansive on the finish, ending with an almond cake accent. A fine thread of acidity keeps this balanced. Drink now through 2025.

89 ALBERT BICHOT Pouilly-Fuissé 2020

Ripe, featuring peach, apple pie and sweet spice aromas and flavors. The acidity is buried beneath the broad, slightly viscous texture, lending softness. Firms up on the compact finish. Drink now through 2028.

88 ALBERT BICHOT Saint Véran 2020

A bright, open-knit style, this offers floral, peach, apple and lemon aromas and flavors backed by precision and cut. Lingers on the lemony finish. Drink now.





Taster: Bruce Sanderson

Published on www.winespectator.com

CHABLIS

94 ALBERT BICHOT Chablis Grand Cru Les Vaudésirs Domaine Long-Depaquit 2020

Linear and focused, exhibiting lemon, mirabelle plum, quince and apple aromas and flavors, with a lingering element of mineral. Balanced, if angular in style, with a hint of herbs on the finish. Best from 2024 through 2030.

93 ALBERT BICHOT Chablis Grand Cru Les Clos Domaine Long-Depaquit 2020

Elegant, featuring peach, melon, yellow plum and floral flavors aligned to a fresh, succulent structure. Revealing richness balanced by mouthwatering acidity, this ends with a fruity, minerally aftertaste. Best from 2024 through 2030.

93 ALBERT BICHOT Chablis Grand Cru Les Preuses Domaine Long-Depaquit 2020

A mellow white, with a light touch of vanilla and clove accenting peach, apple tart and honey flavors. Well-delineated and balanced, with honey, spice and mineral accents on the finish. Best from 2024 through 2030.

92 ALBERT BICHOT Chablis Grand Cru Moutonne Domaine Long-Depaquit 2020

Leads wit lemon, lemon oil and vanilla aroma and flavours, with an underlying stony note. Borders on oily in txture, with a hint of lanolin. The lemon theme returns on the finish. Drink now through 2029.

92 ALBERT BICHOT Chablis Grand Cru Les Blanchots Domaine Long-Depaquit 2020

A deftly balanced white highlighted by apple, yellow plum, floral and stone aromas and flavors. Offers a rich and supple texture, making this almost seamless from start to the finish, where a stony element emerges. Drink now through 2028

91 ALBERT BICHOT Chablis 1er Cru Les Vaillons Domaine Long-Depaquit 2020

Intense and complex, featuring lemon cake, apple, yellow plum and mineral flavors. Bright and fresh, with a lemon-infused aftertaste. Drink now through 2027.

90 ALBERT BICHOT Chablis 1er Cru Les Vaucopins Domaine Long-Depaquit 2020

This brisk white walks a line between crisp and rich, creating tension to display lemon, apple and mineral flavors. Balanced and lingers, with notes of lemon verbena on the finish. Drink now through 2026.



Bruce Sanderson's Recommended 2019 Red Burgundies

■ From the May 31, 2022, issue

For lovers of red Burgundy, the past decade has offered almost nothing but good news. A nearly unbroken string of excellent vintages—some of them superb—have produced an array of choices from the Côte d'Or, as well as plenty of great options from the region's outlying areas.

The current crop of wines, primarily early releases from the hot, dry 2019 vintage, indicate another spate of brilliant Pinot Noirs that should provide allure and pleasure for decades to come, while offering instant gratification in some cases as well. That's because the vintage features ripe fruit flavors that are beautifully defined, plus silky textures and plenty of flesh to cover the wines' underlying structures at this stage.

In terms of quality, the 2019s equal the refined and elegant 2016s, though they are closer in character to the powerful 2015s or 2005s, the latter another hot, dry year. These comparisons will become clearer as many more 2019s are released this spring.

Black cherry, blackberry, black currant and occasionally plum fruit are the main themes, with some versions revealing red fruit notes, augmented by accents of violet, sandalwood, licorice, iron, mineral and spice. Overall, the wines are intense and vibrant, alternating between power and grace depending on the appellation.

Matthieu Mangenot, assistant technical director for Albert Bichot in Beaune, notes that the temperatures over the summer were about 4 degrees F higher than the 20-year average, with 20% more sun and 30% to 50% less water. Nevertheless, Bichot fielded two classic-rated wines, plus another 13 at the outstanding level, among the estate's 2019 reds.

Mangenot cites better viticulture as the key to mitigating warmer vintages. Across Burgundy, various vineyard management and vinification techniques are being used to achieve balance and vibrant structures in the region's wines, including lowering yields; reducing leaf removal, if doing any at all; keeping the top of leaf canopies wider for more protection from the sun; careful plowing to keep the soil as moist as possible; and, in hotter years, retaining 15% to 25% whole clusters to maintain freshness.

Among the other classic-rated 2019s are a handful of 96-pointers that nicely showcase the strengths of the vintage. The intense [Albert Bichot Chambolle-Musigny Les Amoureuses](#) combines elegance and power, delivering black currant, blackberry, violet and mineral flavors;



Workers harvest grapes at Maison Albert Bichot, whose Côte de Nuits vineyards yielded a number of exceptional reds in 2019.

Top Wines



96



95

ALBERT BICHOT

Chambolle-Musigny Les Amoureuses 2019

Score: 96

WS Review: Intense, with earth and vegetal accents boosting the core flavors of black currant, blackberry and violet. Combines elegance with power.

Latricières-Chambertin 2019

Score: 95

WS Review: Floral, cherry, raspberry, mineral and spice flavors are the hallmarks of this silky red, which is graceful and persistent in a subtle way.

Top Values

ALBERT BICHOT

Bourgogne Vieilles Vignes 2019

Score: 89

WS Review: Supple, with a smoky accent to the black cherry and blackberry fruit.





May 2022

INTERNATIONAL WINE CHALLENGE 2022

7 TROPHIES

6 GOLD MEDALS

5 SILVER MEDALS



CHAMBOLLE-MUSIGNY 1^{ER} CRU LES AMOUREUSES 2020

GOLD MEDAL & CHAMBOLLE-MUSIGNY TROPHY

Youthful, deeply coloured still primary dark fruits, lemons and raspberries, smoky spice, quite concentrated with youthful plumpness a tight core and a long finish. 95 points



VOSNE-ROMANÉE 1^{ER} CRU LES MALCONSORTS Domaine du Clos Frantin 2020

GOLD MEDAL

Dark plum with a hint of violet and toasted oak. Smoky clove with raspberry and blueberry. Caressing tannins and a lingering finish. 95 points



MOREY-SAINT-DENIS 1^{ER} CRU LES SORBETS 2020

GOLD MEDAL

Spicy, smoky oak aromas with black plums. Fruit cake and exotic spices; Finessed acidity and well integrated oak ending with a long finish. Better to keep 10 years! 95 points



BEAUNE 1^{ER} CRU CLOS DES MOUCHES Domaine du Pavillon 2020

GOLD MEDAL

Butter, toasted hazelnut. Bruised peach, apple and guava. Savoury marmite notes, well balanced elegant finish. 95 points



CHABLIS GRAND CRU LES CLOS Domaine Long-Depaquit 2020

SILVER MEDAL

Elegant with flinty and mineral acidity, slight under ripe green banana, textured with citrusy edge. Creamy and medium bodied with great balance. Long lasting with integrated ABV. 94 points



CORTON-CHARLEMAGNE GRAND CRU Domaine du Pavillon 2020

SILVER MEDAL

Super bright, fresh honey baked apples, poised fruity acidity, with nutty complexity. Textured. 92 points



POUILLY-FUISSÉ 1^{ER} CRU CLOS REYSSIÉ 2020

SILVER MEDAL

Lemon gold colour. Fresh and fragrant with citrus oil and apple notes. Lemon meringue on the palate and a creamy underbelly. Luscious. 92 points



FIXIN 1^{ER} CRU CLOS DE LA PERRIÈRE 2020

SILVER MEDAL

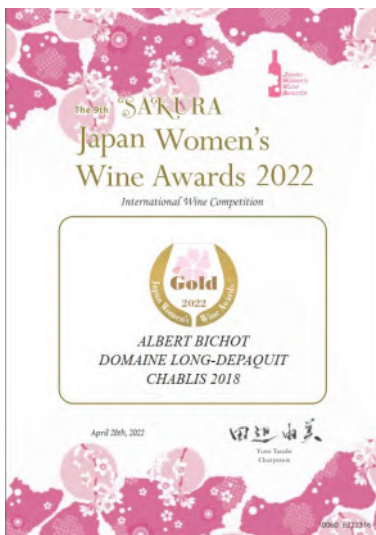
Deep colour, strawberries, raspberries and cedar oak spice. Black plums and graphite minerality and soft red fruits with toast on finish. 92 points



VOLNAY 1^{ER} CRU LES SANTENOTS Domaine du Pavillon 2020

SILVER MEDAL

Youthful and backward but with a plush dark fruity core and a firm but fine backbone. Wait for it. 92 points



The 9th “SAKURA” Japan Women’s Wine Awards judging was held in Tokyo (at Hotel Gajoen Tokyo on April 4th) and Osaka (at Hotel Nikko Osaka on April 13th).

A total of 430 judges, all women in the Japanese wine industry, judged 4,652 wines from 25 countries.

286 wines were awarded “Double Gold”, 1,425 wines were awarded “Gold”, 614 wines were awarded “Silver”.

March 26, 2022

French Wine Producer And Explorer Of Antarctica Studying Terroir Of The Ocean

Cathrine Todd Contributor ©

A storyteller who focuses on wine and the people who make it.



Antarctica, underwater view of arched iceberg GETTY

Twisted and squeezed by the force of the rapids in the river, the hand crafted canoe took on a banana shape as food and a rifle fell out into the swiftly moving river as the two 18-year-old young men paddling the vessel were grabbed by the current that carried them against their will 1,000 feet away to shore. Still fiercely determined to continue their seemingly crazy journey along the desolate trail beginning from the indigenous village of Schefferville in the North East section of the Canadian province of Quebec to the even further north indigenous area of Kangiqsualujjuaq to meet the Inuit people, the young men went back upstream, jumping in the freezing cold water to find their supplies. Nothing could be found and hence they were left with a big decision to make that would forever shape their lives.

This mission involved a total of four French young men who had the opportunity to meet a French explorer named Alain Rastoin in the early 1980s, who they saw on the TV show *Les Carnets de L'Aventure*; they were fascinated with his attempted journey to reach Kangiqsualujjuaq, known as Port Nouveau Québec in French. The last part of the trip that would take two months of travel time had a tragic turn for Alain Rastoin as a rapid with huge waves flipped their canoe, and his photographer, who was accompanying him, died. He never finished the trip and these young men told him they would finish the journey for him. "You are all mad," exclaimed Alain to the young men and he warned them that they had no idea of the treacherous terrain that awaited them.

A few years later, these young men attempted the unsuccessful final segment of Alain's journey and the accident among the rapids left them only one tent, half the amount of intended food, no rifle to hunt with and only one canoe but they decided to continue and hike the rest of the way instead of going back to safety.

Unfortunately, they couldn't find the fishing camp drawn on a map for them by Alain Rastoin himself, and so eventually stranded with no food, they climbed up a hill where hopefully they could signal one of the aircrafts that passed monthly along the path to supply the Kangiqsualujjuaq village. They could have just missed the monthly aircraft, or maybe they were located where they were still not visible but that didn't stop them from making fires day and night that might be noticed from the sky.

An overwhelming wave of guilt washed over one of the young men, Albéric Bichot, as he regretted all the decisions that led him to possibly die of starvation or hypothermia while his parents were back in France with no idea of his fate. Why didn't he heed Alain's warning? Why didn't he at least turn back when the canoe accident happened? Over and over again, he replayed these moments in his mind wishing that he could relive them. As he imagined the tremendous amount of lifelong pain his unexpected death would cause his parents, he begged the universe at that moment for a miracle, and if the miracle came, he swore he would never come back to that part of the world again.

Luckily, a helicopter noticed them as it was part of a mining exploration that had been in the area for four months. Albéric Bichot went back home completely traumatized from the experience while one of his friends, Nicolas Vanier, stayed and Nicolas would become a famous French explorer, writer and film director.

But despite the fear, something was awakened in Albéric during that journey and a few years later he found himself taking on the same journey and successfully accomplishing the mission the second time around as well as traveling to remote areas of Polynesia and finally making a trip from Quebec to Ushuaïa, the southernmost tip of Argentina, with only the equivalent of \$1,000 in his pocket.



Schefferville in Canada, Quebec with the Aurora Borealis over a lake GETTY

French Wine Producer And Explorer Of Antarctica Studying Terroir Of The Ocean

Cathrine Todd Contributor ©
A storyteller who focuses on wine and the people who make it.

March 26, 2022

Burgundy Wine Estates

To his family's relief, Albéric joined his family's business in 1996, Domaines Albert Bichot, which today owns six estates, a.k.a. domaines, ranging from Burgundy's north, Chablis, down to Beaujolais just south of Burgundy – five in Burgundy and one in Beaujolais. The Bichot family traces their roots in Burgundy as far back as the mid-1300s and Albéric certainly takes the idea of devotion to sense of place to the next level as he believes that each area of vineyards should have its own dedicated team that lives and breathes those vineyards every day.

Having "small passionate and fully dedicated teams" at each location is critical in preserving the "typicity of each vineyard," Albéric explained.



Horse ploughing at Albert Bichot's Château Gris FLORE DERONZIER

Domaines Albert Bichot and Tara Ocean Partnership

Recently, Albéric has taken on a major project that combines his love for the exploration of the ocean, as well as the land, with the Tara Ocean Foundation. The foundation had a sailing ship (schooner) leave for a 43,000-mile journey in December 2020 that is currently studying the invisible marine microorganisms in the ocean. Since there is a partnership between Domaines Albert Bichot and the Tara Ocean Foundation, Albéric was able to join the crew for ten days in December of 2021 that included the section from the South Atlantic to Antarctica.



Albéric Bichot in Antarctica © MARIN LE ROUX / POLARYSE - FONDATION TARA OCEAN

Albéric, who has been committed to organic viticulture since the early 2000s, has taken a serious interest in how climate change is melting icebergs that will not only change entire ecosystems but could potentially release a significant amount of CO2 trapped within the soils underneath their several layers of packed ice. He notes that Burgundy has evident climate change, with more erratic climatic events increasing every year.

Albéric, who has been committed to organic viticulture since the early 2000s, has taken a serious interest in how climate change is melting icebergs that will not only change entire ecosystems but could potentially release a significant amount of CO2 trapped within the soils underneath their several layers of packed ice. He notes that Burgundy has evident climate change, with more erratic climatic events increasing every year.

One of the studies that Domaines Albert Bichot is conducting with the foundation directly links to their wines as 12 magnums of wine, representing six ideal expressions of their top vineyard from each estate, is currently evolving among the powerful influences of such a journey while other magnums of the same wine rest peacefully in their historical wine cellar in Beaune, Burgundy in France. When the ship returns in October of 2022, a unique comparative tasting will occur.



Tara Ocean Foundation sailing ship (schooner) in Antarctica © MARIN LE ROUX / POLARYSE - FONDATION TARA OCEAN

As Albéric looks back at that moment when he thought that he would die a brutal, slow death in a desolate place all those years ago, he knows that it forever changed him. At first, he thought the trauma would force him to live a life of fear, never seeking out adventure again, but he could not immediately comprehend that it unlocked something deep inside that gave him the strength to overcome such a terrifying event.

The gift of experiencing how fragile life can be, at only 18 years old, has made him determined to make his life matter. Bringing attention to the concerning changes in Antarctica, by using resources from Domaines Albert Bichot, will hopefully open more eyes to the worrying distress signals Mother Nature is giving in the most remote areas of the world.

Even when all hope should have been lost all those years ago, Albéric and his friends found a way to go on, and he is taking that same fierce perseverance to find a way to save the planet even when others are saying all is lost.



Domaines Albert Bichot wines in Antarctica © MARIN LE ROUX / POLARYSE - FONDATION TARA OCEAN

March 26, 2022

As of the 2018 vintage, Domaines Albert Bichot wines from the Côte d'Or (Domaine du Clos Frantin, Château Gris and Domaine du Pavillon) as well as their Côte Chalonnaise property (Domaine Adélie) are all certified organic. The name Adélie comes from the territory Adélie Land (Adélie Terre) on the continent of Antarctica. Albéric not only named his property in Chalonnaise after it when he purchased it in 2005 but he also named his oldest daughter Adélie.

NV Albert Bichot, Crémant de Bourgogne Brut Réserve, Burgundy, France: 60% Chardonnay and 40% Pinot Noir. A traditional sparkling wine with notes of croissants and white flowers that has tiny bubbles on the palate with a stony minerality on the sustained finish.

NV Albert Bichot, Crémant de Bourgogne Brut Rosé, Burgundy, France: 80% Pinot Noir and the rest made-up of Chardonnay and Gamay. This traditional sparkling rosé has a spicy white pepper note with freshly picked strawberries and bright acidity.

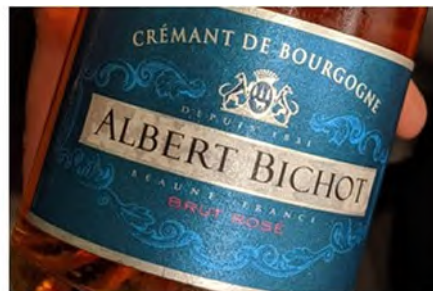
2020 Albert Bichot, Horizon de Bichot Pinot Noir, France: 100% Pinot Noir. Enchanting nose with floral notes mixed with ripe raspberries that has juicy fruit on the palate and baking spices in the background.

2019 Albert Bichot, Chassagne-Montrachet, Côte de Beaune, Burgundy, France: 100% Chardonnay. Zingy on the nose with lemon zest and fierce limestone minerality that has good energy on the palate with lots of vitality.

2018 Domaine du Pavillon, Pommard 1er Cru 'Les Rugiens', Côte de Beaune, Burgundy, France: 100% Pinot Noir. Black cherries with hints of upheaved earth and tree bark that had an electric body with notes of rhubarb finishing with lingering forest floor.



NV Albert Bichot, Crémant de Bourgogne Brut Réserve CATHRINE TODD



NV Albert Bichot, Crémant de Bourgogne Brut Rosé CATHRINE TODD



2020 Albert Bichot, Horizon de Bichot Pinot Noir CATHRINE TODD



2018 Domaine du Pavillon, Pommard 1er Cru 'Les Rugiens' CATHRINE TODD

ERFOLGREICH VERWELTLICHT

FÜR DIE DOMAINE LONG-DEPAQUIT IN CHABLIS GABEN IN DER FRANZÖSISCHEN REVOLUTION ZWEI MÖNCHEN IHRE GEISTLICHEN PFLICHTEN AUF UND SCHUFEN DIE BASIS FÜR FEINFÜHLIGEN TERROIR-CHARDONNAY

Von BIRTE JANTZEN Fotos LEIF CARLSSON

Zehn Uhr morgens, sieben Grad unter null. Rebzeilen zeichnen geometrische Muster in die schneebedeckten Weinberge von Chablis, und Matthieu Mangenot, seit 2017 stellvertretender technischer Leiter der Maison Albert Bichot, strahlt mit dem blauen Himmel um die Wette, während er durch die Grand-Cru-Lagen stapft.

Seit Anfang der 1970er-Jahre gehört das heute 65 Hektar große Gut Long-Depaquit zum Reich von Albert Bichot, einem der bekanntesten Weinproduzenten in Burgund.

Das Handelshaus, 1831 von Bernard Bichot in Monthelie gegründet und seit 1912 in Beaune ansässig, kauft nicht nur überall in der Region Trauben, um sie selbst zu keltern, auszubauen und abzufüllen. Es besitzt auch sechs Güter mit mehr als 100 Hektar Weinbergen, verteilt über ganz Burgund, von Chablis bis ins Beaujolais. Als größtes von ihnen ist Long-Depaquit mit seinem klassizistischen Herrenhaus aus dem 18. Jahrhundert und dem Jardin

à la française eine architektonische Ausnahme im eher bodenständigen Örtchen Chablis. Doch so aristokratisch es wirkt, die Tür steht jedem Besucher offen, und die Weine sind im Hof-

laden ganz unkompliziert erhältlich. Gastfreundschaft gehört bei der Familie Bichot einfach dazu.

Matthieu Mangenot selbst hat Long-Depaquit von 2007 bis 2017 geleitet, er kennt das Gut in- und auswendig. »Die Geschichte des Anwesens ist amüsant«, sagt er, »sie ist eng mit der Zisterzienserabtei von Pontigny verbunden.« Jahrhundertlang betrieben die Mönche in und um Chablis herum Weinbau,





bis die Französische Revolution dem ein Ende setzte. Damals waren zwei Brüder, Jean und Simon Depaquit, als Mönche für das Kloster verantwortlich. Als der französische Staat 1791 die kirchlichen Güter beschlagnahmte und anschließend versteigerte, nutzten sie die Gunst der Stunde, warfen ihre geistlichen Aufgaben über Bord und kauften über einen Herrn Mignard als Mittelsmann die Weinberge der Abtei. Dazu gehörte unter anderem La Moutonne, eine 2,35 Hektar kleine Monopollage und inoffiziell der achte Grand Cru von Chablis.

So schufen die Brüder das Weingut Depaquit und gründeten Familien. »Einer von ihnen blieb kinderlos«, erzählt Mangenot, »und adoptierte einen seiner Neffen, Auguste Long. Als der das Anwesen erbt, fügte er einfach seinen Namen hinzu, und dabei ist es dann geblieben.« Erst Anfang der 1970er-Jahre hat der letzte Nachfahre der Familie, Doktor Louis Long-Depaquit, wegen gesundheitlicher Probleme und mangels Erben das Gut an die Bichots verkauft. Noch heute erinnern sich die Älteren im Dorf an diesen Herrn – und an den imposanten Ledersessel, in dem er seine Besucher empfing.

»Damals wurde die Familie Bichot ausgelacht«, erzählt Mangenot: »Was wollt ihr denn in Chablis?«, fragte man sie. Denn was heute vielleicht verrückt erscheinen mag – damals war Chablis Brachland. Nur wenige verstanden das Potenzial dieser kristallinen, säurebetonten, mineralischen Weine, diesen ganz besonderen Ausdruck des Chardonnay.« Das Gut war damals nur zehn Hektar groß, hauptsächlich in Grand-Cru-Lagen. Heute umfasst es 65 Hektar, zehn davon in Grand-Cru und 15 in Premier-Cru-Lagen. »Seit Anfang der 1970er-Jahre

ist Chablis wieder gewachsen«, sagt Mangenot, »von etwa 550 auf mehr als 5800 Hektar.« Technische Fortschritte in Anbau und Keller, effektive Lösungen zur Frostbekämpfung und schließlich der wirtschaftliche Erfolg hätten der Region den lang erhofften Rückenwind gegeben.

Für Matthieu Mangenot liegt das Besondere des Chablis in seinem vielfältigen Terroir und in der wandelbaren Natur der Rebsorte Chardonnay: »Long-Depaquit produziert 13 verschiedene Weine – sechs Grands Crus, sechs Premiers Crus und einen Ortswein, den Chablis. Jeder hat seine ganz eigene Signatur und Persönlichkeit. Es ist faszinierend! Im Rebberg und im Keller wird alles darangesetzt, die Unterschiede so präzise wie möglich herauszuarbeiten.« Manch einen mag diese Vielfalt verwirren, doch das Terroir von Chablis ist eben voller Feinheiten.

Die Aufteilung und Klassifizierung der Lagen kommt tatsächlich nicht von ungefähr, sie beruht auf jahrhundertelangen Erfahrungswerten. »Da sind zum Beispiel die beiden Premiers Crus Vaucopain und Les Lys«, erklärt Mangenot: »Beide sind wundervoll, und doch liegen Welten zwischen ihnen.« Vaucopain am rechten Ufer des schmalen Flusses Serein ist nach Süden ausgerichtet, hat einen etwas steileren Hang und ähnelt dem Grand Cru Vaudésir. Hier bekommt der Chardonnay einen sonnigen, stärker konzentrierten Charakter und besticht durch reife Aromen von Quitte, Aprikose, Fruchtpaste, unterstrichen von einem fein salzigen Abgang. Les Lys am linken Flussufer schaut nach Nordosten und ist wesentlich

WINE ENTHUSIAST

www.winemag.com

Published on April 1st, 2022



Roger Voss

Editors' Choice

93



92



MOULIN-À-VENT *Domaine de Rochegrès* 2019

93 POINTS

EDITOR'S CHOICE

From one of the top sectors of the appellation, this wine is perfumed, structured and still young. Good balance between intense fruitiness and structure will allow it to age further. Drink from 2023.

FLEURIE LA MADONE 2019

92 POINTS

EDITOR'S CHOICE

There is good structure to this young wine. Perfumed and shot through with black fruits and tannins, the wine is balanced although needing to soften. Drink from 2023.

BROUILLY ROCHE ROSE 2019

90 POINTS

This Beaune-based producer has produced a ripe and juicy wine. Tannins and berry flavors give balance as well as a fruity aftertaste. Drink from late 2022.

2020 BEAUJOLAIS-VILLAGES CHÂTEAU DE VARENNES

88 POINTS

This single-estate wine has a soft, generous character. Bright fruits are smoothed out and ripe, giving a gentle texture that is lifted by final acidity. Drink now.

frischer, wozu auch der nicht ganz so steinige, lehmigere Boden beiträgt. Die Weine zeichnen sich durch lebendige Säure aus, durch mineralischen Charakter und filigran blumige Aromen. »Obwohl beide Premiers Crus sind, werden sie im Keller sehr unterschiedlich verarbeitet«, verrät Matthieu Mangenot: »Wir passen uns der Charakteristik der Lagen an. Vaucopain zum Beispiel wird zu bis zu 15 Prozent im Holzfass ausgebaut.« Les Lys (übersetzt: die Lilien) bleibt mit seiner blumigen, dennoch energiegeladenen Zartheit hingegen immer im Stahltank.

Von der Göre bis zur alten Dame – jede Lage hat ihren Charakter

Ähnlich individuell sind die Grands Crus, zum Beispiel Les Clos und La Moutonne. »Les Clos«, erläutert Mangenot, »liegt in süd-südwestlicher Ausrichtung und sieht den ganzen Tag über die Sonne. Das Terroir gibt dem Chardonnay ordentlich Stoff und Körper, in manchen Jahren wirkt er fast schon wie ein Meursault. Für mich haben diese Weine die unbändige, spontane und großzügige Energie eines Kindes. La Moutonne hingegen liegt in einem natürlichen Amphitheater. Die Lage bekommt weniger Abendsonne und gewinnt dadurch an Raffinesse, Mineralität und Zurückhaltung.« Lachend fügt er hinzu: »La Moutonne ist wie eine vornehme alte Dame.« Die Grand-Cru-Lagen seien einfach faszinierend, »auf der einen Seite das ungebändigte Kind, auf der anderen die distinguierte Lady. So, wie sich der Grand-Cru-Hügel aufbaut mit seinen Falten, Kuppeln, Süd- und Nordexpositionen, ist er für mich der Archetyp des Terroirs. Auf diesen 100 Hektar ist alles vorhanden. Ständig muss man sein Verständnis des Terroirs hinterfragen, und es liegt bei uns, das Beste daraus zu machen.«

Dem Terroir will man auch durch integrierten Weinbau gerecht werden. Ein Großteil der Rebberge wird mittlerweile ökologisch bewirtschaftet, 2021 waren es 45 Hektar. Noch ist Long-Depaquit nicht zertifiziert, doch das ist nur noch eine Frage der Zeit; vier der sechs Güter der Familie Bichot sind es bereits. »Seit zehn Jahren arbeiten wir darauf hin«, erklärt Mangenot,

»allerdings haben wir hier in Chablis viele Hanglagen, und die Bodenpflege bleibt unsere größte Herausforderung.« Eine andere seien die klimatischen Veränderungen: »Die Erderwärmung ist eine Tatsache, man braucht sich nur die vergangenen 20 Jahre anzuschauen. Die ältere Generation erntete zum Beispiel nie vor Oktober. Heute sieht es ganz anders aus. Auch das Gleichgewicht der Weine hat sich verschoben. Noch vor 15 Jahren ging es beim Qualitätsdenken um Erntevolumen, heute dreht sich alles um das Verhältnis zwischen Frische, Reife und Alkohol.«

In den 1970er-Jahren war ein typischer Chablis ziseliert und säurehaltig, seit Anfang des 21. Jahrhunderts hat er an Körper und Fülle gewonnen. Bei Long-Depaquit sieht man diese Entwicklung positiv, die Weine sind in ihrer Jugendzeit zugänglicher geworden. Mittlerweile werden die Beeren nicht mehr nur im Labor analysiert, um das richtige Erntedatum zu bestimmen, sondern auch im Weinberg verkostet. »2018 und 2019 gaben uns recht«, berichtet Matthieu Mangenot: »Der Zuckergehalt war zwar recht hoch, aber die phenolische Reife noch nicht ausreichend. Im Labor sieht man das nicht. Hätten wir uns nur auf die Analysen verlassen, hätten wir ein Problem gehabt.«

Beim Pressen wirken die Traubenstiele als Filter

Insgesamt verwandelt man die Trauben hier ohne große technische Eingriffe in Wein, wobei jede Lage für sich gekeltert und ausgebaut wird. Als 2014 der Keller renoviert wurde, ging es für Mangenot nicht nur um Modernisierung: »Wir wollten



Ein schmucker Ziergarten umgibt das klassizistische Gutshaus. In den vielen Hanglagen ist die Bodenpflege eine besondere Herausforderung



Seine Ortsweine baut Matthieu Mangelot durchweg im Stahltank aus, manche Lagenweine kommen zudem anteilig in gebrauchte Eichenfässer

die Premier- und Grand-Cru-Trauben nicht mehr entrappen, sondern sanfte Ganztraubenpressung machen können.« Seitdem wird in den Premier- und Grand-Cru-Lagen in kleine Kisten geerntet, und der gesamte Leseprozess ist darauf angelegt, dass die Trauben so wenig wie möglich gehandhabt werden müssen – sie kommen von der Rebe in die Kiste, von der Kiste auf den Sortiertisch, vom Sortiertisch in die Presse. Ein Vorteil dabei: »Die Stielgerüste der ganzen Trauben bilden einen natürlichen Filter, und der frisch gepresste Most enthält kaum noch Trub, gewinnt an Präzision, Reinheit und Qualität«.

Während der Most für den Ortswein im Stahltank gekelert und ausgebaut wird, können Premiers und Grands Crus für zehn bis zwölf Monate bis zu 35 Prozent im gebrauchten Holzfass liegen – oder auch nicht, wie Les Lys. In jedem Fall setzt Matthieu Mangelot dieses Mittel immer nur sparsam ein: »Schließlich wollen wir den Chablis nicht in einen Meursault verwandeln, sondern seine Mineralität hervorheben. Das Holz dient lediglich dazu, die Struktur und das Volumen des Weins herauszuarbeiten. Wir setzen bevorzugt Eichenfässer aus den Vogesen ein. Durch das kühle Klima wachsen die Bäume dort langsamer, daher ist das Holz feinmaschiger und enthält weniger Vanillin.« Seit einigen Jahren wird bei Long-Depaquit, wie auch bei vielen anderen Winzern Frankreichs, mit größeren Holzfässern experimentiert.

Die Weine des Chablis sind vielfältig, und jedes Gut arbeitet seinen eigenen Stil heraus, mal mineralischer, mal etwas runder. Long-Depaquit setzt auf Terroir und Zugänglichkeit. »Unsere Weine sollen Genussweine sein«, betont Mangelot, »der Chablis und die Premiers Crus sind frische, fruchtige Weine. Das ist die Signatur der Familie Bichot. Unsere Kunden sollen keinen Wein 30 Jahre im Keller liegen lassen müssen, bevor sie ihn genießen können. Auch bei den Grands Crus ist es uns wichtig, dass sie trotz langem Lagerpotenzial schon jung getrunken werden können.«



Nur ein Wein passt nicht so recht zu dieser Philosophie: La Moutonne, das schönste Original des Guts. Für Matthieu Mangelot bietet diese Lage 2,35 Hektar pure Magie: »Die Mönche hatten ein unglaubliches Gespür fürs Terroir. Die Rebzeilen unterhalb der Trockensteinmauer liegen wärmer und bringen Reife, während die oberhalb der Mauer kühleren Winden ausgesetzt sind und Frische beisteuern. Es ist ein natürlicher Kompromiss komplementärer Eigenschaften, am Ende ist eins plus eins gleich drei. Es ist schon ein bisschen verrückt. Erst nach 15 Jahren auf der Flasche zeigt diese Lage ihr volles Potenzial.«

La Moutonne soll endlich auch amtlich ein Grand Cru werden

95 Prozent der Reben stehen auf dem Grand Cru Vaudésir, fünf Prozent auf Les Preuses. Jahrhundertlang blieb das Kataster von La Moutonne unverändert, und das soll auch in Zukunft so bleiben. »Sie ist nicht nur Grand Cru und Monopol, sondern auch ein echtes Markenzeichen«, sagt Mangelot. Warum sie 1938 nicht offiziell zum achten Grand Cru erklärt worden sei, bleibe ein Rätsel. »Wahrscheinlich passte es der Familie Long-Depaquit damals nicht ins Konzept«, mutmaßt er: »Sie nutzte den Namen La Moutonne nicht nur für die Grand-Cru-Lage, sondern vermarktete erfolgreich unter anderem perlenden La Moutonne und roten La Moutonne, höchstwahrscheinlich aus zugekauften Trauben. Wäre La Moutonne offiziell ein Grand Cru geworden, wäre das nicht mehr gegangen.«

Heute aber besteht die Möglichkeit, der legendären Lage endlich den verdienten Ritterschlag zu verleihen. Vor zwei Jahren trat das INAO, das Institut National de l'Origine et de la Qualité, an die Familie Bichot heran, um La Moutonne offiziell in die Chablis-Grand-Cru-Verordnung aufzunehmen – ein langwieriger Prozess, der bis zu zehn Jahre dauern kann. Doch schon die Zisterzienser wussten: Gut Ding will Weile haben. 🍷





2022 - Issue 75

2020 BURGUNDY

Taster : Sarah Marsh MW

Latricières-Chambertin Grand Cru

Expressive, warm but cool, raspberry-ripe aroma. Quite a lot of oak showing and some lifted notes. It mixes a hint of the exotic with herbal tarragon notes. It's racy and intense and has a well-sustained silky-powdery finish. 2026–35. **95–96**

Echézeaux Grand Cru Domaine du Clos Frantin

An intriguing aroma with blueberry fruit, white pepper, and orange zest. Supple and richly textured, with a glossy cruise onto the palate. Quite sumptuous, it develops an exotic, purple aromatic profile on the nicely sustained finish. 2026–35. **94–95**

Vosne-Romanée Premier Cru Les Malconsorts Domaine du Clos Frantin

Intense, rather sophisticated forest-fruit aroma. Silky and fresh on the attack. Fine-textured, with a crisp snap to the black-chocolate tannin. It certainly has a zesty herbal freshness which carries the finish. 2026–35. **93**

Nuits-St-Georges Premier Cru Château-Gris

Upright, ripe, but cool redcurrant aroma. Clean-cut edges. Concentrated but precise. Brushes off its 14% ABV. Good tension. Fine-textured tannins, with an airy, herbal touch, and I like the fresh, sappy follow through, with a touch of silk to finish. A stylish and refined NSG. 2025–30. **93–94+**

Pommard Premier Cru Les Rugiens Domaine du Pavillon

Spicy, cocoa power and mint aromas. A high-toned and arresting scent. This is from the lower, *bas* part. Showing super-tight and reserved. Compact energy. Fine-grained tannins and a well-sustained, cold, sappy finish. The tannins catch a little on the finish, but this shows good potential. 2027–35+. **94**

Beaune Premier Cru Clos des Mouches Domaine du Pavillon

From the top of the *climat*. Gently rounded and creamy, with smooth minerality and a coolish undercut of freshness. I like the savory quality contrasting with sweet notes, and the bitter-lemon, slightly phenolic, salty finish. 2024–30. **93–94**

Meursault Domaine du Pavillon

Sturdy, rich, and vigorous. Surprisingly, as the vines are located lower down on the north side, the wine has a smooth stone element and earthy minerality to finish. Bold and punchy vigor and plenty of freshness to boot. It's a jolly good Meursault. 2024–27. **90**





Burgundy 2020 Special Report

BY CHRISTY CANTERBURY MW



Christy Canterbury MW

February 2022

Top 25 Chablis Producers: *Domaine Long-Depaquit*

96

Albert Bichot, Dom. Long-Depaquit 2020 Chablis GC Les Clos

Two parcels combine to form this wine: one mid-slope and another at the top of the slope. This is as impressively big as one would expect a Clos to be, yet in contrast, it shows delicate fresh herb and yeasty notes. On the finish, the wine is an echo chamber of its concentration and needs time to settle down. 2025-34

95

Albert Bichot, Dom. Long-Depaquit 2020 Chablis GC Les Vaudésirs

An exuberant Les Vaudésirs, this oozes tropical fruit, vanilla bean and toasted oats. Sensuously rounded on the palate - for a Chablis, even a Grand Cru, this is silky, long and tastes of sunshine. This is the domaine's largest Chablis Grand Cru holding at 2.6 hectares. 2024-30

95

Albert Bichot, Dom. Long-Depaquit 2020 Chablis GC Moutonne Monopole

Made of Les Vaudésirs with a 5% dollop of Les Preuses, this is always a unique wine. This vintage shows good cut with chiselled acidity and lifting minerality. The sappy mid-palate is a combination of golden apples, sweet peaches and crushed oyster shells. 2023-2034

94

Albert Bichot, Dom. Long-Depaquit 2020 Chablis GC Bougros

Like the Preuses, this undergoes aging entirely in oak, but in oak of two to three uses. The oak is slightly less marked here as the wine is more exotic with pineapple, mango and green tea notes. The mid-palate is slightly custardy, and there's a hint of tannin on the finish that cleans up the concentrated palate with the punchy acidity. 2023-32

94

Albert Bichot, Dom. Long-Depaquit 2020 Chablis GC Les Preuses

Though Bichot owns 65 hectares of vines in Chablis, this is the smallest holding at only 0.25 hectare. These recently replanted vines stand next to La Moutonne. This spends 10 months in oak, from new to five uses, and there are clear vanilla and caramel notes that cling to the poached apples and pears. Supple and smooth, this is a broad-shouldered Chablis. 2024-30

93

Albert Bichot, Dom. Long-Depaquit, Chablis GC Les Blanchots

93

Albert Bichot, Dom. Long-Depaquit, Chablis PC Les Vaucopins

93

Albert Bichot, Dom. Long-Depaquit, Chablis PC Montmains

93

Albert Bichot, Dom. Long-Depaquit, Chablis PC Les Beugnons

92

Albert Bichot, Dom. Long-Depaquit, Chablis PC Les Lys

92

Albert Bichot, Dom. Long-Depaquit, Chablis PC Les Vaillons

90

Albert Bichot, Dom. Long-Depaquit, Chablis





February 2022

Burgundy 2020 Special Report

BY CHRISTY CANTERBURY MW



Christy Canterbury MW

Top 25 *Négociants*: *Maison Albert Bichot*

95

Albert Bichot 2020 Criots-Bâtard-Montrachet GC

Christophe Chauvel says Bichot usually buys one to three barrels of Criots grape must and bought two in 2020. The scintillatingly pure nose pops with a very stylish, Puligny nose of garden flowers, minerals and ripe pears. The palate follows with a waterfall of juicy, flavorful fruit that feels remarkably light thanks to the racy acidity. Toasty notes come out on the long finish. All in all, this is already very well knit. 2022-34



95

Albert Bichot, Domaine du Pavillon 2020 Corton-Charlemagne GC

Bichot's Pavillon owns a 1.2-hectare parcel in the Les Languettes sector that averages 40 years in age. This, like all the Pavillon wines, are certified organic. Apple peels and white flowers start the nose, and the palate turns on flavors of fresh pineapple cake and cinnamon. The curvy, concentrated palate finishes with buoyant acidic lift. 2023-32



94

Albert Bichot, Domaine du Pavillon 2020 Beaune PC Clos des Mouches

Pavillon's 75 ares are in the upper and final part of Clos des Mouches. The nose starts with buttered and toasted cinnamon bread then follows with baked apples. The palate is smooth and much perkier than the rich nose initially suggests. There's excellent tension that draws out the solid finish. 2022-30



94

Albert Bichot, Domaine du Pavillon 2020 Meursault PC Les Charmes

Domaine du Pavillon holds 1 ha 17 across three parcels in the Dessus, or upper, and Dessous, or lower, portions of Charmes. Unsurprisingly, this wine shows the breadth of Meursault with more ethereal, floral aromatics – fitting for vines that lie both in clay (evoking the former) and on limestone (providing the latter.) Lovely floral notes intertwine with melon, yellow cherry and tapioca pudding on the palate. 2022-28

93

Albert Bichot, Dom. du Pavillon, Meursault Les Criots

92

Albert Bichot, Château-Gris, Nuits-Saint-Georges Les Terrasses

90

Albert Bichot, Dom. Adélie, Mercurey Les Champs Michaux

89

Albert Bichot, Macon Lugny Les Charmes

89

Albert Bichot, Dom. Adélie, Bourgogne Aligoté Champ Renard

88

Albert Bichot, Bourgogne Côte d'Or Chardonnay Secret de Famille



Burgundy 2020 Special Report

BY CHRISTY CANTERBURY MW



Christy Canterbury MW

February 2022

98

Albert Bichot, Domaine du Clos Frantin 2020 Chambertin GC

This is a flamboyant, wildly perfumed Chambertin! Its vines lie in the chilly upper reaches of the Grand Cru, which certainly contributes to the wine's vivacity. Dark cherry fruits meet pain au chocolat on the nose. As it opens, evergreen and struck flint weave into the mix. Rather masculine in style, the tannins are dense and somewhat strappy. Blazing acidity pulls the wine into a long finish dappled with smoky minerality. 2025-45

96

Albert Bichot 2020 Latricières-Chambertin GC

Bichot harvests these purchased grapes whose vines are planted in clay and limestone soils. The nose starts with tangy red fruits layered with potpourri nuances. Excellent acidic tension and drizzle soft tannins give this simultaneously delicate and powerful Grand Cru instant allure. 2023-40

96

Albert Bichot, Domaine du Clos Frantin 2020 Clos-de-Vougeot GC

Domaine du Clos Frantin has parcels in the top and bottom of the Clos. The combination makes for a vibrantly intense palate with excellent density. The blueberry coulis and forest berry core are shaped by silky, caressing tannins and bracing acidity. While built for the long-term, this should be accessible fairly early, too. 2024-40

95

Albert Bichot, Domaine du Clos Frantin 2020 Echézeaux GC

This 1 hectare of vines is in the Champs Traversins, which has rather sandy soils and lies in the line of the Combe d'Orveau. Blueberries and bramble pour from the glass while perky acidity pounces on the palate. The tannins are fine and persistent through the generous finish. 2023-40

95

Albert Bichot, Domaine du Clos Frantin 2020 Vosne-Romanée PC Les Malconsorts

A generous 1.75 hectares of this coveted Premier Cru are in the hands of Bichot, which is its largest landowner. Romanée-Conti and Richebourg are neighboring vineyards. As one would suspect, this is sheer class and very, very moreish. The nose starts with spicy oak, bramble and black cherries. The fruit-filled palate is framed by soaring freshness and suave, powdery tannins. 2023-38

95

Albert Bichot, Domaine du Pavillon 2020 Corton GC Clos des Maréchaudes Monopole

Planted in the early 1950s, these 2 hectares of vines sit close to the bedrock on a solid slope. The resulting wine is seriously dense in fruit concentration and structure. Field strawberries, plum compote and cherry preserves slide across the palate into a vividly fruit-driven finish. 2024-40

94

Albert Bichot, Nuits-Saint-Georges PC Château-Gris

93

Albert Bichot, Chambolle-Musigny PC Les Chabiots

93

Albert Bichot, Dom. du Clos Frantin Vosne-Romanée

93

Albert Bichot, Gevrey-Chambertin Les Evocelles

93

Albert Bichot, Dom. du Pavillon, Pommard PC Les Rugiens

92

Albert Bichot, Morey-Saint-Denis PC Les Sorbets

92

Albert Bichot, Fixin PC Clos de la Perrière

92

Albert Bichot, Dom. du Pavillon, Aloxe-Corton PC Clos des Maréchaudes

92

Albert Bichot, Dom. du Pavillon, Pommard Clos des Ursulines

90

Albert Bichot, Dom. Adélie, Mercurey PC Champs Martin

89

Albert Bichot, Bourgogne Pinot Noir Côte d'Or Secret de Famille



January 24, 2022

Best Burgundy 2020 premier cru wines

In his Burgundy 2020 en primeur report, Charles Curtis MW concludes that across both red and white wines, 2020 is certainly a vintage worth buying. Here he highlights some of the top-scoring premier cru wines worth seeking out.



Charles Curtis MW
January 24, 2022



Tasted by Charles Curtis MW (at Burgundy, 10 Nov 2021)
Part of **Best Burgundy 2020 premier cru wines**

The wine shows a pronounced aroma of ripe black cherry and floral notes the winemaker describes as peony, mingled with notes of mineral, spice and smoke. Initially somewhat reserved on the palate, the texture is silky and with time reveals substantial but fine-grained tannins, good freshness and impressive length. Bichot owns two parcels of Malconsorts that total 1.75ha at the southern extremity of the lieu-dit bordering Nuits. Picking began on the 31st August, right after the first small shower that refreshed the vines.

Drinking Window 2025 - 2060



Charles Curtis MW

Vintage 2020

CRIOTS-BATARD-MONTRACHET GRAND CRU: 95

A wine with subtle ripe pear and floral notes that are refreshingly not overly marked by the wood. The texture is silky and fine, and despite the warmth of the year there is very pleasant tension and balance. Well done. Made from purchased grapes picked on the 24th of August. The grapes were gently pressed and briefly settled before fermentation in used casks.



CHAMBERTIN GRAND CRU Domaine du Clos Frantin: 95

Dark blackberry fruit, with notes of mineral and spice. On the palate the wine is very tannic, structured and very long. It is a bit closed and backwards, but there is great potential for ageing and it should open well with time. Bichot owns a 0.17ha parcel of Chambertin at the very top of the slope, planted north-south. The grapes are fermented slowly in open-top wood fermenters and punched down regularly.



LATRICIÈRES-CHAMBERTIN GRAND CRU: 93

A pleasant cherry and floral aroma, and a silky texture. Made from purchased grapes that the team from Bichot picked. The harvest here was among the very last (4th September) when the grapes had reached almost 14% potential alcohol. The grapes were partially destemmed and gently fermented before ageing in 35% new casks.



CLOS DE VOUGEOT GRAND CRU Domaine du Clos Frantin: 94

Lovely and ripe cassis fruit, in a silky yet dense texture, balanced by abundant freshness that leads to a pleasant persistence on the finish. Produced from two parcels, one that passes from Baudes Basses to Baudes Hautes, and the other in Grand Maupertuis. The total is 0.71ha and harvest began on the 31st August. A long, slow fermentation in conical wooden vats and ageing in cask (60% new).



VOSNE-ROMANÉE 1^{ER} CRU LES MALCONSORTS Domaine du Clos Frantin: 96

The wine shows a pronounced aroma of ripe black cherry and floral notes the winemaker describes as peony, mingled with notes of mineral, spice and smoke. Initially somewhat reserved on the palate, the texture is silky and with time reveals substantial but fine-grained tannins, good freshness and impressive length. Bichot owns two parcels of Malconsorts that total 1.75ha at the southern extremity of the lieu-dit bordering Nuits. Picking began on the 31st August, right after the first small shower that refreshed the vines.



CHAMBOLLE-MUSIGNY 1^{ER} CRU LES CHABIOTS: 91

Inky dark colour, with aromas of cassis and fig, plus an undercurrent of chocolate within a rich and soft texture. This wine was produced from purchased fruit from a parcel of 0.8ha in Chabiots. The tiny grapes were fermented with one-third whole clusters in the tank.



MOREY-SAINT-DENIS 1^{ER} CRU LES SORBETS: 92

Very forward plum and fig fruit, with a note of dark chocolate. The texture is ripe and velvety, but there is plenty of depth here. Very pleasant. Bichot purchases the fruit from this parcel of 1.28ha in Les Sorbets. In 2020 it was picked on the 28th of August and fermented with one-third whole clusters.



VOSNE-ROMANÉE Domaine du Clos Frantin: 93

Ripe and forward, with a lush, liquorice-scented mulberry fruit and a brambly edge. The texture is plump and round in this altogether very pleasant wine. Blended from three parcels in Vosne of 0.5ha each: two in Damaudes, including one at the top of the slope, and one in Basses Maizières. In Damaudes - the sunnier spot - picking commenced on the 28th August.



GEVREY-CHAMBERTIN LES MUROTS Domaine du Clos Frantin: 91

The nose is perfumed, with an aroma of bright red cherry and smoke, while the grippy tannins are typical of the village. This is about elegance rather than power.





Andy Howard MW

CÔTE DE NUITS REDS

ECHEZEUX GRAND CRU Domaine du Clos Frantin 2020: 17+

Toasty, mocha evident on the nose. Sweet fruit – dark cherry and raspberry. Subtle, understated oak. An elegant, precise Echezeaux which is more about finesse than power.

LATRICIÈRES-CHAMBERTIN GRAND CRU 2020: 16.5++

Violets on the nose. Great elegance on the palate, concentrated, fine and dense. There is a hint of rusticity here but in a very good way, adding more character to this grand cru and suggesting plenty of upward potential.

CLOS DE VOUGEOT GRAND CRU Domaine du Clos Frantin 2020: 16.5+

Earthy, spicy, long and exotic. Lovely balance with fresh black fruit – blackberry and damson. Firm tannins, hit of oak which needs a year or two to settle. Substantially better than many a Clos de Vougeot.

VOSNE-ROMANÉE 1^{ER} CRU LES MALCONSORTS Domaine du Clos Frantin 2020: 17.5++

Closed, intense but still complex. Deep hue, violet and rose-petal nose, plenty of substance. Pure, black fruit, oak evident. An electric, energetic Vosne which has a wonderful balance of precision, acidity and density. Will age several decades.

CHAMBOLLE-MUSIGNY 1^{ER} CRU LES AMOUREUSES 2020: 18++

A massive step up from the Chablots. Intense, inky colour. Brooding dark blackberry fruit with a lovely leafy lift on the nose. Plush and luscious in texture, great smoothness of tannin with crisp acidity all in great balance. More than delivers what is expected for a premier cru.

CHAMBOLLE-MUSIGNY 1^{ER} CRU LES CHABIOTS 2020: 16.5+

A bit lighter in hue, lifted floral aromas. Elegant and with sweet fruit on the palate. Very classy, quite typical Chambolle, no blockbuster but will age. Ballet dancer.

MOREY-SAINT-DENIS 1^{ER} CRU LES SORBETS 2020: 16+

Intriguing, floral, violet nose, intense dark hue, plenty of weight here. Savoury palate. Firm tannins, needs more time to soften.

FIXIN 1^{ER} CRU CLOS DE LA PERRIÈRE 2020: 16.5+

Fresh, quite delicate and elegant with rose petal on the nose. Seems to favour purity over power and extract. Lively, blackberry fruit, bright acidity and subtle oak. Clos de La Perrière is Fixin's top climat. Worth a punt.



18++



17.5++

CÔTE DE BEAUNE REDS

CORTON GRAND CRU CLOS DES MARECHAUDES Domaine du Pavillon 2020: 16.5++

Restrained, dark redcurrant and cherry on the palate. Plenty of purity and finesse for Corton. Freshness in the mouth combined with spicy oak, bright acidity and a lingering, savoury finish. Not a blockbuster but certainly classy.

POMMARD 1^{ER} CRU LES RUGIENS Domaine du Pavillon 2020: 16.5+

Plenty of intensity and weight. Old-school 'four-square' Pommard feel to the palate. Black fruit, plenty of acid and some firm tannins, this has the purity and concentration to develop very well. I suspect this will gain a lot of elegance with a few years' ageing.

VOLNAY 1^{ER} CRU LES SANTENOTS Domaine du Pavillon 2020: 16+

Lives up to the Santenots name. Floral, purity on the palate, deep colour, very good texture with fine grain to the tannins, cleansing acidity and a good balance of oak which should enable this concentrated, classy Volnay to evolve very well.





Andy Howard MW

OTHER REDS

MERCUREY 1^{ER} CRU LES CHAMPS MARTIN Domaine Adélie 2020: 16

Toasty oak dominates the nose, deep colour, youthful appearance. Dark berry and raspberry on palate. Very fine texture – fine tannins should enable this to age well. A pretty good introduction to ‘lieu-dit’ Mercurey.

MOULIN À VENT Domaine de Rochegrès 2020: 15.5

Deep colour, intense, inky. Primary blackberry fruit, lots of drive here. Not the densest or most structured Moulin on the palate but there is plenty of freshness and vitality here. Violet notes to finish.

WHITES

CHABLIS GRAND CRU MOUTONNE Domaine Long-Depaquit 2020: 17.5+

Full-bodied, ripe and exotic (for Chablis) there is great purity here with plenty of acidity to promote long-term ageing. Apple fruit with a touch of creamy almond on the finish. I suspect this has a great future ahead of it.

CORTON-CHARLEMAGNE GRAND CRU Domaine du Pavillon 2020: 17.5+

This could almost be mistaken for the Chablis Grand Cru. Restrained nose. Pebbly/mineral palate. Lime zest adds complexity to the light peach/green-apple fruit. Stony finish with depth and length. Will age very well.

MEURSAULT 1^{ER} CRU LES CHARMES Domaine du Pavillon 2020: 16.5

Much more floral. Restraint. Fine balance of spice, concentration, oak and ripeness of tree fruit. Attractive already, best in a year or two.

BOURGOGNE CÔTE D’OR CHARDONNAY SECRET DE FAMILLE 2020: 16

Each year, Bichot’s interpretation of the (relatively) new Bourgogne Côte d’Or AOP improves. Oak is more evident here, allied with some ripe peach and cedar notes together with a fleshy palate. Sourced from vineyards in Puligny and Meursault. Should be pretty fair value for what it offers.

BOURGOGNE ALIGOTÉ CHAMP RENARD Domaine Adélie 2020: 16

Aligoté really seems to be hitting new heights in the warmer vintages of 2018, 2019 and 2020. Touch of golden honey on the palate, some spice notes and with quite a deep colour in the glass, this is balanced by green-apple freshness with plenty of acidity. Not complex but certainly enjoyable.





2020 Côte de Nuits reds

Technical director Alain Serveau, and Cyrille Jacquelin (who is also responsible for the Clos Frantin wines) commented that 2020, much like 2019 “was another hot and dry growing season though 2020 was even more precocious as the vegetative cycle was some 3 weeks ahead of a normal season. We picked between the 25th of August up to the 5th of September. The fruit was very clean, and the only sorting needed was to eliminate a few sunburned or wilted berries. The quality of the fruit was excellent but unfortunately, there was even less of it than in 2019 and much less than 2018. Ripeness levels were very good, indeed to the point that the average potential alcohols ranged between 13.5 and 14%. Phenolic ripeness levels were also good and, again like 2019, this was very favorable to the use of whole clusters, so we fermented softly while using very high percentages of them. And in another parallel with 2019, the solid to liquid ratios were quite high so it would have been exceptionally easy to over-extract had we not vinified gently. Once we barreled down the new wines, they were initially very closed and didn't seem to have much personality but as the élevage progressed, they have really improved and particularly so with respect to terroir transparency. Thanks to the excellent concentrations, the 2020s are built to last and should age gracefully for years.”

2020 Bourgogne Côte d'Or Secret de Famille: (86-89)

(made with fruit entirely from the Côte de Nuits and most if from Morey). Ripe and fresh aromas display a mentholated top note on the dark berry and earth scented nose. There is excellent volume to the medium weight for a wine at this level along with good verve and length. This delicious effort should benefit from 2 to 3 years of cellaring and is worth a look. 2023+

2020 Bourgogne Côte d'Or “Clos Frantin” Domaine du Clos Frantin: 86

This had just been bottled and not surprisingly, the nose was somewhat reduced though I doubt that it will last. Otherwise, there is good vibrancy and freshness to the succulent, round and seductively textured flavors that terminate in a clean if somewhat tangy finish that may also be related to the recent bottling. 2023+

2020 Gevrey-Chambertin “Les Evocelles”: (88-90)

A brooding, cool and more deeply pitched nose reflects notes of wild dark cherry, plum and underbrush. The succulent, fleshy and solidly concentrated flavors exude an almost bracing minerality on the punchy, youthfully austere and nicely long finale. 2026+

2020 Fixin “Clos de la Perrière”: (89-92)

There is enough reduction present to push the underlying fruit to the background. Otherwise, there is both good vibrancy and freshness to the tautly muscular middle weight flavors that also flash good minerality on the slightly more austere finale. At least some patience advised. 2028+

2020 Nuits St. Georges 1er Cru “Château Gris”: (89-91)

Pretty aromas of kirsch, poached plum and earth give way to finely detailed and delicious middle weight flavors that exude a subtle bead of minerality on the moderately persistent and mildly rustic finish that firms up. This needs to add depth and I would suggest allowing it at least a few years of bottle aging. 2027+

2020 Morey St. Denis 1er Cru “Les Sorbets”: (89-92)

An interesting nose of very ripe pepper, ripe plum, dark raspberry and warm earth precedes relatively refined and liling flavors that contrast significantly with the mildly rustic finish that really firms up as it sits on the palate. Note that this has the stuffing to reward a decade or so of cellaring. 2030+





2020 Côte de Nuits reds

2020 Chambolle-Musigny 1er Cru “Les Chabiots”: (90-92)

A slightly more elegant and slightly fresher nose speaks of both red and dark cherry, raspberry, spice and pretty floral nuances. The mouthfeel of the medium-bodied flavors is finer still with good minerality suffusing the moderately firm and youthfully austere finale. This too should have no problem cellaring well for a decade or more. 2030+

2020 Vosne-Romanée 1er Cru “Les Rouges” *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: (90-93)

A slightly more elegant and airier nose freely offers up its array of cool dark berries, anise and violet. There is fine volume and excellent punch to more mineral-driven flavors that also conclude in a dusty and chewy but not really rustic finale. 2032+

2020 Vosne-Romanée 1^{er} Cru “Les Malconsorts” *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: (90-93)

(from a large 1.76 ha parcel). A pungent nose of wood toast and reduction introduces the supple, round and surprisingly forward medium-bodied flavors that flash evident minerality on the powerful and dusty finish that really tightens up. This youthfully austere effort is going to require extended patience before it will be ready for prime time drinking. 2035+

2020 Clos de Vougeot Grand Cru *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: (90-93)

(from a .72 ha parcel). There is a mentholated top note present on the nicely layered nose of warm earth, black cherry and a touch of oak. There is fine volume to the round, velvety and succulent larger-scaled flavors that also conclude in a firm, austere, mouth coating and serious finale. Patience will again be required. 2035+

2020 Latricières-Chambertin Grand Cru: (91-93)

Pungent aromas are comprised of firm reduction and wood toast. The sleek, vibrant and intense bigger-bodied flavors brim with minerality on the rich, sappy and palate soaking finale that flashes excellent length. 2032+

2020 Echézeaux Grand Cru *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: (91-93)

(from a .99 ha parcel in Champs Traversin). This is aromatically quite similar to the Clos de Vougeot but with markedly more spice elements to be appreciated. There is good volume to the relatively finely textured medium-bodied flavors that coat the palate with sappy dry extract that also helps to buffer the firm tannins supporting the powerful, serious and built-to-age finale. 2035+

2020 Grands-Echézeaux *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: (91-94)

(from a .6 ha parcel). Pungent aromas of wood, menthol and firm reduction render the nose virtually impossible to assess. Interestingly, the mid-palate of the larger-scaled flavors is quite supple and round, indeed it's almost easy-going, though the finish gathers intensity and power on the saline-infused and strikingly persistent finale. 2037+

2020 Richebourg Grand Cru *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: (91-94)

This too is pungently reduced with hints of menthol and wood. More interesting are the impressively rich and concentrated broad-shouldered flavors that exhibit focused power on the sappy and lingering finish where hints of warmth and bitter chocolate slowly emerge. This needs to develop more depth but the underlying structure is such that it should have no trouble developing it in time. 2037+





Jasper Morris MW

2020: THE VINTAGE REPORT - CHABLIS

2020, Chablis Les Beugnons 1er Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit 92

In bottle. Pale lemon colour, this has a much more classical Chablis nose, white fruit with marine notes, excellent tension, deeply crisp apple notes, a hint of lemon zest, full body, good persistence. Will need some ageing.

2020, Chablis Les Vaillons 1er Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit 92

In bottle. Clear attractive yellow, the nose is delightful and very typical, with that drier style, a little bit of dry lemon on the stones, this is very classical on the palate too, with a fine consistency throughout. Some verbena notes as well, pretty long and some flesh on the bones.

2020, Chablis Les Vaucopins 1er Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit 90

In bottle. Pale lemon yellow. Some weight of fruit and a little flesh on the nose, then an extra strong lemon, middleweight, pretty persistent.

2020, Chablis Les Blanchots Grand Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit 92-94

Mid lemon yellow. The bouquet is remarkably elegant, given its power, strongly floral but more summer flowers than the usual edelweiss, this is really pretty too in the mouth with ripe nectarines infused by the kimmeridgian purity.

2020, Chablis Les Vaudésirs Grand Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit 93-95

Good clear lemon yellow. The bouquet combined sunshine and a more classical nerviness. Some sensuality comes up behind, more fruit than flowers after Blanchots. There is a fine core of pure white fruit, sitting on its limestone bench and just at the very finish a peachy note showing the ripeness of the vintage. But the acidity and structure are impeccable.

2020, Chablis Les Clos Grand Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit 92-95

Full yellow, just when you think the bouquet is going to be rich and ripe there is a certain balancing grassiness, and they use a little more wood here. Grassy and grapey, with a little heat at the back and now the wood kicks in. This needs longer elevation and may well come out at a higher level.

2020, Chablis Moutonne Grand Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit 93-96

Pale lemon colour. The nose indicates class and power but is not quite ready to speak to us yet. More intense than Vaudésirs, with a very clean powerful backbone of white fruit, that just opens up a little at the end, and in a more harmonious place than Les Clos at the moment. The finish is very precise but with extra intensity lurking. Should be very good.





Jasper Morris MW

2020: THE VINTAGE REPORT - WHITE WINES



2020, Criots-Batard-Montrachet Grand Cru

93-96

Powerful lemon yellow. Waxy, rich, just short of volatile, a touch of banana, huge intensity, certainly grand cru, some lemon rind inset in the otherwise ripe fruit, offering several little waves of flavour. This could possibly be fresher but it has its place. Not only long but the finish is properly nuanced. If post-bottling this Criots-Bâtard-Montrachet gains in refinement, as it well may, the score will reach the upper part of the range.

2020, Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru, Domaine du Pavillon

92-95

From Les Languettes. Glowing fresh yellow, with plenty of energy and a light overlay of oak. There's a lot going on here. Superbly concentrated without being overly weighty, good acidity, this Corton-Charlemagne is in a fairly bombastic rather than lightly stony style.

2020, Meursault Les Charmes 1er Cru, Domaine du Pavillon

92-94

Rich yellow colour, a very clear-cut bouquet with fresh wax, the roundness of Charmes. The fruit is certainly not too ripe, and there's a lovely tingle factor. Very crisp and crunchy, and particularly persistent.

2020, Meursault Les Criots, Domaine du Pavillon

89-91

Powerful mid yellow. The bouquet combines rich sunshine fruit with something cooler, fresher, stonier. Interesting mix of ripenesses in the fruit on the palate, some bacon fat, some yellow fruit, some salinity.

2020, Nuits-St-Georges Les Terrasses, Château-Gris

89-91

Clear pure lemon yellow. This wine is grown at relative altitude, with a variety of exposures using low yielding gobelet pruned vines. Splendid intensity with only at the end a little extra ripeness showing through. This has considerable weight infused with lively zest. A touch of bacon to finish.

2020, Mercurey Les Champs-Michaux, Domaine Adélie

87-88

Grown on a northern facing plateau. A fuller vibrant yellow, the nose shows a touch of lactic oak and plenty of sunshine. The typical touch of liquorice is followed by powerful lemon acidity and a sizeable lick of oak.

2020, Bourgogne Chardonnay Côte d'Or Secret de Famille

88-89

Largely from Bourgogne territory in Puligny, St-Aubin and St-Romain. Lovely vibrant fresh lemon yellow. The nose is quite classy too, plenty of flesh on the palate but with an excellent backbone, customers will get their money's worth from this excellent Bourgogne.

2020, Bourgogne Aligoté Champ Renard, Domaine Adélie

88

In bottle. From the commune of Mercurey. Light reduction, but a strong and interesting Aligoté with a grassy tang, and the feel of adequate ripeness. Though there is ripe fruit and flesh, the acidity comes up behind in fairly trenchant fashion. 50% in wood and you can see a touch at the finish, though it will be rapidly assimilated. Really very long finish.

2020, Mâcon-Lugny Les Charmes

86

In bottle. The bouquet shows a muscatty element in a very cheerful way, which seems to be characteristic of these hotter years. A pretty, medium bodied wine which will be attractive to drink early on.



Jasper Morris MW

2020: THE VINTAGE REPORT - RED WINES



2020, Chambertin Grand Cru, Domaine du Clos Frantin

93-97

Rich imperial purple, a little bit of oak, perhaps something lightly oxidative in this sample. High acidity, ripe supple tannins, a very significant intensity of a pure red concentrated fruit. Pretty much all whole bunch. There is a very significant wealth of fruit towards the back, full of energy, I think this will come through, and the wine will be fresher than the first nose suggested.

2020, Echezeaux Grand Cru, Domaine du Clos Frantin

92-95

From the Champ Traversin sector. Rich deep purple. The bulk of the fruit has stayed in balance, the tannins are ripe, fine even and there is just a little acidity to hold it all together. Quite long and detailed. Champ Traversin is a sandy site which drains quickly, but they got there in time.

2020 Chambolle-Musigny Les Chabiots 1er Cru

91-93

Quite rich purple, attractive, raspberry and plum, not over-ripe, there is potential here. Fresh acidity behind and sufficiently ripe tannins, the fruit has all the concentration it needs. Some ripe cherry notes too. Promising.

2020, Morey-St-Denis Les Sorbets 1er Cru

90-92

Deep but not exaggerated purple. Ripe plums on the nose, this has not gone over the limit. A couple of chocolate notes mixed in with the dark red fruit, good acidity of course, considerable length. Attractive wine of middling density and good balance.

2020, Nuits-St-Georges Château-Gris 1er Cru

91-94

Royal, indeed imperial, purple, with rather a wonderful bouquet. Quite a mix of fruits, fresh lively intense, purple fruit once could day, not too plummy, lively dark raspberry, a lot of power at the back of the palate for a wine which is aiming at elegance, with a finely poised finish.

2020, Vosne Romanée, Domaine du Clos Frantin ★ 5 Star Wine

91-94

From Les Damaudes and Basses Maizières. Rich deep purple. The bouquet is very pleasing, it has depth but does not overwhelm. Such power at the back and then the chiselled limestone fresh acidity, the liveliness comes from the hillside, the ballast from Basses Maizières. Together they work really well, with an excellent long finish.

2020, Gevrey-Chambertin Les Evocelles

88-90

Clear deep purple, the bouquet is taking a bit of coaxing. Rather on the ripe side. Clean pure but overpowerful, almost blackcurrant, or at least black cherry, and a little bit forced at the finish. The tannins and acidity are fine.

2020, Pommard Les Rugiens 1er Cru, Domaine du Pavillon

89-92

Plump purple, exceptionally concentrated but in living fruit. A bit like the Mercurey it has a riotous explosion followed by rather firm structure but the fruit is fresh enough that it will live to win the battle. Crisp fresh apples too.

2020, Aloxe-Corton Clos des Maréchaudes 1er Cru, Domaine du Pavillon

90-93

A brilliant purple with a pinkish edge and rather a high-class fresh raspberry and cherry fruited nose. The wood is a little bit present on the palate at the moment but will soon be swamped by the sumptuous fruit. Ripe, but this has not gone too far and the tannins also have good maturity. Quite a long, balanced finish.

2020, Mercurey Champs Martin 1er Cru, Domaine Adélie

89-91

Hugely intense deep dark purple, with a flamboyant richness of dark raspberry and plum fruit, heady and possibly heavy. Super-massive on the palate but still in red fruit, a very sunny fruit, tannins present but ripe enough, good acidity too – I think this will make it, and in style. Needs time though. A little bit of blood orange at the finish.

2020, Bourgogne Côte d'Or Clos Frantin, Domaine du Clos Frantin

88

In bottle. Punchy purple with considerable but not exaggerated ripeness of fruit, and once again the good acidity of the vintage, the fruit becoming fresher at the back of the palate. All red fruit, a little more raspberry than cherry. A pleasure with the possibility of further ageing!

2020, Rochevrès Moulin-à-Vent, Domaine de Rochevrès

90-93

Some of the elevage is in 350 litre barrel. Glowing intense purple, some reduction just after the bottling. Heavyweight but the fruit is fresh. Strawberry notes but otherwise dark red fruit with some bite to it. There is a nice touch of crystalline acidity and ripe enough tannins. Very long.

VINTAGE 2020

Red wines



Neal Martin

The **2020 CHAMBERTIN GRAND CRU** comes from parcels in close proximity to Latricières. It has a well-defined bouquet with blackberry, briary, crushed stone and a touch of menthol, the latter just a little incongruous. The palate is medium-bodied with a succulent opening, a fleshy and quite generous Chambertin, caressing and velvety with a deep, almost "plump" finish. This should be approachable vis-a-vis its peers, though there is satisfying substance here. **(93-95)**

The **2020 LATRICIÈRES-CHAMBERTIN GRAND CRU**, which does not come from the estate but is harvested by their team, has a very sorbet, menthol-fresh bouquet that has a hard time following the excellent Grands-Echézeaux. The palate is sweet on the entry with candied black cherry and boysenberry fruit, lightly spiced with good weight on the finish. This actually meliorates as it goes along and if the aromatics can gain more complexity in bottle, this should end up being a fine Latricières. **(92-94)**

The **2020 GRANDS-ECHÉZEUX GRAND CRU** has a much more complexity and a more nuanced bouquet, dark berry fruit and briary, crushed stone, clove and a touch of sage. Lovely. The palate is medium-bodied with sappy red fruit, fine tannins and perfectly judged acidity. This is a fine Grands-Echézeaux that will age well in bottle. Two barrels produced. **(93-95)**

The **2020 CLOS DE VOUGEOT GRAND CRU** offers a mélange of red and black fruit on the nose, touches of tobacco and sous-bois, quite well-defined. The palate is medium-bodied with saturated tannins on the entry, fine structure, good acidity, slightly candied with veins of blood orange and marmalade towards the grippy finish. This should age well in bottle. **(92-94)**

The **2020 CHAMBOLLE-MUSIGNY LES AMOUREUSES 1^{ER} CRU** has a glorious bouquet, very pure with plenty of black cherries, blueberry, violet and mineral scents. This is beautifully-defined. The palate is medium-bodied with sappy black fruit, fine acidity, quite caressing in terms of its silky texture but with real backbone behind it. This is one of the standouts from Albert Bichot this vintage. **(95-97)**

The **2020 NUITS SAINT-GEORGES CHÂTEAU-GRIS 1^{ER} CRU** has a clean and ripe bouquet with black cherries, raspberry coulis and light cassis scents. The palate is medium-bodied with sappy red fruit, fine grip, a little granular in texture with a touch of salinity on the finish. Fine. **(89-91)**

The **2020 GEVREY-CHAMBERTIN LES EVOCELLES** offers black cherries, cassis and light violet aromas on the nose, a little heady in style, though it manages to retain delineation. The palate is medium-bodied with supple tannins, a fine bead of acidity, quite an elegant Les Evocelles with a lightly spiced finish. Give this 3-5 years in bottle. **(89-91)**

The **2020 POMMARD LES RUGIENS 1^{ER} CRU**, which comes from Rugiens-Bas, certainly has one of the best aromatics from Bichot in this vintage with well-defined red berry fruit, briary and crushed rose petals, sous-bois scents emerging with time. The palate is medium-bodied with crunchy red fruit, partial whole bunch lending pepperiness towards the finish. This is definitely worth seeking out. **(91-93)**

The **2020 POMMARD CLOS DES URSULINES** has a clean and pure bouquet with black cherries and blueberry fruit, quite rich for a Pommard. The palate is well balanced, the 30% new oak neatly integrated, quite sinewy towards the black olive-tinged finish. Give this two or three years in bottle. **(87-89)**

The **2020 MERCUREY CHAMPS-MARTIN 1^{ER} CRU** offers lifted red cherry and strawberry scents on the nose, touches of violet emerging with time. The palate is medium-bodied with dark berry fruit, fine acidity and decent freshness towards the finish. **(88-90)**



95-97



93-95



Neal Martin

December 2021

VINTAGE 2020
White wines

Côte de Beaune

The **2020 CRIOTS-BÂTARD-MONTRACHET** Grand Cru, which comes from purchased must, has an attractive bouquet with pretty white peach, Conference pear and orange pith aromas, fine delineation. The palate is well balanced with fine acidity, good weight with a peach, apricot and grapefruit tinged finish. Fine length. **(91-93)**

The **2020 CORTON-CHARLEMAGNE GRAND CRU** has a light, fresh bouquet with pressed white flowers, white linen and light peachy aromas. The palate is well balanced with fine acidity, quite taut for a Corton-Charlemagne, certainly one of the better Bichot whites with more mineralité on the finish. This should age well. **(91-93)**

The **2020 MEURSAULT LES CHARMES 1^{ER} CRU**, mostly from Charmes-Dessus, has a well-defined bouquet with touches of orange pith and white peach, a hint of almond. The palate is well balanced with a viscous opening, a fine line of acidity. Fine. **(88-90)**

The **2020 CHASSAGNE-MONTRACHET MORGEOT 1^{ER} CRU** had been bottled when I visited. It has a clean and focused bouquet with white peach and touches of fresh pear. The palate is well balanced with fine acidity, lime cordial and orange zest, just a touch of reduction on the finish that works to its advantage. Fine. **(88-90)**



Chablis

The **2020 CHABLIS MOUTONNE GRAND CRU** shows quite a bit of reduction on the nose, which is unsurprising given how young it is. The palate is fresh and crisp with a fine line of acidity, touches of blood orange and quince, and fine salinity developing toward the finish. This is very primal at present and needs to cohere, but there is plenty of potential. **92+**

The **2020 CHABLIS LES BLANCHOTS GRAND CRU** has an attractive bouquet of honeysuckle and jasmine scents, sultry at first but opening with 10 minutes' aeration. The palate is well balanced with a citric entry. A fine, driving bead of acidity engenders a tensile, quite steely finish for a Blanchot. I think this will age with style. **92**

The **2020 CHABLIS MONTMAINS 1^{ER} CRU** has a lovely floral bouquet of orange blossom with hints of honeysuckle and jasmine. The palate is well balanced with a supple opening, slightly honeyed in texture and pithy toward the finish, revealing hints of peach skin and spices. This is a very promising Montmains that should age with style. **92**

December 1 & 15, 2021

Chablis 2020: top-scoring wines

Andy Howard MW reports on the consistent quality of the 2020 vintage in Chablis, which continues a run of fine vintages for this key Burgundian appellation, and picks his top-scoring wines from almost 200 tasted.

Domaine Long-Depaquit, Chablis, Moutonne Grand Cru Monopole 2020



As hoped for, this is another fantastic example of the special qualities of Moutonne, with great intensity of pear and apple fruit, with a faint tropical edge. Despite the concentration the fruit is pure and the focused acidity keeps the palate fresh and wanting more. The oak is barely noticeable and the wine finishes with a chalky, dry note which adds even more to the appeal. Very, very classy.

Drinking Window 2023 - 2037



Chablis 2020: top-value wines

After tasting almost two hundred Chablis 2020 wines, Andy Howard MW selects a dozen that should represent both good quality and value for money when the wines are available to buy.

Domaine Long-Depaquit, Chablis, 1er Cru Les Vaucopins, 2020



Showing a steely edge to balance the slightly exotic, stone fruit characters on the nose, this is another classy Chablis from Long-Depaquit. A Premier Cru Chablis with plenty of concentration on the palate and a sunny character, yet framed by citrus acidity and a lingering mineral, saline finish. This has the power to age very well.

Drinking Window 2022 - 2027





2020 Chablis and Chablis Premier Crus

Before starting the tasting, Régisseur (estate manager) Matthieu Mangenot explained that the conversion to organic farming is continuing. With respect to the 2020 vintage, he noted that "the season once again started early and thankfully the winter was relatively wet as we would definitely need those water reserves later. There were a few cold nights in April that made us nervous but in the end there was no real damage. The vegetative cycle advanced quickly and the flowering started in mid-May, almost one month in advance of a normal season, at least historically. June and July were exceptionally warm, indeed almost 2° C warmer than average, which means that those months were warmer than 2003! As a result, the vines used up the excess water from the winter and by the end of July we found ourselves with close to a 40% precipitation deficit. As such there were sectors where hydric stress was a problem. Thankfully, we had just enough rain in August to allow the vines to finish their ripening cycle. We chose to begin picking on the 24th of August as we had the alcohol levels we wanted but we also really wanted to preserve acidities. Other than some sunburned berries, the thick-skinned fruit was as clean as could be so we could pick relatively quickly. Yields were barely average to good at between 35 to 40 hl/ha with potential alcohols of 12.5 to 13%. As to the wines, perhaps the most surprising thing is how good the acidities are as this was totally unexpected. To be sure, the aromas are ripe but not really exotic and I really like the interplay of tension and delicacy. In short, the 2020s are clearly the product of a very ripe vintage yet they don't drink like it." Mangenot also mentioned that in 2020, and for the next few years, there will be no Montée de Tonnerre as the vines were pulled up.

2020 Chablis *Domaine Long-Depaquit: (88-90)*

(100% stainless). There is good Chablis typicity to the ripe and fresh aromas of pear, apple and citrus confit. In the same vein, there is good energy, volume and richness to the medium weight flavors that conclude in a delicious, markedly saline and refreshing finish that is topped off by a touch of bitter lemon. 2024+

2020 Chablis 1er Cru *Les Lys Domaine Long-Depaquit: (90-92)*

(from a 2-ha holding; all stainless). A more elegant if more restrained nose combines notes of mineral reduction, honeysuckle and citrus zest. The finer and more intense flavors possess a lovely sense of underlying tension while displaying solid length on the chalky and bone-dry finish. Lovely and understated in style. 2026+

2020 Chablis 1er Cru *Les Beugnons Domaine Long-Depaquit: (90-92)*

(from a 2.3 ha parcel). Significantly riper aromas include those of white peach, citrus confit and quinine along with a similar note of mineral reduction. The succulent, round and generously proportioned middle weight flavors possess very good punch that carries over to the clean and dry finish that is supported by bright acidity. 2025+



2020 Chablis 1er Cru *Les Vaillons Domaine Long-Depaquit: (90-93)*

(from a holding of 4.3 ha that is 80% from Epinottes with the balance from Séchet and Les Lys; 10% wood). Cool, pure and airy array is comprised by notes of freshly sliced white-fleshed fruit, oyster shell and a hint of iodine. There is excellent intensity and lovely detail to the medium-bodied flavors that also conclude in a lingering and bone dry finish that, like the Les Lys, is noticeably chalky. One to check out. 2026+

2020 Chablis 1er Cru *Les Vaucopins Domaine Long-Depaquit: (89-92)*

(raised in ~15% wood). A whiff of the exotic that includes lychee and passion fruit is laced with floral and lemongrass wisps. The caressing and round if not especially dense middle weight flavors exude a subtle minerality on the focused and lingering finish. 2025+

2020 Chablis 1er Cru *Montmains Domaine Long-Depaquit: (91-93)*

(from .5 ha parcel in Forêts). Restrained aromas of citrus confit, iodine, spice and apple give way to notably denser medium-bodied flavors that flash evident power that builds on the bitter lemon-inflected finish that is markedly dry, sleek and balanced. This is quite good and worth your interest plus it's very Forêts in character. 2027+



2020 Chablis Grand Crus

2020 Chablis Grand Cru Les Blanchots *Domaine Long-Depaquit*: (91-93)

(from a 1.5 ha parcel of 40+ year old vines; ~25% wood). Moderate wood surrounds the overtly floral suffused nose of softly exotic white peach, sea breeze and pretty spice whiffs. The succulent, round and plump flavors exude a refreshing salinity on the very dry and sneaky long finish. Like several wines in the range, this needs to develop more depth, but the underlying material appears to be present for that to occur. 2027+

2020 Chablis Grand Cru Les Vaudésirs *Domaine Long-Depaquit*: (91-94)

(from a holding of 2.6 ha; ~25% new wood). Here the wafting nose flirts with exoticism with its aromas of both white and yellow peach, mineral reduction, salt water and algae. The refined and almost delicate flavors dance across the palate though there is good richness on the sappy, clean and equally dry finale. This too needs to develop more depth but it's promising. 2027+

2020 Chablis Grand Cru Moutonne *Domaine Long-Depaquit*: (91-94)

(2.35 ha monopole that spans a parcel of vines situated in both Vaudésir and Preuses though 95% of it is in Vaudésir; the site is protected from the wind and often gives very ripe wines; ~25% new wood). Once again there is good Chablis typicity to the ripe but cool and reserved aromas of dried orchard fruit, anise, acacia and orange peel. There is an appealing tension and refinement to the succulent medium weight flavors that are supported by lemon-tinged acidity on the refreshingly dry finale. This is firm enough to need at least a few years of patience. 2028+

2020 Chablis Grand Cru Les Preuses *Domaine Long-Depaquit*: (92-94) Sweet spot wine

Discreet though certainly perceptible wood sets off the ripe aromas of citrus confit, spring flowers, iodine and shellfish. The mouthfeel of the medium weight plus flavors is nothing short of gorgeous as it's at once caressing but punchy on the sappy and strikingly long finish. This too would benefit from having better depth, but the density of material is such that more will almost certainly develop if allowed a few years first. 2028+

2020 Chablis Grand Cru Les Clos *Domaine Long-Depaquit*: (90-93)

(from a 1.5 ha parcel; ~35% new wood). Here too the nose is cool, airy and restrained with its combination of oyster shell, floral, quinine and green apple aromas. There is equally good refinement though not the same mid-palate density to the beautifully detailed and even drier finale. Like both the style and the delivery but this is presently somewhat one dimensional though with that said, there is ample cellaring potential present. 2030+

2020 Chablis Grand Cru Bougros *Domaine Long-Depaquit*: (91-94)

The aromas of green fruit, lemon-lime and tidal pool are trimmed in hints of wood toast and menthol. There is again very solid mid-palate density to the more powerful and muscular flavors that possess a generous mouthfeel before tightening up on the impressively persistent if slightly rustic finale. 2030+

The "Sweet Spot Wines" section addresses the wide gulf between the under \$60 Top Value wines and the generally over \$150.



October 8, 2021

Affordable Burgundy: top 30 buys

The headlines may be full of rarified names with stratospheric auction price tags, but don't despair – it's still possible to get highly enjoyable Burgundy whites and reds at realistic prices. Here we pick 30 of the best available right now at £25 or less.



Andy Howard MW
October 8, 2021



Albert Bichot, Secret de Famille, Bourgogne, Côte d'Or, Burgundy, 2019



Maison Bichot has produced this fine example of Bourgogne Côte d'Or from grapes sourced from Meursault, Puligny and Saint-Aubin. In 2019, low-yields add extra concentration, with 35% of the blend aged in oak for eight months (10% new oak) for extra depth while retaining crisp acidity and crystalline fruit flavours. A whiff of struck-match reduction on the nose gives this more than a hint of village-level Puligny or Meursault - impressive for this newly created quality tier.

Drinking Window 2021 - 2023



Albert Bichot, Santenay, Burgundy, 2014



The quality of wine from Maison Albert Bichot continues to rise, as shown by this Santenay - an elegant wine from the cooler 2014 vintage. With a fragrant, precise texture of spiced berry fruit on the palate balanced by crisp acidity, this appealing Santenay is a great advert for the wines from the south of the Côte d'Or. With very subtle oak ageing and autumn leaf character, there is appealing maturation here. 2014 is not the richest of recent vintages but there is plenty of substance here, albeit in a less overt way.

Drinking Window 2021 - 2023



96 ALBERT BICHOT Chambolle-Musigny 1^{er} Cru Les Amoureuses 2019

This is intense from beginning to end, with earth and vegetal accents boosting the core flavors of black currant, blackberry and violet. Combines elegance with power, while an underlying mineral note builds to the long aftertaste. Terrific balance and length. Best from 2025 through 2045. (Issue: Nov 30, 2021)

95 ALBERT BICHOT Latricières-Chambertin Grand Cru 2019

Floral, cherry, raspberry, mineral and spice aromas and flavors are the hallmarks of this silky red. Graceful and persistent in a subtle way, this is long and harmonious, with the emphasis on fruit and floral elements right through the finish. A picture of finesse and detail. Best from 2025 through 2042. (Issue: Nov 30, 2021)



94 ALBERT BICHOT Echezeaux Grand Cru Domaine du Clos Frantin 2019

Black cherry and blackberry are framed by vanilla and toasty oak in this flamboyant red, which is supple and juicy, with a lingering aftertaste of violet and berry notes, as well as chalky tannins. A profile of unrestrained energy. Best from 2025 through 2045. (Issue: Nov 30, 2021)

93 ALBERT BICHOT Gevrey-Chambertin 2019

This lithe red is packed with ripe cherry, strawberry and floral aromas and flavors, allied to a supple texture. Firms up as it builds to a lingering finish, remaining fresh and balanced. Very charming and long. Drink now through 2033. (Issue: Nov 30, 2021)

92 ALBERT BICHOT Vosne-Romanée Domaine du Clos Frantin 2019

This red is defined by gorgeous cherry, strawberry and currant fruit flavors, accented by hints of cinnamon, vanilla and light, toasty oak. Fresh and harmonious, with a lingering finish of fruit and spice notes. Drink now through 2032. (Issue: Nov 15, 2021)

91 ALBERT BICHOT Gevrey-Chambertin Les Murots Domaine du Clos Frantin 2019

A rich style, this red boasts cherry, raspberry, earth and tobacco flavors. The tannins are robust yet integrated, leaving a dense matrix of support on the finish. Best from 2023 through 2033. (Issue: Nov 30, 2021)

91 ALBERT BICHOT Fixin 1^{er} Cru Clos de la Perrière 2019

A firm red, yet with a beam of cherry fruit offsetting the iron and tobacco notes. This is focused and vibrant, with a long finish of fruit, spice and mineral. Best from 2024 through 2038. (Issue: Nov 30, 2021)



VINTAGE 2019

Côte de Beaune wines

Taster: Bruce Sanderson

93 ALBERT BICHOT Beaune Clos de l'Ermitage 2019

This is rich and silky, setting the stage for black cherry and blackberry fruit, accented by spice and earth. Polished and harmonious, with a lingering, vibrant finish. Drink now through 2033. (Issue: Sep 15, 2021)

92 ALBERT BICHOT Beaune Les Epenottes Domaine du Pavillon 2019

Lush and intense fruit, this red features cherry, plum, small red berries and spice flavors. There is a suppleness and harmony that extends through the lingering finish. Drink now through 2032. (Issue: Nov 15, 2021)

92 ALBERT BICHOT Pommard Clos des Ursulines Domaine du Pavillon 2019

A lush, polished style, whose texture is saturated with black cherry, blackberry, vanilla and toasty oak flavors. The underlying structure emerges on the lingering finish. Best from 2023 through 2038. (Issue: Nov 30, 2021)

90 ALBERT BICHOT Aloxe-Corton 1^{er} Cru Clos des Maréchaudes Domaine du Pavillon 2019

This is packed with bright cherry fruit and stays lively as accents of earth and spice add detail. Firm, chalky tannins exert their presence as this red plays out on the long, dense finish. Best from 2024 through 2035. (Issue: Nov 15, 2021)

90 ALBERT BICHOT Savigny-Les-Beaune 1^{er} Cru Les Peuillets 2019

Strawberry, cherry and spice flavors highlight this intense, lively red, which is lean, ending on the sinewy side, with chalky tannins. Fresh and long. Best from 2023 through 2032. (Issue: Nov 30, 2021)

Regional wines

90 ALBERT BICHOT Bourgogne Côte d'Or Clos Frantin Domaine du Clos Frantin 2019

There is a sappiness to this red, enhancing the wild cherry, boysenberry and earth flavors. A mineral element also emerges as this cruises to a long finish. Drink now through 2025. (Issue: Nov 30, 2021)

89 ALBERT BICHOT Bourgogne Vieilles Vignes de Pinot Noir 2019

There is an appealing smoky accent to the black cherry and blackberry fruit in this supple red. Firms up nicely, remaining fresh and persistent on the finish. Drink now through 2025. (Issue: Nov 30, 2021)

Beaujolais wines

91 ALBERT BICHOT Moulin à Vent Domaine de Rochegrès 2019

A brooding Gamay with dried blackberry, mocha and leather notes that are matched with spice, licorice and herb details. Smoky finish. Drink now through 2023. (Issue: Oct 31, 2021)

90 ALBERT BICHOT Fleurie La Madone 2019

An enticing red, with hints of tea rose and violet leading to ripe cherry and wild strawberry fruit, backed by a subtle underpinning of fresh, loamy earth. Light, creamy tannins firm the fresh finish. Drink now through 2024. (Issue: Dec 15, 2021)

87 ALBERT BICHOT Morgon Les Charmes 2019

A subtle red, with a delicate skein of spice, light, creamy tannins and hints of dried cherry and strawberry fruit. Drink now. (Issue: web only 2021)





www.winemag.com

December 2021-May 2022



Anna Lee C. Iijima

2019 REDS

Pommard Clos des Ursulines *Domaine du Pavillon*: 94

Cellar Selection

Dustings of crushed stone, ash and violet petals introduce this red-berried, satiny sip sourced from the southern end of Pommard near Volnay. Red-cherry and red-plum flavors on the palate are ripe but youthful and pure, accented by hints of fur and smoke and a lingering frame of fine-grained, sharply lingering tannins. It should approach peak by 2023 and improve through at least 2035. (December 1, 2021)

2019 Chassagne-Montrachet: 93

Red-cherry pastilles and smoky, spicy notes of charred anise and clove introduce this fresh, fruit-focused Pinot Noir. Finely etched with tannins and mouthwatering in style, it's an immediately enjoyable wine with an elegant, subtly earthen finish. At peak now-2027. (May 1, 2022)

Santenay 1^{er} Cru Clos Rousseau: 92

Delicate notes of toast and crushed granite accent zippy red cherry and redcurrant flavors in this fresh-fruited, medium-bodied wine. Matured 14 to 16 months in 100% oak (20% to 30% new), it balances crisp red-fruit flavors against hints of cherry caramel and black pepper. Fine, silky tannins make it approachable young but the wine is likely to improve through 2030 and hold much longer. (December 1, 2021)

Savigny-les-Beaune 2019: 91

Rounded, velveteen streaks of blackberry and plum flavors are kissed with hazelnut and violet in this smoky Pinot Noir. While plump and weighty, it's balanced by a kick of black-currant acidity and subtle hints of sage and bramble on the finish. Welcoming young, the wine should maintain through 2026. (May 1, 2022)

Fixin: 92

Editor's choice

Seductive notes of rose petal and raspberry preserves introduce this ripe yet pristine Pinot Noir. Matured 14 to 16 months in 100% oak (only 15% to 20% new), it reveals just a whisper of smoke, accenting notes of black spice, musk and lilac. Crisp and medium bodied but concentrated and juicy too, it drinks particularly well young for its exuberant, fruity demeanor and fine-grained, taut tannins. (March 1, 2022)

Gevrey-Chambertin Les Murots *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: 91

Whiffs of nutmeg and musk lend savory nuances to fleshy black-plum and roasted-cherry flavors in this wine. Ripe and supple with soft, yielding tannins, the palate is muted by layers of earth and smoke. Approachable young, the wine should hit peak from 2024 through 2027 and hold further. (March 1, 2022)

Cellar Selection

94



Editors' Choice

92





www.winemag.com

September 1 & July 1, 2021



Roger Voss

2019 REDS

2019 Volnay 1^{er} Cru Les Santenots *Domaine du Pavillon*: 94

The inklings of the opulence of a fine Volnay are just beginning to show in this perfumed wine. Richness and spice add to the black fruits and youthful acidity in a complex wine that promises plenty of aging. Drink from 2025. CELLAR SELECTION (September 1, 2021)

2019 Vosne-Romanée *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: 93

A powerfully rich wine from vineyards owned by the Bichot family, this dense wine is packed with impressive tannins that are integrating and filling out. It will age well, so wait to drink until 2024. CELLAR SELECTION (September 1, 2021)

2019 Nuits-Saint-Georges 1^{er} Cru Château-Gris: 93

From a small, wholly owned premier cru vineyard, this wine has a good contrast between the smooth red fruits and acidity. The balance is held by touches of wood that are beginning to soften. Drink from 2025. (September 1, 2021)

2019 Beaune Les Epenottes *Domaine du Pavillon*: 92

This property that lies above the run of Beaune Premier Cru vineyards has produced a full, ripe wine. Generous red-cherry and plum fruits are shot through with young, fresh acidity. Wood-aging flavors are judicious, discreet and softening. Drink from 2024. EDITORS' CHOICE (September 1, 2021)

2019 Fixin 1^{er} Cru Clos de la Perrière: 92

From a wholly owned, walled vineyard, this wine offers richness as well as good acidity in its red-cherry fruits. Backed by wood aging, the wine has density and a poise that will allow it to age well. Drink from 2024. (September 1, 2021)

2019 Mercurey En Pierre Milley *Domaine Adélie*: 90

With layers of intense fruits that are backed by the wood aging, this single-vineyard wine is full, ripe and already offers good potential. The wine's perfumed character balances satisfyingly with the solid structure. Drink the wine from 2023. (September 1, 2021)

2019 Bourgogne Hautes-Côtes de Nuits Les Dames Huguettes: 92

Although young, this wine is also well balanced. Its tannins and generous berry fruits harmonize well, giving a fresh, juicy character and a drier core. Drink the wine from 2022. EDITORS' CHOICE (July 1, 2021)

2019 Bourgogne Côte d'Or Pinot Noir Secret de Famille: 90

With elegant tannins and rich black fruits, this is a ripe, structured wine. It is young, bursting with vitality, acidity and textured fruitiness. Give it a few months and drink this wine from 2022. (July 1, 2021)





www.winemag.com

September 1 & July 1, 2021



Roger Voss

2019 WHITES

2019 Beaune 1^{er} Cru Clos des Mouches *Domaine du Pavillon: 92*

Better known for its red wines, this premier cru vineyard also has a plot of Chardonnay. Ripe with yellow fruits and toastiness, this wine has a full-bodied character, juggling crisp acidity with generous fruitiness and texture. Drink the wine from 2022. (September 1, 2021)

2019 Chablis Grand Cru Les Blanchots *Domaine Long-Depaquit: 92*

From Bichot's *Domaine Long-Depaquit*, this wine is ripe with citrus and crisp apple. Textured and mineral, it has a good balance between weight, spicy richness and intense fruitiness. Drink from 2023. (September 1, 2021)

2019 Meursault *Domaine du Pavillon: 91*

From the Bichot-owned *Domaine du Pavillon*, this wine is generous, with hints of honey as well as crisper citrus. Wood aging points up the richness. Drink this open, fruity and ageworthy wine from 2023. (September 1, 2021)

2019 Nuits-Saint-Georges Les Terrasses Château-Gris: 91

There are not many white wines from Nuits-St.-Georges, but this one is rounded, softly textured and full of yellow fruits. Cut with a citrus character, the fruits are sustained by the wood aging. Drink this rich wine from 2023. (September 1, 2021)

2019 Santenay: 90

This soft, smoothly textured wine is rich with spice, vanilla and creamed-apple and pear flavors. The wine is generous, warm in its structure and will be ready from 2022. (September 1, 2021)

2019 Bourgogne Côte d'Or Chardonnay Secret de Famille: 91

Aged in wood for a year, this is a fresh, perfumed wine. Touches of the wood aging show in a toasty, vanilla edge while the wine also has a crisp texture and attractive lemon flavors. Drink the wine from 2022. (July 1, 2021)

2019 Bourgogne Aligoté Champ Renard *Domaine Adèle: 88*

Here is a seductive, creamy character to this light, bright and poised wine. It gives a ripe kiwi and citrus feel to balance the crisp acidity. The wine is ready to drink. (September 1, 2021)

2019 Macon-Lugny Les Charmes: 88

This wine is bright, with plenty of acidity. With crisp, citrus fruits dominating, the wine also has a mineral texture that will soften. This ripe wine will be ready from late 2021. (July 1, 2021)



94 ALBERT BICHOT Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru Domaine du Pavillon 2019

A rich, opulent white, this features lemon cake, lime blossom, baking spice and stone flavors. Though intense, there's also a sense of restraint, yet the finish is long and complex. Drink now through 2027.

92 ALBERT BICHOT Beaune 1er Cru Clos des Mouches Domaine du Pavillon 2019

An opulent style, this delivers tangy apple, butterscotch and toasted spice flavors backed by a spine of acidity. It's harmonious, with the butterscotch element lingering. Drink now through 2025.

92 ALBERT BICHOT Meursault 1er Cru Les Charmes Domaine du Pavillon 2019

This creamy version is laced with peach, lemon cake and sweet spice aromas and flavors, with a floral accent adding lift. Balanced and long. Drink now through 2025.

92 ALBERT BICHOT Meursault Domaine du Pavillon 2019

Smoky, spicy aromas settle down in this expressive white, leading to butterscotch, peach, lemon and hazelnut flavors. It's all tied together nicely by the vibrant structure, winding down to a lingering conclusion. Drink now through 2025.

90 ALBERT BICHOT Meursault 2019

A bracing style whose melon, peach and apple flavors are defined by the vibrant structure. Tails off just a little on the finish, yet is otherwise balanced and tactile in the end. Drink now through 2024.

90 ALBERT BICHOT Puligny-Montrachet 2019

This starts out open and charming, picking up cut as the peach, melon and hazelnut flavors develop. It's precise and detailed on the spicy finish. Drink now.

90 ALBERT BICHOT Nuits-Saint-Georges Les Terrasses Château-Gris 2019

Orange blossom and tangerine aromas give way to lemon, butterscotch and baking spice flavors. It's lean and tangy, with a lingering aftertaste of oak spice and citrus. Drink now through 2025.

90 ALBERT BICHOT Mercurey Les Champs Michaux Domaine Adélie 2019

Well-marked by new oak, this white offers plenty of peach and lemon flavors to match the vanilla and butterscotch notes. Balanced and creamy in the end, with a long finish. Drink now through 2024.

91 ALBERT BICHOT Pouilly-Fuissé 2019

There's some weight to this white, with an accent of honey joining the peach, apple pie and baking spice flavors. Harmonious and fresh, with spice notes echoing on the finish. Drink now through 2024.

90 ALBERT BICHOT Saint-Véran 2019

A plush, broad style, boasting peach, vanilla and lemon cake flavors. Its open-knit texture and lacy feel make it enjoyable now. Fine, juicy finish. Drink now.

90 ALBERT BICHOT Viré-Clessé 2019

Fresh and balanced, with a touch of earth shading the core flavors of peach and apple, lingering with accents of oak spice on the finish. Drink now.

88 ALBERT BICHOT Montagny 1er Cru 2019

Ripe aromas and flavors of mango and pineapple mark this round white. It's balanced on the soft side and moderately long. Drink now.

88 ALBERT BICHOT Macon-Villages 2019

A wiry style, defined by its vivid acidity, evoking apple, melon and citrus flavors. The cleansing finish leaves a tactile impression.

88 ALBERT BICHOT Bourgogne Côte d'Or Chardonnay Secret de Famille 2019

An open, fluid style in which the peach, melon and oak spice flavors are well-integrated and moderately long. Drink now.

88 ALBERT BICHOT Bourgogne Vieilles Vignes de Chardonnay 2018

An open, easygoing white, offering apple, peach and light spice flavors, with lingering notes of smoke and spice. Drink now.

87 ALBERT BICHOT Bourgogne Aligoté 2019

This is juicy and evokes apple and almond flavors. Balanced, it finishes crisply. Drink now.

Web Only - 2021

92 ALBERT BICHOT Chablis Les Clos Domaine Long-Depaquit 2019

Round and intense, this evokes peach, apple, lemon and mineral aromas and flavors. A light smoky element lingers on the finish, with fine harmony and length. Drink now through 2025.

91 ALBERT BICHOT Chablis Moutonne Domaine Long-Depaquit 2019

A bracing style, with a chalky feel underlying lemon cake, yellow plum and green melon flavors. It's vibrant, yet balanced and approachable, with a mouthwatering finish. Drink now through 2024

90 ALBERT BICHOT Chablis Les Blanchots Domaine Long-Depaquit 2019

A juicy, well-defined version, this exhibits apple, yellow plum, lemon and stone flavors. It's backed by a spine of steely acidity that drives the mouthwatering finish. Drink now through 2024

90 ALBERT BICHOT Chablis Les Preuses Domaine Long-Depaquit 2019

A lean, wiry white, with a touch of oak spice framing apple, lemon and lanolin flavors. It's bracing and moderately long. Drink now through 2025.

91 ALBERT BICHOT Chablis Montée de Tonnerre Domaine Long-Depaquit 2019

There's nice cut to the peach, lemon cake and herb flavors in this white, along with a light smoky element. Lively and long, ending with stone and citrus accents. Drink now through 2025.

91 ALBERT BICHOT Chablis Les Vaucopins Domaine Long-Depaquit 2019

Lemon cake, vanilla and toasty pastry flavors take on a green plum note as this fresh white develops on the palate, leaving a mineral element on the finish. Drink now through 2025.

90 ALBERT BICHOT Chablis Les Vaillons Domaine Long-Depaquit 2019

A latent stoniness underlines the white peach, apple and lemon fruit in this sleek, balanced white, which lingers with a fresh finish of fruit and mineral. Drink now through 2024.

89 ALBERT BICHOT Chablis Domaine Long-Depaquit 2019

Fresh and round, with the slightest hint of pineapple accenting peach and apple fruit. Herbs and earth add more detail as this winds down on the lingering finish. Drink now.





August 2021

FRENCH SPARKLERS



BEST BUY

89 | Albert Bichot

Crémant de Bourgogne Brut Réserve (BEST BUY) Gingery with a mineral undertone, this wine is dry and austere, its slightly bitter apricot flavor ready to take on oily fish, whether bluefish or mackerel. —J.G. *Albert Bichot USA, NY*

Published on July 21st, 2021

CORTON-CHARLEMAGNE GRAND CRU Domaine du Pavillon 2019**Score: 96 Points**

In spite of the ripe-orange and exotic-fruit character that pours from the glass, there's nothing superficial about this wine. Thanks to its generosity and very attractive fruit, this makes a very friendly initial impression on the palate, then the intense minerality comes through, building to a serious crescendo at the very fresh finish. Drink or hold.

**CHABLIS GRAND CRU MOUTONNE, Monopole, Domaine Long-Depaquit 2019****Score: 95 Points**

Quite exotic nose (mango!) but also with some good flinty character. This is an excellent example of a top-class Chablis from a warm vintage. The wonderful balance of richness, minerality and lively acidity makes this exciting now, but it's also got the structure to age for a number of years. Drink or hold.

**CHABLIS 1^{ER} CRU LES VAUCOPINS Domaine Long-Depaquit 2019****Score: 92 Points**

A very expressive Chablis that's full of a wide range of citrus and melon aromas. The initial impression is of full ripeness and a certain creaminess, but as it flows over the palate, this turns drier and more chalky, the clean finish quite salty. Drink or hold.

MEURSAULT Domaine du Pavillon 2019**Score: 91 Points**

A prototypic, full-bodied and succulent Meursault with a bold style, but also plenty of apricot and some mango. Quite some weight, but enough acidity to keep this on the straight path. Bold, juicy finish with a touch of minerality. Drink now.

**CHASSAGNE-MONTRACHET 2019****Score: 91 Points**

Quite a flinty and funky (reduction) nose. But, once it opens, there's attractive ripe-apricot character. The medium-bodied palate has nice, creamy elegance with well-integrated oak that supports the harmonious finish neatly. Drink or hold.

MONTAGNY 1^{ER} CRU 2019**Score: 91 Points**

Very attractive nose of fresh pineapple and yellow grapefruit with delicate oak and a touch of something floral. Medium-bodied with nice creaminess from sur-lie aging, which complements the lively acidity and chalky minerality very nicely. Long, elegant finish. Drink or hold.

BOURGOGNE CÔTE D'OR CHARDONNAY SECRET DE FAMILLE 2019**Score: 90 Points**

Immediately appealing pear and lemon nose, then a crowd-pleasing balance of creamy, medium body, ripe fruit and lively acidity that leads you into the salty finish. A blend of wines from Saint Aubin, Puligny-Montrachet and Meursault. Drink now.

**POUILLY-FUISSÉ 2019****Score: 89 Points**

Good harmony of candied orange and apricot on the open nose with vanilla oak and a hint of melted butter. Full-bodied, also because the tannins add plenty of presence to the palate. Some minerality at the firm finish. Drink now.

SAINT-VÉРАН 2019**Score: 89 Points**

Full citrus, apricot and melted-butter nose. Good balance, in spite of the considerable body and pronounced tannins, thanks to the bright acidity. Drink now.

VIRÉ-CLESSÉ 2019**Score: 88 Points**

This bold and round chardonnay has plenty of attractive caramelized-pineapple and bitter-cream aromas. Quite some tannins at the finish. Soft acidity in the context of the vintage. Drink now.

MÂCON-LUGNY LES CHARMES 2019**Score: 88 Points**

Open and buttery nose with some nice ripe-apricot character and a hint of muscat (from the muscat clones of chardonnay). Medium to full body with a ripe but properly dry palate and some nice chalkiness at the finish. Drink now.

Published on July 21st, 2021

LATRICIÈRES-CHAMBERTIN GRAND CRU 2019

Score: 95 Points

Deep, dark and slightly wild, the serious tannin structure already sitting so exactly in the full-bodied and concentrated palate. Very subtle, earthy and bitter-chocolate notes at the long, powerful finish that is already really silky. Drink or hold.

CLOS DE VOUGEOT GRAND CRU Domaine du Clos Frantin 2019

Score: 95 Points

Deep and rich with a slew of forest-berry character and hints of caramel and bitter chocolate. Serious concentration, built on excellent tannic foundations. Although this has been built for serious aging, you could still open the bottle now and experience everything that makes this wine remarkable. Drink or hold.

VOSNE-ROMANÉE 1^{ER} CRU LES MALCONSORTS Domaine du Clos Frantin 2019

Score: 93 Points

The attractive red-beet and milk-chocolate nose leads you into a full-bodied, tannic wine that's built for long aging. Plenty of ripe plum on the very bold, almost massive palate. Expands nicely as it aerates, but you need to be patient. Drinkable now, but best from 2024.

NUITS-SAINT-GEORGES 1^{ER} CRU CHÂTEAU-GRIS, Monopole 2019

Score: 93 Points

An impressive Nuits-Saint-Georges with ripe forest-berry aromas that are nicely accentuated by the smoky oak. The earthy notes unfold slowly as it aerates. Very good ripeness and substance, but also very good freshness. The finish is long and complex. Drink or hold.

FIXIN 2019

Score: 91 Points

A very solid wine for this little-known and moderately priced appellation. Plenty of sour-cherry and red-plum fruit. Nice sweetness on the palate, the tannins already well integrated, the finish quite long and harmonious. Drink or hold.

POMMARD 1^{ER} CRU LES RUGIENS Domaine du Pavillon 2019

Score: 93 Points

An impressively powerful and dense Pommard, but with moderate, dry tannins that are already well integrated into the generous body. Dark finish with pronounced plum and earth character. Drink or hold.

POMMARD CLOS DES URSULINES, Monopole, Domaine du Pavillon 2019

Score: 93 Points

Very attractive red-fruit nose with some floral notes and just a touch of smoky oak. An elegant wine for this appellation and you could easily mistake it for a Volnay. Very good depth, but also lovely freshness at the finish, which makes the tannins feel gentle. Long, elegant finish with a subtle, earthy touch. Albert Bichot's Côte de Beaune cellar is situated right next to this vineyard. Drink or hold.

SANTENAY 1^{ER} CRU CLOS ROUSSEAU 2019

Score: 90 Points

A classic Côte de Beaune red with exactly the lively red-fruit character, together with, delicate earthiness and hint of spice that you expect from these wines. Well-judged tannins that don't dominate the wine at any point, the fresh finish long and precisely contoured. Drink or hold.

BEAUNE CLOS DE L'ERMITAGE 2019

Score: 91 Points

Full of black-cherry fruit and a touch of smoky oak. This has generous fruit, but also striking freshness and quite full, grainy tannins. Mountain freshness at the bright finish. From a high-altitude vineyard site. Drink or hold.

SAVIGNY-LÈS-BEAUNE 2019

Score: 90 Points

A classic Savigny-Lès-Beaune with the sour-cherry aroma, rather sleek body and lively acidity that you expect from this appellation. Healthy tannins that are moderately dry. Good length, the refreshing finish both slightly sappy and mineral. Drink or hold.

MERCUREY 1^{ER} CRU CHAMPS-MARTIN Domaine Adélie 2019

Score: 90 Points

If somebody told me that this was a wine from a 1er Cru in the Côte d'Or, rather than Mercurey, I would believe them. Full black-cherry nose with plenty of earthy undertones and a hint of smoke, then a full, rather round palate with some healthy tannins. This makes quite a bold statement. Rather supple finish. Drink now.

BOURGOGNE CÔTE D'OR PINOT NOIR SECRET DE FAMILLE 2019

Score: 89 Points

Attractive fresh-plum nose with a hint of bitter chocolate. Ripe, robust and quite tannic for a wine from this rather humble appellation. Plenty of character here. From vineyards in Côte de Nuits. Drink now.





2019 white Burgundies

2019 Bourgogne Côte d'Or Chardonnay "Secret de Famille": 87

A very pretty nose freely offers up its notes of apple, citrus and spice hints where the latter are also present on the racy, intense and delicious middle weight flavors that conclude in a lingering bitter lemon inflected finish. This isn't especially complex but in the context of what is typical for its level, this merits your interest. 2023+

2019 Beaune 1er Cru "Clos des Mouches" *Domaine du Pavillon*: (89-92)

(from a parcel near Montrevenots). A vague whiff of the exotic suffuses the ripe aromas of melon, pear and apple-scented nose. There is fine volume to the succulent and caressing medium-bodied flavors that conclude in a bitter lemon-inflected finale. This will definitely need at least a few years of keeping to round out the finish. 2025+

2019 Meursault *Domaine du Pavillon*: (88-90)

(from organically farmed fruit in Les Corbins, Criots, En Marcausse and Les Dressoles). Ripe and fresh aromas offer up notes of hazelnut, white orchard fruit and a whiff of citrus confit. The delicious, round and caressing middle weight flavors possess reasonable vibrancy while displaying good length. This linear effort will need at least a few years to further flesh out. 2024+

2019 Meursault 1er Cru "Les Charmes" *Domaine du Pavillon*: (89-92)

(from Charmes Dessus). A softly toasty mix of white and yellow peach, acacia and spice precedes notably finer medium weight flavors that possess really lovely vibrancy and a lovely mid-palate texture while displaying good depth and persistence. 2026+

2019 Chassagne-Montrachet 1er Cru "Morgeot": (90 - 92)

Subtle but easily perceptible oak influence surrounds the aromas of petrol, rosemary oil and white flowers. The wood is also perceptible on the palate of the medium-bodied, dense and relatively powerful flavors that possess very good depth and persistence. 2025+

2019 Chassagne-Montrachet 1er Cru "Vide Bourse": (90-93)

Here the vaguely exotic nose of white and yellow orchard fruit is both more elegant and more complex. Once again there is fine volume and density to the more refined medium weight flavors that possess slightly better precision if not quite the same power on the youthfully austere finale. This attractive effort needs to develop better depth, but the underlying material appears to be present for that to occur. 2026+

2019 Puligny-Montrachet 1er Cru "Champ Gain": 92

(from vines on the Truffières side of the vineyard). A cooler and prettier nose is comprised by notes of mineral reduction, citrus confit, green apple and acacia blossom. There is excellent intensity to the beautifully delineated middle weight flavors that culminate in a clean and very dry but not really austere finale. This is really quite good and worth considering. 2026+

2019 Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru *Domaine du Pavillon*: (91-94)

(from a 1.2 ha parcel situated in Languettes). Moderate wood toast sets off the aromas of Granny Smith apples, acacia and a plethora of citrus influences. There is fine volume to the delicious and borderline creamy larger-scaled flavors that brim with both dry extract and minerality on the lemon-tinged and youthfully austere finale. This compact and serious effort should definitely benefit from mid to even longer-term cellaring. 2029+





**VOSNE-ROMANEE 1er CRU
LES MALCONSORTS
2019**
Domaine du Clos Frantin
BEST IN SHOW: 97/100



The ultimate accolade of « BEST IN SHOW » is given to the finest wines selected among the Platinum winners. In 2021, it was awarded to only 50 wines among the 18,094 wines tasted during the competition.



June 2021

Top 100 Values of the Year

Our blind panels tasted more than **11,500** wines during the past 12 months. Our critics—**Patrick J. Comiskey, Joshua Greene, Stephanie Johnson, Rachel DelRocco Terrazas, Tara Q. Thomas and Corey Warren**—selected these 100 as the best performers priced \$20 or less. Within each category—sparkling, white, rosé and red—we present the wines by score, descending; by price, ascending, then by winery. *Find a complete list of wines tasted and all reviews at wineandspiritsmagazine.com.*

93 POINTS

Horizon de Bichot

2017 Vin de France Chardonnay (France, 93 points) From the Languedoc venture of Burgundy négociant Albert Bichot, this stands out for its cool restraint. It's gently fruity, with notes of peach, pear, lemon; it's lightly leesy, with a shortbread-like richness and snap. And it's refreshing, finishing with notes of citrus zest and herbs. Even ABCers can appreciate this—especially at the price.
—T.Q.T. *Albert Bichot, NY*





June 2021

What Ray's Pouring Now Executive Wine Editor Ray Isle's favorite things to drink this month



2018 ALBERT BICHOT DOMAINE DE ROCHEGRÈS MOULIN-À-VENT

Early summer is perfect for lightly chilled reds, and cru Beaujolais definitely serves that need. This one, from a notable Burgundy name, has vivid black cherry–strawberry flavors and a touch of black pepper.



95 ALBERT BICHOT Chambolle-Musigny 1er Cru Les Amoureuses 2018

From a parcel owned and farmed by a family on Bichot team, this Amoureuses has the stamina of a Musigny. The wine's fragrance glows with intensity, layering rose and rock, rosehips and red plums. Oak plays a prominent role in the youthful structure, but the wine sustains it, turning the oak to sophisticated advantage. Ample ripe yet runway-model thin, the wine lasts on floral notes, along with a sense of rocky grandeur.

93 ALBERT BICHOT Clos de Vougeot Grand Cru Domaine du Clos Frantin 2018

Bichot farms two plots in Clos de Vougeot, one toward the top of the vineyard, the other lower down the slope, 1.5 acres in all. In 2018, the wine's cool, zesty summer-cherry flavors and green-peppercorn spice fill a clean, fragrant wine. Sébastien Piekutowski of the *Dream Away Lodge* in Becket, Mass., commented on its textural delicacy, between chalk and licorice. It has the potential to amaze once it has aged, he said.

93 ALBERT BICHOT Vosne-Romanée 1er Cru Les Malconsorts Domaine du Clos Frantin 2018

With its muscular structure and saturation of fruit, this looks south from Malconsorts toward Nuits in its black cherry richness. This is what power and concentration look like, said Christy Frank of Copake Wine Works, NY, commenting on the luscious depth of flavor. A ripe 2018, this is approachable now given the breadth of its fruit, but it will need five years or more to show the distinctions of its premier cru provenance.

93 ALBERT BICHOT Vosne-Romanée Domaine du Clos Frantin 2018

Bichot farms 2.4 acres for this wine, blending fruit from Les Damaudes in the southwest corner of Vosne, on the hill above Malconsorts, with grapes from Maizières to the north and east, lower down the hill in Flagey-Echezeaux. Those two terroirs come together in a fragrant wine with the glow of red fruit and the glint of mineral facets. The fruit flavor is distinctive and rich, not a fruit you might find at the market, but some combination of red and purple berries that merges into a rich satin drape of flavor, formidably structured and filled with youthful energy.

92 ALBERT BICHOT Santenay Les Charmes 2018

With black-fruit richness draped in velvet tannins, a sip of this wine is like diving into a bowl of blueberries and raspberries, or so it struck Berkshire chef Amy Loveless. It's a voluptuous pleasure, a Burgundy to catch now for its freshness and vibrant beauty.

90 ALBERT BICHOT Rochegrès Moulin à Vent Domaine de Rochegrès 2018

From close to five acres of 80- to 100-year-old vines, this wine is peppery and tannic under a drape of black-cherry flavors. Those bitter, rooty tannins transform toward mineral notes while the fruit adds floral highlights, all suggesting this will benefit from a year or two of age.

89 ALBERT BICHOT Moulin à Vent Domaine de Rochegrès 2018

From a 7.4-acre parcel of vines 25 to 35 years old, this is a powerful, plummy Moulin-à-Vent with an undertow of generous tannins. The fruit is lush and a little dimpled in its black-grape-skin flavors. For duck rillettes.



93 ALBERT BICHOT Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru Domaine du Pavillon 2018

Bichot farms close to three acres in Les Languettes, a climat on the south-southeast face of the Corton hill. This wine is clean, fragrant and fresh, offering grand cru luxury without any effort. Its bright tangerine notes deepen to lemon custard, green pear highlights lasting along with the richer fruit. This is a substantial white, built for rich food. Taster suggested even braised duck with prunes.

93 ALBERT BICHOT Nuits-St-Georges Château Gris Les Terrasses Monopole 2018

This grows at the top of an 8.6-acre terraced vineyard (the bottom is planted to pinot noir). And it's a powerful argument for chardonnay in the clay-limestone soils at the higher elevations of Nuits-St-Georges. It reminded Berkshire chef Amy Loveless of a meringue in the lightness of its body and the richness of its flavor, with oak providing a whisper of caramelization. The acidity touches on lemons and minerals, sustaining the wine's flavor for minutes on the breath. Complete and completely delicious.

92 ALBERT BICHOT Chablis Grand Cru Les Vaudésirs Domaine Long Depaquit 2018

From a parcel of 45-year-old vines, this wine has the scent of early spring, opening to apple blossoms and Queen Anne lace. The fruit has a juicy apple freshness, taking on depth and power over the course of several days. The delicate floral notes seem to emanate from the lees, adding to the range and persistence of the wine's flavor. Built to cellar.

92 ALBERT BICHOT Chablis Grand Cru Les Clos Domaine Long Depaquit 2018

Concentrated and compressed, this is a tough young Chablis with a texture that points to its provenance. 7 acres of clay and Kimmeridgean limestone with hard marl. Tangy notes of orange, bitter melon and dry honey seem to come right from the rock. This should blossom with six to ten years in the cellar.

91 ALBERT BICHOT Chablis 1er Cru Les Vaucopins Domaine Long Depaquit 2018

Bichot's Chablis domaine includes 12.8 acres in Vaucopins; this wine fermented and aged mostly in stainless steel with 15 percent of the lot in used oak barrels, developing leesy complexity to its brisk cool fruit. Tina Vaughn of NYC *The Simone* described the wine as delicate and lady-like, with scents of lemon sorrel to pour with a spicy potato soup.

90 ALBERT BICHOT Chablis Grand Cru Les Blanchots Domaine Long Depaquit 2018

With its sweet citrus notes, this wine overt fruit and cardamom spice offers a lot of sensual appeal. Sexy, but is it Chablis one taster asked, then dove back for another sip.





June 2021

INTERNATIONAL WINE CHALLENGE

2021



INTERNATIONAL WINE CHALLENGE 2021

ORGANIC TROPHY




CORTON-CHARLEMAGNE
GRAND CRU
Domaine du Pavillon
2019



Pale white gold colour. Magnificent nose of coconut cream, melon, honey, lime and white blossom. Palate has almost eye watering concentration. Long, firm, mineral finish, . A superb and serious Grand Cru!

After winning

- a Gold Medal,
- the Corton-Charlemagne Trophy,
- the White Burgundy Trophy,
- the French White Trophy,
- the International Chardonnay Trophy,
- the **CORTON-CHARLEMAGNE GRAND CRU Domaine du Pavillon 2019** has received the **International Organic Trophy**, i.e. **Best Organic Wine of the World**.





June 2021

INTERNATIONAL WINE CHALLENGE

2021



CLOS DE LA ROCHE
GRAND CRU
Cuvée Cyrot-Chaudron
Hospices de Beaune
2019
ALBERT BICHOT



Beautiful colour with elegant berry fruits, blackcurrant, raspberry and a gentle sprinkle of spice. Elegant with supple tannins with a mineral core surrounded by generous ripe dark fruit. Lovely white pepper on the finish.

After receiving

- a Gold Medal,
- the Clos de la Roche Trophy,
- the Red Burgundy Trophy,
- the French Red Trophy,
- the International Pinot Noir Trophy,
- the **CLOS DE LA ROCHE GRAND CRU Cuvée Cyrot-Chaudron Hospices de Beaune 2019** from Albert Bichot was awarded **Champion Red**, i.e. **Best Red Wine of the World**.





May 2021

INTERNATIONAL WINE CHALLENGE 2021

10 TROPHIES
7 GOLD MEDALS



INTERNATIONAL CHARDONNAY TROPHY

for

**CORTON-CHARLEMAGNE GRAND CRU
Domaine du Pavillon 2019**



Pale white gold colour. Magnificent nose of coconut cream, melon, honey, lime and white blossom. Palate has almost eye watering concentration. Long, firm, mineral finish, . A superb and serious Grand Cru!



FRENCH WHITE TROPHY
WHITE BURGUNDY TROPHY
CORTON-CHARLEMAGNE TROPHY
GOLD MEDAL
96 points



INTERNATIONAL PINOT NOIR TROPHY

for

**CLOS DE LA ROCHE GRAND CRU
Hospices de Beaune Cuvée Cyrot Chaudron
2019**



Beautiful colour with elegant berry fruits, blackcurrant, raspberry and a gentle sprinkle of spice. Elegant with supple tannins with a mineral core surrounded by generous ripe dark fruit. Lovely white pepper on the finish.



FRENCH RED TROPHY
RED BURGUNDY TROPHY
CLOS DE LA ROCHE TROPHY
GOLD MEDAL
97 points





May 2021

INTERNATIONAL WINE CHALLENGE 2021

10 TROPHIES
7 GOLD MEDALS



POMMARD 1^{ER} CRU LES RUGIENS Domaine du Pavillon 2019

GOLD MEDAL & POMMARD TROPHY

Ripe densely concentrated dark plum and strawberry with a silky texture. Freshness and purity. The oak is excellently integrated and balanced. 96 points



MEURSAULT 1^{ER} CRU LES GENEVRIÈRES Hospices de Beaune Cuvée Philippe le Bon 2019

GOLD MEDAL & MEURSAULT TROPHY

Classic Meursault - rich and plush with layers of stone fruit and greengage. Nose is spicy, redolent of sappy vanilla oak. In the mouth the wine has huge structure, lovely texture, bags of quince. Masses of potential - world class! 96 points



BEAUNE 1^{ER} CRU CLOS DES MOUCHES Domaine du Pavillon 2019

GOLD MEDAL

Complex nose of peach and cashew nuts. Creamy with fresh long palate. A really fine white Burgundy. 95 points



VOSNE-ROMANÉE 1^{ER} CRU LES MALCONSORTS Domaine du Clos Frantin 2019

GOLD MEDAL

Beautifully perfumed. Crushed raspberry, crunchy cranberry along with red morellos and red currants. Creamy spice with soft and supple palate. Long and persistent in the mouth with plush ripe tannins. Precisely balanced and joyous to drink now. 95 points



CHABLIS GRAND CRU LES CLOS Domaine Long-Depaquit 2019

GOLD MEDAL

Beautiful steely lime peel on the nose, youthful and elegant. Rich and concentrated palate. Lovely lime with acidity. A beautiful wine. 95 points



2021 - Issue 71

DOMAINE LONG-DEPAQUIT

Chablis Premier Cru Les Lys

Upright, breezy aroma. Cool, light, and bright, with refreshing, racy minerality and a salty oyster-shell tang. Spot-on. 2021-24. | 91

Chablis Grand Cru Les Clos

Honeysuckle richness on the nose, with ripe white-peach aromatics. Opulent, richly muscular palate, fleshed out with succulent and concentrated fruit. It tightens to a much colder and powerfully firm finish. 2023-29. | 93

Chablis Grand Cru Moutonne (monopole)

Richly floral, quite full-bodied and luscious. Creamy texture is just nicely balanced with cool, wet-stone freshness. It is swathed in a somewhat exotic floral scent, which entwines with a rich chalky note on a rather good finish. 2023-30. | 93

DOMAINE ADÉLIE

Mercurey Blanc Les Champs Michaux

An ample and engaging wine. It combines smooth generosity with fulsome, frothy airiness. It's certainly rich, but not heavy. Sappy minerality comes from beneath the palate and provides the finish with a cool, fresh, and rather stony note.

2021-26. | 88-89

2019 BURGUNDY

Taster : Sarah Marsh MW

DOMAINE DU CLOS FRANTIN

Vosne-Romanée Premier Cru Les Malconsorts

Complex aroma, with notes of ripe raspberries and ground coriander, which linger hauntingly and complete the palate. Lovely layering, for there are highlights, glimmerings, and deeper, darker undertones. It's richly textured. The tannins are certainly sophisticated, velvety, with taffeta crisp at the edges. It has a joyous energy and a lithe, strong, and persistent finish. 2026-35. | 96-97

Grand Echézeaux Grand Cru

Sweet-fruit pounce on the palate. Such vibrancy. Lovely focus and intensity. Clipped at the edges. Dark, smoky, soft minerality. So svelte. Vitality and persistence. 2025-35. | 94-95

DOMAINE DU PAVILLON

Beaune Premier Cru Clos des Mouches

Quite oaky, but I rather like its overt, punchy vigor and density. A slight bitterness complements the ripeness. 2023-28. | 92

Pommard Clos des Ursulines

Supple and fluid, this undulates in an easy, pleasing, satin ribbon over the palate. Such a seductive face of Pommard. This is a gorgeously enticing village wine. 2023-28. | 90

Pommard Premier Cru Rugiens

Sweetness of fruit is alluring up front, deceptive, as there is density and a punchy catch of mineral freshness to follow. The body is compact and tight, and it finishes on a salty, somewhat bitter note. 2024-32. | 95

Corton Grand Cru Clos des Maréchaudes

Alluring perfume, summer-fruit seductive. Broad, swaggering, juicy palate; thickly textured. Definitely deep-pile. Rich succulence contrasts with a dark, quartz bite. It has some grunt on the finish. 2025-32. | 94





2019 Côte de Beaune reds

Bichot's chief viticulturalist Christophe Chauvel conducted the tasting and told me that 2019 "was a vintage that gave us generally lower yields due partially to the April frost and partially due to a moderately poor flowering. Add to this the dehydrating effects of a very hot and dry summer and by the time we arrived at the harvest, there were fewer bunches and not much juice in the berries. To provide an idea, normally for to make one barrel of red, we need about 330 kg of fruit. In 2019 we needed on average 365 kg. When taken all together, yields were down about 30% relative to a normal crop. One of the interesting things about the harvest was that the juice was so ripe that it literally stained your hands red! You don't see that very often. The stems were quite ripe and we chose to use more of them than usual. As to the wines, they have a lovely freshness and energy plus they are more transparent to the underlying terroir than 2018. They have everything they need to age well. As to the quality between the Côte de Nuits and the Côte de Beaune, there really isn't a noticeable difference. Rather, we find the differences within the two Côtes to be more apparent. For example, Volnay and Pommard did really well in the Côte de Beaune and Vosne and Chambolle were outstanding in the Côte de Nuits. We bottled many of the 2019s earlier than usual, which is to say between December 2020 and January 2021."

2019 Savigny-lès-Beaune 1er Cru "Les Grands Picotins" Domaine du Pavillon: 88

Some post-bottling reduction masks the underlying fruit but it shouldn't last. Otherwise the middle weight flavors are fresh and generously proportioned with a fleshy and round texture, all wrapped in a nicely complex if mildly tangy finale. 2024+

2019 Beaune "Les Epenottes" Domaine du Pavillon: 88

(from the villages portion of the vineyard). A pretty and very fresh nose consists mostly of both red and dark pinot fruit with plenty of warm earth nuances. There is excellent vibrancy to the detailed and delicious flavors that possess a decidedly fleshy mouthfeel. 2024+

2019 Volnay 1er Cru "Les Brouillards" Domaine du Pavillon: 89

A brooding and more deeply pitched nose reluctantly offers up its aromas of poached plum, dark cherry and a pretty spice whiff. There is again fine verve and better mid-palate density to the delineated middle weight flavors that conclude in a youthfully austere and more complex finish where the supporting tannins are notably finer. 2025+

2019 Volnay 1er Cru "Les Santenots" Domaine du Pavillon: 92

(from Les Plures). Discreet but perceptible wood sets off the overtly spicy aromas of dark cherry and raspberry that are trimmed in equally discreet nuances of violet and lavender. There is fine mid-palate concentration to the medium-bodied flavors that possess solid power and focus on the sneaky long, balanced and firm finish. 2031+

2019 Pommard "Clos des Ursulines" Domaine du Pavillon: 88

(a huge 4 ha monopole of the domaine that gave the equivalent of 32 hl/ha in 2019). This is also brooding and restrained and requires vigorous swirling to reveal its softly earthy aromas of black pinot fruit and lovely floral elements. There is fine punch to the unusually refined middle weight flavors. This is very tightly wound and will need at least a few years to bottle aging to become more approachable. 2027+

2019 Pommard 1er Cru "Les Rugiens" Domaine du Pavillon: 93 SWEET SPOT WINE

(from Rugiens Bas that gave 30 hl/ha). An equally restrained but wonderfully elegant, pure and very floral suffused nose displays essence of red and dark raspberry, plum and rose petal. There is terrific delineation and an abundance of minerality on the bigger yet finer flavors that possess a sophisticated mouthfeel and evident power on the moderately austere, complex and well-balanced finale. As is usual for Rugiens, this is quite firm and will need extended patience. One to strongly consider. 2034+

2019 Aloxe-Corton Domaine du Pavillon: 89 TOP VALUE WINE

(from Les Crapousuets). This is much less elegant but more sauvage on the attractively fresh nose of various dark berries and pungent earth. There is fine volume to the solidly powerful, rich and concentrated middle weight flavors that are unusually refined on the mid-palate though the typical rusticity does show up on the firm and mildly austere finale. This is a very good Aloxe villages in a commune not really known for them. 2027+

2019 Aloxe-Corton 1er Cru "Les Fournières" Domaine du Pavillon: (90-92)

Here the nose is similar to the Aloxe if slightly spicier. Somewhat curiously, the medium weight flavors are not quite as dense though there is fine energy and detail along with more minerality and power on the very serious, tightly wound and youthfully austere finale. This moderately rustic effort is classic Aloxe. 2031+

2019 Aloxe-Corton 1er Cru "Clos des Maréchaudes" Domaine du Pavillon: 92

This is also appealingly spicy with good breadth to the nose of poached plum, violet, lavender and warm earth. There is excellent volume to the velvet-textured medium-bodied flavors that flash evident minerality on the youthfully austere finale that offers impressive depth and persistence in a firmly structured package. 2031+

2019 Corton Grand Cru "Clos des Maréchaudes" Domaine du Pavillon: 93 SWEET SPOT WINE

(a ~1.9 ha monopole that is split between ~.5 ha classified as grand cru and the remaining 1.4 ha as 1er). This is compositionally similar to the 1er but notably more restrained. The powerful and muscular bigger-bodied flavors possess fine mid-palate density and ample minerality on the more persistent finish. It's clear there is a bit more overall potential here compared to the 1er. 2034+

Burghound.com 2019 Vintage Selections: The "Top Value Wines" are those that are generally available in the marketplace at a price point of no more than approximately \$100 US; The "Sweet Spot Wines" section addresses the wide gulf between the under \$100 Top Value wines and the generally over \$250 "Don't Miss Wines"; note that I have tried to layer these selections to portray a representative range between the two price points.



2018 Côte de Beaune reds

2018 Savigny-lès-Beaune 1er Cru “Les Grands Picotins” *Domaine du Pavillon*: 88

A notably ripe nose features notes of plum, pungent earth and soft spice nuances. There is very good volume to the rich and seductively textured, indeed even velvety, flavors that possess very good depth on the rustic and warm finale. This should drink well on the younger side. 2024+

2018 Beaune “Les Epenottes” *Domaine du Pavillon*: 89

(from the *villages* portion of the vineyard). A slightly higher-toned nose offers up notes of red raspberry, pomegranate, cherry and a touch of warm earth. The sleeker if less seductive flavors possess a lovely mouthfeel while exhibiting just a touch of warmth on the ever-so-mildly rustic finale that is a bit brighter. This is a quality Beaune *villages* and worth considering. 2024+

2018 Volnay 1er Cru “Les Brouillards” *Domaine du Pavillon*: 91

An expressive nose is composed by overtly floral notes of ripe poached plum and liqueur-like aromas of black cherry. The succulent, round and velvet-textured middle weight flavors that are presently moderately compact, serious and youthfully austere. This will need at least a few years to unwind but it's certainly promising. 2028+

2018 Volnay 1er Cru “Les Santenots” *Domaine du Pavillon*: 92

(from Les Plures). A more elegant and cooler nose speaks of the pure essence of various red berries that are laced with lovely and floral nuances that include violet, lilac and rose petal. There is fine volume to the slightly denser medium-bodied flavors that brim with minerality on the more tightly wound finale that is youthfully austere. This firm effort could use more depth and is going to require at least a decade of cellar time to see it at its apogee. 2030+

2018 Pommard 1er Cru “Les Rugiens” *Domaine du Pavillon*: 93

This is at once more elegant and more complex with its overtly spicy and floral-suffused aromas of both red and dark pinot fruit where pretty nuances of lilac, violet and anise emerge. There is impressive volume to the super-sleek, intense and well-detailed flavors terminate in a refreshing and bright mineral-laden finish. This is lovely though note that it is a classic Rugiens that will need extended keeping. 2033+

2018 Aloxe-Corton *Domaine du Pavillon*: 89

(from Les Crapousuets). A relatively pretty nose is comprised by notes of various red berries, earth and a whisper of the *sauvage*. There is good freshness to the velvet-textured and mouth coating middle weight flavors that possess a juicy and fleshy mouthfeel while delivering fine length on the rustic but not tough finale that exhibits excellent length for its level. This is sufficiently supple that it will likely be approachable after only 4 to 5 years of cellaring. Worth checking out. 2026+

2018 Aloxe-Corton 1er Cru “Les Fournières” *Domaine du Pavillon*: 90

There is a whiff of menthol to the riper and slightly jammy aromas of both red and dark cherry that evidence background floral and earth. There is better volume and mid-palate richness to the bigger-bodied flavors though the rustic, noticeably warm finish is somewhat monolithic today. In sum, this is perfectly good. 2028+

2018 Aloxe-Corton 1er Cru “Clos des Maréchaudes” *Domaine du Pavillon*: 91

A fresh if reticent nose grudgingly offers up ripe but cool and attractively spicy notes of red and dark currant, earth and a pretty range of floral elements. There is very good volume to the lightly mineral-inflected middle weight flavors that possess a beguiling texture that contrasts somewhat with the dusty, firm and slightly warm finale. This is sufficiently structured to require at least 5 to 7 years of bottle age to unwind. I would add that like the Fournières, the finish is somewhat monolithic though this too should pass in time. 2030+

2018 Corton Grand Cru “Clos des Maréchaudes” *Domaine du Pavillon*: 93

(a ~1.9 ha monopole that is split between ~.5 ha classified as *grand cru* and the remaining 1.4 ha as 1er). A ripe yet reasonably elegant nose consists of rose petal, plum liqueur, lilac, spice and menthol-tinged aromas. The rich, intense and vibrant big-bodied flavors evidence obvious minerality on the mouth coating and impressively long finish. This is a big but refined effort that is definitely built-to-age, so patience required. 2033+





März-April 2021

BURGUND-JAHRGANG 2019: DIE NEUE KLASSIK

Nach dem 2018er-Hitzewellen-Jahrgang verkörpert Burgund 2019 so etwas wie eine neue Klassik – als Ausdruck wirklicher Balance. Die Roten haben ebenso viel Frucht und Fülle wie Präzision; und die Weißen zeigen Spannung und Tiefe.

TEXT & NOTIZEN VON ANNE KREBIEHL MW

Weißer Burgunder

97 • Albert Bichot Domaine du Pavillon Grand Cru Corton-Charlemagne 2019

Geschmolzenes Kerzwachs, dezenter Holzrauch und blanchierte Haselnuss in der Nase. Der Gaumen ist noch straff, aber die Konzentration und eine Art viskose Fülle sind sofort erkennbar. Eine zentrale Ader von Zitronenfrische, fast prickelnd, bindet sowohl Fülle als auch Tiefe in eine statueske Struktur ein. Der Wein ist kraftvoll, aber ausgeglichen, zeigt unglaubliche Energie und Kraft. Ein Vollblut, das Zeit braucht. Trinkfenster: 2027–2050.

97 • Albert Bichot Domaine Long-Depaquit Chablis Grand Cru Les Clos 2019

Ein anfänglicher Anflug von Rauch verheißt Gutes und öffnet sich zu einem dezenten Geruch von Kreide. Der Gaumen ist straff und frisch, präzise und durchdrungen von einer tiefen, kalkigen Kühle sowie von einer reinen, klaren Ader von Zitronenfrische. Völlige Tiefe und ein ziseliertes, detailliertes Wesen machen diesen Wein zum Sinnbild des Chablis. Wunderschön.

96 • Albert Bichot Domaine Long-Depaquit Chablis Grand Cru Moutonne 2019

Kreide und helle Zitronenschale bestimmen die Nase mit kühler Eleganz. Mehr Luft macht diese Eindrücke noch intensiver, öffnet auch Anklänge von Mirabelle.

Der Gaumen ist straff, kühl, kreydig, steinig, balanciert. Ein Bild von aber Eleganz mit erstaunlicher Länge und exzellenter, aber schlanker Statur.

96 • Albert Bichot Domaine du Pavillon Meursault Premier Cru Les Charmes 2019

Frische Haselnuss, Cremigkeit und ein Hauch von weißer Blüte sowie frischer Butter. Zitrone und dezente Rauchigkeit gesellen sich dazu. Diese Eindrücke verstärken sich und entfalten sich am Gaumen, füllen Mund und Geist. Was bleibt, ist eine konzentrierte und absolute Frische und Tiefe, die uns all die Aromen bestaunen lässt. Ausgezeichnet. Trinkfenster: 2025–2050.

95 • Albert Bichot Domaine Long-Depaquit Chablis Grand Cru Les Blanchots 2019

Eine subtile Nase erzählt von trockenen Maishülsen und Kalkstein. Klare Zitrusfrucht ist lediglich da, um diese Eindrücke glänzen zu lassen. Mehr Luft erlaubt einen Hauch von geschmolzener Butter. Der Gaumen ist konzentriert, zeigt noch mehr dieser kalkigen Tiefe und bringt reife Zitrone in den Vordergrund. Der Wein ist frisch und ausgeglichen, dennoch gehaltvoll. Etwas Ruhiges und Tiefgründiges heben ihn auf eine andere Ebene. Trinkfenster: 2025–2040.

94 • Albert Bichot Domaine du Pavillon Beaune Premier Cru Clos des Mouches 2019

Von Vanille umsäumte Rauchigkeit

und Anklänge von gerösteten Haselnüssen versprechen sanften Reiz. Der Gaumen fügt noch zarte Haselnüssen versprechen sanften Frische hinzu, wie es dieser bestens luftzirkulierten Lage entspricht. Mehr Luft offenbart eine reife, zitronige Gelassenheit, eine wunderbar weiche Textur und eine beneidenswerte Ausgeglichenheit. Ein Klassiker. Wunderschön. Trinkfenster: 2023–2040.

94 • Albert Bichot Domaine du Pavillon Meursault 2019

Etwas Salzigkeit im Duft geschmolzener Butter, die zunächst in der Nase auftaucht. Mehr Luft offenbart haselnussige Cremigkeit. Der Gaumen zeigt Straffheit, Konzentration und zitronige Lebendigkeit, all dies eingebettet in (für einen Villages-Wein) erstaunlich kalkige Tiefe. Dieser Wein ist abgerundet, aber grazil, klar und verführerisch. Der Abgang wird von einer vollmundigen Frische dominiert.

93 • Albert Bichot Domaine Adélie Mercurey Les Champs-Michaux 2019

Zarter Rauch und ein Hauch von gerösteter Haselnuss überwiegen in der Nase. Diese Rauchigkeit überträgt sich auf den Gaumen, wo sie auf spritzige, aber reife Zitronennoten trifft. Der Körper ist konzentriert und detailliert, zeigt schöne Präzision und ergänzt Noten von Eichenholz mit kühler, kalkiger Tiefe. Sehr elegant. Trinkfenster: 2025–2035. Herrliche Länge.



März-April 2021

Weißer Burgunder

90 ● Albert Bichot Domaine Adélie Bourgogne Aligoté Champ Renard 2019

Hervorragend frische Anklänge von grüner Birne und gelbem Apfel vollführen einen fröhlichen, lebendigen Tanzin der Nase. Dazu kommen kandierte Limette und frische Zitrone. Der Gaumen zeigt mehr runde Reife als erwartet, behält aber all seine saftige, lebendige Frische. Eine absolute Freude: geschmeidig, dynamisch, fruchtig und strahlend mit einem cremigen Abgang.

89 ● Albert Bichot Bourgogne Côte d'Or Chardonnay Secret de Famille 2019

In der Nase spielen Anklänge von Haferflocken und Butter, ein Hauch von gelber Pflaume verleiht eine fruchtige Reife. Der Gaumen ist saftig, schlank, frisch und lebendig. Klarheit und Saftigkeit machen ihn sehr anregend. Sehr vielseitig und sehr samtig.

Roter Burgunder

97 ● Albert Bichot Domaine du Clos Frantin Grand Cru Échezeaux 2019

Herbstliches Eichenlaub, herbe Kirsche und Eichenholz haben Anflüge von Petrichor und nassem Stein. Diese aromatische Anziehungskraft überträgt sich direkt auf den ziselierten Gaumen, mit ganzer Haltung, voller Eleganz: ein feiner Rahmen für diese Aromen. Tiefe und Ausdauer leben in der tiefgründigen Frucht, die mit Frische nachhallt. Vollkommene Konzentration, vollkommene Haltung. Trinkfenster: 2027–2050.



97 ● Albert Bichot Grand Cru Latricières-Chambertin 2019

Eisenoxid, Pfingstrose, kühle Lebendigkeit und herbe, rote Kirsche beschwören poetische Frische und vielschichtigen Ausdruck herauf. Der Gaumen hat Kontur und Ausgeglichenheit, Struktur und steinige Schönheit. Die Eleganz ist überragend, eine endliche, schlanke Form ist bis zum Rand mit Duft und rotfruchtiger Anmut gefüllt. Glorreich und statusesk in seiner schlichten Schönheit. Trinkfenster: bis 2050.

97 ● Albert Bichot Domaine du Clos Frantin Vosne-Romanée Premier Cru Les Malconsorts 2019

Rote Johannisbeere und Himbeere sind ätherisch und anregend, die ganze Schlichtheit ist Äther selbst. Pfingstrosen und ein Hauch von Eiche sind die einzigen Dinge, die diesen Wein an die Erde binden. Der Gaumen ist konzentriert, unverfälscht und frisch, gefangen im hochfeinen Netz aus seidigem Tannin. Grazie und Poesie, Tiefe und Hochgenuss. Überirdisch und ganz einfach magisch in seiner Fähigkeit zu transportieren.

97 ● Albert Bichot Domaine du Pavillon Corton Grand Cru Clos des Maréchaudes 2019

Die subtile Nase birgt herbe, rote Beeren. Ein floraler Anflug erinnert an Pfingstrose, Toastnoten verweisen auf Eiche. Der Gaumen nimmt diese Noten und umrahmt sie mit Festigkeit und absoluter Struktur. Die Konzentration ist immens, die Frische unverfälscht. Ein Hauch von Wildnis, Ahornsirup und Eichenlaub untermalt diese Eleganz

mit unwiderstehlicher Unbändigkeit. Große Dramaturgie, betörende Tiefe. Wow. Trinkfenster: 2027–2050.

95 ● Albert Bichot Château-Gris Nuits-Saint-Georges Premier Cru 2019

Weißer Pfeffer und rote Kirsche haben nur einen Hauch von Eiche und Leder in der Nase. Ein reizender Ton von Pfingstrose vervollständigt das Bild. Am Gaumen zeigt sich die zarte Kirschrucht noch mehr, aber alles ist von feiner Eiche in Geschmeidigkeit und Sanftheit getragen. Der Wein ist elegant, rund und fast schmeichelnd, durchdrungen von reifer Kirsche und ursprünglicher, floraler Frische.

95 ● Albert Bichot Domaine du Pavillon Pommard Premier Cru Les Rugiens 2019

Rauch und Waldhimbeeranklänge sorgen für eine höchst attraktive Nase, ein Hauch von Reduktion ist auch da. Die Rugiens-Tannine setzen sich durch, sie sind fest, knistern aber wie gestärkte Atlasseide und brechen in reinstes Vergnügen auf. Das hat Klasse und Struktur, Frische und Charakter, nachhaltiges Aroma und einen Hauch von Poesie. Exquisit.

94 ● Albert Bichot Domaine du Clos Frantin Grand Cru Clos-de-Vougeot 2019

Anklänge von Toast, roter Kirsche, Eichenlaub und Pfingstrose vereinen sich zu einer klaren Nase. Diese Töne setzen sich am konzentrierten Gaumen fort, wo die Frucht wie von Kastanienspüree, cremiger Textur und einem schönen, definierten Körper abgerundet wird. Ein erdiges



März-April 2021

Eichenblättern und der Pfingstrose.
Trinkfester : 2025–2035.

94 • Albert Bichot Chambolle-Musigny Premier Cru Les Chabiots 2019

Herbe rote Beeren in der Nase sind von weißem Pfeffer durchdrungen, während im Hintergrund ein Anklang von Rauchigkeit schwebt: eine Gegenüberstellung von Fülle und Kühle, Fruchtreife und Straffheit. Der Gaumen spielt ein ähnliches Spiel, präsentiert aber das volle, lebendige Bild von saftiger roter Kirsche, dargestellt am Schnittpunkt von Köstlichkeit und belebender Frische. Ein dunkler, sinnierender Hauch hält sich im Hintergrund. Trinkfenster: 2025–2045.

93 • Albert Bichot Domaine du Clos Frantin Vosne-Romanée 2019

Die zurückhaltende Nase ist wie ein Mix aus winterlichem Holzrauch und feiner, reifer Himbeere. Die Nase hat etwas Ätherisches und verspricht Eleganz. Der Gaumen bestätigt diesen zierlichen Stil, verleiht ihm aber auch leicht knisternde Tannine. Der Körper ist straff, durchsichtig, schimmernd, flüstert jedes Versprechen dieser Appellation. Was für eine Anziehungskraft, welche Frische, welche Zartheit!

93 • Albert Bichot Domaine du Pavillon Alox-Corton Premier Cru Clos des Maréchaudes 2019
Reduktiver Feuerstein trübt noch die Noten von Johannis- und Himbeeren in der Nase, aber die Reinheit der roten Frucht ist unbezweifelbar. Der Gaumen unterstreicht die Zurückhaltung und Herbheit dieser



roten Beerenfrucht mit einem Hauch von Heckenrose und weißem Pfeffer. Die festen, feinen Tannine geben sanften Biss. Alles fügt sich zu einem Bild, das eindeutig Burgunder sagt. Leicht rustikale Kanten schmälern den wesentlichen Charme nicht. Trinkfenster: 2025–2035.

92 • Albert Bichot Gevrey-Chambertin Les Evocelles 2019

Reife, aber herbe Kirschrösche verbindet sich mit dem Geruch von frisch gegerbtem Leder, was diesen Wein ätherisch und eindrucksvoll macht. Weißer Pfeffer signalisiert würzige Lebendigkeit. Der Gaumen zeigt sich schlank und tut alles, um diese prickelnde, pfeffrige Würze zu erhalten. Am Ende hat eine sanfte, reife, rote Kirsche die Oberhand, der Körper bleibt frisch und klar. Wunderbar.



92 • Albert Bichot Domaine du Pavillon Pommard Clos des Ursulines 2019

Ein reizender Hauch von Himbeere ist noch von Reduktion unterlegt. Die gleiche aromatische, himbeerige Zartheit spielt am Gaumen und verstärkt mit Würze und Konzentration den Fruchtausdruck. Die Frische wirkt dem entgegen, während eine gewisse Sanftheit

vorherrscht – sogar über die Reife hinaus – und für einen sehr charmanten, lebendigen Abgang sorgt.

91 • Albert Bichot Fixin Premier Cru Clos de la Perrière 2019

Noten von Feuerstein, Rauch, Kirsche und Roter Johannisbeere vereinen sich in der Nase voller Schwung und Verheißung. Am Gaumen zeigt sich eine Spur Eisenoxid, ein Hauch von tanninhaltiger Rustikalität und etwas jugendlicher Griffigkeit. Dieser Wein ist verspielt, aromatisch, ein wenig rau, aber dafür um so charmanter. Trinkfenster: 2022–2030.

91 • Albert Bichot Domaine du Pavillon Savigny Les Beaune Les Grands Picotins 2019

Ein Hauch von Reduktion spielt vielversprechend in der Nase und überdeckt vorerst die Frucht. Der Gaumen präsentiert reife, aber herbe, saftige Kirsche. Mit Gewicht, aber einer gewissen Durchsichtigkeit, die auf Verspieltheit und Schwung deutet. Im Abgang zeigt sich angenehme Frische. Trinkfenster: 2021–2030.

90 • Albert Bichot Bourgogne Côte d'Or Pinot Noir Secret de Famille 2019

Noten von Eisenoxid, frischer Kirsche und Kirschbonbons in der Nase sind lebendig und einladend. Der Gaumen hüpfert mit würziger, fast pfeffriger, roter Kirsche, die trotz ihrer unbestrittenen Reife und Energie von Frische umhüllt ist. Temperamentvoll, verspielt, bezaubernd und aromatisch.

WINE ENTHUSIAST

www.winemag.com

Published on March, 1st, 2021



Roger Voss



90
BEST BUY

2019 BEAUJOLAIS VILLAGES CHÂTEAU DE VARENNES

Floral and fruity, this is an immediately attractive, ripe wine. Full of red-cherry flavors, balanced by soft tannins and a lightly smoky character, it is ready to drink.



87
BEST BUY

2019 BEAUJOLAIS CHÂTEAU DE JARNIOUX

Produced by Beaune negociant Albert Bichot, this wine is rich with ripe red fruits. It conveys freshness and acidity, softly textured and ready to drink.

2019 Côte de Nuits reds

Technical director Alain Serveau, and Cyrille Jacquelin (who is also responsible for the Clos Frantin wines) commented that 2019, much like 2018 “gave us excellent quality but not nearly the same quantities. Ripeness levels were very good, indeed to the point that the average potential alcohol was right about 14%, something that one doesn’t see all time. Phenolic ripeness levels were also good and 2019 was very favorable to the use of whole clusters so we fermented softly while using very high percentages of them. One key difference though with 2019 is that the solid to liquid ratios were much higher than in 2018 so that was another reason to vinify softly. As to the style of the 2019 reds, in much the same fashion as their 2018 counterparts, they are supple and elegant but with even finer tannins, slightly better freshness and better terroir transparency.”

Note that all of the Clos Frantin vineyards are now organically farmed. I would further note that Clos Frantin seemed to do especially well in 2019.

2019 Bourgogne Côte d’Or Secret de Famille: (86-89)

(made with fruit entirely from the Côte de Nuits). A reserved but pretty nose combines notes of both red and dark currant along with touches of earth and a hint of wood. The sleek, vibrant and delicious flavors possess a lovely sense of vibrancy that carries over to the balanced and lingering finish. Good stuff for this level. 2023+

2019 Bourgogne Côte d’Or “Clos Frantin” Domaine du Clos Frantin: (86-89)

Reserved aromas of both red and dark berry aromas that trimmed in subtle floral and earth nuances. The sleek and nicely punchy middle weight flavors possess very good precision before concluding in a youthfully austere and firm finale. This age-worthy Bourgogne is quite good for its level. 2024+

2019 Gevrey-Chambertin “Les Murots” Domaine du Clos Frantin: (89-91) TOP VALUE WINE

A slightly riper and definitely more sauvage-inflected nose reflected notes of plum, red currant and underbrush. There is fine volume and very good intensity to the attractively textured, even suave, flavors possess solid depth and persistence on the moderately structured finish. 2026+

2019 Gevrey-Chambertin “Les Evocelles”: (89-91) TOP VALUE WINE

This too is agreeably cool but ripe with its nose combination of earth, red currant, spice and a whiff of plum. The succulent yet nicely vibrant flavors also exhibit a lovely, even bracing, minerality, that adds a sense of lift to the clean and lingering finish that offers very good cut. This is a lovely Gevrey villages. 2027+

2019 Nuits St. Georges 1er Cru “Château Gris”: (89-91)

A ripe and nicely fresh nose offers up notes of plum, soft spice and a whiff of the sauvage that are trimmed in discreet wood nuances. The racy and quite finely detailed flavors possess very good focus while being shaped by sleek and moderately firm tannins. 2027+

2019 Nuits St.-Georges 1er Cru “Chaînes Carteaux”: (89-92)

Ripe red cherry and dark currant scents where a hint of the sauvage can be found. There is freshness to the nicely energetic middle weight flavors that possess very good volume while exhibiting excellent length. 2029+

2019 Morey St. Denis 1er Cru “Les Sorbets”: (90-93)

A restrained, cool and relatively elegant nose reflects notes of earth-suffused redberries and pretty floral elements. The sleek and attractively textured medium-bodied flavors culminate in a balanced and lingering finish that is shaped by relatively fine-grained tannins. This lovely effort needs to develop better depth, but the potential appears to be present for that to gradually occur. 2029+

2019 Chambolle-Musigny 1er Cru “Les Chabiots”: (90-93)

Not surprisingly this is aromatically more elegant with its cool aromas of essence of red currant, cherry, lavender and discreet spice wisps. There is excellent verve to the quite finely detailed flavors that exude evident minerality on the chiseled, youthfully austere and sneaky long finale. This is lovely and very Chambollesque; indeed it’s pretty much textbook Chabiots. 2031+

2019 Chambolle-Musigny 1er Cru “Les Amoureuses”: (92-94) SWEET SPOT WINE

Once again the nose is quite restrained while remaining wonderfully elegant and even more floral with its cool and admirably pure aromas of pomegranate, cherry, spiced tea and plenty of violet and lavender nuances. There is outstanding intensity, in fact it’s presently almost painful, to the pungently mineral-driven middle weight flavors that display terrific persistence on the youthfully austere and equally chiseled finish. This is impressive though note well that it’s very compact and a wine that will require extended patience. 2034+

Burghound.com 2019 Vintage Selections: The “Top Value Wines” are those that are generally available in the marketplace at a price point of no more than approximately \$100 US; The “Sweet Spot Wines” section addresses the wide gulf between the under \$100 Top Value wines and the generally over \$250 “Don’t Miss Wines”; note that I have tried to layer these selections to portray a representative range between the two price points.

2019 Côte de Nuits reds**2019 Vosne-Romanée *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: (89-92)**

(the blend is mostly from Damaudes with a small proportion of Basses Maizières). A fresh, cool and restrained nose combines notes of cherry, plum and a whiff of spiced tea. I very much like the texture of the nicely detailed and quite powerful medium weight flavors that terminate in a youthfully austere, and sneaky long finish that displays fine complexity. This is an impressive Vosne village and worth your interest. 2029+

2019 Vosne-Romanée 1er Cru "Les Rouges" *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: (91-93)

Subtle but by no means imperceptible wood frames an airy and layered mix of plum, red cherry, clove, violet and a hint of anise. There is again very good vibrancy to the delicious, caressing and much more mineral-driven medium-bodied flavors that exhibit focused power on the youthfully austere finish. This needs to develop more depth, but it has the potential to do so if allowed sufficient time in bottle. 2031+

2019 Vosne-Romanée 1^{er} Cru "Les Malconsorts" *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: (92-94) SWEET SPOT WINE

(from a large 1.76 ha parcel). Here too there is enough wood to notice but not to intrude on the exceptionally spicy and overtly floral-suffused nose of dark currant and plum. There is outstanding intensity, muscle and power to the broad-shouldered flavors that brim with both minerality and dry extract on the sappy, mouth coating, robust and youthfully austere finish that goes on and on. This is excellent and worth checking out. 2037+

2019 Clos de Vougeot Grand Cru *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: (91-93)

(from a .72 ha parcel). Moderate reduction is enough to knock down the expressiveness and nuances of the earthy and ripe dark berry fruit scents. There is by contrast very good freshness and energy on the delicious and nicely detailed middle weight flavors that also culminate in a youthfully austere, serious and very firmly structured finale. 2039+

2019 Latricières-Chambertin Grand Cru: (90-93)

An elegant, pure and, much like the Amouzeuses, overtly floral nose speaks of plum, dark cherry and newly turned earth scents. There is fine volume to the intense and equally stony middle weight flavors that demonstrate lovely cut. This is classy and solidly persistent. 2034+

2019 Griotte-Chambertin Grand Cru: (91-94)

More interesting are the denser and richer medium-bodied flavors that flash good power on the youthfully austere and overtly structured finale that also displays excellent persistence. Like several wines in the range, this will need to develop better depth to achieve the top end of my projected range, but it has the potential to do so. 2037+

2019 Chambertin Grand Cru *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: (91-94)

Here too there is enough wood to mention though not enough to be especially intrusive on the equally good and restrained nose that grudgingly offers up notes of red and dark cherry, sauvage, cool earth and a whiff of game. There is excellent intensity to the dense, powerful and muscular large-scaled flavors that exude an abundance of minerality on the austere, backward and sneaky long finish. This too needs to develop better depth, but the apogee of this wine is so far into the future that more is all but guaranteed to emerge with time. 2039+

2019 Echézeaux Grand Cru *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: (91-93)

(from a .99 ha parcel in Champs Traversin). More noticeable wood is present on the very spicy and ripe yet cool aromas of various red berries, especially raspberry, along with ample floral elements. There is impressive richness to the medium-bodied and vibrant flavors that are also quite firmly austere, structured and compact. Patience will again be required though not so much as with the Clos de Vougeot. 2034+

2019 Grands-Echézeaux Grand Cru *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: (92-95)

(from a .6 ha parcel). This is restrained to the point of being almost mute and the nose requires aggressive swirling to gradually reveal attractively layered aromas of mostly red currant along with an impressive array of floral, spice and tea nuances. There is excellent volume and power to the big-bodied and overtly muscular flavors that possess a beguiling inner mouth perfume before culminating in a very backward, serious and built-to-age finale. This bad boy of a GE is packed with potential but be prepared to buy it and forget it deep in the back of your cellar. 2039+

2019 Richebourg Grand Cru *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: (92-95)

An exceptionally floral and herbal tea-suffused nose freely offers up notes of black raspberry, hoisin, soy and sandalwood. The caressing and elegant yet impressively intense flavors that are tautly muscular while offering evident salinity on the beautifully lengthy finish. This poised effort isn't especially dense, but it is imposingly structured and like the Chambertin, a wine that is constructed to last for decades. 2039+

Burghound.com 2019 Vintage Selections: The "Top Value Wines" are those that are generally available in the marketplace at a price point of no more than approximately \$100 US; The "Sweet Spot Wines" section addresses the wide gulf between the under \$100 Top Value wines and the generally over \$250 "Don't Miss Wines"; note that I have tried to layer these selections to portray a representative range between the two price points.



2018 Côte de Nuits reds

2018 Gevrey-Chambertin “Les Evocelles” *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: 89

A fresh high-toned nose features notes of essence of red currant, cherry and wafting floral nuances along with a hint of wood. There is unusually good volume for Evocelles along with solid mid-palate density to the saline-suffused flavors that culminate in an impressively long if slightly chewy finish. Still, this old school effort is a very good villages provided you have the patience to give it at least a few years of cellaring first. 2026+

2018 Fixin 1er Cru “Clos de la Perrière”: 91

(from purchased fruit). Discreet wood and restrained aromas of both red and dark berries, earth and a whiff of spice serve as a pretty introduction to the delicious, intense and concentrated medium-bodied flavors that coat the palate with sap that also serves to buffer the balanced and lightly stony finale. This youthfully austere effort should reward a decade plus of cellaring. 2028+

2018 Nuits St.-Georges 1er Cru “Chaînes Carteaux”: 90

Here the equally expressive nose combines moderately high-toned notes of various red berries, pomegranate and lavender scents, all of which is trimmed in soft oak and earth. The racy and solidly intense medium-bodied flavors possess very good detail along with slightly more evident acidity on the stony, serious finale. 2030+

2018 Morey St. Denis 1er Cru “Les Sorbets”: 91

Here the slightly more expressive nose of red currant, plum and earth is more floral-suffused. There is a slightly more sophisticated mouthfeel to the middle weight flavors thanks to the relatively fine-grained tannins shaping the markedly saline and refreshing finish. 2030+

2018 Chambolle-Musigny 1er Cru “Les Chabiots”: 92

A deft application of wood is present on the cool but ripe array that is comprised by appealingly elegant notes of essence of plum, red currant and a dollop of various spice elements. There is fine volume to the attractively textured and mouth coating flavors that are at once refined while flashing focused power on the delicious and solidly persistent finish. 2030+

2018 Chambolle-Musigny 1er Cru “Les Amoureuses”: 93

A markedly spicy and slightly more elegant nose is both quite pretty and floral in character with just a touch of wood toast to the mostly red currant-scented aromas. The ultra-refined, sleek and lacy middle weight flavors that possess a velvety mouthfeel that contrasts with the firm and youthfully austere finale that is very well balanced. This lovely effort should amply reward medium to even longer-term patience. 2033+

2018 Vosne-Romanée 1er Cru “Les Malconsorts” *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: 92

(from a large 1.76 ha parcel). There is good volume and muscle as well as an attractive underlying tension to the intensely mineral-driven medium weight plus flavors that deliver excellent punch and drive to the lingering if grippy finale. This is presently very firmly structured and while by no means hard, it will need all of 12 to 15-ish years or so for the tannins to fully resolve. 2036+





2018 Côte de Nuits Reds

2018 Clos de Vougeot Grand Cru *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: 94

(from a .72 ha parcel). A distinctly earthy nose speaks of red currant and spiced plum that is trimmed in soft touches of game and wood. The delicious, detailed and vibrant larger-scaled flavors terminate in a saline, youthfully austere and serious finish. This old school effort is quite good though it's definitely a wine to buy and forget somewhere in the back of your cellar. 2039+

2018 Echézeaux Grand Cru *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: 93

(from a .99 ha parcel in Champs Traversin). A notably ripe and very spicy nose combines notes of cassis, blue berry, violet and sandalwood. The seductive and velvet-textured middle weight flavors possess both good volume and plenty of sappy dry extract that mostly buffers the firm tannic spine shaping the balanced if youthfully austere finish that exhibits outstanding length. This too is very good and will need extended patience. 2033+

2018 Grands-Echézeaux Grand Cru *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: 93

(from a .6 ha parcel). A more restrained nose features equally spicy and more floral-infused aromas that include lavender and rose petal. The exceptionally rich and full-bodied flavors possess very good power and muscle while the copious sap coats the palate on the firm, saline, very compact and built-to-age finale. Once again this is very serious and clearly in need of extended patience. 2038+

2018 Charmes-Chambertin Grand Cru: 93

(from Charmes proper and Mazoyères). A decidedly reserved if not mute nose reflects notes of cassis, plum liqueur, earth and suggestions of the sauvage, all of which is trimmed in just enough wood to warrant mentioning. The round and nicely voluminous middle weight plus flavors possess an enveloping mouthfeel as well as very fine length on the firm finish. This is a big Charmes and will need ample patience if you wish to see it at its apogee. 2038+

2018 Chambertin Grand Cru *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: 94

A brooding nose features mostly cool and reserved dark berry fruit, earth and freshly turned earth aromas. The rich broad-shouldered flavors possess excellent punch and minerality while flashing obvious muscle on the stony, chiseled and powerful finish. Like the Grands Ech, this is going to need considerable time to shed its very firm tannic shell. 2039+





Jasper Morris MW

2019: THE VINTAGE REPORT

I enjoyed an excellent tasting with Christophe Chauvel at Bichot headquarters in Beaune. Like many of the leading 'negociants' they are in fact predominantly owners of their own vineyards, or with close links to those producers who supply them with grapes. In Bichot's case there are several different Domaine entities, such as Château Gris and Domaines Adélie, Clos Frantin, du Pavillon and Rochegres. The wines from Domaine Long Depaquit will be found in the Chablis report. The Bichot vineyards are now certified organic, and it is clear that the team are reacting intelligently to issues arising out of global warming as they do not plough the vineyards either too often or too deep. At harvest time they will stop and start even within a specific plot if need be. There are more whole bunches used in the red wines (20-40%) with the decision being taken as the bunches cross the sorting table rather than by preconceived plans, and there is much less punching down in the fermenting vats. They began the 2019 harvest in earnest on 14th September, having picked a few plots of white grapes before then. Most of the white wines were in bottle when I tasted in late October.

WHITE WINES

- 2019, Mâcon-Milly-Lamartine** 86
 Purchased must. Very sunny, super-ripe, but with depth. Exotic and spicy together. Supple and suave with good length and enough acidity.
- 2019, Bourgogne Chardonnay Côte d'Or Secret de Famille** 87
 Pale lemon, attractively grapey, then this classic Bourgogne kicks on with significant weight, certainly a touch of heat behind, but finishing fresher and with great length.
- 2019, Mercurey Les Champs-Michaux, Domaine Adélie** 89
 Champs Michaux is in the northern part of the appellation, high up, which provides freshness, but on slabs of clay, which give weight. Fine mid yellow, a clear-cut bouquet with some iodine reduction. Softer sweeter banana fruit on the palate behind, but a very agreeable finish.
- 2019, Nuits-St-Georges Les Terrasses, Château-Gris** 91
 This is all chardonnay, worth mentioning for a white Nuits-St-Georges as many contain pinot blanc. It is grown in free-standing bush vines, which give low yields, 16 hl/ha in 2019. Pale lime and lemon, rather an elegant version, despite the thickness of texture from the low yield. This is a wine, which will surprise people and it doesn't conform to usual rules. A little below 14% so not for drinking casually. Energy comes from opposite slopes of the dip, or creux, which forms this vineyard, officially called Les Crots.
- 2019, Meursault Les Criots, Domaine du Pavillon** 91
 Criots is an ambiguous sector in Meursault, which could work for either colour of grape. Mid yellow. This has a really classy characterful nose with a good fresh feel, then a fuller body in the mouth, which shows that this could be a red terroir, enlivened by a saline touch to finish. Interesting wine.
- 2019, Meursault Les Charmes 1er Cru, Domaine du Pavillon** 90-93
 Mostly in the upper part of Charmes with a little below. Pale to mid lemon. A certain citrus note to the bouquet. Wealth of fruit, a little bit of banana, good acidity. Not short of weight.
- 2019, Beaune Clos des Mouches 1er Cru, Domaine du Pavillon** 92
 If you are interested in a fun comparative tasting, this was planted in 1999, the same year and using the same plant material as their Nuits-St-Georges Les Terrasses. Pale to mid yellow, rich and ripe fruit as is typical for Clos des Mouches, not too plummy, but a pretty rich mouthful all the same with a sweetness of texture, managed by some wood tannins and just enough acidity.
- 2019, Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru, Domaine du Pavillon** 92-95
 From Les Languettes. Rich mid lemon colour. The alcohol by analysis is a very reasonable 13.5%, but the wine shows the heat of the summer. The stony side of Corton-Charlemagne is a little bit timid here behind the wealth of ripe fruit and banana. A punchy example.

- 2019, Moulin-à-Vent, Domaine de Rochegrès** 88
Just bottled, deep purple, with a luxurious edge to the nose of ultra-ripe purple fruit, mulberry even. It's a little bit cooked, but amay well settle down as it could be suffering from the bottling. A bit of freshness behind. Liquorice notes.
- 2019, Bourgogne Pinot Noir Côte d'Or Secret de Famille** 87
Made from plots in the Côte de Nuits. Rich purple in colour, with a lovely perfumed nose, ripe raspberry of course, but sensual not sloppy, though with a little sweetness balanced by correct acidity.
- 2019, Savigny-les-Beaune Les Grands Picotins, Domaine du Pavillon** 89-90
Very dense purple, with a temporary light oxidation to the nose, a fresher feel underneath, and a very full sensual style of deep raspberry fruit, which stretches all the way through. Decent acidity.
- 2019, Pommard Clos des Ursulines, Domaine du Pavillon** 90-92
Medium deep purple throughout. Very pretty nose, one can even speak of finesse, which was rarely if ever possible for a village Pommard in the past. Fills the mouth to just the right degree, not exaggerated.
- 2019, Pommard Les Rugiens 1er Cru, Domaine du Pavillon** 92-94
In Les Rugiens-Bas though not stated on the label. Fresh and vibrant mid purple, with a bouncing energy, super suave and with that little bit of extra depth, some peonies, good acidity here. Quite striking in fact, fine long finish.
- 2019, Aloxe-Corton Clos des Maréchaudes 1er Cru, Domaine du Pavillon** ★ 5 Star Wine 91-94
Picked 15th Sept as was the Grand Cru version. 29 hl/ha. Rich, fresh purple, with a lifted bright, ripe strawberry nose, dusted with vanilla. Powerful, sweet fruit, but lovely in its style. Crunchy notes behind, all natural.
- 2019, Corton Grand Cru Clos des Maréchaudes, Domaine du Pavillon** 92-95
33 hl/ha. Bright full purple. Clearly a little deeper in colour than the 1er Cru version, which was planted with the same vine material in the same year, and more concentrated in red fruit bouquet. The palate is more savage, the acidity is much more present along with the tannins. The rock is much closer to the surface here. A muscular wine, which needs to be picked early.
- 2019, Vosne Romanée, Domaine du Clos Frantin** 91-94
From Damaudes and Basses Maizieres, so up and down the slope. Vibrant purple, lots of energy here, deep and concentrated fruit, this has the hedonistic qualities of a very fine Vosne with a little bit of sucrosity behind, ripe redcurrant and cherry, very persistent.
- 2019 Fixin Clos de la Perrière 1er Cru** 89-92
Medium deep red, slightly lactic on the nose, with a deep rich sweet red fruit beneath. 30% whole bunch lifts the back end. They do not pick the Fixin early as the stems need time to ripen. Finishes very well after the slightly off-putting start.
- 2019, Morey-St-Denis Les Sorbets 1er Cru** 90-93
Deep crimson, more redcurrant with raspberry, then darkens. The palate shows the wine in its true colours: it has tension within the fruit, a powerful thread with some minerality and a medium density finish.
- 2019, Nuits-St-Georges Château-Gris 1er Cru** 92-95
Picked on 20/21 September at 27 hl/ha. Deep purple, with a profound fresh plum and raspberry nose. Starts discreetly, then builds to a very considerable volume of fruit behind, well integrated acidity, impressive length. Very well done.
- 2019, Vosne-Romanée Les Malconsorts 1er Cru, Domaine du Clos Frantin** 93-96
Very dense vibrant purple. Spending time on the nose, which shows some class, but it is the power, which kicks in, the sort of lively cherries, which can come with whole bunch. Really fine sensual finish, very long too. Shows the value of this terroir.
- 2019, Echezeaux Grand Cru, Domaine du Clos Frantin** 93-96
In the Champs Traversin sector. Very pretty red purple colour, with a lighter fruit after the power of Latricières. Sandy soil could be a worry in the hot dry years, but came through well. Good natural acidity, lively pure red fruit, fresher finish and very good length. Not too ripe at all.
- 2019, Grands-Echezeaux Grand Cru, Domaine du Clos Frantin** 92-95
Solid bright red purple. The nose shows riper fruit than the Echezeaux, while the palate has significantly greater density, but I think I prefer the additional finesse of the Echezeaux. 70% whole bunch, which does help the finish, where the redder fruit is more evident. Stretches out the finish too.
- 2019, Latricières-Chambertin Grand Cru** 93-96
Darker purple, some more sombre fruit to the nose, but with power. What this does have is waves of fruit on the palate, some bramble some dark raspberry, a few redder notes mixed in, very good depth and indeed persistence.
- 2019, Chambertin Grand Cru, Domaine du Clos Frantin** 94-97
Classy crimson-purple in colour. The nose is discreet, stylish and very promising. The fruit is then noticeably richer in the mouth, heading towards a touch of very ripe plums, but resisting crossing the line. There is proper intensity to the finish and enough acidity.

January 2021

CÔTE DE NUITS

VOSNE-ROMANÉE Domaine du Clos Frantin 2019: 16

Cask sample. Transparent crimson. Fresh, ferny nose. Not luscious! Light and lively with a certain sweet red-fruit compote character. Very charming, with enough freshness. This would certainly be a very charming, fruity, fairly early-maturing drink.

GEVREY-CHAMBERTIN LES EVOCELLES 2019: 16++

Cask sample. Quite deep lustrous crimson. Rather light and sweet on the nose. But forward and charming in a sweet idiom. Raspberry juice? For the moment it's a bit simple and embryonic but with any luck it will gain a bit of depth. Vibrant, persistent finish. Maybe it's just one of those burgundies that is not impressive initially but manages to build towards a grand finale?

FIXIN 1^{ER} CRU 1^{ER} CRU CLOS DE LA PERRIÈRE 2019: 16.5

Cask sample. Fixin is really on the ascendant! Bright garnet. Biscuits and toast on the nose – very different from wines grown further south. Sweet start and quite forward. Hint of blackberries but not too sweet. In fact it's really quite lively, fresh and savoury. Dry finish with quite a bit of chewiness. Very different build to most of Bichot's wine with more earthiness and emphatic tannins after the sweet toasty start.

NUITS-SAINT-GEORGES 1^{ER} CRU CHÂTEAU-GRIS 2019: 16+

Mid garnet. Ferns and chestnuts on the nose. A combination of ripe raspberry fruit and freshness that's still quite youthful. Sandy tannins and very embryonic.

CHAMBOLLE-MUSIGNY 1^{ER} CRU LES CHABIOTS 2019: 16.5

Cask sample. Pale crimson. Rather broad nose. Very fruity and round. Lots of red-cherry fruit. fresh and transparent. You could drink this now with food!

VOSNE-ROMANÉE 1^{ER} CRU LES MALCONSORTS Domaine du Clos Frantin 2019: 17

Cask sample. Mid blueish crimson. Sweet and very slightly oaky on the nose. Big and beefier than most of the Bichot premiers crus. Good Vosne energy and precision. Not nearly ready but well constituted. Rather savoury on the finish. Good texture and focused fruit. Lots of tension and interest on the end.

ECHZEAX GRAND CRU Domaine du Clos Frantin 2019: 16.5++

Cask sample. Pale crimson. Pretty intense nose – really pulls you in. Smooth, sweet fruit. Quite a concentration of very polished tannins with no shortage of acidity. Maybe for perfection the fruit would be even more concentrated. The fruit is more redcurrant than anything deeper. One of Bichot's more youthful 2019s.

LATRICIÈRES-CHAMBERTIN GRAND CRU 2019: 17+

Cask sample. Bright, deep crimson. Haunting, sweet fruit with both polish and depth. This is really pretty gorgeous but is also spookily ready! Gorgeous mix of ripe fruit and freshness with real vitality. But I could drink this tonight! Lovely energy too so it will probably last as well as being so attractive now. Sweet and polished but not sickly.

CÔTE DE BEAUNE REDS

SAVIGNY-LES-BEAUNE GRANDS PICOTINS Domaine du Pavillon 2019: 16+

Cask sample. Pale blueish crimson. Rich nose and with floral notes on the palate. Very pretty. Fresh, relatively simple fruit but there is good acidity. An attractive racy drink with only a light charge of fine tannins.

POMMARD 1^{ER} CRU LES RUGIENS Domaine du Pavillon 2019: 17

Cask sample. One of Bichot's deeper-coloured premiers crus. Quite a subtle, convincing nose that is far from showy but convinces the taster there are some hidden depths here. Dry finish but an interesting array of flavours which include cassis, redcurrants and violets. Sandy tannins on the end. Good freshness but more density than many of Bichot's wines. Good balance of fruit and freshness. Appetising and vigorous though still youthful.

ALOXE-CORTON 1^{ER} CRU CLOS DES MARECHAUDS Domaine du Pavillon 2019: 16.5

Cask sample. Mid healthy crimson. Not much of a perfume at the moment. But very polished on the palate – super-smooth! The very lightest 'kiss of oak'. Sweet fruit but the lightly muscular texture with light, chalky tannins saves it from being sickly. Real substance to this wine. Appetising.

CORTON GRAND CRU CLOS DES MARECHAUDS Domaine du Pavillon 2019: 16.5++

Cask sample. Bright mid crimson. Reticent but lightly savoury nose. Less obviously sweet than the Premier Cru Maréchaudes and doubtless with more longevity. Good freshness. Clean, brisk fruit. One of many rather inspiring Cortons I have come across in my tastings of 2019 burgundies. Quite a charge of light tannins and sufficient acidity. Bright fruit.

January 2021

CHABLIS

CHABLIS 1^{ER} CRU LES LYS Domaine Long-Depaquit 2019: 16.5

Bottled. This really smells quite nervy and *chablisien*! Touch of water flowing over stones and real juiciness plus precision on the long finish. Now this is a wine to get quite excited about. Bone dry. But it's spookily forward. I could enjoy this tonight! Although it's not high in alcohol, it has sufficient extract to be served with reasonably assertive food. Snazzy! But satin-textured.

CHABLIS 1^{ER} CRU LES VAUCOPINS Domaine Long-Depaquit 2019: 16.5+

Cask sample. Bright greenish pale gold. Liquid-honey notes and some really quite tart green-fruit flavours – not as advanced and well-melded as Les Lys. Lots of ingredients here: rich nose and edgy acidity on the finish. These will surely knit together eventually but they're not there yet. But nicely made. No one would be disappointed by this, though I would suggest they wait awhile. Good stuff!

CHABLIS GRAND CRU LES CLOS Domaine Long-Depaquit 2019: 16.5++

Cask sample. Intense, lightly smoky nose and convincing satin texture. A rich Chablis with some textural influences and some green-fruit character. This is clearly a Chablis Grand Cru. Notable freshness. Promisingly racy as well as showing the richness of 2019.



CÔTE DE BEAUNE AND CÔTE CHALONNAISE WHITES

MEURSAULT 1^{ER} CRU LES CHARMES Domaine du Pavillon 2019: 16.5

Cask sample. Really very approachable and true to climat with a light savoury undertow. Follows the current trend to make Meursaults a bit less austere. Impressive finish. You could drink this now! It's not the most concentrated nor the quirkiest premier cru Meursault but I would order this in a trice if I found it on a wine list in a distant land.

BEAUNE 1^{ER} CRU CLOS DES MOUCHES Domaine du Pavillon 2019: 16+

Cask sample. Smells very slightly oaky and then there is a cocktail of smokiness and sweet fruit. There's certainly no shortage of acidity. Juicy, but just a little too sweet for my taste.

MERCUREY LES CHAMPS-MICHAUX Domaine Adélie 2019: 16.5

Cask sample. Very neat and impressive on the nose. Precise, crystalline bright fruit that's not as sweet as Mâconnais Chardonnay and with less obvious oak influence than many Côte d'Or whites. A floral note, some lemon flavour, and a little grip on the finish. Very open and easy to like.

BOURGOGNE ALIGOTÉ CHAMP RENARD Domaine Adélie 2019: 16

Bottled. Sufficiently ripe nose and good, precise fruit on the palate. Aligoté really has joined the big boys of Burgundy. This is chock-full of unbridled fruit, some wild-flower character and a hint of quinine on the finish. Likely to be **GV** but it's ready to enjoy already. Really attractive if not complex wine.





6 Boulevard Jacques Copeau - 21200 Beaune - France

Tel +33 (0) 380 24 37 37 - Fax +33 (0) 380 24 37 38

Email : bourgogne@albert-bichot.com

www.albert-bichot.com

[@domainesalbertbichot](#)