



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 He has been replaced by the young Louis Gimmonet, who took over the direction of the domaine as of July 2021.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+