

## 2017 BURGUNDY: A NUANCED, TERROIR-DRIVEN VINTAGE

### COTE DE NUITS WINES

#### **BOURGOGNE CÔTE D'OR PINOT NOIR SECRET DE FAMILLE 2017** 90

A prototypical Burgundian pinot that has good ripeness and the lively personality of this vintage. Some sous bois and good cherry aromas. The palate is rather silky, the tannins building gently at the long finish.

#### **GEVREY-CHAMBERTIN 2017** 90

Quite a charming wine for this appellation with plenty of raspberries and a hint of lemon. Nice warmth on the mid-palate and a rather long, supple finish. Made from bought in grapes.

#### **VOSNE-ROMANÉE Domaine du Clos Frantin 2017** 91

A suave and silky Vosne-Romanée that has some lovely floral notes, good depth and a silky finish. Lively acidity. Can be drunk from release.

#### **FIXIN 1<sup>ER</sup> CRU CLOS DE LA PERRIÈRE 2017** 90

If you can't afford high-end Gevrey-Chambertin, this is a good, moderately priced solution with plenty of black fruit and some vanilla. The tannins are ripe enough to provide nice warmth, without making it hard.

#### **NUITS-SAINT-GEORGES 1ER CRU CHÂTEAU-GRIS 2017** 90

A rather charming and fragrant Nuits-Saint-Georges with nice raspberry character. The firm tannins of this appellation only show at the finish, but kept nicely in check by delicate sweetness.

#### **NUITS-SAINT-GEORGES 1ER CRU CHÂÎNES CARTEAUX 2017** 91

Lovely sous-bois character matches beautifully the fine aromas of cherries and forest berries. There's very attractive sweetness on the palate that almost masks the tannins, which still manage to support the rather generous palate very nicely. Long, earthy but clean finish.

#### **MOREY-SAINT-DENIS 1ER CRU LES SORBETS 2017** 93

A very elegant, mid-weight Morey-Saint-Denis that has the fragrance (forest flowers and berries) and finesse of this appellation, combined with restrained power that propels the long, polished finish.

#### **CHAMBOLLE-MUSIGNY 1ER CRU LES CHABIOTS 2017** 92

Great nose of raspberries with just a whiff of caramel and toasty oak. A graceful wine that wraps itself gently around you and caresses you. Long finish with delicate sweetness, which makes it drinkable on release.

#### **VOSNE-ROMANÉE 1ER CRU LES MALCONSORTS Domaine du Clos Frantin 2017** 94

A fragrant and complex Vosne-Romanée with deep black-cherry and floral notes on the nose. Then comes the rich and very elegant palate, the tannins almost completely masked by the fruit, until you reach the very powerful yet polished finish.

#### **CLOS DE VOUGEOT GRAND CRU Domaine du Clos Frantin 2017** 95

A dramatic wine with full aromas of blackberries and wild herbs. The considerable depth creeps up on you slowly. With aeration, it develops a hint of chocolate that nicely underlines the long, polished finish.

#### **LATRICIÈRES-CHAMBERTIN GRAND CRU 2017** 94

Very complex and deep nose of super ripe forest berries and sous bois with fine vanilla oak. The palate is concentrated and elegant, in spite of the serious tannins and crisp acidity. Long and polished finish.

#### **ECHÉZEAUX GRAND CRU Domaine du Clos Frantin 2017** 96

A deep and really complex Echezeaux with a ton of forest berries, very polished tannins and wonderful sweetness that grows at the back of the palate. Very long and complex finish with a lot of herbal and mineral complexity. Very long finish. This will be delicious from release, but has a great future ahead of it.

#### **NUITS-SAINT-GEORGES LES TERRASSES CHÂTEAU-GRIS 2017** 92

A distinctive Côte de Nuits white (quite a rarity) that combines melon and lemon with delicate, toasty oak. On the palate there's a touch of creaminess from lees contact and stirring. But the mineral freshness is the dominant element through the long finish, giving it a very food-friendly personality.

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### COTE CHALONNAISE and COTE DE BEAUNE WINES

**MERCUREY 1<sup>ER</sup> CRU LES CHAMPS-MARTIN Domaine Adélie 2017** **90**

This would be a great introduction to the red wines of Burgundy. It has attractive black-cherry and sous-bois aromas, turning ripe on the palate with healthy dry tannins and lively acidity that make it very food-friendly. Good length.

**SANTENAY 1<sup>ER</sup> CRU CLOS ROUSSEAU 2017** **90**

Brimming with redcurrants – there's something animal, too – this is warm and generous, but has a core of firm tannins beneath the richness. The firm finish suggests this has a good future ahead of it.

**SAVIGNY-LÈS-BEAUNE 2017** **90**

Fragrant and bright sour cherries on the nose, then a sleek and racy palate with refreshing acidity. Very crisp finish.

**BEAUNE CLOS DE L'ÉRMITAGE 2017** **91**

Very attractive red cherries and delicate spice on the nose. Medium-bodied with elegant dry tannins, the finish long and mineral.

**POMMARD CLOS DES URSULINES Domaine du Clos Frantin 2017** **91**

Fragrant black cherries and a touch of earth pour from the glass. This manages to combine the firmness for which Pommard is famous with some of the silkiness that neighboring Volnay is known for. Good concentration, but it needs some time for the tannins to resolve.

**POMMARD 1ER CRU LES RUGIENS Domaine du Pavillon 2017** **93**

A sophisticated Pommard with plenty of black cherries, forest berries and flowers and a nice touch of spice. Concentrated and remarkably silky for this appellation. Long, generous and polished finish.

**ALOXE-CORTON 1ER CRU CLOS DES MARÉCHAUDES Domaine du Pavillon 2017** **91**

Wonderful black-raspberry aromas leap out of the glass of this cool and silky Aloxé-Corton. The healthy tannin structure only shows slightly in the finish, making this a very appealing red Burgundy to drink young.

**CORTON GRAND CRU CLOS DES MARÉCHAUDES Domaine du Pavillon 2017** **93**

The 2017 from the other part of this vineyard (with a 1er Cru designation) is so charming, but this is a brooding giant with lots of black-fruit aromas, including forest berries. Firm structure and a lot of power at the long, fresh finish.

**BOURGOGNE CÔTE D'OR CHARDONNAY SECRET DE FAMILLE 2017** **90**

Attractive aromas of dried and caramelized pears, plus a kiss of vanilla oak, making this ripe and generous Bourgogne blanc easy to enjoy. The finish has nice freshness that pulls you back for more.

**MONTAGNY 1ER CRU 2017** **91**

If you like your chardonnay with some oak, but you also want elegant, food-friendly balance, then you should really like this. Good concentration on the mid-palate and a rather long finish, where the chalky character and oak are nicely interwoven. Made from bought-in juice and vinified 100 per cent in barrel.

**MEURSAULT 2017** **91**

Plenty of oak here, but the wine has the ripeness and substance to carry it. Attractive candied-citrus character and enough acidity to keep the long finish clean. Made from bought in juice and grapes.

**CHASSAGNE-MONTRACHET 2017** **92**

A prototypical Chassagne-Montrachet that is ripe and rather juicy (ripe pears and aromatic apples) at the front, but then turns elegant with a very long, clean and complex, chalky finish. Made from bought in juice and grapes.

**BEAUNE 1ER CRU CLOS DES MOUCHES Domaine du Pavillon 2017** **93**

If you like bold dry whites, then try this. Quite a tannic white Burgundy, but with richness that has a very positive impact on the wine. Plenty of citrus, plus some hazelnut and chalky character. Some real drive at the finish that promises a long life.

**MEURSAULT 1ER CRU LES CHARMES Domaine du Pavillon 2017** **94**

The fine nose of hazelnuts, candied citrus, toast and vanilla leads you into this concentrated and highly structured Meursault, which is uncompromisingly minerally. Very straight, long finish.

**CORTON-CHARLEMAGNE GRAND CRU Domaine du Pavillon 2017** **96**

A very classic Corton-Charlemagne that's very powerful, but very cool and fresh with a super mineral personality. Concentrated but finely etched palate with great acidity that drives the very long, stony finish.

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### CHABLIS WINES

#### **CHABLIS Domaine Long-Depaquit 2017** 90

An attractive, regular Chablis that has bright dried-pear and apple-ring character, quite generous body, but enough lemon-peel freshness to carry it. Some chalky minerals at the finish.

#### **CHABLIS 1ER CRU LES VAILLONS Domaine Long-Depaquit 2017** 92

I love the effusive mineral and herbal freshness of this elegant 1er Cru Chablis, which also has attractive succulence on the mid palate and a long, chalky finish that screams out for seafood.

#### **CHABLIS 1ER CRU LES VAUCOPINS Domaine Long-Depaquit 2017** 93

Quite a generous style of Chablis with ripe-pear character. But, with some time and air, this also reveals some earthy depths and the long, mineral finish shows great promise for the future.

#### **CHABLIS GRAND CRU LES CLOS Domaine Long-Depaquit 2017** 94

The nose of this classic, medium-bodied Chablis is extremely subtle with plenty of oyster shell, dried lemon peel and iodine. Concentrated and elegant, but with lovely succulence on the mid palate, then a long and pristine mineral finish.

#### **CHABLIS GRAND CRU MOUTONNE Domaine Long-Depaquit 2017** 95

Very ripe yet poised, this has a stunning nose of Asian pears, mini bananas, lemon zest and oyster shell. The concentration and impeccable balance on the palate puts this in the same league as top Grand Crus from the Côte d'Or. Long finish with a hint of toast and vanilla from the oak aging.

### MACONNAIS WINES

#### **VIRÉ-CLESSÉ 2017** 88

Melted butter and hazelnuts dominate the nose, but on the palate there's also plenty of dried pears and candied lemons. The moderate acidity and creamy finish make this easy drinking. Made from bought-in juice.

#### **SAINT-VÉРАН 2017** 90

An impressive wine for this appellation with a nice combination of hazelnuts and white fruit, plus a refreshing touch of citrus. This is ripe, generous and elegant. Crisp and clean, long finish. Made from bought-in juice.

#### **POUILLY-FUISSÉ 2017** 90

A mid-weight Mâconnais white with nice, fresh and candied lemon and lemon flower on the nose. Quite full and juicy on the palate with ripe Asian pears. Made from bought-in juice.

## 2017 BEAUJOLAIS: COMFORTABLE IN THE CELLAR, DELIGHTFUL IN THE GLASS

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#### **MORGON LES CHARMES 2017** 89

Ripe cassis, black cherries and a hint of chocolate on the nose. Then a solid palate with some warm tannins that give this a Burgundian personality. Quite impressive. Drink or hold.

#### **JULIÉNAS ROCHE GRANIT 2017** 89

An attractively juicy and light-footed Juliéñas that's brimming with red-berry aromas and lifted by lively acidity. Drink now.

#### **BROUILLY ROSE ROSE 2017** 90

Ripe black cherries and quite a generous body here, but with enough acidity to easily carry it. This is quite a full wine for a Beaujolais with some powdery tannins at the finish. Drink or hold.

#### **FLEURIE LA MADONE 2017** 90

The lovely nose of violets leads you into this succulent and very lively Beaujolais that has good depth and very nice harmony at the clean finish. A great picnic wine! Drink now.

#### **MOULIN-À-VENT Domaine de Rochevrès 2017** 91

A highly structured Moulin-à-Vent with a ton of black cherries and blackberries, plus a hint of smoke. Rich and tannic, but with the typical, fresh acidity of Beaujolais that packs quite a punch. Drink on release.