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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 1er 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 charry 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 conserves introduce this ripe yet pristine Pinot Noir. Matured 14 to16 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)





