DOMAINES

ALBERT BICHOT

MAISON FONDÉE EN 1831

Press Review

Vintage 2014

Decanter
www.decanter.com
December 14, 2016

Domaine Long-Depaquit, Les Vaucopins, Chablis 1er Cru 2014

Andy Howard MW

POINTS	92

Adjacent to Mont de Milieu on the right bank of the Serein river, this has great drive and focus. Typical shellfish notes evolve over time, allied to a taut, steely finish.

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WINE ENTHUSIAST

December 2016

Roger Voss

BEST of YEAR 2016

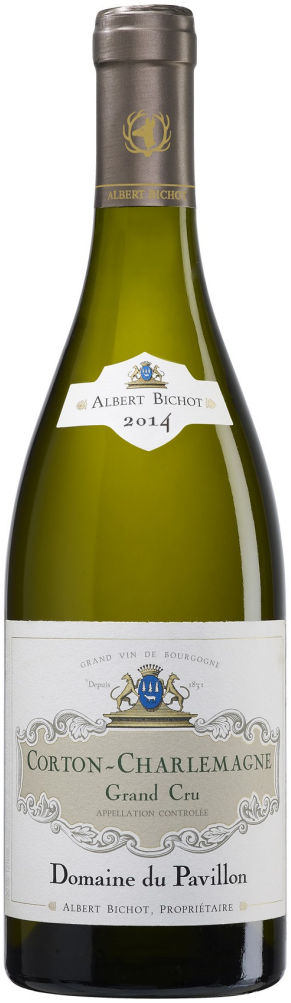
TOP 100 CELLAR SELECTIONS OF 2016

Albert Bichot 2014 Corton-Charlemagne

#95 CELLAR SELECTION 2016

95
POINTS
Cellar Selection

This wine has power along with great fruit and a rich stucture. Yellow fruits are laced with a more finessed texture that adds minerality. It is a dense wine, full of fruit, with a measured touch of wood. Age this until 2021.



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WINE ENTHUSIAST

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Roger Voss

VINTAGE 2014

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Allen Meadows'
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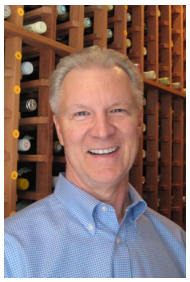
4th Quarter, 2016
Issue 64



2014 Chablis

2014 Chablis - *Domaine Long Depaquit*: 88
(100% stainless). A ripe and fresh nose expresses moderate Chablis character on the pretty nose that is composed of pear, apple and citrus scents. There is good volume and richness to the seductively textured medium weight flavors that possess just enough energy and acidity to suggest that this should reward a few years of cellaring. 2019+

2014 Chablis "Les Lys" - *Domaine Long Depaquit*: 91
Here there is somewhat better Chablis typicity with its restrained and cool nose of mineral reduction, white fruit, iodine and floral aromas. As one would expect the chiseled middle weight flavors possess a notably finer mouth feel before terminating in a saline finale. This understated yet energetic effort is lovely and balanced plus it is already so refreshing that you just feel like drinking it. 2019+

2014 Chablis "Les Beugnons" - *Domaine Long Depaquit*: 91
(this could also be declared as Vaillons). There are hints of iodine and petrol present on the less elegant but slightly riper array of floral and mostly white orchard fruit suffused aromas. The bigger and richer medium-bodied flavors possess solid mid-palate concentration as well as good punch and vibrancy, all wrapped in an intensely saline-inflected finale. This muscular effort is more mineral-driven than it usually is and overall it's quite good; indeed it's worth a look. 2019+

2014 Chablis "Les Vaillons" - *Domaine Long Depaquit*: 90
(mostly from Epinottes with the balance from Séchet; 10% wood). This is the first wine to display any appreciable level of wood though it's sufficiently subtle to allow the cool oyster shell, citrus and floral aromas to shine. The mouth feel of the middle weight flavors is quite round, even generous and almost soft though the finish tightens up sufficiently to suggest that this will be capable of improving over the short to medium term. 2019+

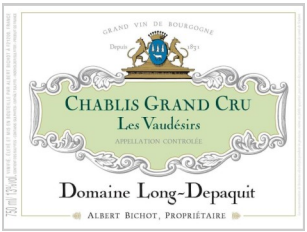
2014 Chablis "Montmains" - *Domaine Long Depaquit*: 91
(from Forêts). Here too there is enough wood to remark upon but not so much as to be intrusive on the ripe yet airy nose of green apple, floral, pear and tidal pool nuances. There is a fresh and vibrant palate impression to the citrus and mineral-inflected flavors that deliver notably better Chablis character on the clean, dry, persistent and balanced finale. This is lovely and I particularly like the texture. 2019+

2014 Chablis "Les Vaucoupins" - *Domaine Long Depaquit*: 90
(raised in ~15% wood). A cool, elegant and admirably pure green fruit suffused nose features ample Chablis typicity in the form of iodine, ocean breeze and mineral reduction that is framed in just enough wood to notice. There is fine intensity to the attractively textured middle weight flavors that culminate in a chiseled, stony and highly energetic finale. 2019+

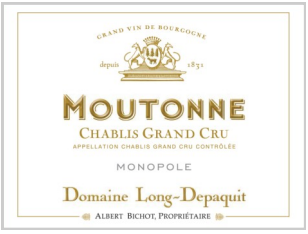
2014 Chablis "Montée de Tonnerre" - *Domaine Long Depaquit*: 93
(100% from Côte de Bréchain). The wood treatment is a bit more obvious and while it stops short of being intrusive it is not subtle and fights a bit with the cool floral and white orchard fruit aromas that exhibit just enough Chablis character to be persuasive. The wood continues onto the equally cool and restrained middle weight flavors that possess ample minerality that continues onto the punchy and gorgeously persistent finish. This is wonderfully classy and should amply reward mid-term cellaring. 2021+

2014 Chablis Grand Cru Les Blanchots - *Domaine Long Depaquit*: 93
(from a 1.5 ha parcel of 40+ year old vines; ~25% wood). Here too there is enough wood to merit mentioning but not so much as to really fight with the elegant aromas of mineral reduction, quinine, pear and white floral scents. There is excellent richness and vibrancy to the seductive and refined medium-bodied flavors that also exhibit an almost pungent minerality, all wrapped in stony, detailed and impressively long finish. This well-balanced effort offers plenty of Chablis character and punch but will need a few years to develop better overall depth. Very promising though. 2022+

2014 Chablis Grand Cru Les Clos - *Domaine Long Depaquit*: 94
(from a 1.5 ha parcel; ~35% new wood). There is some post-bottling sulfur on the otherwise attractive nose that offers up notes of honeysuckle, mineral reduction and oyster shell hints. As is typically the case the broad-shouldered flavors are bigger, richer and more powerful if not finer while delivering terrific punch on the explosively persistent and palate coating finale. This too will require a few years of cellaring to find its center but it is certainly extremely impressive. 2022+



2014 Chablis Grand Cru Les Vaudésirs - *Domaine Long Depaquit*: 94
(from a holding of 2.6 ha; ~25% new wood). There is a mild hint of the exotic to the very fresh, layered and fresh mix of both white and yellow orchard fruit that is liberally laced with Chablis and wood elements. I like the textured mouth feel to the round and relatively forward mid-palate of the medium-bodied flavors that possess fine depth and positively huge length on the citrus-inflected finale. This exceptionally promising effort is also going to need a few years of cellaring to develop but it should be terrific in time. 2022+



2014 Chablis Grand Cru La Moutonne - *Domaine Long Depaquit*: 95
(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). This is restrained to the point of being all but mute aromatically with only hints of mineral reduction in evidence. There is outstanding volume and mid-palate concentration to the textured full-bodied flavors that exhibit fine power and drive, all wrapped in a palate coating, intense and hugely long finish. This is a seriously impressive effort and clearly the best of these grands crus. 2024+

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August 2016

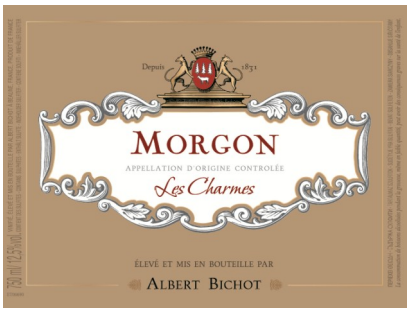
Josh RAYNOLDS

BEAUJOLAIS CRUS 2014

Albert Bichot 2014 Morgon Les Charmes

90 pts

Drinking window: 2017 - 2021



Deep ruby. Powerful aromas of cherry and raspberry liqueur are joined by vanilla and succulent herb nuances that build in the glass. Round, fleshy and appealingly sweet, offering juicy red fruit flavors that show very good depth as well as energy. The vanilla quality repeats on a long, smooth finish given shape by soft, even tannins.

Albert Bichot 2014 Domaine de Rochegrès Moulin-à-Vent

89 pts

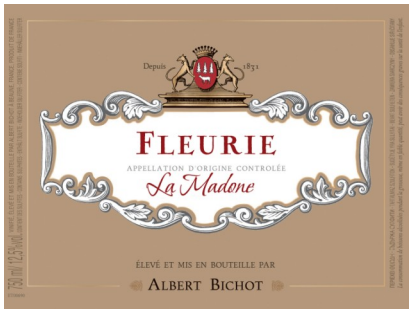
Drinking window: 2017 - 2021

Vivid ruby-red. Spicy and energetic on the nose, displaying zesty red berry and succulent herb qualities and a touch of vanilla. Silky and focused in the mouth, offering lively raspberry and bitter cherry flavors sweetened by the vanilla nuance. Shows good energy and lift on the finish, leaving behind oak spice and vaguely jammy red berry notes.

Albert Bichot 2014 Fleurie La Madone

89 pts

Drinking window: 2018 - 2022



Bright ruby. On the wild side, displaying primary red berry and peppery spice scents and a suggestion of smoked meat. Then juicy and focused on the palate, offering youthfully taut red currant and bitter cherry flavors and a touch of medicinal bitterness. Closes nervy and tight, showing good persistence and lingering spiciness. Give this one some time or at the very least a little air.

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Antonio Galloni
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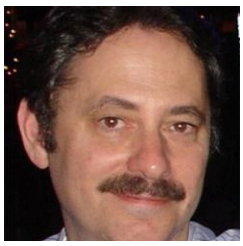
July 2016



Stephen Tanzer

2014 CHABLIS

Domaine Long Depaquit (Albert Bichot)

Mangenot now feels that 2014 "has all the ingredients to be a great vintage: aromatic complexity, opulence, great acidity, lovely precision." The wines benefitted from longer *élevage*, taking on more volume, he added. Mangenot believes that the 2014s will be as long-lived as the 1996s. "Two thousand ten was very good, but 2014 is a bit less ripe and better balanced. The 2014s are for drinking after the 2015s, which are joyous wines." He recommended holding the 2014 premier crus for seven to ten years and the grand crus for longer.

In the estate's new *cuverie*, all of the crus are vinified with whole clusters and Mangenot is able to press more carefully. "Being able to work with much finer lees makes a bit difference in the wines," he told me.

2014 Chablis Domaine Long-Depaquit 89

2014 Chablis Les Montmains Premier Cru Domaine Long-Depaquit 89+

2014 Chablis Les Lys Premier Cru Domaine Long-Depaquit 89+

Vibrant aromas of lemon drop and crushed stone. Then precise and complex on the palate, with white peach and citrus flavors complicated by saline soil tones, humid fern and fresh herbs. Finishes with very good length and grip but also displays good early approachability.

2014 Chablis Les Beugnons Premier Cru Domaine Long-Depaquit 90

Brisk lemon and saline aromas and flavors suggest a very youthful wine. Not especially complex yet but a yeasty quality contributes flavor interest. Finishes firm and serious, with a repeating lemony character and an impression of solid dry extract. Mangenot is now bottling this *cuvée* a bit earlier than previously.

2014 Chablis Les Vaillons Premier Cru Domaine Long-Depaquit 91

Very reduced chalky nose. Then dense, ripe and pliant in the mouth, with yellow peach and spice flavors complicated by suggestions of white pepper and gunflint. Quite creamy for the vintage in spite of its strong chalky underpinning. This has turned out very well.

2014 Chablis Les Vaucopins Premier Cru Domaine Long-Depaquit 91

(30% *fût*): Sexy aromas of peach, apricot, fresh quince and flowers. Densely packed and concentrated, with ripe apricot and peach flavors complicated by white pepper and spices and sharpened by brisk, integrated acidity. A very successful premier cru with solid aging potential.

2014 Chablis Les Blanchots Grand Cru Domaine Long-Depaquit 92

Enticing aromas of fresh yellow fruits, flowers and crushed rock. Boasts lovely inner-mouth tension and finesse of texture, with its citrus and stone fruit flavors complicated by saline and bitter almond notes. Quite round for the year, conveying an attractive touch of *sucrosité*, this salty, extract-rich wine has turned out very well.

2014 Chablis Les Clos Grand Cru Domaine Long-Depaquit 91+

Reticent but complex aromas of lime blossom, hazelnut, minerals and wet stone. Drier and more austere than the Blanchots, with a juiciness verging on painful to its grapefruit zest and crushed rock flavors. Seriously mineral wine with excellent extract and chewy length. Boasts good depth.

2014 Chablis Les Vaudésirs Grand Cru Domaine Long-Depaquit 92+

Ripe yellow stone fruits, almond and acacia flower on the nose, plus a hint of exotic fruits. Large-scaled, rich and broad but given shape by lovely mineral-driven acidity. Finishes broad, powerful and long.

2014 Chablis La Moutonne Grand Cru Domaine Long-Depaquit 94

Very closed nose hints at wet stone, flint, anise, grilled almond and hazelnut. Hugely rich and concentrated, conveying a powerful impression of dry extract to its flavors of yellow fruits, flowers and saline iodiney minerality. It's hard to scrape this big, mouthfilling wine (13% alcohol) off your palate. Finishes full, broad and very long, with terrific energy and lift. Classic grand cru Chablis with superb aging potential.

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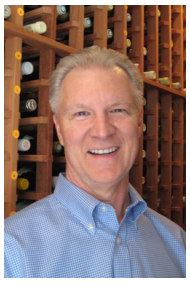

2014 white Burgundies

2014 Meursault "Les Charmes" *Domaine du Pavillon*: **92**

There is a touch of reduction but the fruit definitely seems ripe. The attractively textured and concentrated medium-bodied flavors possess excellent volume and mid-palate density as well as a subtle minerality, all wrapped in a racy and chiseled finale. This is a lovely Charmes and worth considering provided you can cellar it for at least a few years first. 2021+

2014 Chassagne-Montrachet "Morgeot": **90**

A discreet if not invisible application of wood sets off the ripe yet fresh aromas of white peach, pear, floral and peach. The lush, indeed even opulent medium-bodied flavors possess good punch that continues onto the ever-so-mildly sweet finish that, in contrast to the mid-palate, has an almost chewy texture. This would be a fine choice for those who enjoy big-bodied and full-on white burgs. 2019+

2014 Chassagne-Montrachet "Vide Bourse": **91**

A distinctly phenolic nose (think olive oil nuances) adds breadth to the essence of pear and white peach suffused aromas where a floral top note is also present. The mouth feel of the broad-shouldered flavors is also lush to the point of opulence before culminating in a mouth coating finale that possesses slightly more supporting acidity which contributes to the overall sense of balance. Again, this would make for a good choice for those who enjoy super rich yet not heavy white burgs. 2020+

2014 Corton-Charlemagne *Domaine du Pavillon*: **92**

(from a 1 ha parcel situated in Languettes in Aloxe-Corton). Here there is no reduction present on the restrained nose that only grudgingly offers up notes of green apple, white flowers, lemon rind and wet stone. There is outstanding richness to the full-bodied middle weight flavors that possess a lovely sense of underlying tension while delivering fine length on the precise and moderately austere finale. This is not especially dense in the context of the *appellation* and is rather a Corton-Charlemagne of relative refinement that should drink reasonably well after only a few years of bottle age. 2021+

2014 Criots-Bâtard-Montrachet: **92**

There is a mildly exotic character to the ripe yet restrained nose of both white and yellow orchard fruit, spice and soft wood nuances. As is almost always the case with a typical Criots, there is both excellent volume and richness to the powerful and seductively textured big-bodied flavors that possess an abundance of palate coating dry extract that buffers the moderately firm acid spine on the sneaky long finish. This also possesses a mild backend sweetness yet it does not compromise the overall sense of harmony. 2022+

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2nd Quarter, 2016
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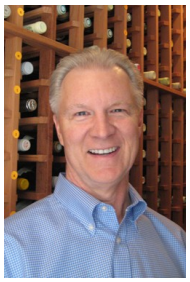
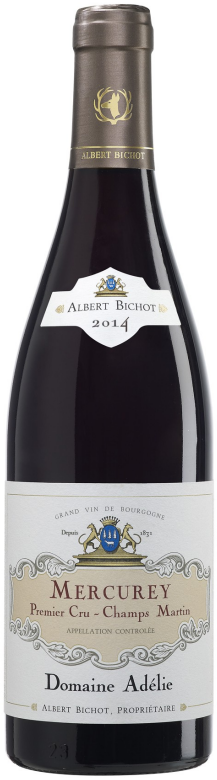


2014 Reds from Côte de Beaune and Côte Chalonnaise

2014 Mercurey "En Pierre Milley"- *Domaine Adélie* 88

A somber and distinctly earthy nose of various dark berry fruit aromas conveys a hint of the *sauvage* as well. There is both good volume and richness to the suave medium-bodied flavors that possess fine depth and only a hint of rusticity. This would make a fine choice for a house red because while it could easily be enjoyed now, it should also be capable of rewarding 3 to 5 years of aging. 2018+



2014 Mercurey "Champs Martin" - *Domaine Adélie (*89-91)

A discreet application of wood frames the more elegant and more complex array of plum, earth, earth and red currant scents. The tighter and more precise flavors display evident minerality on the attractively textured finale that delivers fine length. While this too could be enjoyed young there is enough upside potential to warrant aging this for a few years first. In a word, lovely. 2020+

2014 Beaune "Les Epenottes" - *Domaine du Pavillon* (87-90)

There is a top note of herbal tea to the ripe and distinctly earthy aromas of various red berries and plum scents. There is good concentration and vibrancy to the caressing middle weight flavors that display only a hint of rusticity on the delicious and reasonably well-balanced finish. 2020+

2014 Aloxe-Corton - *Domaine du Pavillon* (87-89)

(from Les Crapousuets). A discreet application of wood easily allows the earthy and overtly sauvage dark berry fruit aromas to be appreciated. There is excellent volume to the supple and generously proportioned medium-bodied flavors that offer solid depth and length on the firm, moderately rustic and slightly austere finale. 2021+

2014 Pommard "Clos des Ursulines" - *Domaine du Pavillon* (88-91)

(a huge 4 ha monopole of the domaine). Here the wood regimen is more prominent if not actually invasive as it still permits the distinctly earthy red berry fruit and tea scents to be discerned. The attractively textured middle weight flavors possess excellent concentration as there is plenty of mouth coating and tannin buffering dry extract that imparts a sappy feel to the austere, firm and rustic finale. This is very Pommard in basic character but importantly it's not hard or unduly chewy. 2022+

2014 Volnay 1er Cru "Les Santenots" - *Domaine du Pavillon (*88-91)

(from Les Plures). I would describe the wood treatment as similar to that of the Ursulines as it's enough to notice but not enough to really overshadow the more elegant and more complex aromas of subtly spiced plum, violet and red cherry scents. The medium weight and lightly mineral-inflected flavors possess a sleek mouth feel before culminating in a lush and seductively textured if moderately rustic finish. This is sufficiently rich and sappy that it could be approached young if desired though I would advise holding it for at least a few years first. 2021+

2014 Aloxe-Corton 1er Cru "Clos des Maréchaudes" - *Domaine du Pavillon* (89-92)

A ripe, earthy and moderately sauvage-inflected nose reflects a pretty combination of various red berries, floral and forest floor scents. There is excellent volume to the lush and velvety medium-bodied flavors that exude a subtle minerality on the delicious, balanced and persistent finish that offers solid if not truly special complexity. This is really quite good and while there is a trace of rusticity it is discreet. 2021+

2014 Corton Grand Cru "Clos des Maréchaudes" - *Domaine du Pavillon* (90-93)

(a ~1.9 ha monopole that is split between ~.5 ha classified as grand cru and the remaining 1.4 ha as 1er). Once again discreet wood frames the slightly riper nose where the notably floral nose displays fruit aromas that come from the dark side of the spectrum. As is usually the case there is a bit more of everything on the palate with more size, weight and richness to the muscular and concentrated flavors that display excellent length along with traces of warmth and rusticity. This is worth considering if you have the patience to cellar it. 2024+

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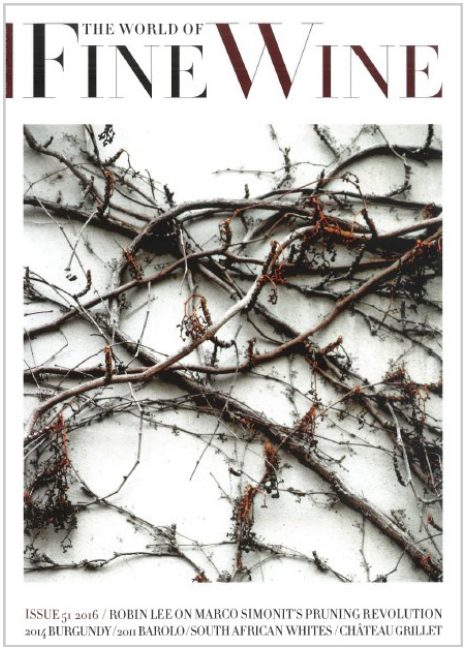

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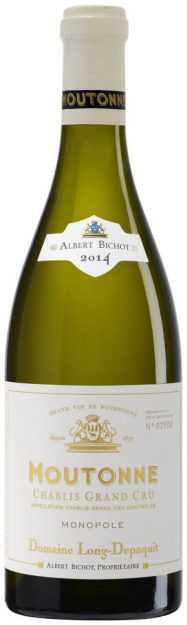
2014 BURGUNDY

DOMAINE LONG-DEPAQUIT (ALBERT BICHOT)



Chablis Premier Cru Les Vaucopins 92

Tasted by Michael Edwards

Roundness, finesse: *aerien* from this fine Chichée cru close to Les Blanchots.

Chablis Grand Cru Moutonne 98

Tasted by Michael Edwards

The sort of outstanding wine that has everything: delicate haunting aromas, citrus, pear, hawthorn: wondrous vinosity and multi-layered, ever so subtle flavors that change in the glass. Majestic length and race. Be patient-until at least 2020. Great value, too.

DOMAINE DU CLOS FRANTIN (ALBERT BICHOT)

Michel Bettane : well made wines, harmonious bodies, good texture, integrated oak (...) Best for me there were a complete Clos-de-Vougeot, an excellent Echezeaux and very refined Grands-Echezeaux.

Chambertin Grand Cru 94

Tasted by Neil Beckett

The most impressive of several very good wines tasted as barrel samples in Beaune in November 2015 with the highly competent cellar-master Alain Serveau. Medium-deep ruby. An aristocratic reserve on the nose, darkly fruited, a little kirsch after some time in the glass, far from forbidding but properly serious. A gentler entry than expected, almost cashmere in its softness, firmer underneath, but nothing angular or hard, and an imposing finish. Real grand cru intensity and scale. Only three *pièces*, sadly!

Clos-de-Vougeot Grand Cru 90

Tasted by Neil Beckett

The fruit comes from vines running from the top to the bottom of this famously heterogeneous site, which may explain in part why this seems such a complete expression of it. Still properly tannic underneath, but there is enough silky slip and slither on top to suggest that everything is in place. Potency and potential, so should be well worth the wait.

Vosne-Romanée 89+

Tasted by Neil Beckett

This is a blend of fruit from only two very well-placed *lieux-dits*-Les Damaudes, above premier cru Malconsorts, and Hautes Maizières, below premier cru Suchots-which may explain its exceptional quality for a village wine, even if the grandest village of all. Enticingly exotic, roseate, and spicy to smell, the very image of Vosne. An elegance and raciness to match the richness, which is impressive for the level.

DOMAINE DU PAVILLON (ALBERT BICHOT)

Meursault Premier Cru Les Charmes 91

Tasted by Neil Beckett

There is an excellent village Meursault here this year, a blend of five different parcels, but this Charmes is a clear step up, as it should be. There are three parcels of vines, 90% of them in Charmes-Dessus, close to Perrières, so as cellar-master Alain Serveau says,this shares some of the tension of that higher vineyard. Lightly nutty and smoky, but neither too oaky nor too reductive on the nose. An acrobatic palate, flowing and silken, which keeps it rolling smoothly, but with a light phenolic rub that makes it seem as though it's twisting and turning at the same time: enchanting, thoroughly pleasing wine.

Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru 92

Tasted by Neil Beckett

A lovely nose, not in the least overblown, with no excessive ripeness (a real risk in this site in this vintage) and no excessive woodiness either (only 25% new oak): almond blossom and lemon confit. Richly silky and supple, generous in scale, top to bottom, but enough acidity, intensity, and purity for it to retain elegance and spiral upward on the long finish. Another hugely seductive wine that one really wants to drink.

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Burgundy-Report

Published on March 3rd, 2016 / January Report

Bill NANSON

Domaine Long-Depaquit - 2014

Tasted in Chablis with Matthieu Mangenot, 15 January 2016

Matthieu on 2014...

"A very hot year, quite remarkable in Spring and until end of June hot and particularly dry. July and August were less good but it was really the end of August and onwards that made the vintage - it could easily at this time have gone in a bad direction! Dry, nice weather, not so hot, the termination of the maturing phase went really well. Extraction was complicated as the skins were quite dry, needing more pressing time and there was less juice. Just a little lower yields here in 14 versus 15. 15-26 September harvest."

The wines...

For the first time with the 2014 vintage, all the wines will now be sealed with DIAM. Previously the Moutonne was left with cork, but 49mm DIAM^{30}, without chamfered edges will be used in this vintage.

The first vintage with the full new cuverie. The wines here are fine, direct and very clean, almost remarkably so - it's difficult to ascribe personality to the first wines, but as you progress through the wines, there is also a progression in character and how the flavour is delivered. Precision - certainly - but also genuine excitement as you mount the range!

2014 Chablis

100% tank fermented, no oak. Represents about 30 hectares worth from all around Chablis over both banks.

Bright fresh fruit - a lime/lemon mix - also an accent of salinity. Bright, fresh and wide, but there's also a growing depth of flavour, slowly expanding and almost surprising at the end. Good fruit and a nice long finish. Tasty wine.

2014 Chablis 1er Les Lys

2 left-bank hectares worth. A more N-E exposure, almost unique for the 1ers, with less stones and more clay here so more acidity and florality. 100% in tank, no oak.

A less fruit-driven nose but just as intense and showing a fresh top-level accented with lime. Lithe, flowing, layered flavour - rather mineral, just enough cushioning and rounding of edges to avoid anything sharp. Fine intensity here - a wine that eventually shows a warm side, but is rooted in minerality. Excellent finishing length.

2014 Chablis 1er Les Beugnons

This 2.3 hectare parcel is in the sub climate of Vaillons; Long-Depaquit was originally the only producer, but a couple more are declaring under this label now, rather than using the Vaillons label. If you don't take care here this can really go over-ripe very quickly - so the date of picking is crucial - the parcel is protected by the forest. Again only tank elevage 'to keep the purity of this place.'

A bright nose again, but with more depth and width than the Lys - a more overt aromatic personality. Super-clean, a little more complex flavour - bright individual points of complexity. Really a wine that's more talkative today. Again very fine length, this time with a hint of green herb to augment the citrus feel...

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Burgundy-Report

Published on March 3rd, 2016 / January Report

Bill NANSON

Domaine Long-Depaquit - 2014

2014 Chablis 1er Vaillons

A large cuvée of 4.3 hectares, from Les Epinottes (90%) plus a little Lys and Beugnons. Elevage with 10% 2-5 year-old oak, essentially from Vosges. Then blended back into tank.

A slightly more rounded nose, faintly spiced and herbed. Also in the mouth there are no sharp edges here, everything smoothed, the flavour flowing over the palate starting rather nondescript and then becoming ever-more interesting as it stays in the mouth. Really a wine that grows with you. The finish mounts a small peak before slowly sliding down the other side with a modest floral reference. Hold the last note very long…

2014 Chablis 1er Vaucopins

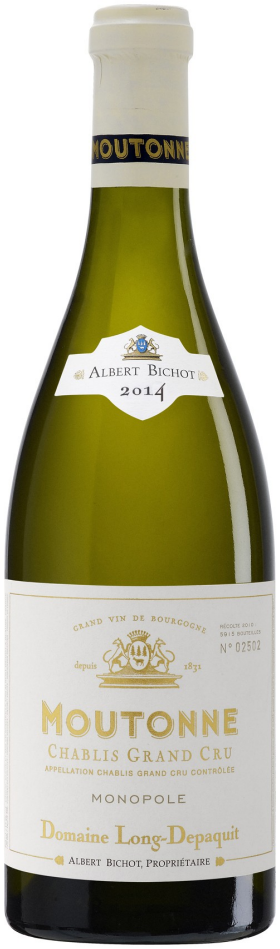
5 hectares from Chichée, the exposure resembles Vaudesir. 'A pivot wine between the 1er and grand crus here.' Just a little more oak here – 15%.

A certain warmness to the fruit – riper lemon – but with a fine top layer that resembles a cool wind. Really a wine of flavour concentration, complexity, a little richness of flavour – though less richness of texture. There is much to find here and it is delivered in very svelte manner. A little extra dimension as you head into the more mineral finish. Excellent – the most character so far!

2014 Chablis Les Blanchots

1.5 hectares from the end of the valley, almost always harvested 1 week after Les Clos. 25% oak used here both for fermentation and aging – Vaudesir and Moutonne the same, though Les Clos is up to 35% – but again, no new oak, even if the average is a little younger. This will be bottled in the next days.

Ooh – vibrant and complex nose – yum! A little gas, wait for it to melt and there is a flowing of flavour – a generous flow of flavour, fine balance, slowly developing new references and directions. This is super this year. Large-scale finish with lots of hooks to different flavours. This is very lovely.



2014 Chablis Les Clos

Also to be bottled over the next days. 1.5 hectares worth from 2 plots.

Here is a weight of aroma, rather tight above with a faint suggestion of spice (nutmeg?) but really not much more. In the mouth this is also large-scaled – real mouth-filling volume here, but it is not the luxurious complexity of Blanchots, rather it is the silky, slow delivery, almost grudging delivery of a more mineral expression. Clean, wide and very impressive finish – essentially this wine is rooted in tit's minerality and will require more patience. Not easy today, but excellent wine.

2014 Chablis Les Vaudésirs

2.6 hectares of 45 year-old vines. Always harvested at the same time as the Moutonne.

A fine nose with lovely high-toned yellow fruit – lemon. Below a freshness that suggests salinity. Really not just the nose, but the palate too is like a blend of the previous two wines – there's a certain luxurious complexity of fruit yet also with a more obvious mineral aspect. This is super and with a fine, not aggressive intensity. The mouth-watering flavour is almost a river in the finish – bravo!

2014 Chablis La Moutonne

2.3 hectares that sits 95% in Vaudésir and 5% in Preuses.

Ooh! This is really a super nose –it has depth and a certain vibrancy that recalls minerality, agrume and reduction all rolled into one. Some gas here – I have to be patient. But ooh – the most intense and mouth-watering yet backed with really tasty flavour and mouth-watering delivery. Multiple points of complexity – bravo! Really the best in this lie-up today. Super wine.

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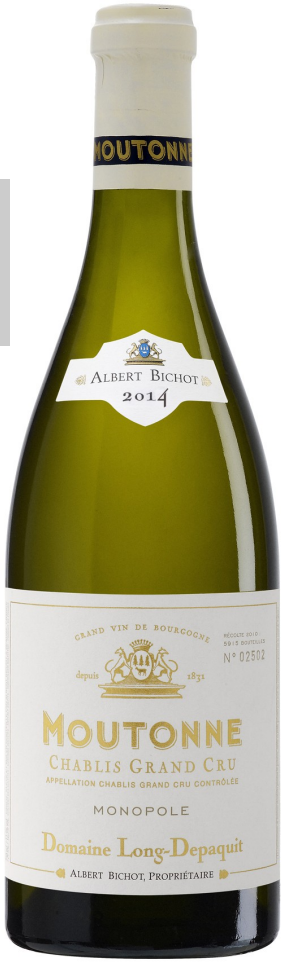
February 2016

Vintage preview

Burgundy 2014

95



Decanter's pick of 2014

Tasted by Gerard BASSET MW

Albert Bichot, Domaine Long-Depaquit, La Moutonne Grand Cru Monopole 95
Stone fruit and hints of elderflower with a chiselled texture and a mineral finish. A very classy wine to be enjoyed in a few years' time, when it will be at its best. **Drink** 2018-2030 ➢

Names to look out for in 2014

Chablis
Domaine Long-Depaquit

Gevrey Chambertin
Albert Bichot

Pommard
Domaine du Pavillon

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Decanter

www.decanter.com

February 17, 2016

Top Burgundy 2014 wines – en primeur scores

Tasted by Gerard BASSET

Albert Bichot, Domaine Long-Depaquit, La Moutonne Chablis Grand Cru Monopole 2014

POINTS 95

Stone fruit and hints of elderflower with a chiselled texture and a mineral finish. A very classy wine to be enjoyed in a few years' time when it will be at its best.

Albert Bichot, Domaine du Clos Frantin, Chambertin Grand Cru 2014

POINTS 95

Lifted nose of great complexity with plenty of spiced red fruit. The palate is tense and silky with a long, savoury finish. A wine that already shows so well but has much more potential ahead.

Albert Bichot, Grands Echezeaux Grand Cru 2014

POINTS 94

Perfumed nose of black fruit and some spice with a silky texture and savoury finish.

Albert Bichot, Domaine du Clos Frantin, Les Malconsorts Vosne-Romanée Ier Cru 2014

POINTS 94

Lovely strawberry and raspberry fruit with savoury nuances, a velvety texture and spicy finish. An extremely appealing, top-quality wine.

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Burgundy-Report

Published on February 2nd, 2016 / December Report

Bill NANSON

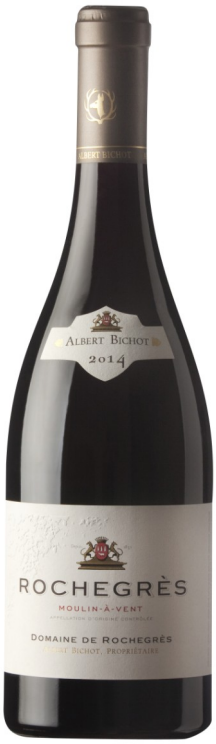
Albert Bichot - 2014

Tasted in Beaune with Christophe Chauvel, 19 November, 2015

Well for start in 2014, there was a new domaine from Moulin-à-Vent with a little less than 3.5 hectares. 'Traditional' Côte d'Or type fermentation - i.e. destemming - so not being a fan of carbonic maceration smells, that was right up my street:

2014 Moulin-à-Vent, Domaine de Rochegres
Wide and fresh a rather composed nose, perhaps with a hint of pepper too. Big and sweet in the mouth with a discreet reduction. Intense but joyful mid-palate flavour that slowly fades in the finish. Fun but actually with a serious length...

2014 Moulin-à-VentRochegres, Domaine de Rochegres
Ferments and all dome in moulin a vent.
Deeper colour. A prettier more Côte d'Or nose of deep fruit with floral top notes. Faintly gassy, a hint of raspberry and a very fine width of flavour. Here is a certain elegance but also a width of intense flavour that's a little padded and a lot complex. This is super - and that's coming from somebody who doesn't drink much BJ.

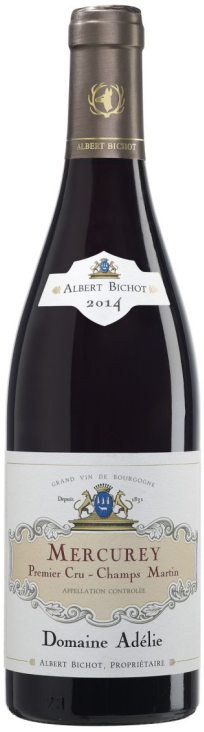


All the following are not yet bottled. Some are already assembled, others in barrel. The whites are probably for bottling in February or later, the reds one or two months later. Just a very fine set of wines. Note, that I often find an element more of oaky vanilla in the young bottled wines, versus pre-bottling samples - it hangs around for 1-3 years and is then gone...

2014 Bourgogne Pinot Noir Secret de Famille
Good colour. High tones of ripe fruit with a mineral impression below. Round in the mouth, well textured, with a very good weight of flavour for the label. A good kick of finishing flavour here - indeed and excellent finish

2014 Mercurey 1er Champs Martin, Domaine Adelie
A tighter nose; higher tones escape the glass, indeed floral notes. Here is a more direct and structural wine after the bourgogne. More obvious, slightly jarring tannin. But there is also a width of fresh and engaging fruit flavour, it lasts positively in the finish too. Seemingly less ripe, more structured but maybe less down the route of elevage too...

2014 Savigny-lès-Beaune Les Picotins
Purchased grapes.
Again, a lot of colour in the glass. A very pretty and precise high-toned nose - lovely... Round, well textured, discreet reduction, a growing tannin too but here is also a little joy and excitement. Bright, fresh and interesting finishing. A very lovely wine... some finesse here too.



2014 Domaine du Pavillon, Volnay 1er Santenots
Enveloping nose of beautiful deep red fruit with a swirl of barrel cream - very engaging, indeed inviting too. You start narrow but very quickly this fills the mouth, an undertow of fine tannin in a supporting role but here is a large scaled, deeply fruited wine but not simple as you will see as it melts in the finish. Still plenty of oak references today, but a beauty.

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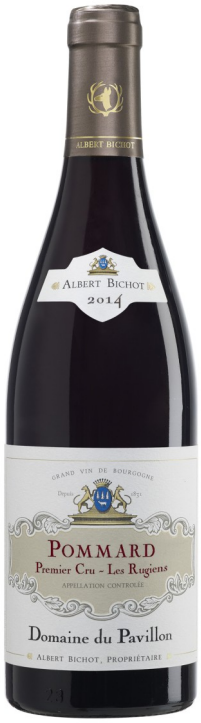
2014 Domaine du Pavillon, Pommard Clos des Ursulines
A cooler, darker and wider fruit that's lifted with some floral notes. Mouth-filling, a little more structure to the fore than the Santenots, but the darkly flavoured, half-fruit half-mineral wine has lots of energy. One to wait for a couple of years (or more) the finest action today is the lovely finishing flavour…

2014 Domaine du Pavillon, Pommard 1er Les Rugiens
A beautiful blend of flowers and fruit - super. A little extra sweetness but also salt from this minerally complex wine. Plenty of tannin of-course but also another dimension of fresher fruit in the mid-palate. Gorgeously complex wine. Difficult today but this structure will melt away. Bravo!



2014 Domaine du Pavillon, Aloxe 1er clos des Marechaudes
A fine and direct fruit nose, medium red-fruited. Round, lithe, flows very well over the palate. The tannin grows a little but is quite finely grained and edged with a little salinity. A wide, slowly mouth-watering finish. Very good and very tasty.

2014 Domaine du Pavillon, Corton Clos des Marechaudes
Almost a similar nose but wider and darker red shaded. Bigger, more mouth filling wine with more intensity of flavour and certainly a lot more bitter-inflected tannin at the base. Big and impressive, but for the more patient!

A Côte de Nuits Selection:

2014 Domaine du Clos Frantin, Vosne-Romanée
From Damaudes and Maizières.
Deep and darkly spiced. A nice shape and feel in the mouth. There's a little tannin to integrate, but it will. Coffee and spice in the mid-palate and then a lovely intensity of finishing flavour. Very good - even for Vosne!

2014 Morey St.Denis 1er Les Sorbets
A subtle reduction but an impressive depth too. Bright, energetic, clean focused but also complex. This is an impressive wine. It just needs to shed some of that reductiveness of elevage. A super wine waiting for you (me!)

2014 Nuits St.Georges 1er Chaines-Carteaux
From the Premeaux side…
A pretty red fruit nose, soft, faintly floral very much inviting. In the mouth too this bubbles with interest and quite good complexity too. A wine with lots to say, and it says it very well. Bravo!

2014 Nuits St.Georges 1er Château Gris
Now worked by horse.
A fresh nose of discreet high tones and a darker deep fruit. Wide and impressive. Here is weight and a very good delivery of lots of flavour. Just a little saline minerality before the flavour squeezes through the gaps of the structure. Very tasty and very appealing in this vintage.

2014 Chambolle-Musigny 1er les Chabiots
Bought grapes from above Les Amoureuses
A fresh and floral nose less deep than some but still lovely. Extra sweetness, very good intensity too. This is a more direct delivery of flavour with an interesting freshness yet still sweetness of fruit. Very engaging wine, also with a mineral complexity at the end. I'm almost surprised to be left with just a little tannic texture on my tongue at the end of the good finish. Super!

2014 Chambolle-Musigny 1er Les Amoureuses
A little tightness and a little reduction - a few floral anecdotes still manage to escape from the glass. Large, mouth-filling form, brightness of flavour, sweetly accented a large and wide finishing flavour. Larger rather than complex today, yet everything is in place I feel. This should become very fine… After a couple of minutes the nose opens a little more - beautifully floral…

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2014 Vosne-Romanée 1er Les Malconsorts

1.75 ha from 6 sandier parts and lower down heavier soil – there can be 3 days difference in maturity – 'clearly different wines too, the lower part more massive less complex.'

Deep faintly spiced, less faintly reduced. Here are waves and waves of flavour, some with a little reduction, some with a little salty tannin, some with fruit, some with spice. – a really good Vosne 1er and with a lovely burst of finishing flavour…

2014 Gevrey-Chambertin 1er Lavaux St.Jacques

Bought.

Beautifully perfumed nose, exquisitely perfumed over deeper fruit. Large-scaled, faintly saline, a little tannin at the base but also supple, energetic and engagingly complex. What a lovely wine… Mouth watering, almost mouth staining flavour. A bigger, slightly broader wine than the Vosne, and today, maybe better!

2014 Clos de la Roche

Bought as grapes.

A wide and very engaging nose of modest flowers and fine complex notes. Fuller, sweeter, more dense though a discreet reduction too. A large-scaled wine, one that will stain your palate with flavour, very good flavour, of distinction. A rounder rather than direct and mineral Clos de la Roche, but super gourmand and relatively rich.

2014 Charmes-Chambertin

Bought as grapes.

Here is a nose, a beautiful nose – very wide, complex red fruits, maybe with a twist of cream – subtle but really engaging. Really big, intense, mouth-filling wine with lots of minerality and a faintly saline leading edge. I'm amazed this is Charme, though the mid-palate is certainly charming in its enveloping texture… A super wine.

2014 Clos Frantin, Chambertin

Deep colour. A rather discreet nose today, clean direct fruit notes, subtly floral but essentially tight. Not as instantly mouth-filling as the Charmes, but in a couple of seconds it gets there, but here with a more obviously opulent texture and clarity of fruit flavour. Really outstanding clarity in the finishing flavours. Wow! I'm sure this is still hiding a lot of its potential, but a potentially great wine!

2014 Clos Frantin, Clos de Vougeot

Not so wide a nose but there's depth, and a Vosne-style spice for the top notes. Almost Vosne style in the mouth too – spicy, faintly salty and mineral, fruit – waves and waves of impressive flavour here. Bravo!! top wine…

2014 Clos Frantin, Echézeaux

From Champs-Traversins

A deeper, more considered nose. Intense and with explosive width. Here is really rampant complexity. Why would you show Echézeaux after Clos de Vougeot and Chambertin? – well, here is the answer. I think the mid-palate and finish may be a little behind the other wines in terms of width, if not ultimate length, but this just explodes on the tongue from the first instant. – whew!

2014 Clos Frantin, Grands-Echézeaux

A modest floral covering for tighter, darker fruit notes below. Not the instant attack of the Echézeaux, but clearly more intensity of flavour. Little pin-pricks of complexity in the mid-palate and a relatively more subtle finish. Its long but with modest flavour and energy. A super wine no doubt at all, but the palate-melting intensity aside, I've a preference for previous wine.

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Burgundy-Report

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Bill NANSON

Les blancs

The first three already in bottle…

2014 Bourgogne Secret de Famille

100% Côte d'Or and the same for the barrel elevage

Pretty high tones, citrus-led aromas. This is lovely - wide, complex, mouth-watering, just suggesting minerality, a tart au citron meringue in the finish. Excellent.

2014 Macon Lugny Les Charmes

Bought in must.

A deep, salted nose. Wide complex, layered, mineral but plush palate of fine balance. This will be joyous drinking next summer…

2014 Domaine Adelie, Mercurey les Champs Michaux

Also a pretty citrus nose. Fuller, deeper register of flavour. Finely balanced and with an impression of minerality too. Lots of mouth-watering, slightly sweet finishing flavour - a little citrus skin here. Very good.

2014 Nuits St.Georges Les Terrasses de Château Gris

A faintly spice macerating sweet yellow citrus impression. This is actually very, very good. A layered delivery of interesting, balanced, nuanced, and just slightly padded flavour. Bravo!

2014 Beaune 1er Clos des Mouches

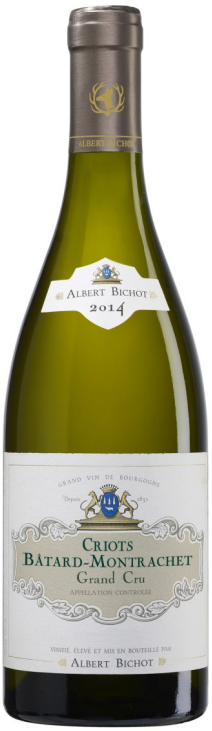
About 30% yield versus a normal year, but better than 2013 where there was no harvest… From the top of the vineyard across from Montrevenots

Bright and fresh top notes over a tighter but clearly riper core of yellow fruit. Big, energetic yet also complex wine. There's some comfort to the texture, but the finish is a beautiful. Mouth-watering line of pretty flavour. Yum!

2014 Domaine du Pavillon, Meursault

5 different parcels, none from the hillside

A lovely nose. Fresh, subtle, wide, faintly sweet, lemon and ginger. In the mouth this is deeper than the nose suggests, there is weight of flavour, admittedly with a note of reduction, a comforting texture and a little mineral note. The finish is rather mineral, yet sweetened. A wine that needs a hint more elevage I think, but has many attractive parts - particularly the nose…



2014 Domaine du Pavillon, Meursault 1er Charmes

Wide, a little silky, not so deep but lovely all the same. Large-scaled, but with lithe, supple flavour, no fat, lovely intense citrus mid-palate flavour that slowly fades in the finish. There's a warmth to the fruit style but a lovely line of fresh flavour. - Yum.

2014 Chassagne-Montrachet 1er Vide Bourse

A nice lemon yellow depth. Quite large, lots of supple flavour that rolls over the palate, a mix of herb and citrus in the finish. Long. Not the most energetic wine but here is a sustained interesting and very balanced delivery of flavour. It's also delicious…

2014 Domaine du Pavillon, Corton-Charlemagne

Languettes, no Pernand, Aloxe

Vibrant, deep and fresh, a sweetened lemon note in the middle. Big. Really moth filling, but no fat here, supple, lively flavour with a leading edge of salinity, perfect lemon cake in the finish. Tannin in the finish. Really lovely but hold it for as long as you can keep your hands off it…

2014 Criots Bâtard-Montrachet

Bought in must.

A certain vibrancy here, like the Charlemagne, but here the view is panoramic rather than deep, with notes of barrel but discretely so. Really a wonderful vibrant energy here. A not so much that you don't know what to do with it once it's in your mouth, but really with constantly updating complexity, width, faintly saline edged loveliness. What a great year for whites!

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VINTAGE 2014

January 2016

Richard Hemming MW

White wines

Maison Albert Bichot, Les Charmes 2014 Mâcon-Lugny — 16

Buttery, soft, succulent and easy. Good concentration for this quality level. (RH) 13%
Drink 2015-2018

Maison Albert Bichot, Secret de Famille Chardonnay 2014 Bourgogne — 16.5

Apple, lemon, a good dose of mineral dryness on the finish. Attractive nutty notes too. Goes beyond the call of duty. (RH) 13%
Drink 2015-2019

Dom Adélie Albert Bichot, Les Champs-Michaux 2014 Mercurey — 17

Butter, cream and plenty of succulent fruit - really a most remarkable range of flavour for Mercurey. Modern, clean, delicious. A real star of the vintage. (RH) 13%
Drink 2016-2022

Dom du Château Gris Albert Bichot, Les Terrasses du Château 2014 Nuits-St-Georges — 17.5

Fleshy and creamy with generous oak but loads of pure fruit in backup. Salty, savoury and full of flavour. Excellent. (RH) 13%
Drink 2016-2022

Dom du Pavillon Albert Bichot, Le Clos des Mouches Premier Cru 2014 Beaune — 17

Caramel, white fruit, very slightly medicinal notes. Herbal, fresh, delicious. Fizzes with acidity. (RH) 13.5%
Drink 2015-2024

Dom du Pavillon Albert Bichot 2014 Meursault — 17.5

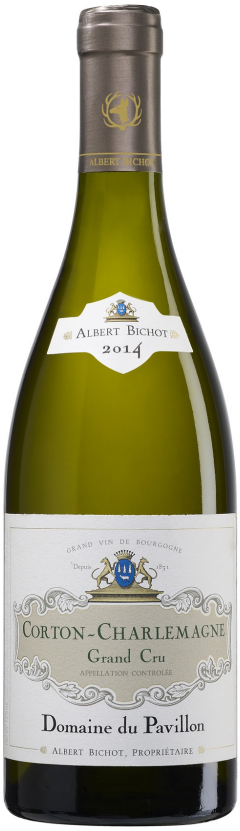
Spot on for the appellation - couldn't be more accurate: nuts, butter, a slight matchstick note, plenty of generous fruit and full, fleshy body. Powerful, lengthy and bursting with flavour. (RH) 13%
Drink 2015-2025

Dom du Pavillon Albert Bichot, Premier Cru 2014 Meursault — 17.5

Less reductive than the non-premier cru, though there is plenty of flavour still on offer. Very savoury and saline on the finish.Almost fiercely gastronomic, and certainly ageworthy. A dense, heavy style. (RH) 13.5%
Drink 2018-2024

Maison Albert Bichot, Vide Bourse Premier Cru 2014 Chassagne-Montrachet — 17.5

Talcum powder fragrance - this is almost a bit Muscat-esque! Toasted nuts and a fish sauce umami character. Very particular and peculiar! (RH) 13%
Drink 2016-2024



18

BEST SCORE
among a selection of
22 Corton-Charlemagne 2014

Maison Albert Bichot, Grand Cru 2014 Corton-Charlemagne — 18

Perfumed, elegant, open-knit and broad. Finishes with toffee apple and slaty aroma. Satisfying, statuesque, very lengthy. A completely typical Corton-Charlemagne. Bonneau du who? (RH) 13.5%
Drink 2016-2026

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VINTAGE 2014

January 2016

Domaine Long-Depaquit

Dom Long-Depaquit Albert Bichot, Les Lys Premier Cru 2014 Chablis — 16.5

Great clarity and flesh with a green apple scent and charming floral notes. Flavourful and generous. (RH) 13%
Drink 2015-2017

Dom Long-Depaquit Albert Bichot, Vaillons Premier Cru 2014 Chablis — 17

More stony and lean than the Lys - much more savoury and raw. Lovely fruit clarity, and has energy aplenty. (RH) 13%
Drink 2015-2022

Dom Long-Depaquit Albert Bichot, Vaucoupin Premier Cru 2014 Chablis — 17

Banana, crunchy apple, lovely basil herb quality. Great definition and expression. Superbly broad and ripe. (RH) 13%
Drink 2016-2022

Dom Long-Depaquit Albert Bichot, Blanchot 2014 Chablis Grand Cru — 17.5

Spicy oak, cooked apple, steely and refreshing. Dry, profound and full of exotic flavour. (RH) 13%
Drink 2016-2026

Dom Long-Depaquit Albert Bichot, Les Clos 2014 Chablis Grand Cru — 17.5

Superb ripeness and fragrance, great citrus fruit clarity and a weighty but gentle palate. Crunchy, intense, tight. (RH) 13%
Drink 2017-2027

Dom Long-Depaquit Albert Bichot, Vaudésir 2014 Chablis Grand Cru — 17.5

Lime, lemon - sharp fruit but with a leesy flesh that counterbalances beautifully. Excellent stuff. (RH) 13%
Drink 2017-2027

Dom Long-Depaquit Albert Bichot, La Moutonne 2014 Chablis Grand Cru — 17

Tightly crammed apple fruit, bitter lemon.
Well made and mineral, but needs years to calm down! (RH) 13%
Drink 2019-2029

Domaine de Rochegrès

Dom de Rochegrès Albert Bichot, Rochegrès 2014 Moulin-à-Vent — 16

Closed, tight, sour cherry fruit - much like Valpolicella with its refreshment and vivacity. Delicate, perfumed. (RH) 12.5%
Drink 2017-2021

Bourgogne Pinot Noir Secret de Famille

Maison Albert Bichot, Secret de Famille Pinot Noir 2014 Bourgogne — 15.5

Good clarity and sweetness on the nose, lovely clean fresh palate. Slightly furry palate, integrating well with acid and concentration. A good benchmark for 2014 as a clean, fresh vintage. (RH) 12.5%
Drink 2016-2019

Domaine du Pavillon

Dom du Pavillon Albert Bichot, Clos des Maréchaudes Premier Cru 2014 Aloxe-Corton — 16

Smoky oak aroma, fresh raspberry and redcurrant fruit. Dry, fibrous mouthfeel. Substantial without being heavy. Very finely grained. Delicate, floury finish. (RH) 13%
Drink 2018-2024

Dom du Pavillon Albert Bichot, Premier Cru 2014 Volnay-Santenots — 16+

Bold, sweet new oak scent. Dense and substantial on the palate with bright acid and plenty of flavour concentration. Those flavours are quite oak-reliant at this stage, though there is a gutsiness that should evolve well. (RH) 13%
Drink 2018-2028

Dom du Pavillon Albert Bichot, Clos des Ursulines 2014 Pommard — 16

Vivid fruit with a crunchy cranberry profile and brisk structure. Refreshing, mouthwatering.
Not the most typically boxy Pommard; much more gentle. (RH) 13%
Drink 2017-2024

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VINTAGE 2014

January 2016

Premiers Crus from Côte de Nuits

Dom du Clos Frantin Albert Bichot 2014 Vosne-Romanée — 17

Loads of floral fragrance and ripe fruit - impressive, expansive aromas. Delivers all the perfum you could hope for from the appellation, plus a very slight funkiness. Rounded, soft. (RH) 13%

Drink 2017-2024

Maison Albert Bichot, Les Sorbets Premier Cru 2014 Morey-St-Denis — 16

Crisp, fragrant and light. Very soft structure, easy drinking and simple. An unchallenging, easygoing style. (RH) 13.5%

Drink 2016-2020

Maison Albert Bichot, Chaînes Carteaux Premier Cru 2014 Nuits-St-Georges — 17

Wonderful ripeness and generosity within a lightweight package. Less tannic than the norm, but full of satisfying fragrance and lift. For the origin, a relatively early drinking style. (RH) 13%

Drink 2017-2027

Dom du Château Gris Albert Bichot, Premier Cru 2014 Nuits-St-Georges — 16.5+

Attractive stemmy note, crisp cherry fruit, and a violet scent on the finish. Decent tannic chew on the finish, giving shape without intrusion. Carefully crafted. (RH) 13%

Drink 2017-2027

Maison Albert Bichot, Lavaut St-Jacques Premier Cru 2014 Gevrey-Chambertin — 17+

Lovely definition on the nose - fragrant violet and redcurrant. Great fruit concentration on the nose too, all wrapped in well-judged oak. Smartly done, very charming. (RH) 13%

Drink 2016-2034

Dom du Clos Frantin Albert Bichot, Aux Malconsorts Premier Cru 2014 Vosne-Romanée — 17+

Open-knit, expressive nose with earth, violet, cherry, herbs and forest floor - delicious. Structured but very drinkable now. (RH) 13.5%

Drink 2016-2036

Grands Crus from Côte de Nuits

Maison Albert Bichot, Grand Cru 2014 Bonnes Mares — 17

Some confection to the fruit, a possibly a hint of volatility. Juicy and potent. Great density and concentration. Finely ground texture. Whipsmart acid on the finish. (RH) 13.5%

Drink 2018-2034

Maison Albert Bichot, Grand Cru 2014 Charmes-Chambertin — 17

Pronounced fruit on the nose, but only moderate concentration on the palate. Gentle, lifted, approachable with very fine tannin and a crisp, bright finish. (RH) 13%

Drink 2018-2036

Maison Albert Bichot, Grand Cru 2014 Latricières-Chambertin — 17+

Bright, succulent red fruit, fragrant floral scent. Dense and lengthy finish - grand and stately. Subtle in its youth, but with promise. (RH) 13%

Drink 2018-2038

Dom du Clos Frantin Albert Bichot, Grand Cru 2014 Chambertin — 17.5

Semi-feral nose with that farmyard aroma alongside the red fruit. No lack of purity on the palate - this is explosive and concentrated with loads of esoteric flavour. Juicy yet firm. Excellent. (RH) 13.5%

Drink 2018-2044

Dom du Clos Frantin Albert Bichot, Grand Cru 2014 Richebourg — 17.5

Impressive violet fragrance - effortless but full of enticing, engaging flavour. Fleshy, balanced, medium bodied. The finish doesn't quite deliver as much as the nose, but there is an awful lot to enjoy here - and more to come. (RH) 13%

Drink 2019-2034

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Tim Atkin MW

January 2016

VINTAGE 2014

Top 25

CHABLIS PRODUCERS

Domaine Long-Depaquit

97 **Albert Bichot, Dom. Long-Depaquit, Chablis GC La Moutonne**

The best release yet from this historic "eighth Grand Cru", this is a youthful, compact wine with considerable ageing potential. Savoury, minerally and taut with notes of oyster shall and subtle oak, it's the Montrachet of Chablis. 2016-27

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

Among the best Chablis of the vintage (several of them from Les Clos), the Bichot example comes from two parcels in the middle and at the top of the slope. A third of the wine is oak-fermented, but you barely notice it, such is the racy, savoury purity and tension of the fruit. Every Chablis lover should have a glass of this in their cellar. 2019-30

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

Pale and restrained, but not lacking in focus, precision or cool hauteur, this comes from a 50-year-old parcel in this east-facing Grand Cru. Chalky, nuanced and taut, with underlying umami notes, it's a beautifully balanced, subtle Chardonnay. 2018-28

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

From a cool, but stony site in this excellent Grand Cru, this has some of the freshness and bite of Blanchots with the concentration and breed of Les Clos, which is a winning combination. Savoury and complex, the wine finishes with a bracing slap of acidity. 2019-28

96 **Albert Bichot, Dom. Long-Depaquit, Chablis PC Montée de Tonnerre**

There's more oak on this top-notch Premier Cru than on some of the Long-Depaquit bottlings, but the wine has the intensity and focus to cope. It's a complex, multi-layered Chablis with the sort of minerality that makes your mouth water and a salty, sea breeze tang. 2018-27

95 **Albert Bichot, Dom. Long-Depaquit, Chablis PC Vaucopins**

One of a series of remarkable Chablis from Long-Depaquit in 2014, Vaucopins (spelt with an "s" and without the "u" on this label) this right bank white is very stylish, fresh and mineral, showing hints of candle wax, brine and fresh earth with a hint of oak. 2017-24

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

92 **Albert Bichot, Dom. Long-Depaquit, Chablis GC Bougros**

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

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

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

91 **Albert Bichot, Dom. Long-Depaquit, Chablis**

Tim Atkin MW

January 2016

VINTAGE 2014

Top 25

TOP 25 NÉGOCIANTS

Albert Bichot

Côte de Nuits wines

96

Albert Bichot, Clos de la Roche GC

This may be a négociant wine, but the Bichot team decides when it wants to pick the grapes. It's got a wild, savoury, bloody note to it, somewhere between a Corton and a Pommard in style, supported by sappy black fruits, firmish tannins and well integrated oak. 2020-29

96

Albert Bichot, Dom. du Clos Frantin, Chambertin GC

From one of the cooler, higher parts of Chambertin, this comes from a 0.17 hectare parcel. Racy, complex and refined, with hints of mint, gunflint and redcurrant and raspberry fruit. The new oak adds a sheen of vanilla spice to the wine. Very long and complex. 2019-29

95

Albert Bichot, Dom. du Clos Frantin, Grands Echézeaux GC

A marked step up from the Frantin Echézeaux (which frequently tends to be the case), this comes from two parcels, amounting to 0.25 hectares. Closed, sappy and focused, it's a wine that needs time in bottle to reveal its charms. Focused, long and spicy with textured tannins. 2022-30

94

Albert Bichot, Dom. du Clos Frantin, Clos de Vougeot GC

Combining two parcels in the Clos, one high and one low, the Bichot holdings add up to 0.6 hectares. This is a bold, dense, slightly chunky expression of the Grand Cru, with plenty of colour, weight and fruit intensity supported by minerally acidity. 2020-29

94

Albert Bichot, Dom. du Clos Frantin, Vosne-Romanée PC Les Malconsorts

Bichot owns 1.75 out of a total of 6 hectares of Les Malconsorts, with parcels in both the high and low parts of the Premier Cru. Chewy, dense and quite backward, this has a hint of reduction in barrel, but should flourish in bottle. Textured, sweet and smoky with lots of dark, brooding fruit sweetness. 2021-28

94

Albert Bichot, Chambolle-Musigny PC Les Amoureuses

Suitably pale and delicate in colour, this is a stylish wine from Chambolle's most refined Premier Cru. Fragrant, stylish and showing the sweetness that makes Pinotphiles swoon, it has subtle spice, notes of rose petal and peony and a long, refreshing finish. 2019-28

94

Albert Bichot, Le Dom. du Ch. Gris, Nuits-St-Georges PC Château Gris

This may come from the heart of Nuits, but it has the sort of texture that wouldn't look out of place in the vineyards on the edge of Vosne. Spicy, rich and quite okay, with a hint of reduction, fine tannins and plenty of ripe plum and blackberry fruit. Aromatic and well balanced. 2019-26

Tim Atkin MW

VINTAGE 2014

January 2016

Other Côte de Nuits wines

93 Nuits-Saint-Georges Les Terrasses, Château Gris
90 Nuits-Saint-Georges, Domaine du Clos Frantin
94 Nuits-Saint-Georges PC Château-Gris
93 Nuits-Saint-Georges PC Chaînes-Carteaux
91 Morey-Saint-Denis PC Les Sorbets
92 Vosne-Romanée, Domaine du Clos Frantin
92 Chambolle-Musigny
92 Chambolle-Musigny PC Les Chabiots
93 Gevrey-Chambertin PC Lavaux-Saint-Jacques
92 Charmes-Chambertin GC
93 Echezeaux GC Domaine du Clos Frantin

Maconnais and Côte Chalonnaise

88 Mâcon-Lugny Les Charmes
92 Mercurey Les Champs-Michaux, Domaine Adélie
90 Mercurey En Pierre Millet, Domaine Adélie
92 Mercurey PC Champs-Martin, Domaine Adélie

Bourgogne

89 Bourgogne Chardonnay Secret de Famille
89 Bourgogne Pinot Noir Secret de Famille
89 Bourgogne Hautes-Côtes de Nuits

Côte de Beaune reds

94 **Albert Bichot, Dom. du Pavillon, Pommard PC Les Rugiens**
Sourced only from Les Rugiens Bas, this is a classic Pommard in the sense that it has plenty of structure and tannic backbone, but the extraction is well handled, complemented by notes of violet, red berries and incense and a hint of iron. 2019-27

95 **Albert Bichot, Dom. du Pavillon, Corton GC Clos des Maréchaudes**
This comes from a poor, bony vineyard with very little topsoil, showing a lot of chalky freshness and grip. It's a scented, refined Corton with perfumed red berries, subtle oak, a touch of reduction and focused, tangy acidity. 2020-28

90 Savigny-Les-Beaune Les Picotins
91 Pommard Clos des Ursulines, Domaine du Pavillon
92 Volnay PC Les Santenots, Domaine du Pavillon
91 Aloxe-Corton PC Clos des Maréchaudes, Domaine du Pavillon

Côte de Beaune whites

94 **Albert Bichot, Criots-Bâtard-Montrachet GC**
Made with purchased must, as opposed to grapes, this is showing quite a bit of oak at the moment, but has the weight, texture and chalky acidity to age well in bottle. Tarte tatin and vanilla spice notes are complemented by minerality and palate length. 2018-26

94 **Albert Bichot, Dom. du Pavillon, Meursault PC Charmes**
The three Bichot parcels are all located in Charmes Dessus. There's a touch of skin tannin here, giving the wine some grip and focus. The oak is well integrated, complementing the flavours of honey, pastry and baking spices and underscored by citrus-edged acidity. 2017-24

92 Corton-Charlemagne GC, Domaine du Pavillon
92 Beaune PC Clos des Mouches, Domaine du Pavillon
92 Chassagne-Montrachet PC Vide-Bourse
93 Meursault, Domaine du Pavillon

Antonio Galloni
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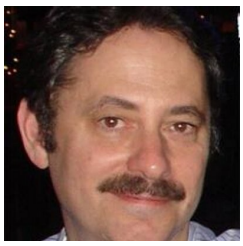
January 2016



Stephen Tanzer

(91-94) pts

Domaine du Clos Frantin 2014 Grands Echezéaux Grand Cru

(the yield here was 28 hectoliters per hectare; vinified with one-third whole clusters): Bright, healthy dark red. Perfumed scents of redcurrant, raspberry, dried flowers and rust, lifted by a minty nuance. Very rich and concentrated, with a saline element adding interest to the flavors of strawberry, raspberry and minerals. At once energetic and seriously stuffed: the roundness comes from clay but the rocks in the soil ensure structure and vivacity. Big tannins spread out to saturate the palate and the front teeth on the tactile, broad, very long finish.

(91-93) pts

Domaine du Clos Frantin 2014 Clos Vougeot Grand Cru

(from two parcels vinified together, one on the southern edge of the *clos* and the other in Grand Maupertuis, next to Grands-Echézeaux): Bright medium red. Medicinal black cherry, licorice, minerals, fresh herbs and a whiff of mint on the nose. Tactile, chewy and deep, showing penetrating limestone minerality (from shallow, rocky soil in Grand Maupertuis) buffered by a seductive touch of sweetness. A very solid style of Clos Vougeot but with plenty of inner-mouth tension. This will require a minimum of seven or eight years of cellaring.

(90-92) pts

Domaine du Clos Frantin 2014 Chambertin Grand Cru

(Bichot owns a tiny parcel in the upper part of this grand cru and harvests it very late; vinified with one-third whole clusters and aging in one new and one one-year-old barrel): Bright, dark red. Pure aromas of raspberry, strawberry and clove, with hints of pepper and herbs from the stems. In a silky but distinctly cool style, with racy acidity sharpening the flavors of dark fruits and flowers and giving the wine excellent inner-mouth tension. Finishes firmly tannic, long and perfumed, with substantial dusty tannins and sexy spicy high tones.

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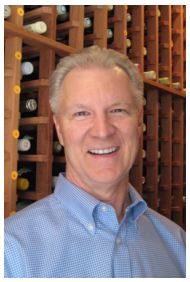

2014 Côte de Nuits Reds

Albéric Bichot was away at the time of my visit but his team noted that 2014 "was more generous than either 2012 or 2013 in terms of yield thanks to the even and relatively rapid flowering. The summer wasn't very favorable though a fine September allowed the fruit to attain good if not truly high maturities. We began the harvest on the 17th of September and there was surprisingly little sorting required as the fruit was quite clean. There was almost no problem in the domaine vineyards with the much-discussed Suzukii flies but we were ultra-careful with respect to fruit that we purchased. Potential alcohols ranged from 12 to 13% with an average right around 12.2%. Our goal for the vinifications was to obtain silky tannins so we definitely used a lighter touch with the extractions while using about the same percentage of whole clusters as usual. Overall 2014 produced rich and generous wines that are classic burgundies that should have the double benefit of drinking well young but aging well too."

2014 Bourgogne Secret de Famille (86-88)

(all from Côte de Nuits). A pretty and agreeably fresh nose of mostly red berry fruit and earth scents precedes rich, round and supple flavors. This delicious effort is quite forward and should drink well almost immediately. 2017+

2014 Morey-Saint-Denis "Les Sorbets" (88-91)

This is also quite aromatically pretty and fresh with its notes of red currant, pomegranate and soft earth scents. The sleek, supple and fleshy medium-bodied flavors possess notably better volume, depth and length on the dusty, saline finale. 2021+

2014 Nuits-Saint-Georges "Chaînes Carteaux" (89-91)

An unusually elegant nose in the context of what is typical for the *appellation* is composed of a fresh mix of red berries, earth and attractive floral nuances. The medium-bodied and quite fleshy flavors possess better mid-palate density as well as a subtle bead of minerality and even though the finish tightens up significantly it is not especially firm or austere. I like the depth as well as the balance and this should age well. 2021+

2014 Nuits-Saint-Georges "Château Gris" (88-91)

A cool, pure and airy nose features notes of dark cherry, raspberry, earth and spice nuances. There is a lovely mouth feel to the delineated, intense and lightly mineral-inflected flavors. 2021+

2014 Gevrey-Chambertin "Lavaut St. Jacques" (89-91)

A completely different aromatic profile is present here with its dark currant, humus, plum and *animale* scents. The earthy, punchy and detailed flavors possess solid mid-palate richness before culminating in a linear, austere, stony and muscular finale. 2022+

2014 Chambolle-Musigny "Les Sentiers" (89-92)

An attractively layered array of soft earth and floral nuances add breadth to the red currant and cherry aromas. There is fine volume to the rich and caressing medium weight flavors that are underpinned by good muscle and drive on the firm and lingering finish. This is very Sentiers in character which is to say more Morey than Chambolle in composition. 2024+

2014 Chambolle-Musigny "Les Amoureuses" (90-92)

A strikingly spicy, airy, cool and elegant nose offers up wispy notes of red currant and pomegranate along with hints of lavender and violet. The beautifully refined middle weight flavors possess fine delineation and a touch of minerality that continues onto the cool, pure and well-balanced finale. If this adds more depth than my predicted range envisions, it could be overly conservative. 2024+

2014 Vosne-Romanée "Les Malconsorts"- *Domaine du Clos Frantin* (91-93)

(from a whopping 1.76 ha parcel). A top note of menthol adds to the breadth of the overtly spicy and fresh nose of dark currant, plum and violet scents. There is both good volume and muscle to the mineral-inflected big-bodied flavors that possess excellent power on the imposing and beautifully long finale. This beauty is built-to-age and is definitely going to need it. 2029+

2014 Clos de la Roche (90-93)

(from Genavrières). A highly complex nose is completely different with its array of sauvage, dark cherry, lavender and warm earth scents. There is good volume, power and richness to the supple medium weight flavors where the muscular and firm finish promises good aging potential. 2026+

2014 Charmes-Chambertin (91-93)

(from Mazoyères). This is reserved almost to the point of being mute while only grudgingly liberating notes of underbrush, game and various red berries. There is fine density and good power to the broad-shouldered, robust and tautly muscular flavors that deliver excellent depth and length on the very firm finale. This is definitely not a wine of finesse but it is impressively scaled and should age extremely well. 2029+

2014 Chambertin - *Domaine du Clos Frantin* (89-92)

Here the unusually expressive nose is more floral in character with ample spice elements on the earthy dark berry and Asian tea suffused aromas. There is good richness to the supple, rich and relatively forward flavors that possess a generous mid-palate though the vibrant and stony finish immediately tightens up. I like the punch and muscle. 2029+

2014 Clos-de-Vougeot - *Domaine du Clos Frantin* (91-94)

(from a .72 ha parcel). A moderately generous application of wood stops just short of fighting with the markedly earthy aromas of purple fruit, game and discreet spice elements. The sleek, rich and velvety medium weight plus flavors possess fine mid-palate concentration before culminating in a serious and muscular but not really austere finale. Again, ample patience will be required. 2029+

2014 Grands-Echézeaux - *Domaine du Clos Frantin* (91-93)

(from a .4 ha parcel). A brooding but more complex nose features wonderfully spicy and floral dark berry fruit, earth and softly game-inflected scents. There is outstanding size, weight and power to the big-bodied flavors that possess fine richness while displaying excellent persistence on the moderately complex, robust and altogether serious finale. This too will definitely require an abundance of patience as it's clearly built-to-age. 2029+

2014 Richebourg - *Domaine du Clos Frantin* (92-94)

Subtle but not invisible oak frames the notes of violet, rose petal, plum, cassis, tea and sandalwood aromas. There is once again outstanding volume and richness to the more mineral-driven broad-shouldered flavors that also possess impressive power on the firm, long and serious finale that delivers excellent length. This is classier than the Grands Ech with better depth and persistence as well though note that this is built for the very long-term. 2031+

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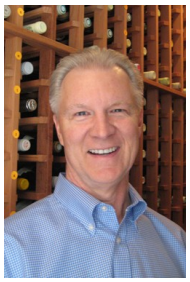

2014 Chablis

Régisseur Matthieu Mangenot told me that 2014 had a "good start to the growing season but the flowering and mid-summer conditions were considerably more challenging due to the cool and wet weather. Fortunately the second half of August and all of September were essentially perfect as the dry and warm conditions not only allowed the fruit to achieve excellent ripeness, it also completely suppressed any incipient disease pressure. We began picking on the 14th of September and harvested slowly and deliberately over the next 15 days. Yields were a bit lower than average because the skins were thick and there just wasn't much juice in the berries. On the plus side the sanitary condition of the fruit was perhaps the cleanest that I have ever seen and the ripeness levels were good to very good but with no excesses. This is to say we had potential alcohols in the 12.5 to 12.8% range with post-malo pHs in the 3.2 to 3.25 area which is pretty much perfect. In terms of style, while it's obviously still very early I would describe 2014 as a less strict version of 2008."

2014 Chablis - *Domaine Long Depaquit* : (87-89)
(100% stainless) A ripe and fresh nose expresses moderate Chablis character on the pretty nose that is composed of pear, apple and citrus scents. There is good volume and richness to the seductively textured medium weight flavors that possess just enough energy and acidity to suggest that this should reward a few years of cellaring. 2018+

2014 Chablis 1er Cru Les Lys - *Domaine Long Depaquit* : (89-92)
Here there is notably better Chablis typicity with its restrained and cool nose of mineral reduction, white fruit and floral aromas. As one would expect the chiseled middle weight flavors possess a notably finer mouth feel before terminating in a saline and ever-so-mildly austere finale. This understated effort is lovely and balanced. 2019+

2014 Chablis 1er Cru Les Beugnons - *Domaine Long Depaquit* : (89-91)
(this could also be declared as Vaillons). There are hints of iodine and petrol present on the less elegant array of floral and mostly white orchard fruit suffused aromas. The bigger and richer medium-bodied flavors possess solid mid-palate concentration as well as good punch and vibrancy, all wrapped in an intensely saline-inflected finale where a trace of warmth appears. 2019+

2014 Chablis 1er Cru Les Vaillons - *Domaine Long Depaquit* : (88-91)
(mostly from Epinottes with the balance from Séchet; 10% wood). This is the first wine to display any appreciable level of wood though it's sufficiently subtle to allow the cool oyster shell, citrus and floral aromas to shine. The mouth feel of the middle weight flavors is quite round, even generous and almost soft though the finish tightens up sufficiently to suggest that this will be capable of improving over the short to medium term. 2019+

2014 Chablis 1er Cru Les Montmains - *Domaine Long Depaquit* : (90-92)
(from Forêts). Here too there is enough wood to remark upon but not so much as to be intrusive on the ripe yet airy nose of green apple, floral, pear and tidal pool nuances. There is a fresh and vibrant palate impression to the citrus and mineral-inflected flavors that deliver notably better Chablis character on the clean, dry, persistent and balanced finale. This is lovely and I particularly like the texture. 2020+

2014 Chablis 1er Cru Les Vaucopins - *Domaine Long Depaquit* : (90-92)
(raised in ~15% wood). A cool, elegant and admirably pure green fruit suffused nose features ample Chablis typicity in the form of iodine, ocean breeze and mineral reduction. There is fine intensity to the attractively textured middle weight flavors that culminate in a chiseled, stony and highly energetic finale.2019+

2014 Chablis Grand Cru Les Blanchots: - *Domaine Long Depaquit* : (91-93)
(from a 1.5 ha parcel of 40+ year old vines; ~25% wood). There is excellent richness and vibrancy to the seductive and refined medium-bodied flavors that also exhibit an almost pungent minerality, all wrapped in stony, detailed and impressively long finish. This well-balanced effort offers plenty of Chablis character and will need a few years to completely harmonize. 2021+

2014 Chablis Grand Cru Les Clos - *Domaine Long Depaquit* : (91-93)
(from a 2.5 ha parcel; ~35% new wood). An interesting nose offers up notes of honeysuckle, mineral reduction and oyster shell hints. As is typically the case the broad-shouldered flavors are bigger, richer and more powerful if not finer while delivering terrific punch on the explosively persistent and palate coating finale. This too will require a few years of cellaring to find its center. 2022+

2014 Chablis Grand Cru Les Vaudésirs - *Domaine Long Depaquit* : (90-92)
(from a parcel of 1.5 ha; ~25% new wood). There is a mild hint of the exotic to the very fresh, layered and fresh mix of both white and yellow orchard fruit that is liberally laced with Chablis elements. There is a textured, indeed almost tender mouth feel to the round and relatively forward flavors that possess fine depth and length. 2019+

2014 Chablis Grand Cru Moutonne - *Domaine Long Depaquit* : (92-95)
(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). There is outstanding volume and mid-palate concentration to the textured full-bodied flavors that exhibit fine power and drive, all wrapped in a palate coating, intense and hugely long finish. This is impressive and easily the best of these grands crus. 2022+

Domaines Albert Bichot
Maison fondée en 1831

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The Independent Consumer's Guide to Fine Wines

#222
December 2015

Reviewer : Neal MARTIN

2014 Burgundies

2014 Chassagne-Montrachet 1er Cru Vide Bourse	90-92
2014 Nuits-Saint-Georges Blanc Les Terrasses Chateau-Gris	88-90
2014 Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru - Domaine du Pavillon	92-94
2014 Criots-Bâtard-Montrachet Grand Cru	92-94

2014 Savigny-lès-Beaune les Picotins	88-90
2014 Pommard 1er Cru Les Rugiens - Domaine du Pavillon	89-91
2014 Aloxe-Corton 1er Cru Clos des Maréchaudes - Domaine du Pavillon	90-92
2014 Morey-Saint-Denis 1er Cru Les Sorbets	90-92
2014 Nuits-Saint-Georges 1er Cru Chaines-Carteaux	88-90
2014 Chambolle Musigny 1er Cru les Amoureuses	90-92
2014 Vosne-Romanée 1er Cru les Malconsorts - Domaine du Clos Frantin	92-94
2014 Gevrey-Chambertin 1er Cru Lavaux-Saint-Jacques	91-93
2014 Charmes-Chambertin Grand Cru	90-92
2014 Chambertin Grand Cru - Domaine du Clos Frantin	90-92
2014 Clos-de-Vougeot Grand Cru - Domaine du Clos Frantin	92-94
2014 Echezeaux Grand Cru - Domaine du Clos Frantin	90-92
2014 Grands-Echezeaux Grand Cru - Domaine du Clos Frantin	93-95

Albert Bichot is one of those Beaune-based producers that can really surprise. Maybe like me, you spent years dismissing the wines while drinking your La Tâche and the lo and behold, you are served a bottle of Bichot blind and marvel at how well it shows. As readers will know from previous TWA reports, I thought Albert Bichot did brilliantly well in 2012 (...) Returning to spend three hours tasting their 2014s, I was pleased with many of their wines (...) "There was not too much problem with fruit fly and we did a lot of sorting," director Alberic Bichot told me. "We picked from September 15 and then over the next 12 days. We had teams going through the vineyards. We had to keep waiting for the ripeness." (...) there is great potential to be found in their wonderful Aloxe-Corton Clos des Maréchaudes or Gevrey-Chambertin Lavaux Saint-Jacques. Their 2014 Grands Echézeaux? It's up there with the big guns. (...) I've been a bit critical here but that is because Albert Bichot sets its bar much higher than in the past. Good for them is what I say.

The **2014 Chassagne-Montrachet 1er Cru Vide Bourse** has a racy and lively bouquet with leesy, citrus fruit that contains plenty of energy. The palate is fresh and vibrant with a crisp line of acidity - orange zest and a touch of toffee apple, the wood a little evident on the finish but you cannot help being impressed by the powerful finish. It demands attention...and it deserves it. (90-92)

The **2014 Nuits-Saint-Georges Blanc Les Terrasses Chateau-Gris** has a light white chocolate-tinged bouquet with just a brush of honey. The palate is rounded with soft, honeyed texture, leavened by the keen thread of acidity. This is so smooth and harmonious, hints of peach and apricot on the seductive finish. Quite commercial maybe, but you cannot complain. (88-90)

The **2014 Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru - Domaine du Pavillon** was not picked until the last moment to obtain the ripeness. It has a well defined bouquet with citrus peel, a touch of brioche and orange blossom, quite precise but it needs bottle age to develop intensity. The palate is fresh on the entry, quite rounded in the mouth, better concentration here than many of its peers with a rounded, lightly honeyed finish that lingers in the mouth. This is a very fine Corton-Charlemagne from Bichot with more potential than many others that I tasted. (92-94)

The **2014 Criots-Bâtard-Montrachet Grand Cru** has a delightful, mineral-driven nose with touches of white flower and baking powder infusing the comely citrus fruit. The palate is very well balanced with nicely integrated oak. There is refinement and tenderness here, with hints of almond and coconut delicately interwoven on the finish. Lovely. (92-94)

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The **2014 Savigny-lès-Beaune les Picotins** has a slightly muted, peppermint-tinged bouquet that is perhaps showing just a touch of reduction. The palate is sweet and supple on the entry, quite generous in the mouth with plush red fruit, a touch of spice and a fulfilling, suave, white pepper-tinged finish that lingers nicely. This is certainly worth a look. (88-90)

The **2014 Pommard 1er Cru Les Rugiens - Domaine du Pavillon** has an elegant and harmonious bouquet, with pine-tinged red berry fruit. The palate is medium-bodied with sappy red fruit, saturated tannin, good depth and a dash of bell pepper on a well crafted, refined finish. This is a classy Rugiens from the domaine and well worth seeking out. (89-91)

The **2014 Aloxe-Corton 1er Cru Clos des Maréchaudes - Domaine du Pavillon** has a pretty wild strawberry and cranberry scented bouquet, the oak nicely interwoven here. The palate is well balanced with supple ripe tannin, well judged acidity, harmonious red cherry and raspberry fruit, with a very sleek and seductive finish. This punches well above its weight -- a very well crafted Aloxe-Corton. (90-92)

The **2014 Morey-Saint-Denis 1er Cru Les Sorbets** has a pretty nose with effervescent orange blossom and ripe cherry aromas, just a hint of vanilla pod in the background. The palate is medium-bodied with supple red berry fruit and fine tannins; the roundness is more akin to a Chambolle-Musigny, with a lovely sensual finish. What a gorgeous little Morey Saint Denis. (90-92)

The **2014 Nuits-Saint-Georges 1er Cru Chaines-Carteaux** has a rather pointed, slightly disjointed nose that will need time to settle. The palate is medium-bodied with supple ripe tannin, quite plush in the mouth, fine acidity and showing admirable class and precision on the finish. Once the aromatics "fill out," I think this will be a delightful, probably early drinking Nuits-Saint-Georges. (88-90)

The **2014 Chambolle Musigny 1er Cru les Amoureuses** has a crisp raspberry and cranberry-scented bouquet, a hint of dried orange peel in the background. The palate is very refined with crisp tannin, not a deep or voluminous Amoureuses, but sophisticated and quite complex, with tangible mineralité on the broody, almost introspective finish. I just think this needs several years in bottle. (90-92)

The **2014 Vosne-Romanée 1er Cru les Malconsorts - Domaine du Clos Frantin** has an elegant, refined bouquet with mineral-tinged red berry fruit, composed and a little backward but nicely focused. There is class here. The palate is supple on the entry with fine tannin, silky smooth in texture, very harmonious and nicely structured on the finish. This is a subtle Malconsorts, one that should not be underestimated. (92-94)

The **2014 Gevrey-Chambertin 1er Cru Lavaux-Saint-Jacques** has plenty of fruité on the nose with outgoing strawberry and raspberry scents, hints of rosemary and cold stone coming through with time. The palate is supple on the entry with impressive tension, a little tightness to deal with on the second half, but bounding with energy and tension on the long and tender finish. This is another classy wine from Bichot. (91-93)

The **2014 Charmes-Chambertin Grand Cru** has a modest nose that does not want to create too much of a fuss. It feels a little backward and introverted - surprisingly for a Charmes-Chambertin. The palate is better with impressive depth and fine balance. The acidity here is well judged and the structure is more Mazoyères than Charmes-Chambertin (where the fruit comes from). There is fine delineation towards the finish with sour cherry, orange zest and mineral elements that linger long in the mouth. Hopefully those aromatics will awaken in bottle. (90-92)

The **2014 Chambertin Grand Cru - Domaine du Clos Frantin** has a little more volume and generosity on the nose with maraschino cherry, raspberry coulis and orange blossom scents. The palate is medium-bodied with supple, ripe tannin, gentle grip that should dissipate by the time of bottling. This is a "steady" Chambertin, perhaps just playing it a bit safe for now. (90-92)

The **2014 Clos-de-Vougeot Grand Cru - Domaine du Clos Frantin** has a well defined, airy, red cherry and bergamot-scented bouquet. The palate is crisp and fresh with fine tannin and well judged acidity. This is an elegant and classy Clos Vougeot with a harmonious, svelte finish that is very Vosne-like in style. It is one of Bichot's best Grand Crus this year. (92-94)

The **2014 Echezeaux Grand Cru - Domaine du Clos Frantin** has a perfumed, floral bouquet with rose petals infusing the red cherry and wild strawberry fruit - fine mineralité here and focus. The palate is fresh and vibrant on the entry with crisp acidity, a little chewiness on the mid-palate but good density -- a swarthy Echézeaux that is determined to make an impression. (90-92)

The **2014 Grands-Echezeaux Grand Cru - Domaine du Clos Frantin** has a more pixelated bouquet than the Echézeaux -- very nicely focused with more tangible mineralité developing in the glass. The palate is medium-bodied with fine tannin, impressive depth and focus, quite tensile with a hint of spice developing on the harmonious finish that exerts a gentle grip. This is a very fine Grands- Echézeaux from Bichot. (93-95)

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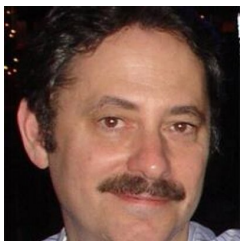


Stephen Tanzer

2014 CHABLIS

Domaine Long Depaquit (Albert Bichot)

Long-Depaquit's new *cuverie* , with its stainless steel tanks sized to its various plots of vines, now allows the winemaking team to press whole clusters and begin with cleaner juice. Estate manager Matthieu Mangenot described 2014 as a "soft growing season in which a cool July and August resulted in less consumption of acidity. No sorting of the grapes was necessary but it was difficult to press them owing to the hard skins." Potential alcohol levels were in the low 12% range and most of the wines were chaptalized about half a degree. Acidity levels were sound but there was a lot of tartaric precipitation and so the finished wines are not normally tart. Yields were about 53 hectoliters per hectare in the estate's village parcels, 50 in its premier crus and just 30 in the grand crus. At the time of my visit, the crus were aging partly in oak and partly in *cuves*.

2014 Chablis Les Beugnons Premier Cru Domaine Long-Depaquit **(87-89)**

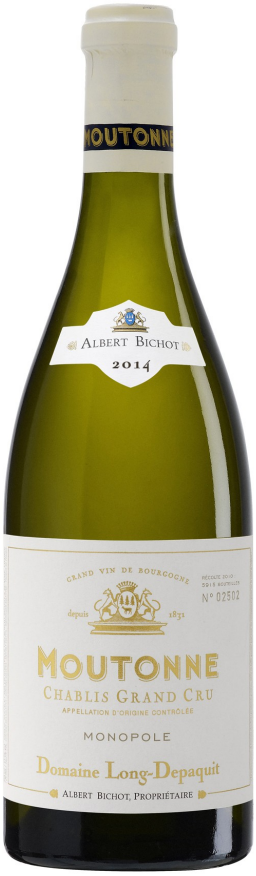
(from the riper, more exotic side of the cru): Pale bright yellow. Fresh apricot, peach and lime blossom on the nose, along with a touch of ginger. Supple and ripe, rounder, larger-scaled and less minerally than the Lys.

2014 Chablis Les Lys Premier Cru Domaine Long-Depaquit **(88-90)**

Pale green-tinged yellow. Aromas of white peach, white flowers, white pepper, minerals and chalk. Supple and inviting on the palate, with white peach and lime flavors complicated by flowers and minerals. Finishes with an enticing suggestion of sweetness.

2014 Chablis Les Vaillons Premier Cru Domaine Long-Depaquit **(88-90)**

(10% in *fût*, none new): Pale yellow. Citrus peel, white pepper, mint and crushed herbs on the nose. Then lusher, smoother and sweeter than the nose would suggest, perhaps opened a bit by the use of a bit of oak. Round, spicy flavors of ripe grapefruit and white peach. This would make a perfect introduction to Chablis premier cru. Bichot now plants grass between the rows of its 4.5 hectares of vines in Vaillons and by slowing the ripening process is getting wines with better balance and more stuffing.



2014 Chablis Les Vaucopins Premier Cru Domaine Long-Depaquit **(90-92)**

(15% done in *fût*): Pale bright yellow with a green tinge. Lovely lift to the aromas of lemon zest, ripe grapefruit, white pepper and high-pitched spices. A bit youthfully reticent today but the wine's density is already clear to see. Sweet peach and crushed herb flavors convey excellent verve. From classical Kimmeridgian soil on a very steep slope, this wine boasts superb palate presence and class. The longest of these 2014s to this point.

2014 Chablis Les Blanchots Grand Cru Domaine Long-Depaquit **(90-92)**

(25% aged in *fût*; this fruit was picked eight days after the Clos in 2014): Pale yellow with a green tinge. Brisk aromas of lime blossom, white peach and white flowers. Enters the mouth supple but closes up a bit on the back half. Doesn't have the intensity or energy of the Vaucopins today, but this is nonetheless pliant and fruity. Estate manager Matthieu Mangenot loves this wine but agrees that it's very closed today. Finishes with a suggestion of bitter almond.

2014 Chablis Les Clos Grand Cru Domaine Long-Depaquit **(92-95)**

(35% oak; one-third of this wine is from a 2006 planting, one-third is from 40-year-old vines and one-third 50): Pale, green-tinged yellow. Very subtle aromas of fresh apple, hazelnut and powdered stone complicated by dried fruits, bitter almond and fresh herbs; shows a positive greenness. Quite dense and rich but remarkably weightless considering its superb breadth. Finishes very long and brisk, with dusty minerality and classic Chablis bitterness. The very small yield here brought more aromatic complexity than volume, noted Mangenot.

2014 Chablis Les Vaudésirs Grand Cru Domaine Long-Depaquit **(92-94)**

(25% *fût*): Pale yellow-green. Cool, minty aromas of white grapefruit and lemon drop. Densely packed, rich and deep but light on its feet, offering a lovely combination of white fruits and minerals complicated by menthol and licorice. Still, this very dry wine is a bit less pliant and expressive in the mouth than the Clos.

2014 Chablis La Moutonne Grand Cru Domaine Long-Depaquit **(93-95)**

Pale yellow-green. Superb lift to the pure aromas of lime zest, anise and crushed herbs. Dense, round and rich but backward and unforthcoming in spite of its outstanding palate presence and volume. Much more minerally than fruity in style, this soil-driven wine will go smoky and flinty with bottle age.

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