

DOMAINES
ALBERT  BICHOT
— MAISON FONDÉE EN 1831 —

PRESS REVIEW
YEARS 2021-2020



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INTERNATIONAL WINE CHALLENGE 2017



ALBERT BICHOT Red Winemaker of the Year 2017



Charles Metcalfe, Kenichi Ohashi MW, Alain Serveau Head Winemaker, Albéric Bichot, Tim Atkin MW

Already awarded **Red Winemaker of the Year in 2004** and **White Winemaker of the Year 2011**, Albert Bichot is particularly proud and honoured to be given the title of **Red Winemaker of the Year 2017** at the International Wine Challenge 2017.

This new recognition rewards our teams' daily efforts and the continuous attention paid to every detail from vine to finished wine and uncompromising choices in terms of quality.

The International Wine Challenge is one of the most renowned and largest competitions in the world, with juries featuring many Masters of Wine and winemakers, and more than 14.000 wines tasted.

Le Monde

January 21st, 2020

The organic spirit of Albéric Bichot

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

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

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

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

“A honeypot for big money”

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



Wine Spectator's Insider Weekly

A First Look at Our Editors' Most Exciting New Wines

Taster: Bruce Sanderson

September 8, 2021



ALBERT BICHOT

Latricières-Chambertin 2019

95 points

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

ALBERT BICHOT

Echézeaux Domaine du Clos Frantin 2019

94 points

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

September 15, 2021

ALBERT BICHOT

Beaune Clos de l'Ermitage 2019

93 points

This is rich and silky, setting the stage for black cherry and blackberry fruit, accented by spice and earth. Polished and harmonious, with a lingering, vibrant finish. Drink now through 2033. —B.S.





www.winemag.com

September 1 & July 1, 2021



Roger Voss

2019 REDS

2019 Volnay 1^{er} Cru Les Santenots *Domaine du Pavillon*: 94

The inklings of the opulence of a fine Volnay are just beginning to show in this perfumed wine. Richness and spice add to the black fruits and youthful acidity in a complex wine that promises plenty of aging. Drink from 2025. CELLAR SELECTION (September 1, 2021)

2019 Vosne-Romanée *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: 93

A powerfully rich wine from vineyards owned by the Bichot family, this dense wine is packed with impressive tannins that are integrating and filling out. It will age well, so wait to drink until 2024. CELLAR SELECTION (September 1, 2021)

2019 Nuits-Saint-Georges 1^{er} Cru Château-Gris: 93

From a small, wholly owned premier cru vineyard, this wine has a good contrast between the smooth red fruits and acidity. The balance is held by touches of wood that are beginning to soften. Drink from 2025. (September 1, 2021)

2019 Beaune Les Epenottes *Domaine du Pavillon*: 92

This property that lies above the run of Beaune Premier Cru vineyards has produced a full, ripe wine. Generous red-cherry and plum fruits are shot through with young, fresh acidity. Wood-aging flavors are judicious, discreet and softening. Drink from 2024. EDITORS' CHOICE (September 1, 2021)

2019 Fixin 1^{er} Cru Clos de la Perrière: 92

From a wholly owned, walled vineyard, this wine offers richness as well as good acidity in its red-cherry fruits. Backed by wood aging, the wine has density and a poise that will allow it to age well. Drink from 2024. (September 1, 2021)

2019 Mercurey En Pierre Milley *Domaine Adélie*: 90

With layers of intense fruits that are backed by the wood aging, this single-vineyard wine is full, ripe and already offers good potential. The wine's perfumed character balances satisfyingly with the solid structure. Drink the wine from 2023. (September 1, 2021)

2019 Bourgogne Hautes-Côtes de Nuits Les Dames Huguettes: 92

Although young, this wine is also well balanced. Its tannins and generous berry fruits harmonize well, giving a fresh, juicy character and a drier core. Drink the wine from 2022. EDITORS' CHOICE (July 1, 2021)

2019 Bourgogne Côte d'Or Pinot Noir Secret de Famille: 90

With elegant tannins and rich black fruits, this is a ripe, structured wine. It is young, bursting with vitality, acidity and textured fruitiness. Give it a few months and drink this wine from 2022. (July 1, 2021)





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September 1 & July 1, 2021



Roger Voss

2019 WHITES

2019 Beaune 1^{er} Cru Clos des Mouches *Domaine du Pavillon*: 92

Better known for its red wines, this premier cru vineyard also has a plot of Chardonnay. Ripe with yellow fruits and toastiness, this wine has a full-bodied character, juggling crisp acidity with generous fruitiness and texture. Drink the wine from 2022. (September 1, 2021)

2019 Chablis Grand Cru Les Blanchots *Domaine Long-Depaquit*: 92

From Bichot's *Domaine Long-Depaquit*, this wine is ripe with citrus and crisp apple. Textured and mineral, it has a good balance between weight, spicy richness and intense fruitiness. Drink from 2023. (September 1, 2021)

2019 Meursault *Domaine du Pavillon*: 91

From the Bichot-owned *Domaine du Pavillon*, this wine is generous, with hints of honey as well as crisper citrus. Wood aging points up the richness. Drink this open, fruity and ageworthy wine from 2023. (September 1, 2021)

2019 Nuits-Saint-Georges Les Terrasses Château-Gris: 91

There are not many white wines from Nuits-St.-Georges, but this one is rounded, softly textured and full of yellow fruits. Cut with a citrus character, the fruits are sustained by the wood aging. Drink this rich wine from 2023. (September 1, 2021)

2019 Santenay: 90

This soft, smoothly textured wine is rich with spice, vanilla and creamed-apple and pear flavors. The wine is generous, warm in its structure and will be ready from 2022. (September 1, 2021)

2019 Bourgogne Côte d'Or Chardonnay Secret de Famille: 91

Aged in wood for a year, this is a fresh, perfumed wine. Touches of the wood aging show in a toasty, vanilla edge while the wine also has a crisp texture and attractive lemon flavors. Drink the wine from 2022. (July 1, 2021)

2019 Bourgogne Aligoté Champ Renard *Domaine Adélie*: 88

Here is a seductive, creamy character to this light, bright and poised wine. It gives a ripe kiwi and citrus feel to balance the crisp acidity. The wine is ready to drink. (September 1, 2021)

2019 Macon-Lugny Les Charmes: 88

This wine is bright, with plenty of acidity. With crisp, citrus fruits dominating, the wine also has a mineral texture that will soften. This ripe wine will be ready from late 2021. (July 1, 2021)



94 ALBERT BICHOT Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru Domaine du Pavillon 2019

A rich, opulent white, this features lemon cake, lime blossom, baking spice and stone flavors. Though intense, there's also a sense of restraint, yet the finish is long and complex. Drink now through 2027.

92 ALBERT BICHOT Beaune 1er Cru Clos des Mouches Domaine du Pavillon 2019

An opulent style, this delivers tangy apple, butterscotch and toasted spice flavors backed by a spine of acidity. It's harmonious, with the butterscotch element lingering. Drink now through 2025.

92 ALBERT BICHOT Meursault 1er Cru Les Charmes Domaine du Pavillon 2019

This creamy version is laced with peach, lemon cake and sweet spice aromas and flavors, with a floral accent adding lift. Balanced and long. Drink now through 2025.

92 ALBERT BICHOT Meursault Domaine du Pavillon 2019

Smoky, spicy aromas settle down in this expressive white, leading to butterscotch, peach, lemon and hazelnut flavors. It's all tied together nicely by the vibrant structure, winding down to a lingering conclusion. Drink now through 2025.

90 ALBERT BICHOT Meursault 2019

A bracing style whose melon, peach and apple flavors are defined by the vibrant structure. Tails off just a little on the finish, yet is otherwise balanced and tactile in the end. Drink now through 2024.

90 ALBERT BICHOT Puligny-Montrachet 2019

This starts out open and charming, picking up cut as the peach, melon and hazelnut flavors develop. It's precise and detailed on the spicy finish. Drink now.

90 ALBERT BICHOT Nuits-Saint-Georges Les Terrasses Château-Gris 2019

Orange blossom and tangerine aromas give way to lemon, butterscotch and baking spice flavors. It's lean and tangy, with a lingering aftertaste of oak spice and citrus. Drink now through 2025.

90 ALBERT BICHOT Mercurey Les Champs Michaux Domaine Adélie 2019

Well-marked by new oak, this white offers plenty of peach and lemon flavors to match the vanilla and butterscotch notes. Balanced and creamy in the end, with a long finish. Drink now through 2024.

91 ALBERT BICHOT Pouilly-Fuissé 2019

There's some weight to this white, with an accent of honey joining the peach, apple pie and baking spice flavors. Harmonious and fresh, with spice notes echoing on the finish. Drink now through 2024.

90 ALBERT BICHOT Saint-Véran 2019

A plush, broad style, boasting peach, vanilla and lemon cake flavors. Its open-knit texture and lacy feel make it enjoyable now. Fine, juicy finish. Drink now.

90 ALBERT BICHOT Viré-Clessé 2019

Fresh and balanced, with a touch of earth shading the core flavors of peach and apple, lingering with accents of oak spice on the finish. Drink now.

88 ALBERT BICHOT Montagny 1er Cru 2019

Ripe aromas and flavors of mango and pineapple mark this round white. It's balanced on the soft side and moderately long. Drink now.

88 ALBERT BICHOT Macon-Villages 2019

A wiry style, defined by its vivid acidity, evoking apple, melon and citrus flavors. The cleansing finish leaves a tactile impression.

88 ALBERT BICHOT Bourgogne Côte d'Or Chardonnay Secret de Famille 2019

An open, fluid style in which the peach, melon and oak spice flavors are well-integrated and moderately long. Drink now.

88 ALBERT BICHOT Bourgogne Vieilles Vignes de Chardonnay 2018

An open, easygoing white, offering apple, peach and light spice flavors, with lingering notes of smoke and spice. Drink now.

87 ALBERT BICHOT Bourgogne Aligoté 2019

This is juicy and evokes apple and almond flavors. Balanced, it finishes crisply. Drink now.

Web Only - 2021

92 ALBERT BICHOT Chablis Les Clos Domaine Long-Depaquit 2019

Round and intense, this evokes peach, apple, lemon and mineral aromas and flavors. A light smoky element lingers on the finish, with fine harmony and length. Drink now through 2025.

91 ALBERT BICHOT Chablis Moutonne Domaine Long-Depaquit 2019

A bracing style, with a chalky feel underlying lemon cake, yellow plum and green melon flavors. It's vibrant, yet balanced and approachable, with a mouthwatering finish. Drink now through 2024

90 ALBERT BICHOT Chablis Les Blanchots Domaine Long-Depaquit 2019

A juicy, well-defined version, this exhibits apple, yellow plum, lemon and stone flavors. It's backed by a spine of steely acidity that drives the mouthwatering finish. Drink now through 2024

90 ALBERT BICHOT Chablis Les Preuses Domaine Long-Depaquit 2019

A lean, wiry white, with a touch of oak spice framing apple, lemon and lanolin flavors. It's bracing and moderately long. Drink now through 2025.

91 ALBERT BICHOT Chablis Montée de Tonnerre Domaine Long-Depaquit 2019

There's nice cut to the peach, lemon cake and herb flavors in this white, along with a light smoky element. Lively and long, ending with stone and citrus accents. Drink now through 2025.

91 ALBERT BICHOT Chablis Les Vaucopins Domaine Long-Depaquit 2019

Lemon cake, vanilla and toasty pastry flavors take on a green plum note as this fresh white develops on the palate, leaving a mineral element on the finish. Drink now through 2025.

90 ALBERT BICHOT Chablis Les Vaillons Domaine Long-Depaquit 2019

A latent stoniness underlines the white peach, apple and lemon fruit in this sleek, balanced white, which lingers with a fresh finish of fruit and mineral. Drink now through 2024.

89 ALBERT BICHOT Chablis Domaine Long-Depaquit 2019

Fresh and round, with the slightest hint of pineapple accenting peach and apple fruit. Herbs and earth add more detail as this winds down on the lingering finish. Drink now.





August 2021

FRENCH SPARKLERS



BEST BUY

89 | Albert Bichot

Crémant de Bourgogne Brut Réserve (BEST BUY) Gingery with a mineral undertone, this wine is dry and austere, its slightly bitter apricot flavor ready to take on oily fish, whether bluefish or mackerel. —J.G. *Albert Bichot USA, NY*

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CORTON-CHARLEMAGNE GRAND CRU Domaine du Pavillon 2019**Score: 96 Points**

In spite of the ripe-orange and exotic-fruit character that pours from the glass, there's nothing superficial about this wine. Thanks to its generosity and very attractive fruit, this makes a very friendly initial impression on the palate, then the intense minerality comes through, building to a serious crescendo at the very fresh finish. Drink or hold.

**CHABLIS GRAND CRU MOUTONNE, Monopole, Domaine Long-Depaquit 2019****Score: 95 Points**

Quite exotic nose (mango!) but also with some good flinty character. This is an excellent example of a top-class Chablis from a warm vintage. The wonderful balance of richness, minerality and lively acidity makes this exciting now, but it's also got the structure to age for a number of years. Drink or hold.

**CHABLIS 1^{ER} CRU LES VAUCOPINS Domaine Long-Depaquit 2019****Score: 92 Points**

A very expressive Chablis that's full of a wide range of citrus and melon aromas. The initial impression is of full ripeness and a certain creaminess, but as it flows over the palate, this turns drier and more chalky, the clean finish quite salty. Drink or hold.

MEURSAULT Domaine du Pavillon 2019**Score: 91 Points**

A prototypic, full-bodied and succulent Meursault with a bold style, but also plenty of apricot and some mango. Quite some weight, but enough acidity to keep this on the straight path. Bold, juicy finish with a touch of minerality. Drink now.

**CHASSAGNE-MONTRACHET 2019****Score: 91 Points**

Quite a flinty and funky (reduction) nose. But, once it opens, there's attractive ripe-apricot character. The medium-bodied palate has nice, creamy elegance with well-integrated oak that supports the harmonious finish neatly. Drink or hold.

MONTAGNY 1^{ER} CRU 2019**Score: 91 Points**

Very attractive nose of fresh pineapple and yellow grapefruit with delicate oak and a touch of something floral. Medium-bodied with nice creaminess from sur-lie aging, which complements the lively acidity and chalky minerality very nicely. Long, elegant finish. Drink or hold.

BOURGOGNE CÔTE D'OR CHARDONNAY SECRET DE FAMILLE 2019**Score: 90 Points**

Immediately appealing pear and lemon nose, then a crowd-pleasing balance of creamy, medium body, ripe fruit and lively acidity that leads you into the salty finish. A blend of wines from Saint Aubin, Puligny-Montrachet and Meursault. Drink now.

**POUILLY-FUISSÉ 2019****Score: 89 Points**

Good harmony of candied orange and apricot on the open nose with vanilla oak and a hint of melted butter. Full-bodied, also because the tannins add plenty of presence to the palate. Some minerality at the firm finish. Drink now.

SAINT-VÉРАН 2019**Score: 89 Points**

Full citrus, apricot and melted-butter nose. Good balance, in spite of the considerable body and pronounced tannins, thanks to the bright acidity. Drink now.

VIRÉ-CLESSÉ 2019**Score: 88 Points**

This bold and round chardonnay has plenty of attractive caramelized-pineapple and bitter-cream aromas. Quite some tannins at the finish. Soft acidity in the context of the vintage. Drink now.

MÂCON-LUGNY LES CHARMES 2019**Score: 88 Points**

Open and buttery nose with some nice ripe-apricot character and a hint of muscat (from the muscat clones of chardonnay). Medium to full body with a ripe but properly dry palate and some nice chalkiness at the finish. Drink now.

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LATRICIÈRES-CHAMBERTIN GRAND CRU 2019

Score: 95 Points

Deep, dark and slightly wild, the serious tannin structure already sitting so exactly in the full-bodied and concentrated palate. Very subtle, earthy and bitter-chocolate notes at the long, powerful finish that is already really silky. Drink or hold.

CLOS DE VOUGEOT GRAND CRU Domaine du Clos Frantin 2019

Score: 95 Points

Deep and rich with a slew of forest-berry character and hints of caramel and bitter chocolate. Serious concentration, built on excellent tannic foundations. Although this has been built for serious aging, you could still open the bottle now and experience everything that makes this wine remarkable. Drink or hold.

VOSNE-ROMANÉE 1^{ER} CRU LES MALCONSORTS Domaine du Clos Frantin 2019

Score: 93 Points

The attractive red-beet and milk-chocolate nose leads you into a full-bodied, tannic wine that's built for long aging. Plenty of ripe plum on the very bold, almost massive palate. Expands nicely as it aerates, but you need to be patient. Drinkable now, but best from 2024.

NUITS-SAINT-GEORGES 1^{ER} CRU CHÂTEAU-GRIS, Monopole 2019

Score: 93 Points

An impressive Nuits-Saint-Georges with ripe forest-berry aromas that are nicely accentuated by the smoky oak. The earthy notes unfold slowly as it aerates. Very good ripeness and substance, but also very good freshness. The finish is long and complex. Drink or hold.

FIXIN 2019

Score: 91 Points

A very solid wine for this little-known and moderately priced appellation. Plenty of sour-cherry and red-plum fruit. Nice sweetness on the palate, the tannins already well integrated, the finish quite long and harmonious. Drink or hold.

POMMARD 1^{ER} CRU LES RUGIENS Domaine du Pavillon 2019

Score: 93 Points

An impressively powerful and dense Pommard, but with moderate, dry tannins that are already well integrated into the generous body. Dark finish with pronounced plum and earth character. Drink or hold.

POMMARD CLOS DES URSULINES, Monopole, Domaine du Pavillon 2019

Score: 93 Points

Very attractive red-fruit nose with some floral notes and just a touch of smoky oak. An elegant wine for this appellation and you could easily mistake it for a Volnay. Very good depth, but also lovely freshness at the finish, which makes the tannins feel gentle. Long, elegant finish with a subtle, earthy touch. Albert Bichot's Côte de Beaune cellar is situated right next to this vineyard. Drink or hold.

SANTENAY 1^{ER} CRU CLOS ROUSSEAU 2019

Score: 90 Points

A classic Côte de Beaune red with exactly the lively red-fruit character, together with, delicate earthiness and hint of spice that you expect from these wines. Well-judged tannins that don't dominate the wine at any point, the fresh finish long and precisely contoured. Drink or hold.

BEAUNE CLOS DE L'ERMITAGE 2019

Score: 91 Points

Full of black-cherry fruit and a touch of smoky oak. This has generous fruit, but also striking freshness and quite full, grainy tannins. Mountain freshness at the bright finish. From a high-altitude vineyard site. Drink or hold.

SAVIGNY-LÈS-BEAUNE 2019

Score: 90 Points

A classic Savigny-Lès-Beaune with the sour-cherry aroma, rather sleek body and lively acidity that you expect from this appellation. Healthy tannins that are moderately dry. Good length, the refreshing finish both slightly sappy and mineral. Drink or hold.

MERCUREY 1^{ER} CRU CHAMPS-MARTIN Domaine Adélie 2019

Score: 90 Points

If somebody told me that this was a wine from a 1er Cru in the Côte d'Or, rather than Mercurey, I would believe them. Full black-cherry nose with plenty of earthy undertones and a hint of smoke, then a full, rather round palate with some healthy tannins. This makes quite a bold statement. Rather supple finish. Drink now.

BOURGOGNE CÔTE D'OR PINOT NOIR SECRET DE FAMILLE 2019

Score: 89 Points

Attractive fresh-plum nose with a hint of bitter chocolate. Ripe, robust and quite tannic for a wine from this rather humble appellation. Plenty of character here. From vineyards in Côte de Nuits. Drink now.





2019 white Burgundies

2019 Bourgogne Côte d'Or Chardonnay "Secret de Famille": 87

A very pretty nose freely offers up its notes of apple, citrus and spice hints where the latter are also present on the racy, intense and delicious middle weight flavors that conclude in a lingering bitter lemon inflected finish. This isn't especially complex but in the context of what is typical for its level, this merits your interest. 2023+

2019 Beaune 1er Cru "Clos des Mouches" *Domaine du Pavillon*: (89-92)

(from a parcel near Montrevenots). A vague whiff of the exotic suffuses the ripe aromas of melon, pear and apple-scented nose. There is fine volume to the succulent and caressing medium-bodied flavors that conclude in a bitter lemon-inflected finale. This will definitely need at least a few years of keeping to round out the finish. 2025+

2019 Meursault *Domaine du Pavillon*: (88-90)

(from organically farmed fruit in Les Corbins, Criots, En Marcausse and Les Dressoles). Ripe and fresh aromas offer up notes of hazelnut, white orchard fruit and a whiff of citrus confit. The delicious, round and caressing middle weight flavors possess reasonable vibrancy while displaying good length. This linear effort will need at least a few years to further flesh out. 2024+

2019 Meursault 1er Cru "Les Charmes" *Domaine du Pavillon*: (89-92)

(from Charmes Dessus). A softly toasty mix of white and yellow peach, acacia and spice precedes notably finer medium weight flavors that possess really lovely vibrancy and a lovely mid-palate texture while displaying good depth and persistence. 2026+

2019 Chassagne-Montrachet 1er Cru "Morgeot": (90 - 92)

Subtle but easily perceptible oak influence surrounds the aromas of petrol, rosemary oil and white flowers. The wood is also perceptible on the palate of the medium-bodied, dense and relatively powerful flavors that possess very good depth and persistence. 2025+

2019 Chassagne-Montrachet 1er Cru "Vide Bourse": (90-93)

Here the vaguely exotic nose of white and yellow orchard fruit is both more elegant and more complex. Once again there is fine volume and density to the more refined medium weight flavors that possess slightly better precision if not quite the same power on the youthfully austere finale. This attractive effort needs to develop better depth, but the underlying material appears to be present for that to occur. 2026+

2019 Puligny-Montrachet 1er Cru "Champ Gain": 92

(from vines on the Truffières side of the vineyard). A cooler and prettier nose is comprised by notes of mineral reduction, citrus confit, green apple and acacia blossom. There is excellent intensity to the beautifully delineated middle weight flavors that culminate in a clean and very dry but not really austere finale. This is really quite good and worth considering. 2026+

2019 Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru *Domaine du Pavillon*: (91-94)

(from a 1.2 ha parcel situated in Languettes). Moderate wood toast sets off the aromas of Granny Smith apples, acacia and a plethora of citrus influences. There is fine volume to the delicious and borderline creamy larger-scaled flavors that brim with both dry extract and minerality on the lemon-tinged and youthfully austere finale. This compact and serious effort should definitely benefit from mid to even longer-term cellaring. 2029+



95 ALBERT BICHOT Chambolle-Musigny 1er Cru Les Amoureuses 2018

From a parcel owned and farmed by a family on Bichot team, this Amoureuses has the stamina of a Musigny. The wine's fragrance glows with intensity, layering rose and rock, rosehips and red plums. Oak plays a prominent role in the youthful structure, but the wine sustains it, turning the oak to sophisticated advantage. Ample ripe yet runway-model thin, the wine lasts on floral notes, along with a sense of rocky grandeur.

93 ALBERT BICHOT Clos de Vougeot Grand Cru Domaine du Clos Frantin 2018

Bichot farms two plots in Clos de Vougeot, one toward the top of the vineyard, the other lower down the slope, 1.5 acres in all. In 2018, the wines cool, zesty summer-cherry flavors and green-peppercorn spice fill a clean, fragrant wine. Sébastien Piekutowski of the *Dream Away Lodge* in Becket, Mass., commented on its textural delicacy, between chalk and licorice. It has the potential to amaze once it has aged he said.

93 ALBERT BICHOT Vosne-Romanée 1er Cru Les Malconsorts Domaine du Clos Frantin 2018

With its muscular structure and saturation of fruit, this looks south from Malconsorts toward Nuits in its black cherry richness. This is what power and concentration look like said Christy Frank of Copake Wine Works, NY, commenting on the luscious depth of flavor. A ripe 2018, this is approachable now given the breadth of its fruit, but it will need five years or more to show the distinctions of its premier cru provenance.

93 ALBERT BICHOT Vosne-Romanée Domaine du Clos Frantin 2018

Bichot farms 2.4 acres for this wine, blending fruit from Les Damaudes in the southwest corner of Vosne, on the hill above Malconsorts, with grapes from Maizières to the north and east, lower down the hill in Flagey-Echezeaux. Those two terroirs come together in a fragrant wine with the glow of red fruit and the glint of mineral facets. The fruit flavor is distinctive and rich, not a fruit you might find at the market, but some combination of red and purple berries that merges into a rich satin drape of flavor, formidably structured and filled with youthful energy.

92 ALBERT BICHOT Santenay Les Charmes 2018

With black-fruit richness draped in velvet tannins, a sip of this wine is like diving into a bowl of blueberries and raspberries, or so it struck Berkshire chef Amy Loveless. It's a voluptuous pleasure, a Burgundy to catch now for its freshness and vibrant beauty.

90 ALBERT BICHOT Rochegrès Moulin à Vent Domaine de Rochegrès 2018

From close to five acres of 80- to 100-year-old vines, this wine is peppery and tannic under a drape of black-cherry flavors. Those bitter, rooty tannins transform toward mineral notes while the fruit adds floral highlights, all suggesting this will benefit from a year or two of age.

89 ALBERT BICHOT Moulin à Vent Domaine de Rochegrès 2018

From a 7.4-acre parcel of vines 25 to 35 years old, this is a powerful, plummy Moulin-à Vent with an undertow of generous tannins. The fruit is lush and a little dimpled in its black grape-skin flavors. For duck rillettes.



93 ALBERT BICHOT Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru Domaine du Pavillon 2018

Bichot farms close to three acres in Les Languettes, a climat on the south-southeast face of the Corton hill. This wine is clean, fragrant and fresh, offering grand cru luxury without any effort. Its bright tangerine notes deepen to lemon custard, green pear highlights lasting along with the richer fruit. This is a substantial white, built for rich food. Taster suggested even braised duck with prunes.

93 ALBERT BICHOT Nuits-St-Georges Château Gris Les Terrasses Monopole 2018

This grows at the top of an 8.6-acre terraced vineyard (the bottom is planted to pinot noir). And it's a powerful argument for chardonnay in the clay-limestone soils at the higher elevations of Nuits-St-Georges. It reminded Berkshire chef Amy Loveless of a meringue in the lightness of its body and the richness of its flavor, with oak providing a whisper of caramelization. The acidity touches on lemons and minerals, sustaining the wine's flavor for minutes on the breath. Complete and completely delicious.

92 ALBERT BICHOT Chablis Grand Cru Les Vaudésirs Domaine Long Depaquit 2018

From a parcel of 45-year-old vines, this wine has the scent of early spring, opening to apple blossoms and Queen Anne lace. The fruit has a juicy apple freshness, taking on depth and power over the course of several days. The delicate floral notes seem to emanate from the lees, adding to the range and persistence of the wine's flavor. Built to cellar.

92 ALBERT BICHOT Chablis Grand Cru Les Clos Domaine Long Depaquit 2018

Concentrated and compressed, this is a tough young Chablis with a texture that points to its provenance. 7 acres of clay and Kimmeridgean limestone with hard marl. Tangy notes of orange, bitter melon and dry honey seem to come right from the rock. This should blossom with six to ten years in the cellar.

91 ALBERT BICHOT Chablis 1er Cru Les Vaucopins Domaine Long Depaquit 2018

Bichot's Chablis domaine includes 12.8 acres in Vaucopins; this wine fermented and aged mostly in stainless steel with 15 percent of the lot in used oak barrels, developing leesy complexity to its brisk cool fruit. Tina Vaughn of NYC *The Simone* described the wine as delicate and lady-like, with scents of lemon sorrel to pour with a spicy potato soup.

90 ALBERT BICHOT Chablis Grand Cru Les Blanchots Domaine Long Depaquit 2018

With its sweet citrus notes, this wine overt fruit and cardamom spice offers a lot of sensual appeal. Sexy, but is it Chablis one taster asked, then dove back for another sip.





June 2021

INTERNATIONAL WINE CHALLENGE

2021



Pale white gold colour. Magnificent nose of coconut cream, melon, honey, lime and white blossom. Palate has almost eye watering concentration. Long, firm, mineral finish, . A superb and serious Grand Cru!

After winning

- a Gold Medal,
- the Corton-Charlemagne Trophy,
- the White Burgundy Trophy,
- the French White Trophy,
- the International Chardonnay Trophy,
- the **CORTON-CHARLEMAGNE GRAND CRU Domaine du Pavillon 2019** has received the **International Organic Trophy**, i.e. **Best Organic Wine of the World**.





June 2021

INTERNATIONAL WINE CHALLENGE

2021



**CHAMPION
RED**

**CLOS DE LA ROCHE
GRAND CRU
Cuvée Cyrot-Chaudron
Hospices de Beaune
2019
ALBERT BICHOT**



Beautiful colour with elegant berry fruits, blackcurrant, raspberry and a gentle sprinkle of spice. Elegant with supple tannins with a mineral core surrounded by generous ripe dark fruit. Lovely white pepper on the finish.

After receiving

- a Gold Medal,
- the Clos de la Roche Trophy,
- the Red Burgundy Trophy,
- the French Red Trophy,
- the International Pinot Noir Trophy,
- the **CLOS DE LA ROCHE GRAND CRU Cuvée Cyrot-Chaudron Hospices de Beaune 2019** from Albert Bichot was awarded **Champion Red**, i.e. **Best Red Wine of the World**.





May 2021

INTERNATIONAL WINE CHALLENGE 2021

10 TROPHIES
7 GOLD MEDALS



INTERNATIONAL CHARDONNAY TROPHY

for

**CORTON-CHARLEMAGNE GRAND CRU
Domaine du Pavillon 2019**



Pale white gold colour. Magnificent nose of coconut cream, melon, honey, lime and white blossom. Palate has almost eye watering concentration. Long, firm, mineral finish, . A superb and serious Grand Cru!



FRENCH WHITE TROPHY
WHITE BURGUNDY TROPHY
CORTON-CHARLEMAGNE TROPHY
GOLD MEDAL
96 points



INTERNATIONAL PINOT NOIR TROPHY

for

**CLOS DE LA ROCHE GRAND CRU
Hospices de Beaune Cuvée Cyrot Chaudron
2019**



Beautiful colour with elegant berry fruits, blackcurrant, raspberry and a gentle sprinkle of spice. Elegant with supple tannins with a mineral core surrounded by generous ripe dark fruit. Lovely white pepper on the finish.



FRENCH RED TROPHY
RED BURGUNDY TROPHY
CLOS DE LA ROCHE TROPHY
GOLD MEDAL
97 points





INTERNATIONAL WINE CHALLENGE 2021

10 TROPHIES
7 GOLD MEDALS

May 2021



POMMARD 1^{ER} CRU LES RUGIENS Domaine du Pavillon 2019

GOLD MEDAL & POMMARD TROPHY

Ripe densely concentrated dark plum and strawberry with a silky texture. Freshness and purity. The oak is excellently integrated and balanced. 96 points



MEURSAULT 1^{ER} CRU LES GENEVRIÈRES Hospices de Beaune Cuvée Philippe le Bon 2019

GOLD MEDAL & MEURSAULT WHITE TROPHY

Classic Meursault - rich and plush with layers of stone fruit and greengage. Nose is spicy, redolent of sappy vanilla oak. In the mouth the wine has huge structure, lovely texture, bags of quince. Masses of potential - world class! 96 points



BEAUNE 1^{ER} CRU CLOS DES MOUCHES Domaine du Pavillon 2019

GOLD MEDAL

Complex nose of peach and cashew nuts. Creamy with fresh long palate. A really fine white Burgundy. 95 points



VOSNE-ROMANÉE 1^{ER} CRU LES MALCONSORTS Domaine du Clos Frantin 2019

GOLD MEDAL

Beautifully perfumed. Crushed raspberry, crunchy cranberry along with red morellos and red currants. Creamy spice with soft and supple palate. Long and persistent in the mouth with plush ripe tannins. Precisely balanced and joyous to drink now. 95 points



CHABLIS GRAND CRU LES CLOS Domaine Long-Depaquit 2019

GOLD MEDAL

Beautiful steely lime peel on the nose, youthful and elegant. Rich and concentrated palate. Lovely lime with acidity. A beautiful wine. 95 points



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DOMAINE LONG-DEPAQUIT

Chablis Premier Cru Les Lys

Upright, breezy aroma. Cool, light, and bright, with refreshing, racy minerality and a salty oyster-shell tang. Spot-on. 2021-24. | 91

Chablis Grand Cru Les Clos

Honeysuckle richness on the nose, with ripe white-peach aromatics. Opulent, richly muscular palate, fleshed out with succulent and concentrated fruit. It tightens to a much colder and powerfully firm finish. 2023-29. | 93

Chablis Grand Cru Moutonne (monopole)

Richly floral, quite full-bodied and luscious. Creamy texture is just nicely balanced with cool, wet-stone freshness. It is swathed in a somewhat exotic floral scent, which entwines with a rich chalky note on a rather good finish. 2023-30. | 93

DOMAINE ADÉLIE

Mercurey Blanc Les Champs Michaux

An ample and engaging wine. It combines smooth generosity with fulsome, frothy airiness. It's certainly rich, but not heavy. Sappy minerality comes from beneath the palate and provides the finish with a cool, fresh, and rather stony note.

2021-26. | 88-89

2019 BURGUNDY

Taster : Sarah Marsh MW

DOMAINE DU CLOS FRANTIN

Vosne-Romanée Premier Cru Les Malconsorts

Complex aroma, with notes of ripe raspberries and ground coriander, which linger hauntingly and complete the palate. Lovely layering, for there are highlights, glimmerings, and deeper, darker undertones. It's richly textured. The tannins are certainly sophisticated, velvety, with taffeta crisp at the edges. It has a joyous energy and a lithe, strong, and persistent finish. 2026-35. | 96-97

Grand Echézeaux Grand Cru

Sweet-fruit pounce on the palate. Such vibrancy. Lovely focus and intensity. Clipped at the edges. Dark, smoky, soft minerality. So svelte. Vitality and persistence. 2025-35. | 94-95

DOMAINE DU PAVILLON

Beaune Premier Cru Clos des Mouches

Quite oaky, but I rather like its overt, punchy vigor and density. A slight bitterness complements the ripeness. 2023-28. | 92

Pommard Clos des Ursulines

Supple and fluid, this undulates in an easy, pleasing, satin ribbon over the palate. Such a seductive face of Pommard. This is a gorgeously enticing village wine. 2023-28. | 90

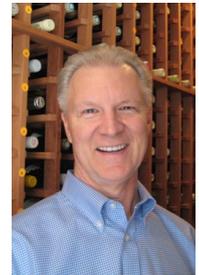
Pommard Premier Cru Rugiens

Sweetness of fruit is alluring up front, deceptive, as there is density and a punchy catch of mineral freshness to follow. The body is compact and tight, and it finishes on a salty, somewhat bitter note. 2024-32. | 95

Corton Grand Cru Clos des Maréchaudes

Alluring perfume, summer-fruit seductive. Broad, swaggering, juicy palate; thickly textured. Definitely deep-pile. Rich succulence contrasts with a dark, quartz bite. It has some grunt on the finish. 2025-32. | 94





2019 Côte de Beaune reds

Bichot's chief viticulturalist Christophe Chauvel conducted the tasting and told me that 2019 "was a vintage that gave us generally lower yields due partially to the April frost and partially due to a moderately poor flowering. Add to this the dehydrating effects of a very hot and dry summer and by the time we arrived at the harvest, there were fewer bunches and not much juice in the berries. To provide an idea, normally for to make one barrel of red, we need about 330 kg of fruit. In 2019 we needed on average 365 kg. When taken all together, yields were down about 30% relative to a normal crop. One of the interesting things about the harvest was that the juice was so ripe that it literally stained your hands red! You don't see that very often. The stems were quite ripe and we chose to use more of them than usual. As to the wines, they have a lovely freshness and energy plus they are more transparent to the underlying terroir than 2018. They have everything they need to age well. As to the quality between the Côte de Nuits and the Côte de Beaune, there really isn't a noticeable difference. Rather, we find the differences within the two Côtes to be more apparent. For example, Volnay and Pommard did really well in the Côte de Beaune and Vosne and Chambolle were outstanding in the Côte de Nuits. We bottled many of the 2019s earlier than usual, which is to say between December 2020 and January 2021."

2019 Savigny-lès-Beaune 1er Cru "Les Grands Picotins" Domaine du Pavillon: 88

Some post-bottling reduction masks the underlying fruit but it shouldn't last. Otherwise the middle weight flavors are fresh and generously proportioned with a fleshy and round texture, all wrapped in a nicely complex if mildly tangy finale. 2024+

2019 Beaune "Les Epenottes" Domaine du Pavillon: 88

(from the villages portion of the vineyard). A pretty and very fresh nose consists mostly of both red and dark pinot fruit with plenty of warm earth nuances. There is excellent vibrancy to the detailed and delicious flavors that possess a decidedly fleshy mouthfeel. 2024+

2019 Volnay 1er Cru "Les Brouillards" Domaine du Pavillon: 89

A brooding and more deeply pitched nose reluctantly offers up its aromas of poached plum, dark cherry and a pretty spice whiff. There is again fine verve and better mid-palate density to the delineated middle weight flavors that conclude in a youthfully austere and more complex finish where the supporting tannins are notably finer. 2025+

2019 Volnay 1er Cru "Les Santenots" Domaine du Pavillon: 92

(from Les Plures). Discreet but perceptible wood sets off the overtly spicy aromas of dark cherry and raspberry that are trimmed in equally discreet nuances of violet and lavender. There is fine mid-palate concentration to the medium-bodied flavors that possess solid power and focus on the sneaky long, balanced and firm finish. 2031+

2019 Pommard "Clos des Ursulines" Domaine du Pavillon: 88

(a huge 4 ha monopole of the domaine that gave the equivalent of 32 hl/ha in 2019). This is also brooding and restrained and requires vigorous swirling to reveal its softly earthy aromas of black pinot fruit and lovely floral elements. There is fine punch to the unusually refined middle weight flavors. This is very tightly wound and will need at least a few years to bottle aging to become more approachable. 2027+

2019 Pommard 1er Cru "Les Rugiens" Domaine du Pavillon: 93 **SWEET SPOT WINE**

(from Rugiens Bas that gave 30 hl/ha). An equally restrained but wonderfully elegant, pure and very floral suffused nose displays essence of red and dark raspberry, plum and rose petal. There is terrific delineation and an abundance of minerality on the bigger yet finer flavors that possess a sophisticated mouthfeel and evident power on the moderately austere, complex and well-balanced finale. As is usual for Rugiens, this is quite firm and will need extended patience. One to strongly consider. 2034+

2019 Aloxe-Corton Domaine du Pavillon: 89 **TOP VALUE WINE**

(from Les Crapousuets). This is much less elegant but more sauvage on the attractively fresh nose of various dark berries and pungent earth. There is fine volume to the solidly powerful, rich and concentrated middle weight flavors that are unusually refined on the mid-palate though the typical rusticity does show up on the firm and mildly austere finale. This is a very good Aloxe villages in a commune not really known for them. 2027+

2019 Aloxe-Corton 1er Cru "Les Fournières" Domaine du Pavillon: (90-92)

Here the nose is similar to the Aloxe if slightly spicier. Somewhat curiously, the medium weight flavors are not quite as dense though there is fine energy and detail along with more minerality and power on the very serious, tightly wound and youthfully austere finale. This moderately rustic effort is classic Aloxe. 2031+

2019 Aloxe-Corton 1er Cru "Clos des Maréchaudes" Domaine du Pavillon: 92

This is also appealingly spicy with good breadth to the nose of poached plum, violet, lavender and warm earth. There is excellent volume to the velvet-textured medium-bodied flavors that flash evident minerality on the youthfully austere finale that offers impressive depth and persistence in a firmly structured package. 2031+

2019 Corton Grand Cru "Clos des Maréchaudes" Domaine du Pavillon: 93 **SWEET SPOT WINE**

(a ~1.9 ha monopole that is split between ~.5 ha classified as grand cru and the remaining 1.4 ha as 1er). This is compositionally similar to the 1er but notably more restrained. The powerful and muscular bigger-bodied flavors possess fine mid-palate density and ample minerality on the more persistent finish. It's clear there is a bit more overall potential here compared to the 1er. 2034+

Burghound.com 2019 Vintage Selections: The "Top Value Wines" are those that are generally available in the marketplace at a price point of no more than approximately \$100 US; The "Sweet Spot Wines" section addresses the wide gulf between the under \$100 Top Value wines and the generally over \$250 "Don't Miss Wines"; note that I have tried to layer these selections to portray a representative range between the two price points.



2018 Côte de Beaune reds

2018 Savigny-lès-Beaune 1er Cru “Les Grands Picotins” *Domaine du Pavillon*: 88

A notably ripe nose features notes of plum, pungent earth and soft spice nuances. There is very good volume to the rich and seductively textured, indeed even velvety, flavors that possess very good depth on the rustic and warm finale. This should drink well on the younger side. 2024+

2018 Beaune “Les Epenottes” *Domaine du Pavillon*: 89

(from the *villages* portion of the vineyard). A slightly higher-toned nose offers up notes of red raspberry, pomegranate, cherry and a touch of warm earth. The sleeker if less seductive flavors possess a lovely mouthfeel while exhibiting just a touch of warmth on the ever-so-mildly rustic finale that is a bit brighter. This is a quality Beaune *villages* and worth considering. 2024+

2018 Volnay 1er Cru “Les Brouillards” *Domaine du Pavillon*: 91

An expressive nose is composed by overtly floral notes of ripe poached plum and liqueur-like aromas of black cherry. The succulent, round and velvet-textured middle weight flavors that are presently moderately compact, serious and youthfully austere. This will need at least a few years to unwind but it's certainly promising. 2028+

2018 Volnay 1er Cru “Les Santenots” *Domaine du Pavillon*: 92

(from Les Plures). A more elegant and cooler nose speaks of the pure essence of various red berries that are laced with lovely and floral nuances that include violet, lilac and rose petal. There is fine volume to the slightly denser medium-bodied flavors that brim with minerality on the more tightly wound finale that is youthfully austere. This firm effort could use more depth and is going to require at least a decade of cellar time to see it at its apogee. 2030+

2018 Pommard 1er Cru “Les Rugiens” *Domaine du Pavillon*: 93

This is at once more elegant and more complex with its overtly spicy and floral-suffused aromas of both red and dark pinot fruit where pretty nuances of lilac, violet and anise emerge. There is impressive volume to the super-sleek, intense and well-detailed flavors terminate in a refreshing and bright mineral-laden finish. This is lovely though note that it is a classic Rugiens that will need extended keeping. 2033+

2018 Aloxe-Corton *Domaine du Pavillon*: 89

(from Les Crapousuets). A relatively pretty nose is comprised by notes of various red berries, earth and a whisper of the *sauvage*. There is good freshness to the velvet-textured and mouth coating middle weight flavors that possess a juicy and fleshy mouthfeel while delivering fine length on the rustic but not tough finale that exhibits excellent length for its level. This is sufficiently supple that it will likely be approachable after only 4 to 5 years of cellaring. Worth checking out. 2026+

2018 Aloxe-Corton 1er Cru “Les Fournières” *Domaine du Pavillon*: 90

There is a whiff of menthol to the riper and slightly jammy aromas of both red and dark cherry that evidence background floral and earth. There is better volume and mid-palate richness to the bigger-bodied flavors though the rustic, noticeably warm finish is somewhat monolithic today. In sum, this is perfectly good. 2028+

2018 Aloxe-Corton 1er Cru “Clos des Maréchaudes” *Domaine du Pavillon*: 91

A fresh if reticent nose grudgingly offers up ripe but cool and attractively spicy notes of red and dark currant, earth and a pretty range of floral elements. There is very good volume to the lightly mineral-inflected middle weight flavors that possess a beguiling texture that contrasts somewhat with the dusty, firm and slightly warm finale. This is sufficiently structured to require at least 5 to 7 years of bottle age to unwind. I would add that like the Fournières, the finish is somewhat monolithic though this too should pass in time. 2030+

2018 Corton Grand Cru “Clos des Maréchaudes” *Domaine du Pavillon*: 93

(a ~1.9 ha monopole that is split between ~.5 ha classified as *grand cru* and the remaining 1.4 ha as 1er). A ripe yet reasonably elegant nose consists of rose petal, plum liqueur, lilac, spice and menthol-tinged aromas. The rich, intense and vibrant big-bodied flavors evidence obvious minerality on the mouth coating and impressively long finish. This is a big but refined effort that is definitely built-to-age, so patience required. 2033+





März-April 2021

BURGUND-JAHRGANG 2019: DIE NEUE KLASSIK

Nach dem 2018er-Hitzewellen-Jahrgang verkörpert Burgund 2019 so etwas wie eine neue Klassik – als Ausdruck wirklicher Balance. Die Roten haben ebenso viel Frucht und Fülle wie Präzision; und die Weißen zeigen Spannung und Tiefe.

TEXT & NOTIZEN VON ANNE KREBIEHL MW

Weißer Burgunder

97 • Albert Bichot Domaine du Pavillon Grand Cru Corton-Charlemagne 2019

Geschmolzenes Kerzwachs, dezenter Holzrauch und blanchierte Haselnuss in der Nase. Der Gaumen ist noch straff, aber die Konzentration und eine Art viskose Fülle sind sofort erkennbar. Eine zentrale Ader von Zitronenfrische, fast prickelnd, bindet sowohl Fülle als auch Tiefe in eine statueske Struktur ein. Der Wein ist kraftvoll, aber ausgeglichen, zeigt unglaubliche Energie und Kraft. Ein Vollblut, das Zeit braucht. Trinkfenster: 2027–2050.

97 • Albert Bichot Domaine Long-Depaquit Chablis Grand Cru Les Clos 2019

Ein anfänglicher Anflug von Rauch verheißt Gutes und öffnet sich zu einem dezenten Geruch von Kreide. Der Gaumen ist straff und frisch, präzise und durchdrungen von einer tiefen, kalkigen Kühle sowie von einer reinen, klaren Ader von Zitronenfrische. Völlige Tiefe und ein ziseliertes, detailliertes Wesen machen diesen Wein zum Sinnbild des Chablis. Wunderschön.

96 • Albert Bichot Domaine Long-Depaquit Chablis Grand Cru Moutonne 2019

Kreide und helle Zitronenschale bestimmen die Nase mit kühler Eleganz. Mehr Luft macht diese Eindrücke noch intensiver, öffnet auch Anklänge von Mirabelle.

Der Gaumen ist straff, kühl, kreydig, steinig, balanciert. Ein Bild von aber Eleganz mit erstaunlicher Länge und exzellenter, aber schlanker Statur.

96 • Albert Bichot Domaine du Pavillon Meursault Premier Cru Les Charmes 2019

Frische Haselnuss, Cremigkeit und ein Hauch von weißer Blüte sowie frischer Butter. Zitrone und dezente Rauchigkeit gesellen sich dazu. Diese Eindrücke verstärken sich und entfalten sich am Gaumen, füllen Mund und Geist. Was bleibt, ist eine konzentrierte und absolute Frische und Tiefe, die uns all die Aromen bestaunen lässt. Ausgezeichnet. Trinkfenster: 2025–2050.

95 • Albert Bichot Domaine Long-Depaquit Chablis Grand Cru Les Blanchots 2019

Eine subtile Nase erzählt von trockenen Maishülsen und Kalkstein. Klare Zitrusfrucht ist lediglich da, um diese Eindrücke glänzen zu lassen. Mehr Luft erlaubt einen Hauch von geschmolzener Butter. Der Gaumen ist konzentriert, zeigt noch mehr dieser kalkigen Tiefe und bringt reife Zitrone in den Vordergrund. Der Wein ist frisch und ausgeglichen, dennoch gehaltvoll. Etwas Ruhiges und Tiefgründiges heben ihn auf eine andere Ebene. Trinkfenster: 2025–2040.

94 • Albert Bichot Domaine du Pavillon Beaune Premier Cru Clos des Mouches 2019

Von Vanille umsäumte Rauchigkeit

und Anklänge von gerösteten Haselnüssen versprechen sanften Reiz. Der Gaumen fügt noch zarte Haselnüssen versprechen sanften Frische hinzu, wie es dieser bestens luftzirkulierten Lage entspricht. Mehr Luft offenbart eine reife, zitronige Gelassenheit, eine wunderbar weiche Textur und eine beneidenswerte Ausgeglichenheit. Ein Klassiker. Wunderschön. Trinkfenster: 2023–2040.

94 • Albert Bichot Domaine du Pavillon Meursault 2019

Etwas Salzigkeit im Duft geschmolzener Butter, die zunächst in der Nase auftaucht. Mehr Luft offenbart haselnussige Cremigkeit. Der Gaumen zeigt Straffheit, Konzentration und zitronige Lebendigkeit, all dies eingebettet in (für einen Villages-Wein) erstaunlich kalkige Tiefe. Dieser Wein ist abgerundet, aber grazil, klar und verführerisch. Der Abgang wird von einer vollmundigen Frische dominiert.

93 • Albert Bichot Domaine Adélie Mercurey Les Champs-Michaux 2019

Zarter Rauch und ein Hauch von gerösteter Haselnuss überwiegen in der Nase. Diese Rauchigkeit überträgt sich auf den Gaumen, wo sie auf spritzige, aber reife Zitronennoten trifft. Der Körper ist konzentriert und detailliert, zeigt schöne Präzision und ergänzt Noten von Eichenholz mit kühler, kalkiger Tiefe. Sehr elegant. Trinkfenster: 2025–2035. Herrliche Länge.



März-April 2021

Weißer Burgunder

90 ● Albert Bichot Domaine Adélie Bourgogne Aligoté Champ Renard 2019

Hervorragend frische Anklänge von grüner Birne und gelbem Apfel vollführen einen fröhlichen, lebendigen Tanzin der Nase. Dazu kommen kandierte Limette und frische Zitrone. Der Gaumen zeigt mehr runde Reife als erwartet, behält aber all seine saftige, lebendige Frische. Eine absolute Freude: geschmeidig, dynamisch, fruchtig und strahlend mit einem cremigen Abgang.

89 ● Albert Bichot Bourgogne Côte d'Or Chardonnay Secret de Famille 2019

In der Nase spielen Anklänge von Haferflocken und Butter, ein Hauch von gelber Pflaume verleiht eine fruchtige Reife. Der Gaumen ist saftig, schlank, frisch und lebendig. Klarheit und Saftigkeit machen ihn sehr anregend. Sehr vielseitig und sehr samtig.

Roter Burgunder

97 ● Albert Bichot Domaine du Clos Frantin Grand Cru Échezeaux 2019

Herbstliches Eichenlaub, herbe Kirsche und Eichenholz haben Anflüge von Petrichor und nassem Stein. Diese aromatische Anziehungskraft überträgt sich direkt auf den ziselierten Gaumen, mit ganzer Haltung, voller Eleganz: ein feiner Rahmen für diese Aromen. Tiefe und Ausdauer leben in der tiefgründigen Frucht, die mit Frische nachhallt. Vollkommene Konzentration, vollkommene Haltung. Trinkfenster: 2027–2050.



97 ● Albert Bichot Grand Cru Latricières-Chambertin 2019

Eisenoxid, Pfingstrose, kühle Lebendigkeit und herbe, rote Kirsche beschwören poetische Frische und vielschichtigen Ausdruck herauf. Der Gaumen hat Kontur und Ausgeglichenheit, Struktur und steinige Schönheit. Die Eleganz ist überragend, eine endliche, schlanke Form ist bis zum Rand mit Duft und rotfruchtiger Anmut gefüllt. Glorreich und statusesk in seiner schlichten Schönheit. Trinkfenster: bis 2050.

97 ● Albert Bichot Domaine du Clos Frantin Vosne-Romanée Premier Cru Les Malconsorts 2019

Rote Johannisbeere und Himbeere sind ätherisch und anregend, die ganze Schlichtheit ist Äther selbst. Pfingstrosen und ein Hauch von Eiche sind die einzigen Dinge, die diesen Wein an die Erde binden. Der Gaumen ist konzentriert, unverfälscht und frisch, gefangen im hochfeinen Netz aus seidigem Tannin. Grazie und Poesie, Tiefe und Hochgenuss. Überirdisch und ganz einfach magisch in seiner Fähigkeit zu transportieren.

97 ● Albert Bichot Domaine du Pavillon Corton Grand Cru Clos des Maréchaudes 2019

Die subtile Nase birgt herbe, rote Beeren. Ein floraler Anflug erinnert an Pfingstrose, Toastnoten verweisen auf Eiche. Der Gaumen nimmt diese Noten und umrahmt sie mit Festigkeit und absoluter Struktur. Die Konzentration ist immens, die Frische unverfälscht. Ein Hauch von Wildnis, Ahornsirup und Eichenlaub untermalt diese Eleganz

mit unwiderstehlicher Unbändigkeit. Große Dramaturgie, betörende Tiefe. Wow. Trinkfenster: 2027–2050.

95 ● Albert Bichot Château-Gris Nuits-Saint-Georges Premier Cru 2019

Weißer Pfeffer und rote Kirsche haben nur einen Hauch von Eiche und Leder in der Nase. Ein reizender Ton von Pfingstrose vervollständigt das Bild. Am Gaumen zeigt sich die zarte Kirschrucht noch mehr, aber alles ist von feiner Eiche in Geschmeidigkeit und Sanftheit getragen. Der Wein ist elegant, rund und fast schmeichelnd, durchdrungen von reifer Kirsche und ursprünglicher, floraler Frische.

95 ● Albert Bichot Domaine du Pavillon Pommard Premier Cru Les Rugiens 2019

Rauch und Waldhimbeeranklänge sorgen für eine höchst attraktive Nase, ein Hauch von Reduktion ist auch da. Die Rugiens-Tannine setzen sich durch, sie sind fest, knistern aber wie gestärkte Atlasseide und brechen in reinstes Vergnügen auf. Das hat Klasse und Struktur, Frische und Charakter, nachhaltiges Aroma und einen Hauch von Poesie. Exquisit.

94 ● Albert Bichot Domaine du Clos Frantin Grand Cru Clos-de-Vougeot 2019

Anklänge von Toast, roter Kirsche, Eichenlaub und Pfingstrose vereinen sich zu einer klaren Nase. Diese Töne setzen sich am konzentrierten Gaumen fort, wo die Frucht wie von Kastanienspüree, cremiger Textur und einem schönen, definierten Körper abgerundet wird. Ein erdiges



Eichenblättern und der Pfingstrose.
Trinkfester : 2025–2035.

94 • Albert Bichot Chambolle-Musigny Premier Cru Les Chabiots 2019

Herbe rote Beeren in der Nase sind von weißem Pfeffer durchdrungen, während im Hintergrund ein Anklang von Rauchigkeit schwebt: eine Gegenüberstellung von Fülle und Kühle, Fruchtreife und Straffheit. Der Gaumen spielt ein ähnliches Spiel, präsentiert aber das volle, lebendige Bild von saftiger roter Kirsche, dargestellt am Schnittpunkt von Köstlichkeit und belebender Frische. Ein dunkler, sinnierender Hauch hält sich im Hintergrund. Trinkfenster: 2025–2045.

93 • Albert Bichot Domaine du Clos Frantin Vosne-Romanée 2019

Die zurückhaltende Nase ist wie ein Mix aus winterlichem Holzrauch und feiner, reifer Himbeere. Die Nase hat etwas Ätherisches und verspricht Eleganz. Der Gaumen bestätigt diesen zierlichen Stil, verleiht ihm aber auch leicht knisternde Tannine. Der Körper ist straff, durchsichtig, schimmernd, flüstert jedes Versprechen dieser Appellation. Was für eine Anziehungskraft, welche Frische, welche Zartheit!

93 • Albert Bichot Domaine du Pavillon Alox-Corton Premier Cru Clos des Maréchaudes 2019
Reduktiver Feuerstein trübt noch die Noten von Johannis- und Himbeeren in der Nase, aber die Reinheit der roten Frucht ist unbezweifelbar. Der Gaumen unterstreicht die Zurückhaltung und Herbheit dieser

roten Beerenfrucht mit einem Hauch von Heckenrose und weißem Pfeffer. Die festen, feinen Tannine geben sanften Biss. Alles fügt sich zu einem Bild, das eindeutig Burgunder sagt. Leicht rustikale Kanten schmälern den wesentlichen Charme nicht. Trinkfenster: 2025–2035.

92 • Albert Bichot Gevrey-Chambertin Les Evocelles 2019

Reife, aber herbe Kirschrösche verbindet sich mit dem Geruch von frisch gegerbtem Leder, was diesen Wein ätherisch und eindrucksvoll macht. Weißer Pfeffer signalisiert würzige Lebendigkeit. Der Gaumen zeigt sich schlank und tut alles, um diese prickelnde, pfeffrige Würze zu erhalten. Am Ende hat eine sanfte, reife, rote Kirsche die Oberhand, der Körper bleibt frisch und klar. Wunderbar.



92 • Albert Bichot Domaine du Pavillon Pommard Clos des Ursulines 2019

Ein reizender Hauch von Himbeere ist noch von Reduktion unterlegt. Die gleiche aromatische, himbeerige Zartheit spielt am Gaumen und verstärkt mit Würze und Konzentration den Fruchtausdruck. Die Frische wirkt dem entgegen, während eine gewisse Sanftheit

vorherrschte – sogar über die Reife hinaus – und für einen sehr charmanten, lebendigen Abgang sorgt.

91 • Albert Bichot Fixin Premier Cru Clos de la Perrière 2019

Noten von Feuerstein, Rauch, Kirsche und Roter Johannisbeere vereinen sich in der Nase voller Schwung und Verheißung. Am Gaumen zeigt sich eine Spur Eisenoxid, ein Hauch von tanninhaltiger Rustikalität und etwas jugendlicher Griffigkeit. Dieser Wein ist verspielt, aromatisch, ein wenig rau, aber dafür um so charmanter. Trinkfenster: 2022–2030.

91 • Albert Bichot Domaine du Pavillon Savigny Les Beaune Les Grands Picotins 2019

Ein Hauch von Reduktion spielt vielversprechend in der Nase und überdeckt vorerst die Frucht. Der Gaumen präsentiert reife, aber herbe, saftige Kirsche. Mit Gewicht, aber einer gewissen Durchsichtigkeit, die auf Verspieltheit und Schwung deutet. Im Abgang zeigt sich angenehme Frische. Trinkfenster: 2021–2030.

90 • Albert Bichot Bourgogne Côte d'Or Pinot Noir Secret de Famille 2019

Noten von Eisenoxid, frischer Kirsche und Kirschbonbons in der Nase sind lebendig und einladend. Der Gaumen hüpfte mit würziger, fast pfeffriger, roter Kirsche, die trotz ihrer unbestrittenen Reife und Energie von Frische umhüllt ist. Temperamentvoll, verspielt, bezaubernd und aromatisch.

WINE ENTHUSIAST

www.winemag.com

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Roger Voss



90
BEST BUY

2019 BEAUJOLAIS VILLAGES CHÂTEAU DE VARENNES

Floral and fruity, this is an immediately attractive, ripe wine. Full of red-cherry flavors, balanced by soft tannins and a lightly smoky character, it is ready to drink.



87
BEST BUY

2019 BEAUJOLAIS CHÂTEAU DE JARNIOUX

Produced by Beaune negociant Albert Bichot, this wine is rich with ripe red fruits. It conveys freshness and acidity, softly textured and ready to drink.

2019 Côte de Nuits reds

Technical director Alain Serveau, and Cyrille Jacquelin (who is also responsible for the Clos Frantin wines) commented that 2019, much like 2018 “gave us excellent quality but not nearly the same quantities. Ripeness levels were very good, indeed to the point that the average potential alcohol was right about 14%, something that one doesn’t see all time. Phenolic ripeness levels were also good and 2019 was very favorable to the use of whole clusters so we fermented softly while using very high percentages of them. One key difference though with 2019 is that the solid to liquid ratios were much higher than in 2018 so that was another reason to vinify softly. As to the style of the 2019 reds, in much the same fashion as their 2018 counterparts, they are supple and elegant but with even finer tannins, slightly better freshness and better terroir transparency.”

Note that all of the Clos Frantin vineyards are now organically farmed. I would further note that Clos Frantin seemed to do especially well in 2019.

2019 Bourgogne Côte d’Or Secret de Famille: (86-89)

(made with fruit entirely from the Côte de Nuits). A reserved but pretty nose combines notes of both red and dark currant along with touches of earth and a hint of wood. The sleek, vibrant and delicious flavors possess a lovely sense of vibrancy that carries over to the balanced and lingering finish. Good stuff for this level. 2023+

2019 Bourgogne Côte d’Or “Clos Frantin” Domaine du Clos Frantin: (86-89)

Reserved aromas of both red and dark berry aromas that trimmed in subtle floral and earth nuances. The sleek and nicely punchy middle weight flavors possess very good precision before concluding in a youthfully austere and firm finale. This age-worthy Bourgogne is quite good for its level. 2024+

2019 Gevrey-Chambertin “Les Murots” Domaine du Clos Frantin: (89-91) TOP VALUE WINE

A slightly riper and definitely more sauvage-inflected nose reflected notes of plum, red currant and underbrush. There is fine volume and very good intensity to the attractively textured, even suave, flavors possess solid depth and persistence on the moderately structured finish. 2026+

2019 Gevrey-Chambertin “Les Evocelles”: (89-91) TOP VALUE WINE

This too is agreeably cool but ripe with its nose combination of earth, red currant, spice and a whiff of plum. The succulent yet nicely vibrant flavors also exhibit a lovely, even bracing, minerality, that adds a sense of lift to the clean and lingering finish that offers very good cut. This is a lovely Gevrey villages. 2027+

2019 Nuits St. Georges 1er Cru “Château Gris”: (89-91)

A ripe and nicely fresh nose offers up notes of plum, soft spice and a whiff of the sauvage that are trimmed in discreet wood nuances. The racy and quite finely detailed flavors possess very good focus while being shaped by sleek and moderately firm tannins. 2027+

2019 Nuits St.-Georges 1er Cru “Chaînes Carteaux”: (89-92)

Ripe red cherry and dark currant scents where a hint of the sauvage can be found. There is freshness to the nicely energetic middle weight flavors that possess very good volume while exhibiting excellent length. 2029+

2019 Morey St. Denis 1er Cru “Les Sorbets”: (90-93)

A restrained, cool and relatively elegant nose reflects notes of earth-suffused redberries and pretty floral elements. The sleek and attractively textured medium-bodied flavors culminate in a balanced and lingering finish that is shaped by relatively fine-grained tannins. This lovely effort needs to develop better depth, but the potential appears to be present for that to gradually occur. 2029+

2019 Chambolle-Musigny 1er Cru “Les Chabiots”: (90-93)

Not surprisingly this is aromatically more elegant with its cool aromas of essence of red currant, cherry, lavender and discreet spice wisps. There is excellent verve to the quite finely detailed flavors that exude evident minerality on the chiseled, youthfully austere and sneaky long finale. This is lovely and very Chambollesque; indeed it’s pretty much textbook Chabiots. 2031+

2019 Chambolle-Musigny 1er Cru “Les Amoureuses”: (92-94) SWEET SPOT WINE

Once again the nose is quite restrained while remaining wonderfully elegant and even more floral with its cool and admirably pure aromas of pomegranate, cherry, spiced tea and plenty of violet and lavender nuances. There is outstanding intensity, in fact it’s presently almost painful, to the pungently mineral-driven middle weight flavors that display terrific persistence on the youthfully austere and equally chiseled finish. This is impressive though note well that it’s very compact and a wine that will require extended patience. 2034+

Burghound.com 2019 Vintage Selections: The “Top Value Wines” are those that are generally available in the marketplace at a price point of no more than approximately \$100 US; The “Sweet Spot Wines” section addresses the wide gulf between the under \$100 Top Value wines and the generally over \$250 “Don’t Miss Wines”; note that I have tried to layer these selections to portray a representative range between the two price points.

2019 Côte de Nuits reds**2019 Vosne-Romanée *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: (89-92)**

(the blend is mostly from Damaudes with a small proportion of Basses Maizières). A fresh, cool and restrained nose combines notes of cherry, plum and a whiff of spiced tea. I very much like the texture of the nicely detailed and quite powerful medium weight flavors that terminate in a youthfully austere, and sneaky long finish that displays fine complexity. This is an impressive Vosne village and worth your interest. 2029+

2019 Vosne-Romanée 1er Cru "*Les Rouges*" *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: (91-93)

Subtle but by no means imperceptible wood frames an airy and layered mix of plum, red cherry, clove, violet and a hint of anise. There is again very good vibrancy to the delicious, caressing and much more mineral-driven medium-bodied flavors that exhibit focused power on the youthfully austere finish. This needs to develop more depth, but it has the potential to do so if allowed sufficient time in bottle. 2031+

2019 Vosne-Romanée 1^{er} Cru "*Les Malconsorts*" *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: (92-94) SWEET SPOT WINE

(from a large 1.76 ha parcel). Here too there is enough wood to notice but not to intrude on the exceptionally spicy and overtly floral-suffused nose of dark currant and plum. There is outstanding intensity, muscle and power to the broad-shouldered flavors that brim with both minerality and dry extract on the sappy, mouth coating, robust and youthfully austere finish that goes on and on. This is excellent and worth checking out. 2037+

2019 Clos de Vougeot Grand Cru *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: (91-93)

(from a .72 ha parcel). Moderate reduction is enough to knock down the expressiveness and nuances of the earthy and ripe dark berry fruit scents. There is by contrast very good freshness and energy on the delicious and nicely detailed middle weight flavors that also culminate in a youthfully austere, serious and very firmly structured finale. 2039+

2019 Latricières-Chambertin Grand Cru: (90-93)

An elegant, pure and, much like the Amoureuses, overtly floral nose speaks of plum, dark cherry and newly turned earth scents. There is fine volume to the intense and equally stony middle weight flavors that demonstrate lovely cut. This is classy and solidly persistent. 2034+

2019 Griotte-Chambertin Grand Cru: (91-94)

More interesting are the denser and richer medium-bodied flavors that flash good power on the youthfully austere and overtly structured finale that also displays excellent persistence. Like several wines in the range, this will need to develop better depth to achieve the top end of my projected range, but it has the potential to do so. 2037+

2019 Chambertin Grand Cru *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: (91-94)

Here too there is enough wood to mention though not enough to be especially intrusive on the equally good and restrained nose that grudgingly offers up notes of red and dark cherry, sauvage, cool earth and a whiff of game. There is excellent intensity to the dense, powerful and muscular large-scaled flavors that exude an abundance of minerality on the austere, backward and sneaky long finish. This too needs to develop better depth, but the apogee of this wine is so far into the future that more is all but guaranteed to emerge with time. 2039+

2019 Echézeaux Grand Cru *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: (91-93)

(from a .99 ha parcel in Champs Traversin). More noticeable wood is present on the very spicy and ripe yet cool aromas of various red berries, especially raspberry, along with ample floral elements. There is impressive richness to the medium-bodied and vibrant flavors that are also quite firmly austere, structured and compact. Patience will again be required though not so much as with the Clos de Vougeot. 2034+

2019 Grands-Echézeaux Grand Cru *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: (92-95)

(from a .6 ha parcel). This is restrained to the point of being almost mute and the nose requires aggressive swirling to gradually reveal attractively layered aromas of mostly red currant along with an impressive array of floral, spice and tea nuances. There is excellent volume and power to the big-bodied and overtly muscular flavors that possess a beguiling inner mouth perfume before culminating in a very backward, serious and built-to-age finale. This bad boy of a GE is packed with potential but be prepared to buy it and forget it deep in the back of your cellar. 2039+

2019 Richebourg Grand Cru *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: (92-95)

An exceptionally floral and herbal tea-suffused nose freely offers up notes of black raspberry, hoisin, soy and sandalwood. The caressing and elegant yet impressively intense flavors that are tautly muscular while offering evident salinity on the beautifully lengthy finish. This poised effort isn't especially dense, but it is imposingly structured and like the Chambertin, a wine that is constructed to last for decades. 2039+

Burghound.com 2019 Vintage Selections: The "Top Value Wines" are those that are generally available in the marketplace at a price point of no more than approximately \$100 US; The "Sweet Spot Wines" section addresses the wide gulf between the under \$100 Top Value wines and the generally over \$250 "Don't Miss Wines"; note that I have tried to layer these selections to portray a representative range between the two price points.



2018 Côte de Nuits reds

2018 Gevrey-Chambertin “Les Evocelles” *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: 89

A fresh high-toned nose features notes of essence of red currant, cherry and wafting floral nuances along with a hint of wood. There is unusually good volume for Evocelles along with solid mid-palate density to the saline-suffused flavors that culminate in an impressively long if slightly chewy finish. Still, this old school effort is a very good villages provided you have the patience to give it at least a few years of cellaring first. 2026+

2018 Fixin 1er Cru “Clos de la Perrière”: 91

(from purchased fruit). Discreet wood and restrained aromas of both red and dark berries, earth and a whiff of spice serve as a pretty introduction to the delicious, intense and concentrated medium-bodied flavors that coat the palate with sap that also serves to buffer the balanced and lightly stony finale. This youthfully austere effort should reward a decade plus of cellaring. 2028+

2018 Nuits St.-Georges 1er Cru “Chaînes Carteaux”: 90

Here the equally expressive nose combines moderately high-toned notes of various red berries, pomegranate and lavender scents, all of which is trimmed in soft oak and earth. The racy and solidly intense medium-bodied flavors possess very good detail along with slightly more evident acidity on the stony, serious finale. 2030+

2018 Morey St. Denis 1er Cru “Les Sorbets”: 91

Here the slightly more expressive nose of red currant, plum and earth is more floral-suffused. There is a slightly more sophisticated mouthfeel to the middle weight flavors thanks to the relatively fine-grained tannins shaping the markedly saline and refreshing finish. 2030+

2018 Chambolle-Musigny 1er Cru “Les Chabiots”: 92

A deft application of wood is present on the cool but ripe array that is comprised by appealingly elegant notes of essence of plum, red currant and a dollop of various spice elements. There is fine volume to the attractively textured and mouth coating flavors that are at once refined while flashing focused power on the delicious and solidly persistent finish. 2030+

2018 Chambolle-Musigny 1er Cru “Les Amoureuses”: 93

A markedly spicy and slightly more elegant nose is both quite pretty and floral in character with just a touch of wood toast to the mostly red currant-scented aromas. The ultra-refined, sleek and lacy middle weight flavors that possess a velvety mouthfeel that contrasts with the firm and youthfully austere finale that is very well balanced. This lovely effort should amply reward medium to even longer-term patience. 2033+

2018 Vosne-Romanée 1er Cru “Les Malconsorts” *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: 92

(from a large 1.76 ha parcel). There is good volume and muscle as well as an attractive underlying tension to the intensely mineral-driven medium weight plus flavors that deliver excellent punch and drive to the lingering if grippy finale. This is presently very firmly structured and while by no means hard, it will need all of 12 to 15-ish years or so for the tannins to fully resolve. 2036+





2018 Côte de Nuits Reds

2018 Clos de Vougeot Grand Cru *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: 94

(from a .72 ha parcel). A distinctly earthy nose speaks of red currant and spiced plum that is trimmed in soft touches of game and wood. The delicious, detailed and vibrant larger-scaled flavors terminate in a saline, youthfully austere and serious finish. This old school effort is quite good though it's definitely a wine to buy and forget somewhere in the back of your cellar. 2039+

2018 Echézeaux Grand Cru *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: 93

(from a .99 ha parcel in Champs Traversin). A notably ripe and very spicy nose combines notes of cassis, blue berry, violet and sandalwood. The seductive and velvet-textured middle weight flavors possess both good volume and plenty of sappy dry extract that mostly buffers the firm tannic spine shaping the balanced if youthfully austere finish that exhibits outstanding length. This too is very good and will need extended patience. 2033+

2018 Grands-Echézeaux Grand Cru *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: 93

(from a .6 ha parcel). A more restrained nose features equally spicy and more floral-infused aromas that include lavender and rose petal. The exceptionally rich and full-bodied flavors possess very good power and muscle while the copious sap coats the palate on the firm, saline, very compact and built-to-age finale. Once again this is very serious and clearly in need of extended patience. 2038+

2018 Charmes-Chambertin Grand Cru: 93

(from Charmes proper and Mazoyères). A decidedly reserved if not mute nose reflects notes of cassis, plum liqueur, earth and suggestions of the sauvage, all of which is trimmed in just enough wood to warrant mentioning. The round and nicely voluminous middle weight plus flavors possess an enveloping mouthfeel as well as very fine length on the firm finish. This is a big Charmes and will need ample patience if you wish to see it at its apogee. 2038+

2018 Chambertin Grand Cru *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: 94

A brooding nose features mostly cool and reserved dark berry fruit, earth and freshly turned earth aromas. The rich broad-shouldered flavors possess excellent punch and minerality while flashing obvious muscle on the stony, chiseled and powerful finish. Like the Grands Ech, this is going to need considerable time to shed its very firm tannic shell. 2039+





Jasper Morris MW

2019: THE VINTAGE REPORT

I enjoyed an excellent tasting with Christophe Chauvel at Bichot headquarters in Beaune. Like many of the leading 'negociants' they are in fact predominantly owners of their own vineyards, or with close links to those producers who supply them with grapes. In Bichot's case there are several different Domaine entities, such as Château Gris and Domaines Adélie, Clos Frantin, du Pavillon and Rochegres. The wines from Domaine Long Depaquit will be found in the Chablis report. The Bichot vineyards are now certified organic, and it is clear that the team are reacting intelligently to issues arising out of global warming as they do not plough the vineyards either too often or too deep. At harvest time they will stop and start even within a specific plot if need be. There are more whole bunches used in the red wines (20-40%) with the decision being taken as the bunches cross the sorting table rather than by preconceived plans, and there is much less punching down in the fermenting vats. They began the 2019 harvest in earnest on 14th September, having picked a few plots of white grapes before then. Most of the white wines were in bottle when I tasted in late October.

WHITE WINES

- 2019, Mâcon-Milly-Lamartine** 86
 Purchased must. Very sunny, super-ripe, but with depth. Exotic and spicy together. Supple and suave with good length and enough acidity.
- 2019, Bourgogne Chardonnay Côte d'Or Secret de Famille** 87
 Pale lemon, attractively grapey, then this classic Bourgogne kicks on with significant weight, certainly a touch of heat behind, but finishing fresher and with great length.
- 2019, Mercurey Les Champs-Michaux, Domaine Adélie** 89
 Champs Michaux is in the northern part of the appellation, high up, which provides freshness, but on slabs of clay, which give weight. Fine mid yellow, a clear-cut bouquet with some iodine reduction. Softer sweeter banana fruit on the palate behind, but a very agreeable finish.
- 2019, Nuits-St-Georges Les Terrasses, Château-Gris** 91
 This is all chardonnay, worth mentioning for a white Nuits-St-Georges as many contain pinot blanc. It is grown in free-standing bush vines, which give low yields, 16 hl/ha in 2019. Pale lime and lemon, rather an elegant version, despite the thickness of texture from the low yield. This is a wine, which will surprise people and it doesn't conform to usual rules. A little below 14% so not for drinking casually. Energy comes from opposite slopes of the dip, or creux, which forms this vineyard, officially called Les Crots.
- 2019, Meursault Les Criots, Domaine du Pavillon** 91
 Criots is an ambiguous sector in Meursault, which could work for either colour of grape. Mid yellow. This has a really classy characterful nose with a good fresh feel, then a fuller body in the mouth, which shows that this could be a red terroir, enlivened by a saline touch to finish. Interesting wine.
- 2019, Meursault Les Charmes 1er Cru, Domaine du Pavillon** 90-93
 Mostly in the upper part of Charmes with a little below. Pale to mid lemon. A certain citrus note to the bouquet. Wealth of fruit, a little bit of banana, good acidity. Not short of weight.
- 2019, Beaune Clos des Mouches 1er Cru, Domaine du Pavillon** 92
 If you are interested in a fun comparative tasting, this was planted in 1999, the same year and using the same plant material as their Nuits-St-Georges Les Terrasses. Pale to mid yellow, rich and ripe fruit as is typical for Clos des Mouches, not too plummy, but a pretty rich mouthful all the same with a sweetness of texture, managed by some wood tannins and just enough acidity.
- 2019, Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru, Domaine du Pavillon** 92-95
 From Les Languettes. Rich mid lemon colour. The alcohol by analysis is a very reasonable 13.5%, but the wine shows the heat of the summer. The stony side of Corton-Charlemagne is a little bit timid here behind the wealth of ripe fruit and banana. A punchy example.

- 2019, Moulin-à-Vent, Domaine de Rochegrès 88**
Just bottled, deep purple, with a luxurious edge to the nose of ultra-ripe purple fruit, mulberry even. It's a little bit cooked, but amay well settle down as it could be suffering from the bottling. A bit of freshness behind. Liquorice notes.
- 2019, Bourgogne Pinot Noir Côte d'Or Secret de Famille 87**
Made from plots in the Côte de Nuits. Rich purple in colour, with a lovely perfumed nose, ripe raspberry of course, but sensual not sloppy, though with a little sweetness balanced by correct acidity.
- 2019, Savigny-les-Beaune Les Grands Picotins, Domaine du Pavillon 89-90**
Very dense purple, with a temporary light oxidation to the nose, a fresher feel underneath, and a very full sensual style of deep raspberry fruit, which stretches all the way through. Decent acidity.
- 2019, Pommard Clos des Ursulines, Domaine du Pavillon 90-92**
Medium deep purple throughout. Very pretty nose, one can even speak of finesse, which was rarely if ever possible for a village Pommard in the past. Fills the mouth to just the right degree, not exaggerated.
- 2019, Pommard Les Rugiens 1er Cru, Domaine du Pavillon 92-94**
In Les Rugiens-Bas though not stated on the label. Fresh and vibrant mid purple, with a bouncing energy, super suave and with that little bit of extra depth, some peonies, good acidity here. Quite striking in fact, fine long finish.
- 2019, Aloxe-Corton Clos des Maréchaudes 1er Cru, Domaine du Pavillon 91-94** ★ 5 Star Wine
Picked 15th Sept as was the Grand Cru version. 29 hl/ha. Rich, fresh purple, with a lifted bright, ripe strawberry nose, dusted with vanilla. Powerful, sweet fruit, but lovely in its style. Crunchy notes behind, all natural.
- 2019, Corton Grand Cru Clos des Maréchaudes, Domaine du Pavillon 92-95**
33 hl/ha. Bright full purple. Clearly a little deeper in colour than the 1er Cru version, which was planted with the same vine material in the same year, and more concentrated in red fruit bouquet. The palate is more savage, the acidity is much more present along with the tannins. The rock is much closer to the surface here. A muscular wine, which needs to be picked early.
- 2019, Vosne Romanée, Domaine du Clos Frantin 91-94**
From Damaudes and Basses Maizieres, so up and down the slope. Vibrant purple, lots of energy here, deep and concentrated fruit, this has the hedonistic qualities of a very fine Vosne with a little bit of sucrosity behind, ripe redcurrant and cherry, very persistent.
- 2019 Fixin Clos de la Perrière 1er Cru 89-92**
Medium deep red, slightly lactic on the nose, with a deep rich sweet red fruit beneath. 30% whole bunch lifts the back end. They do not pick the Fixin early as the stems need time to ripen. Finishes very well after the slightly off-putting start.
- 2019, Morey-St-Denis Les Sorbets 1er Cru 90-93**
Deep crimson, more redcurrant with raspberry, then darkens. The palate shows the wine in its true colours: it has tension within the fruit, a powerful thread with some minerality and a medium density finish.
- 2019, Nuits-St-Georges Château-Gris 1er Cru 92-95**
Picked on 20/21 September at 27 hl/ha. Deep purple, with a profound fresh plum and raspberry nose. Starts discreetly, then builds to a very considerable volume of fruit behind, well integrated acidity, impressive length. Very well done.
- 2019, Vosne-Romanée Les Malconsorts 1er Cru, Domaine du Clos Frantin 93-96**
Very dense vibrant purple. Spending time on the nose, which shows some class, but it is the power, which kicks in, the sort of lively cherries, which can come with whole bunch. Really fine sensual finish, very long too. Shows the value of this terroir.
- 2019, Echezeaux Grand Cru, Domaine du Clos Frantin 93-96**
In the Champs Traversin sector. Very pretty red purple colour, with a lighter fruit after the power of Latricières. Sandy soil could be a worry in the hot dry years, but came through well. Good natural acidity, lively pure red fruit, fresher finish and very good length. Not too ripe at all.
- 2019, Grands-Echezeaux Grand Cru, Domaine du Clos Frantin 92-95**
Solid bright red purple. The nose shows riper fruit than the Echezeaux, while the palate has significantly greater density, but I think I prefer the additional finesse of the Echezeaux. 70% whole bunch, which does help the finish, where the redder fruit is more evident. Stretches out the finish too.
- 2019, Latricières-Chambertin Grand Cru 93-96**
Darker purple, some more sombre fruit to the nose, but with power. What this does have is waves of fruit on the palate, some bramble some dark raspberry, a few redder notes mixed in, very good depth and indeed persistence.
- 2019, Chambertin Grand Cru, Domaine du Clos Frantin 94-97**
Classy crimson-purple in colour. The nose is discreet, stylish and very promising. The fruit is then noticeably richer in the mouth, heading towards a touch of very ripe plums, but resisting crossing the line. There is proper intensity to the finish and enough acidity.

January 2021

CÔTE DE NUITS

VOSNE-ROMANÉE Domaine du Clos Frantin 2019: 16

Cask sample. Transparent crimson. Fresh, ferny nose. Not luscious! Light and lively with a certain sweet red-fruit compote character. Very charming, with enough freshness. This would certainly be a very charming, fruity, fairly early-maturing drink.

GEVREY-CHAMBERTIN LES EVOCELLES 2019: 16++

Cask sample. Quite deep lustrous crimson. Rather light and sweet on the nose. But forward and charming in a sweet idiom. Raspberry juice? For the moment it's a bit simple and embryonic but with any luck it will gain a bit of depth. Vibrant, persistent finish. Maybe it's just one of those burgundies that is not impressive initially but manages to build towards a grand finale?

FIXIN 1^{ER} CRU 1^{ER} CRU CLOS DE LA PERRIÈRE 2019: 16.5

Cask sample. Fixin is really on the ascendant! Bright garnet. Biscuits and toast on the nose – very different from wines grown further south. Sweet start and quite forward. Hint of blackberries but not too sweet. In fact it's really quite lively, fresh and savoury. Dry finish with quite a bit of chewiness. Very different build to most of Bichot's wine with more earthiness and emphatic tannins after the sweet toasty start.

NUITS-SAINT-GEORGES 1^{ER} CRU CHÂTEAU-GRIS 2019: 16+

Mid garnet. Ferns and chestnuts on the nose. A combination of ripe raspberry fruit and freshness that's still quite youthful. Sandy tannins and very embryonic.

CHAMBOLLE-MUSIGNY 1^{ER} CRU LES CHABIOTS 2019: 16.5

Cask sample. Pale crimson. Rather broad nose. Very fruity and round. Lots of red-cherry fruit. fresh and transparent. You could drink this now with food!

VOSNE-ROMANÉE 1^{ER} CRU LES MALCONSORTS Domaine du Clos Frantin 2019: 17

Cask sample. Mid blueish crimson. Sweet and very slightly oaky on the nose. Big and beefier than most of the Bichot premiers crus. Good Vosne energy and precision. Not nearly ready but well constituted. Rather savoury on the finish. Good texture and focused fruit. Lots of tension and interest on the end.

ECHZEAX GRAND CRU Domaine du Clos Frantin 2019: 16.5++

Cask sample. Pale crimson. Pretty intense nose – really pulls you in. Smooth, sweet fruit. Quite a concentration of very polished tannins with no shortage of acidity. Maybe for perfection the fruit would be even more concentrated. The fruit is more redcurrant than anything deeper. One of Bichot's more youthful 2019s.

LATRICIÈRES-CHAMBERTIN GRAND CRU 2019: 17+

Cask sample. Bright, deep crimson. Haunting, sweet fruit with both polish and depth. This is really pretty gorgeous but is also spookily ready! Gorgeous mix of ripe fruit and freshness with real vitality. But I could drink this tonight! Lovely energy too so it will probably last as well as being so attractive now. Sweet and polished but not sickly.

CÔTE DE BEAUNE REDS

SAVIGNY-LES-BEAUNE GRANDS PICOTINS Domaine du Pavillon 2019: 16+

Cask sample. Pale blueish crimson. Rich nose and with floral notes on the palate. Very pretty. Fresh, relatively simple fruit but there is good acidity. An attractive racy drink with only a light charge of fine tannins.

POMMARD 1^{ER} CRU LES RUGIENS Domaine du Pavillon 2019: 17

Cask sample. One of Bichot's deeper-coloured premiers crus. Quite a subtle, convincing nose that is far from showy but convinces the taster there are some hidden depths here. Dry finish but an interesting array of flavours which include cassis, redcurrants and violets. Sandy tannins on the end. Good freshness but more density than many of Bichot's wines. Good balance of fruit and freshness. Appetising and vigorous though still youthful.

ALOXE-CORTON 1^{ER} CRU CLOS DES MARECHAUDS Domaine du Pavillon 2019: 16.5

Cask sample. Mid healthy crimson. Not much of a perfume at the moment. But very polished on the palate – super-smooth! The very lightest 'kiss of oak'. Sweet fruit but the lightly muscular texture with light, chalky tannins saves it from being sickly. Real substance to this wine. Appetising.

CORTON GRAND CRU CLOS DES MARECHAUDS Domaine du Pavillon 2019: 16.5++

Cask sample. Bright mid crimson. Reticent but lightly savoury nose. Less obviously sweet than the Premier Cru Maréchaudes and doubtless with more longevity. Good freshness. Clean, brisk fruit. One of many rather inspiring Cortons I have come across in my tastings of 2019 burgundies. Quite a charge of light tannins and sufficient acidity. Bright fruit.

January 2021

CHABLIS

CHABLIS 1^{ER} CRU LES LYS Domaine Long-Depaquit 2019: 16.5

Bottled. This really smells quite nervy and *chablisien*! Touch of water flowing over stones and real juiciness plus precision on the long finish. Now this is a wine to get quite excited about. Bone dry. But it's spookily forward. I could enjoy this tonight! Although it's not high in alcohol, it has sufficient extract to be served with reasonably assertive food. Snazzy! But satin-textured.

CHABLIS 1^{ER} CRU LES VAUCOPINS Domaine Long-Depaquit 2019: 16.5+

Cask sample. Bright greenish pale gold. Liquid-honey notes and some really quite tart green-fruit flavours – not as advanced and well-melded as Les Lys. Lots of ingredients here: rich nose and edgy acidity on the finish. These will surely knit together eventually but they're not there yet. But nicely made. No one would be disappointed by this, though I would suggest they wait awhile. Good stuff!

CHABLIS GRAND CRU LES CLOS Domaine Long-Depaquit 2019: 16.5++

Cask sample. Intense, lightly smoky nose and convincing satin texture. A rich Chablis with some textural influences and some green-fruit character. This is clearly a Chablis Grand Cru. Notable freshness. Promisingly racy as well as showing the richness of 2019.



CÔTE DE BEAUNE AND CÔTE CHALONNAISE WHITES

MEURSAULT 1^{ER} CRU LES CHARMES Domaine du Pavillon 2019: 16.5

Cask sample. Really very approachable and true to climat with a light savoury undertow. Follows the current trend to make Meursaults a bit less austere. Impressive finish. You could drink this now! It's not the most concentrated nor the quirkiest premier cru Meursault but I would order this in a trice if I found it on a wine list in a distant land.

BEAUNE 1^{ER} CRU CLOS DES MOUCHES Domaine du Pavillon 2019: 16+

Cask sample. Smells very slightly oaky and then there is a cocktail of smokiness and sweet fruit. There's certainly no shortage of acidity. Juicy, but just a little too sweet for my taste.

MERCUREY LES CHAMPS-MICHAUX Domaine Adélie 2019: 16.5

Cask sample. Very neat and impressive on the nose. Precise, crystalline bright fruit that's not as sweet as Mâconnais Chardonnay and with less obvious oak influence than many Côte d'Or whites. A floral note, some lemon flavour, and a little grip on the finish. Very open and easy to like.

BOURGOGNE ALIGOTÉ CHAMP RENARD Domaine Adélie 2019: 16

Bottled. Sufficiently ripe nose and good, precise fruit on the palate. Aligoté really has joined the big boys of Burgundy. This is chock-full of unbridled fruit, some wild-flower character and a hint of quinine on the finish. Likely to be **GV** but it's ready to enjoy already. Really attractive if not complex wine.





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Anne Krebiehl MW

CHABLIS PREMIER CRUS & VILLAGE 2019

2019 Chablis 1^{er} Cru Montmains *Domaine Long-Depaquit*: **95**

Chalk, lemon and hazelnut make for a subtle aromatic trio on this wine's tender nose. The restrained palate adds real depth and resonance, emphasizing it with a smooth, chalky texture wrapped in a smoky but revealing cloak. It is elegant and lasting. Drink by 2040. EDITORS' CHOICE.

2019 Chablis 1^{er} Cru Les Vaillons *Domaine Long-Depaquit*: **94**

Mirabelle, yeast, chalk and slight nuttiness on this wine's nose promise generosity on the palate. This duly follows, pervaded by ripe lemon zestiness. Although still slightly funky with yeast in places, the wine is lively, profound and smooth. Allow it to come into its own and drink 2022–2040.

2019 Chablis 1^{er} Cru Les Vaucopins *Domaine Long-Depaquit*: **94**

Ripe Mirabelle notes come with the merest hint of passion fruit before they are swept up in smoky richness. The palate of this wine combines ripe, almost luscious fruit with vivid freshness. The wine offers texture and brightness as well as nuance and precision. It's balanced and lasting.

2019 Chablis 1^{er} Cru Montée de Tonnerre *Domaine Long-Depaquit*: **94**

A tinge of smoke resonates on the chalky nose of this wine. The palate plays a similar game, with a chalky, cool depth and smooth, pithy texture, contoured with freshness and subtle, oaky smoke. This refined and elegant combination will stand the test of time.

2019 Chablis 1^{er} Cru Les Lys *Domaine Long-Depaquit*: **93**

Lemony chalkiness is faint on this wine's shy nose. The palate paints a fuller picture, using the broad strokes of lemon to reveal brightness, depth and chalky coolness. This wine still needs to knit its divergent parts together but all the elements are there. Wait for this. Drink 2023–2035.

2019 Chablis 1^{er} Cru Les Beugnons *Domaine Long-Depaquit*: **93**

Pear peel, slight smoke, yeast and lemon make for a most appetizing nose on this wine. The palate has immense elan and flow, with juiciness that references ripe Mirabelle and even a touch of honey. This liveliness, however, is anchored in lovely texture that reaches as deep as it does high.

2019 Chablis *Domaine Long-Depaquit*: **92**

Notes of melted butter accent this wine's creamy nose with richness. The palate adds more generosity but in the concentrated fashion of lemon oil, creating a texture that is smooth, full but also pleasantly bitter. This elegant, salty wine has resonance and lasting allure. Drink by 2030.

2019 Chablis: **90**

This wine's aromatic nose combines fresh, crunchy greengage with ripe lemon. The concentrated palate continues with this insistent, bright and engaging fruit duo, adding a slightly pithy texture to the body. The finish is fresh and zesty.

Editors' Choice

95





CHABLIS 2018

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2018 Chablis Grand Cru Moutonne *Domaine Long-Depaquit: 97*

A subtle nose on this wine references chalk, lanolin and lemon, drawing you in with a promise of depth. Just as secretive, the palate presents pure lemon essence from its depths of chalkiness. The wine is concentrated and bright, with effortless elegance. We will have to wait for this profound yet restrained wine to reveal itself. Drink 2025–2040.

2018 Chablis Grand Cru Les Vaudésirs *Domaine Long-Depaquit: 97*

Bright, tender lemon and fragrant summer blossom give a sense of delicacy to this wine's chalky nose. The chalky, concentrated and textured palate is also pervaded by lemon zestiness that makes the mouth water. Yet the wine also has generosity and lovely balance. Richness and freshness are anchored in the stony depth of the wine, making it a joy to drink. Over the years the chalkiness will become even more pronounced. Drink by 2040.

2018 Chablis Grand Cru Les Clos *Domaine Long-Depaquit: 97*

Beautiful subtlety on this wine's nose recalls smoky lemon, citrus pith and molten candlewax. The palate also holds these notions, bolstering that lemony waxiness with thick, layered chalkiness and pithy, mouthwatering freshness. This is concentrated and bold, offering energy and drive, with a contradictory heat emanating from a cool core. A compelling wine, it needs to calm down a little. Drink 2025–2040.

2018 Chablis Grand Cru Les Preuses *Domaine Long-Depaquit: 96*

A touch of roast hazelnut lends richness to chalk and lemon on this wine's evocative nose. The palate also combines richness and freshness, bedded on a concentrated core of cool chalkiness. Lemon oil shimmers around the edges, as does a slightly pithy bitterness that makes the mouth water even more. This wine makes you want to delve into its untold depth. It is certain to reveal more and more of itself. Drink by 2040.

2018 Chablis Grand Cru Les Blanchots *Domaine Long-Depaquit: 96*

This wine's nose opens with subtle apple freshness followed by lemon brightness. The palate immediately shows rounded, chalky depth, filling the mouth with chalky yeastiness that is brightened and cooled by lemon. The heat of 2018 is well managed in this elegant wine, expressed in juicy ease but anchored in cooling depth, with a subtle whisper of oak. Drink 2025–2040. EDITORS' CHOICE

2018 Chablis 1^{er} Cru Montée de Tonnerre *Domaine Long-Depaquit: 94*

Lifted and ethereal notes of dried and fresh lemon peel dominate this wine's open nose. On the palate, the focus shifts to a cool, intense, chalky core around which freshness and juiciness are bundled. This is concentrated and bright, carrying a cool, stony undertone. Drink 2025–2040. CELLAR SELECTION

2018 Chablis 1^{er} Cru Les Vaucopins *Domaine Long-Depaquit: 94*

Hayflower blends with fresh moss on this wine's gentle nose. The palate adds ripe lemon freshness that is mouthfilling, smooth and textured with yeasty richness that is aligned to chalky depth. This is rounded but fresh, ripe but toned.

2018 Chablis 1^{er} Cru Montmains *Domaine Long-Depaquit: 93*

Pear peel and lemon-rind notions on the nose of this wine have a slight overtone of passion fruit, signalling juiciness and ripeness. The palate presents a concentrated, textured body that unites power and ripeness, expressed by some warmth on the midpalate. This is mitigated by the grippy texture that lends harmony alongside ripe lemon freshness. This wine will benefit from bottle age, so drink 2024–2040.

2018 Chablis 1^{er} Cru Les Lys *Domaine Long-Depaquit: 93*

Ripe Amalfi lemon peel shines subtly on this wine's friendly nose. On the concentrated palate that lemon note turns to zestiness, joined by a fuller, more textured notion of lemon peel. Cool, chalky concentration at the core of the wine lends soothing, intriguing depth. Despite the rounded richness there is ample, lasting freshness.

2018 Chablis 1^{er} Cru Les Beugnons *Domaine Long-Depaquit: 93*

Notions of lemon, hayflower and lifted, dried lemon peel make for an aromatic, almost heady nose on this wine. The palate is concentrated and even bold. This big, full wine shows muscle and tone, but in an elegant fashion. Power is anchored in stony depth that lends cool freshness. This will be even better with bottle age. Drink 2024–2040.

2018 Chablis 1^{er} Cru Les Vaillons *Domaine Long-Depaquit: 92*

The slightest flinty reduction accompanies ripe Mirabelle plum fruit on the nose of this wine. The palate is expressive in its juiciness, concentration and fresh core. It conveys cool freshness and a zesty texture along with a slightly creamy touch. Textured and vivid, the wine offers ripeness, generous structure and a dry finish.



Anne Krebiehl MW

Editors' Choice

95



Cellar Selection

94





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December 1, 2020



Anne Krebiehl MW

2018 REDS from Côte de Nuits

2018 Latricières-Chambertin Grand Cru: 96

This wine's reluctant nose gives away only a tender red-fruit note. The palate comes in with shy poise, clinging to fresh, tart red-cherry fruit on a concentrated body. It is svelte and toned, yet steely in its concentration and intent. As of yet, the wine is unyielding, but this is why it is so full of promise. A wonderful balance just comes down on the side of freshness while the warmth of 2018 broods like a genie yet to be released.

2018 Clos de la Roche Grand Cru: 96

Black-cherry hints on the nose have an intriguing note of smoked meat, but that is all this wine gives away for now. The palate also shows cherry fruit, but it is fresher, caught amid a fine-boned, filigreed structure of almost fragile tannin that nonetheless holds firm. There is grace and grandeur in equal measure, centered around a core of pure fruit, framed in vivid freshness and concentration.

2018 Clos de Vougeot Grand Cru *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: 95

The freshness of ripe, tart cherry is pervasive on the aromatic nose of this wine, backed by slightly toasty oak. Cherry notes get creamier on the palate where ripeness and freshness meet at a perfect juncture, favoring brightness just a little bit more. Fine tannins weave a firm, still slightly crunchy web but that is where the aromatic cherry hides, only to burst forth with freshness. It's elegant, concentrated, aromatic and smooth.

2018 Echezeaux Grand Cru *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: 95

Tentative hints of red currant and red cherry escape from this wine's shy nose. The palate adds hints of flinty reduction as well as subtle creaminess that cushions the firm structure. Wonderful freshness highlights fine-boned tannins that are firm and filigreed in equal measure. A concentrated core radiates red-berry tartness and aroma heightened by the freshness of this svelte but well-cut wine.

2018 Vosne-Romanée 1^{er} Cru Les Malconsorts *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: 95

Red cherry and a touch of smoke are subdued on the wine's shy nose. The palate is equally restrained, concentrated but with depth that has inherent grace. Firm tannins still crunch, but every crackle of that sinuous texture holds more perfume and more cherry. The body is taut and toned. All is framed with freshness and will only get better over the years.

2018 Gevrey-Chambertin 1^{er} Cru Petite Chapelle: 94

The black and red cherry aromas of this wine are suffused with overtones of dark peony and faint cocoa. The palate whirls them up in a sweep of freshness that underlines the rounded, red fruit kissed by a touch of vanilla. Slight tannins have a pleasant, subtle crunch and reveal that underneath all this pleasure rests depth, concentration and structure.

2018 Chambolle-Musigny 1^{er} Cru Les Chabiots: 94

The shy nose of this wine only reveals tentative notes of tart red fruit backed by a little oaky toastiness. The palate comes in with density, a tight, fine tannic web that accentuates the sinuous curve of the wine. Notes of ripe red cherry with purity and brightness makes this wine elegant and suave.

Cellar Selection

96



Editor's Choice

95





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Anne Krebiehl MW

2018 REDS from Côte de Nuits

2018 Nuits-Saint-Georges 1^{er} Cru Château-Gris: 94

Smoke and a toasty glint of oak heighten the cherry notions of this wine with their aroma. The palate also uses oak to frame the fruit, which is juicy, ripe and rounded but vividly fresh. A firm yet pliable frame of ripe tannins assures this wine's structured future. The wine strikes a lovely balance and the finish reunites resonant notions of cherry, smoke and oak.

2018 Fixin 1^{er} Cru Clos de la Perrière: 94

Cherry and fresh cream mix with woodsmoke on the aromatic nose of this wine. The palate continues in this creamy vein, presenting dense, ripe cherry fruit on a finely textured palate pervaded by freshness. This gives the cherry notes an alluring Morello aspect, adding to the rich but toned verve of this wine.

2018 Morey-Saint-Denis 1^{er} Cru Les Sorbets: 94

Ripe, dark cherry can just about be made out on the nose of this wine, but it seems distant. On the palate, the full, sumptuous purity and freshness of the fruit come to the fore. Nothing is overdrawn, all is harmonious. Silky tannins accentuate the sinuous depth of the fruit while subtle freshness highlights the pristine, elegant fruit. Lovely now, the wine is certain to evolve. Drink 2025–2035.

2018 Vosne-Romanée *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: 94

In this wine, rounded notes of ripe, aromatic cherry immediately promise ripeness. They are edged with a conifer perfume that promises freshness. The palate blends these notions and while the red-cherry fruit is aromatic, brightness and freshness win over. Toned and finely textured, the palate offers silky, juicy tannins that lend real poise.

2018 Gevrey-Chambertin *Les Murots* *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: 93

Subtle but pure notes of red cherry characterize the nose on this wine, adding lovely notions of iron oxide and petrichor. The palate falls into step with the same tart and shimmering fruit intensity, spreading a web of firm but ripe tannin and pervading the ripeness with fresh energy. It's a complex, aromatic and elegant wine.

2018 Gevrey-Chambertin *Les Evocelles*: 92

Hints of both milk chocolate and vanilla flash on the nose of this wine before ripe red cherry takes center stage. The palate then frames the red-cherry ripeness with juicy freshness, while notions of vanilla and mocha add a richer spin. It finishes fresh, with palpable tannin and rounded, ripe fruit.





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Anne Krebiehl MW

2018 REDS from Côte de Beaune

2018 Corton Grand Cru Clos des Maréchaudes *Domaine du Pavillon*: 97

A hint of woodsmoke combines with this wine's shy aromas of black cherry. The palate comes in with surprising grace and svelteness, presenting a filigreed but firm structure. Cherry aromas shimmering with Morello and Amarena are expressed against that frame, crunching slightly and heightened by vivid freshness. This wine has compact, elegant power and inherent conviction. Drink through 2050.

2018 Pommard 1^{er} Cru Les Rugiens *Domaine du Pavillon*: 95

The rounded ripeness of red cherry is evoked on this wine's subtle nose. On the almost sumptuous palate, cherry notes are bedded in creaminess on a body that has the texture of starched velvet. This wine is firm and muscular, but the tannins will eventually yield gracefully. Power and concentration are aligned with poise.

2018 Volnay Les Santenots 1^{er} Cru *Domaine du Pavillon*: 94

The toasty gloss of oak surrounds cherry notes on this wine's nose. Cherry becomes rounder, riper and more luscious on the palate, meeting the richness of the oak. Underneath it all, freshness highlights the red streaks of cherry while fine tannins lend a graceful structure.

2018 Aloxe-Corton 1^{er} Cru Clos des Maréchaudes *Domaine du Pavillon*: 92

A touch of vanilla with a hint of dill gives aromatic spin to cherry notes on the nose of this wine. The palate has a juicy core that is vibrant with ripe but tart red-cherry fruit. All this happens on a concentrated body where fine tannins weave a filigree structure. This wine is assertive and elegant in equal measure.

2018 Pommard Clos des Ursulines *Domaine du Pavillon*: 92

All this shy wine reveals on its nose are a few notes of cold ash that mix with hints of cherry. The palate comes in with textured freshness and spry tannins that still give a little crunch. Freshness gives this a vivacious, crunchy midpalate.

2018 Savigny-Les-Beaune 1^{er} Cru Les Peuillets: 92

The shy nose on this wine shows gentle notes of peony over hints of red-cherry fruit. The palate has that same tenderness but then reveals a richer backdrop of ripe, dark cherry. Slight tannins crunch pleasantly while freshness frames all. This wine strikes an easy but elegant balance.

2018 Chassagne-Montrachet: 91

There almost is a sense of berry candy along with expressive strawberry and raspberry notes on the nose of this wine. The same fruit is toned down but enlivened by freshness on the vivid palate where fine tannins brush gently and produce a tiny bit of crunch. On the finish, it is mouthwatering, fruity and fresh.

2018 Meursault *Domaine du Pavillon*: 91

A touch of toasty oak, pine resin lift and ripe red cherry combine into a very appetizing nose on this wine. Oaky smokiness continues to envelope that cherry fruit, adding a brooding sense to the dark juiciness. Tannins brush and are drying on the palate, adding backbone and firmness that frames the fruit perfectly.

2018 Beaune Clos de l'Ermitage: 91

Gentle red-fruit notes have the slightest sheen of vanilla on this wine's nose. The palate offers the full-fruited intensity of ripe cherry, propelled by vivid freshness. A touch of heat and mocha play on the finish.





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Anne Krebiehl MW

2018 REDS from Côte de Beaune

2018 Beaune Les Epenottes *Domaine du Pavillon*: 91

Black-cherry notes are as vivid and ripe on the nose of this wine as they are on the palate. They have a slight coating of smoke but are framed in juicy, rounded freshness. The body is light and almost playful, yet anchored by fine, firm tannins. It's an understated wine with purity and verve.

2018 Chorey-les-Beaune: 91

Vivid liftedness brings red-currant and forest berry to the fore on the perfumed nose of this wine. The palate also has supercharged aromatics, wrapping notions of crushed forest fruit with slight smoke. The palate is tart and juicy, bringing a joyous purity of fruit edged with overtones of conifer and surrounded by a lively but tender crunch of tannin.

2018 Santenay Les Charmes: 90

The nose on this wine is subtle but toasty oak and ripe cherry rise from the glass and create the first impression on the palate. The wine has freshness and concentration, pitching cherry juiciness against mellow oak. Slightly crunchy tannins complete the picture.

2018 REDS from Côte Chalonnaise

2018 Mercurey 1^{er} Cru Champs Martin *Domaine Adélie*: 93

In this wine, a tinge of cinnamon on the red, tart cherry nose and hint of licorice lend spice and interest. The palate homes in on the bright, cherry note, exquisite in its tart freshness, and surrounds it with subtle woodsmoke. Fine tannins are slightly drying while freshness is pervasive and illuminating.

2018 Mercurey En Pierre Milley *Domaine Adélie*: 92

Red-fruited scent strafes the nose with a vivid hint of raspberry, accompanied by pinewood and a touch of toasty oak. The palate on this wine is smooth and concentrated, but retains that high note of bright raspberry while the backdrop gets a little smokier. This is an elegant wine with fine tannins and quite some structure. The freshness is remarkable for 2018.

2018 Givry Champ La Dame: 90

The shy nose on this wine gives little away but the palate offers ripe, red-fruited freshness. Slender and fresh, the body is bright with red cherry and red currant highlights. Fine tannins have only the slightest crunch. This wine has bags of charm and a real sense of purity.



Für alle, die mehr über Wein wissen wollen

WEINWISSER

Dezember 2020

Chablis – einer der besten Jahrgänge der letzten 20 Jahre

von André Dominé

DIE VERKOSTUNGSNOTIZEN CHABLIS GRAND CRU



Grand Cru Moutonne

Monopol zu 5 Prozent auf Preuses, zu 95 Prozent auf Vaudésir, früherer Besitz der Mönche von Pontigny.

2018 Domaine Long-Depaquit: Blasses grünliches Gold. Zeigt sich in der Nase noch sehr verschlossen, nur ein Hauch von Zitrus und Mineralität. Seidig-volle Textur, noch ganz in der Reserve, feinkörnige salzige Mineralität, die Spannung freisetzt und ausgezeichnete Finesse, feste Struktur, dezente Würznoten, grosses Potenzial. Unbedingt abwarten. Ein Viertel im Fass. **18.5/20 2025 – 2050**



Grand Cru Les Clos

2018 Domaine Long-Depaquit: Dichte, komplexe Nase mit Noten von Rauch, Gewürzen, blondem Tabak und frischen Birnen. Würziger eleganter Auftakt, zitronige Frische, spannende, noch engmaschige Struktur, feine Tannine und Mineralität, viel Potenzial. Ein Drittel im Fass. **18/20 – 2045**



Neal Martin

December 2020

Albert BICHOT

Their wines have performed impressively in recent years. Much of that is down to head winemaker Alain Serveau, who joined as technical director in 1995. Bichot's wines should be taken more seriously than some cognoscenti give them credit for. I found their 2019 whites good. Among the reds there are some standouts such as the Grands-Echézeaux and Vosne-Romanée Malconsorts, equal to some of the more artisan names for which you might be paying double the price.

REDS FROM CÔTE DE NUITS

The **2019 GRANDS-ECHÉZEUX GRAND CRU** comes from Bichot's 0.25 hectares of vines in two parcels close to Drouhin and DRC. It usually yields a maximum of four barrels. This has a perfumed bouquet of expressive red currant, wild strawberry and blood orange aromas that display a little more intensity than the Echézeaux. The palate is medium-bodied with fine-boned tannins. Sophisticated and precise, this is an elegant Grands-Echézeaux with impressive tension and harmony toward the finish, which fans out beautifully. A wonderful wine. **94-96**

The **2019 GRIOTTE-CHAMBERTIN GRAND CRU** has a very pure bouquet, a mélange of red and black fruit, *sous-bois* and pressed violets, gaining in intensity with aeration. The palate is medium-bodied with svelte tannins and well-judged acidity. Very harmonious, culminating in a velvety, intense finish laced with blue fruit. A gorgeous Griotte from Bichot. **93-95**

The **2019 ECHÉZEUX GRAND CRU**, which comes from the lieu-dit of Les Champs Traversins, has a well-defined bouquet of raspberry and wild strawberry fruit, loamy/*sous-bois* scents and a touch of wilted iris petals. The palate is medium-bodied with fine-boned tannins, crisp acidity and a lightly spiced finish. This is a well-crafted Echézeaux from Bichot/Clos Frantin, and it should give 15–20 years' drinking pleasure, possibly more. **92-94**

From 0.17 hectares of vine worked by horse and including a large proportion of whole bunch, the **2019 CHAMBERTIN GRAND CRU** has a fragrant bouquet of pure dark cherry, boysenberry, crushed stone and pressed violet aromas. It reminds me of a Clos de la Roche in some ways. The palate is well balanced with fine and quite sturdy tannins. There is good energy on the finish. Very fine. **91-93**

The **2019 VOSNE-ROMANÉE LES MALCONSORTS 1ER CRU** was harvested on different days, as Bichot owns sites on varied soil profiles within the vineyard. Initially closed, it opens nicely to offer dark cherries, bergamot and tea leaf notes. The palate is very harmonious with good backbone, grippy tart red fruit and a mineral-driven, quite sturdy finish. Excellent. **92-94**

The **2019 CHAMBOLLE-MUSIGNY LES AMOUREUSES 1ER CRU** showed just a touch of reduction when I tasted it. It gradually opens to offer red currant, raspberry pastille and rose petal aromas and a slight metallic note that will disappear by the time of bottling. The palate is medium-bodied with supple tannins, fleshy and quite forward. Clean dark berry fruit is laced with brown spices toward a finish that fans out nicely. This should drink well for 15–20 years. **91-93**

The **2019 NUITS SAINT-GEORGES CHÂTEAU-GRIS 1ER CRU**, which is farmed using "equine power," has an open-knit morello cherry and crushed strawberry bouquet, one of the most expressive of Bichot's reds at this stage. The palate is medium-bodied with supple tannins, nicely integrated oak and a very cohesive, tensile finish that exhibits good sapidity. This is a very promising Nuits Saint-Georges that exudes energy. **91-93**

The **2019 FIXIN CLOS DE LA PERRIÈRE 1ER CRU** is harvested several times to create a mix of different plots around this *monopole*. The palate is medium-bodied with firm tannins, and well balanced, offering dark berry fruit laced with clove and bay leaf. Elegant on the finish. I am positive this will evolve into a fine Fixin. **90-92**

The **2019 GEVREY-CHAMBERTIN LES EVOCELLES** comes from the Bichot estate and also Domaine Serveau. It has a pretty bouquet of red cherries and light strawberry fruit. The palate is well balanced with supple tannins, and quite fleshy in style, leading to a harmonious, smooth, satisfying finish. If the aromatics open after bottling, this will end up at the top of my banded score. **89-91**

From two different lieux-dits in the appellation, the **2019 VOSNE-ROMANÉE VILLAGE** has a clean, precise bouquet of red cherries and crushed strawberry fruit. The palate is medium-bodied with fine tannins. Fresh and harmonious, displaying impressive purity and terroir expression on the finish. This is a delightful and delicious Vosne Village from Bichot/Clos Frantin. **89-91**



Neal Martin

December 2020

REDS FROM CÔTE DE BEAUNE

The **2019 CORTON CLOS DES MARÉCHAUDS GRAND CRU**, a *monopole* for Bichot, is matured with around 40% new oak. It has a higher-toned bouquet than the Aloxe-Corton Clos des Marechaudes, delivering scents of kirsch, crushed strawberry and pressed rose petals. The palate is medium-bodied with supple tannins and a fine bead of acidity, and nicely focused, displaying well-integrated oak on the black-pepper-tinged finish. Excellent. **92-94**

The **2019 POMMARD LES RUGIENS 1ER CRU** has a lovely bouquet of perfumed dark plum, black currant and iris petal aromas, one of the most open that I have encountered from this vineyard in 2019. The palate is medium-bodied with supple tannins, quite fleshy and Volnay-like for a Pommard, but elegant and displaying admirable persistence on the finish. Probably will drink after 3–4 years. **91-93**

The **2019 ALOXE-CORTON CLOS DES MARÉCHAUDS 1ER CRU** comes from a vineyard that requires more than one pass, since its variegated soils predicate different maturity levels. It has a floral, violet-scented bouquet that bursts from the glass with black cherries and touches of cassis. The palate is medium-bodied with supple tannins, very pure and charming, delivering a fine bead of acidity toward the finish. This will drink nicely over the next decade. **89-91**

The **2019 BOURGOGNE CÔTE D'OR PINOT NOIR from Domaine du Clos Frantin** comes from vines only in Nuits Saint-Georges. It offers slightly rustic red berry fruit on the nose of red currant, strawberry and sage. The palate is well balanced and fleshy, with generous red fruit. Easy-drinking in style; you almost do not notice its persistence. Well crafted. **85-87**

WHITE WINES

The **2019 CRIOTS-BÂTARD-MONTRACHET GRAND CRU** comes from purchased must. It has a lilting peachy nose, maybe missing the *mineralité* and tension of a Grand Cru but clean and focused. The palate is well balanced and smooth, delivering overt tropical tones of passion fruit and mango toward the finish. Enjoy this over the next decade. **90-92**

The **2019 CORTON-CHARLEMAGNE GRAND CRU** comes from 1.2 hectares of vines in Les Languettes. Matured in 35% new oak, it has a perfumed nose of yellow fruit, nectarine and peach skin aromas. The palate is well balanced with a light pineapple and passion fruit opening and well-judged acidity. Very harmonious, with a gentle landing on the finish. Maybe it is missing some tension and nerve, but the flavors are irresistible. **90-92**

The **2019 BEAUNE CLOS DES MOUCHES 1ER CRU** has a vibrant, energetic bouquet, the citrus fruit, mango and white chocolate scents bursting from the glass. The palate is well balanced with a smooth, viscous opening. Good concentration here, and very long and sustained. This represents one of the best whites from Bichot this vintage. **90-92**

The **2019 MEURSAULT LES CHARMES 1ER CRU** comes from vines on the upper slopes of the vineyard and cropped at 25hl/ha. The nose features clear honey, clementine and light saffron aromas. The palate is well balanced with a slightly tangy, marmalade-tinged entry, good weight and a harmonious finish. **89-91**

The **2019 NUITS SAINT-GEORGES LES TERRASSES**, located just above Château-Gris, is the only Bichot white vinified in Nuits Saint-Georges instead of Beaune. Cropped at just 16hl/ha, it has an attractive lemon thyme and orange peel nose, plus touches of white peach in the background. The palate is very harmonious with a honeyed texture. Rich but balanced, it has a quite irresistible finish that is very punter-friendly (in a positive sense.) This is a well-crafted white Nuits Saint-Georges. **89-91**

The **2019 MERCUREY LES CHAMPS-MICHAUX** had quite a reduced smoky nose that made it difficult to read. The palate is well balanced with tangy quince and clementine notes, smooth and quite harmonious, the 20% new oak judiciously used on the finish. Simple but delicious. **87-89**

The **2019 BOURGOGNE CÔTE D'OR CHARDONNAY "SECRET DE FAMILLE"** comes from Meursault, Puligny and Saint-Aubin. It has a straightforward orange blossom and dried honey nose. The palate is smooth on the entry with nicely integrated oak, and a little creamy toward the finish. A very punter-friendly 2019 white Burgundy. **85-87**



Jasper Morris MW

2019: THE VINTAGE REPORT (CHABLIS) - December 2020

2019, Chablis , Domaine Long-Depaquit 87-89
Mid lemon in colour, not too exotic on the nose, some plums, a little bit saline, fullish bodied and quite long, in fact offering very good persistence. A fine start to the range.

2019, Chablis Les Lys 1er Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit 92
Full bright lemon yellow, the saline aspect strikes ahead of the ripeness. Power and class here, delivering full-on white to yellow fruit, saline and slightly marine too, with very good length.

2019, Chablis Les Vaillons 1er Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit 91
Mid yellow colour. The 2019 Long Depaquit Vaillons offers a clear and classic nose, the refinement of little stones, plenty of juice in the fruit behind, not over ripe, though perhaps a little more heat at the back, but this is still true to type.

2019, Chablis Les Vaucopins 1er Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit 92
Pale to mid lemon in colour. This is beautifully and elegantly perfumed, has retained its classical lines with excellent acidity. A long and distinguished finish.

2019, Chablis Les Blanchots Grand Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit 92
Pale lemon with a hint of green, certainly a lively colour. White fruit, but not flowers, the oak regime is similar to the other wines whereas I might be tempted to use less. I like however the elegance of correctly, but not obstreperously, ripe fruit, and this is certainly very persistent. Indeed the aftertaste is drawn out by a good level of acidity.

2019, Chablis Les Vaudésirs Grand Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit 92
Much fuller yellow, while the bouquet has started to take on the spiciness of full ripeness, with maybe a hint of honeysuckle. This is a powerful beast, if you are a power-hound add a point or two my score. What keeps the balance is the finely judged acidity.

2019, Chablis Les Clos Grand Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit 94
Fullish yellow. The complex nose shows the power of the vintage, a few drier tannins behind, fair acidity. I think the Clos character is there, but it is reticent today. The palate does deliver detail and layers of fruit though. The finish does also suggest the necessary class. Really good length here.

2019, Chablis Moutonne Grand Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit 94
Very attractive pale lemon colour. Ripe bright fruit, even, some banana in the mix. Moutonne has its own character, sensual and with a good backbone, catching the sunshine and holding it well. Acidity is certainly there and very good length. Does not lose the marine, but plays more on the flesh and the ripeness of grape than the coquillage.



Chablis 2019: top-scoring wines

Blind tasted by **Andy Howard MW** (at London, 9 Oct 2020)



Moutonne is one of Chablis' finest expressions and the 2019 will be another in a long list of memorable vintages. Although not the final bottling, it is clear that there is great power here, combined with finesse and a lightness on its feet. Savoury, umami, notes on the finish. Wood is a little evident now but will integrate beautifully once in bottle for 6-12 months. A lovely example, both powerful and restrained.



As expected, the east facing slopes of **Blanchots** have added an extra zip to the palate in this Grand Cru. An elegant wine which is already drinking well, but with so much more to come. White-clay is interspersed here with blue-clay, adding to the mineral flavours and creating a Grand Cru with great finesse. Highly successful in 2019. Bichot's investment at Long-Depaquit is certainly paying off.



Bichot's **Les Clos** has power and richness on the palate. With a hint of toasty oak, and ripe stoned fruit characters, this will develop into a fine Grand Cru given a couple of years in bottle. There is plenty of precision here - this barrel sample doesn't quite do the wine justice but there is clearly so much to come.



Often a highlight in the Bichot Premier Cru line-up, this is a fine, expressive **Vaucoupin** which is already drinking well - but with many years ahead. Concentrated on the palate with lemon and grapefruit characters and a salty finish. A hint of oak adds some extra texture (but not flavour). Precise and confident, this is a lovely wine with very good potential.

Decanter

www.decanter.com



Tasted by Charles Curtis MW
(at Burgundy, 24 Oct 2020)

Vintage 2019

REDS

BOURGOGNE CÔTE D'OR PINOT NOIR CLOS FRANTIN Domaine du Clos Frantin

Classic fermentation has produced a supple and very approachable wine, with pretty cherry fruit and some floral notes on the nose, then a light, fresh feel on the palate. Pleasant drinking, even when young. Drinking window 2021-2026.



ALOXE-CORTON 1^{ER} CRU CLOS DES MARÉCHAUDES Domaine du Pavillon

This lieu-dit is at the bottom of the slope, below Bressandes, where Bichot has 1.4ha planted in the Premier Cru section. This parcel is very early-ripening and has given a wine that is silky and very fine. The fruit is polished, high-toned red berries; not rustic at all and really very pleasant. Drinking window 2024-2039.



CORTON GRAND CRU CLOS DES MARÉCHAUDES Domaine du Pavillon

This 0.54ha in the grand cru portion of the vineyard has yielded a wine of greater concentration than from the top of the terrace, where there is a bit more clay. There is an appreciable increase in quality - more density, more structure, more length and more depth to the fruit character. Impressive. Drinking window 2024-2039.



GEVREY-CHAMBERTIN LES EVOCELLES

From a parcel at the top of the slope, in the northern extremity of Gevrey, crossing over slightly into the part of Brochon that may be included as Gevrey. Here, the site brings a lovely floral perfume to the ripe cherry fruit and a freshness on the palate that keeps the wine dynamic. There are enough grippy tannins here to help the wine age over the course of a decade. Drinking window 2021-2029.



VOSNE-ROMANÉE Domaine du Clos Frantin

From three parcels split between Bas Mazières and Les Damaudes, high on the slope. The combination brings bright pomegranate and ripe plum fruit, with a firm minerality. Maturation will be a bit more than a year in 25% new casks, so the purity of the fruit comes through clearly on the palate, yet there is no lack of structure. Drinking window 2021-2029.



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

The gentle extraction and use of whole clusters has produced a wine with deep plummy fruit, while one-third new casks give a sweet spice quality to the aroma. Dense and well balanced, this should be approachable young and will continue to drink well for a decade. From the band of premiers crus which run through the village, just below Clos de Tart. Drinking window 2021-2029.



CHAMBOLLE-MUSIGNY 1^{ER} CRU LES CHABIOTS

Grapes purchased from a very well-placed site in a parcel just above Amoureuses. The result is silky and supple, with enough structure and freshness to make the ripe cherry fruit shine. This is approachable even now and should drink well at an early age. It is fermented in open-top oak vats and aged in cask (40% new) over two winters. Drinking window 2021-2029.



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

Bichot is justifiably proud of its magnificent, 1.75ha holding of Malconsorts, located on the border with Nuits-St-Georges. The wine has a lovely depth of red and black fruit flavours, with gentle tannic extraction that leaves an impression of great elegance and breed even after the pleasantly lingering finish. The 2019 was fermented with approximately 25% whole bunch and aged in 25% new casks. Drinking window 2024-2039.





Tasted by Charles Curtis MW
(at Burgundy, 24 Oct 2020)

Vintage 2019

REDS

ECHÉZEAUX GRAND CRU Domaine du Clos Frantin

From a 1ha parcel in Les Champs Traversins that Bichot owns and farms organically. After a long, slow fermentation the wine ages over two winters in cask (70% new); the result is rich and lovely, with lustrous dark fruit, smoke and spice. On the palate, the wine shows impressive density and the tannins carry this to a lingering finish. Drinking window 2024-2039.



GRANDS-ECHÉZEAUX GRAND CRU Domaine du Clos Frantin

The domaine owns two parcels in Grands Echézeaux (one next to Drouhin and one next to DRC), with a combined size of a quarter-hectare. There is marvellous depth of plummy fruit aromas and rewarding concentration on the palate, with some spice aromas from the cask ageing (70% new) that are noticeable on the finish at this point. Drinking window 2024-2039.



CHAMBERTIN GRAND CRU Domaine du Clos Frantin

From a 0.17ha, domaine-owned parcel located high on the Chambertin slope, this is a cool terroir and one of the last to be picked. Following a traditional vinification in open-top wooden vats, the wine is aged over two winters in cask (70% new). There is a rugged, savoury aspect to the dark fruit aromas, with hints of spice and earth. The texture is compact and tannic, and this should open well with age. Drinking window 2024-2039.



WHITES

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

From a 0.75ha plot at the top of the slope, in the Clos des Mouches, where Bichot owns some vines that give a wine of winning concentration. There is pleasantly ripe apricot and pear fruit, with a broad feel on the palate. Regal in stature, perhaps lacking a bit of acidity, although many will enjoy its rich character. Drinking window 2024-2039.



CORTON-CHARLEMAGNE GRAND CRU Domaine du Pavillon

Bichot has 1.2ha in Languettes, high on the slope, with a south/south-east exposition. The southern exposition is of major importance here, if one is to avoid over-ripeness. In 2019, the wine has very exotic, almost tropical aromas, while on the palate the texture is dense and creamy, and the ripe pear fruit touched with honey is even more apparent. A wine of luxurious charm. Drinking window 2024-2039.



CRIOTS-BATARD-MONTRACHET GRAND CRU

This is delicate and lovely, with tender, ripe apple and white floral notes on the nose. Despite the heat of the year, there is plenty of finesse on the palate, a creamy texture and enough acidity to balance the whole. Should drink well on release and improve for a decade. Drinking window 2021-2029.



TOP 100 WINES OF FRANCE 2020

#71

ALBERT BICHOT CLOS DE VOUGEOT GRAND CRU DOMAINE DU CLOS FRANTIN 2018

Country: France
Region: Burgundy
Vintage: 2018

Score: **95**

The depth and complexity to this young Clos de Vougeot is impressive, to say the least. It's full-bodied and layered with chewy, polished tannins and excellent berry, smoke, walnut and black-tea character. Just a hint of wild herbs. A wine that needs time to soften. Try after 2023.



#95

ALBERT BICHOT CORTON-CHARLEMAGNE GRAND CRU DOMAINE DU PAVILLON 2018

Country: France
Region: Burgundy
Vintage: 2018

Score: **97**

Wow. This is really something. Shows such pedigree and strength, yet with finesse and balance. It's full-bodied with a compact palate that gives this wine density yet tension, together with phenolics that are intertwined to give such presence. Cooked apples, straw, hints of oak, white truffles and sea shells. Has so much going on. Try after 2023 and onwards.



2019 Chablis

2019 Chablis *Domaine Long-Depaquit: (87-89)*

(100% stainless). Ripe aromas of both white and yellow orchard fruit are trimmed in notes of petrol and reasonably good Chablis typicity. The lush but nicely vibrant middle weight flavors possess a generously proportioned mouthfeel while displaying solid if not exceptional depth and persistence. 2023+

2019 Chablis 1^{er} Cru Les Lys *Domaine Long-Depaquit: 90*

(from a 2-ha holding; all stainless). A touch of smoky reduction masks the bulk of the aromas save for delicate citrus nuances so I would suggest decanting this first. Otherwise there is notably better refinement to the well-detailed and energetic flavors that possess a finer texture on the refreshing if only moderately complex finale. This should drink well on the earlier side. 2023+

2019 Chablis 1^{er} Cru Les Beugnons *Domaine Long-Depaquit: 91*

(from a 2.3 ha parcel). A ripe yet agreeably fresh nose reflects notes of apricot, peach and lemon rind. There is slightly better vibrancy to the delicious and relatively refined and appealingly textured medium weight flavors that exude a bracing salinity on the slightly longer and more complex finale. This too should be reasonably approachable young. 2024+

2019 Chablis 1^{er} Cru Les Vaillons *Domaine Long-Depaquit: 89*

(from a holding of 4.3 ha that is 90% from Epinottes with the balance from Séchet; 10% wood). A discreet touch of wood sets off olive oil like nuances along with notes of yellow-fleshed fruit confit. There is fine volume to the caressing yet vibrant and solidly powerful flavors that coat the palate with sappy dry extract, all wrapped in a long and lemony finish. 2024+

2019 Chablis 1^{er} Cru Les Vaucopins *Domaine Long-Depaquit: 91*

(raised in ~15% wood). This is quite firmly reduced at present so be sure to give it some air if you're going to crack a bottle upon release. Otherwise the sleek, delicious and intense middle weight flavors possess both fine detail and minerality while displaying very good length on the attractively textured, dry and equally lemon-infused finale. 2024+

2019 Chablis 1^{er} Cru Montmains *Domaine Long-Depaquit: 91*

(from .5 ha parcel in Forêts). While here too there is a touch of reduction, it's not so mild as to completely mask the aromas of ripe yellow orchard fruit, orange peel and soft quinine nuances. There is impressive richness and power to the dry extract-filled flavors that are shaped by citrus-tinged acidity on the saline, dry and sneaky long finish. 2024+

2019 Chablis 1^{er} Cru Montée de Tonnerre *Domaine Long-Depaquit: 92* Sweet spot wine

(100% from Côte de Bréchain). Here too there is just enough reduction present to push most of the nose to the background though subtle notes of wood and white flowers are discernible. More interesting are the succulent yet nicely tension-filled flavors where the wood telegraphed by the nose is picked up by the solidly long finale. 2025+

2019 Chablis Grand Cru Les Blanchots *Domaine Long-Depaquit: (90-93)*

There is excellent volume to the generous and rich medium-bodied flavors that culminate in a clean, moderately dry and nicely lingering finale. This isn't a classic Blanchots though with that said, this seems quite promising. 2025+

2019 Chablis Grand Cru Les Vaudésirs *Domaine Long-Depaquit: (91-93)*

(from a holding of 2.6 ha; ~25% new wood) Noticeable but not really intrusive wood sets off mildly exotic white and yellow peach, sea breeze and iodine whiffs. There is both fine volume and mid-palate density to the intensely mineral-driven flavors that flash a touch of youthful austerity on the sappy and lingering finish. 2026+

2019 Chablis Grand Cru Les Clos *Domaine Long-Depaquit: (90-93)*

(from a 1.5 ha parcel; ~35% new wood). More moderate though not subtle wood influence frames overtly exotic aromas of white peach, apricot, lychee and a hint of sea breeze. There is outstanding volume and mid-palate density to the large-scaled, intense and powerful flavors that coat the mouth with dry extract on the robust, bitter lemon and stony finish. This is definitely not a classic rendition of Les Clos but it's impressive nonetheless. 2027+

2019 Chablis Grand Cru Les Preuses *Domaine Long-Depaquit: (91-93)*

Ample but not dominant wood doesn't completely mask the equally exotic white and yellow orchard fruit scents that exhibit just enough Chablis typicity to be persuasive. There is once again very impressive volume and mid-palate density to the long, caressing and balanced finale. This is a powerful Preuses that will require at least a few years to fully integrate the generous oak treatment. 2027+

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

95 ALBERT BICHOT Latricières-Chambertin Grand Cru 2018

Intensely aromatic, offering graphite-tinged currant, cherry, strawberry and earth flavors. Its texture is silky and the finish well-defined, even racy and long, echoing the fruit and mineral components. Best from 2022 through 2040. (Issue: Dec 31, 2020)

93 ALBERT BICHOT Echezeaux Grand Cru Domaine du Clos Frantin 2018

A densely packed, fruity style, this boasts macerated cherry, raspberry, vanilla and toast flavors. It feels balanced for the most part, with chalky tannins lining the finish that should integrate in a year or two. Vibrant and long. Best from 2023 through 2038. (Issue: Dec 31, 2020)

93 ALBERT BICHOT Clos de Vougeot Grand Cru Domaine du Clos Frantin 2018

The initial aroma is the sweet, spicy oak, yet there is a core of pure cherry, black currant and violet underneath. This red is intense and expressive as the fruit gains the upper hand on the palate. Suave and balanced, it builds to a lingering aftertaste of ripe fruit, graphite and spice. Drink now through 2030. (Issue: Dec 31, 2020)

95 ALBERT BICHOT Chambolle-Musigny 1^{er} Cru Les Amoureuses 2018

This red features great purity to its rose, strawberry and cherry flavors. Spicy oak and mineral add depth, yet this is all about finesse and an ethereal quality that's distinctive. It's balanced, with bright acidity and firm, dusty tannins on the finish that are yet to be resolved. Best from 2022 through 2043. (Issue: Dec 31, 2020)

92 ALBERT BICHOT Chambolle-Musigny 1^{er} Cru Les Chabiots 2018

Vanilla and sweet spices augment the strawberry, cherry and floral notes in this elegant red. Chalky tannins ply the finish, and overall this is balanced and long. Drink now through 2027. (Issue: Dec 31, 2020)

92 ALBERT BICHOT Vosne-Romanée 1^{er} Cru Les Malconsorts Domaine du Clos Frantin 2018

A solid backbone of tannins runs through this sleek, intense red, defining its currant, cherry and leafy, earthy notes. It's juicy, finishing with a light dusting of tannins. Best from 2022 through 2033. (Issue: Dec 31, 2020)

92 ALBERT BICHOT Morey-Saint-Denis 1^{er} Cru Les Sorbets 2018

Bright cherry fruit is at the core of this elegant red, matched to a juicy texture and firm yet well-integrated structure. Sandalwood, vanilla and chalk dust accents add interest and the finish takes on a chunky feel. Best from 2022 through 2032. (Issue: Dec 31, 2020)

92 ALBERT BICHOT Vosne-Romanée Domaine du Clos Frantin 2018

Cherry, raspberry, floral and spice aromas are perfumed and seductive in this velvety red. It displays terrific balance and harmony, with a well-integrated structure for support. It's approachable now. Drink now through 2028. (Issue: Dec 31, 2020)

91 ALBERT BICHOT Gevrey-Chambertin Les Murots Domaine du Clos Frantin 2018

Bright, sparkling with black currant, black cherry, mineral and spice flavors. All its components are in place and the finish echoes fruit, graphite and spice notes. Best from 2022 through 2035. (Issue: Dec 31, 2020)

89 ALBERT BICHOT Fixin 1^{er} Cru Clos de la Perrière 2018

There's a sweet vanilla and sawdust edge to the black cherry, blackberry and earth flavors in this rich, dense red, which is fresh and long, with power and persistence. Drink now through 2027. (Issue: web only 2020)

91 ALBERT BICHOT Nuits-Saint-Georges Les Terrasses - Château-Gris 2018

A lush, opulent version, featuring peach, lemon tart, baking spice and butterscotch aromas and flavors. It has good underlying cut and finishes long and savory. Drink now through 2025. (Issue: Dec 31, 2020)



Taster: Bruce Sanderson

95 ALBERT BICHOT Corton Grand Cru Clos des Maréchaudes Domaine du Pavillon 2018

Bright black cherry, blackberry, earth and spice flavors combine in this rich, lively red. There is a light grain to its tannins, yet overall this shows fine equilibrium and a lingering aftertaste of fruit, spice and mineral notes. The vibrant acidity drives the finish. Best from 2022 through 2038. (*Insider issue: Jan 6, 2021*)

90 ALBERT BICHOT Savigny-Les-Beaune 1^{er} Cru Les Peuillets 2018

Pure cherry is the calling card of this juicy, linear red. Currant, strawberry and oak spice play supporting roles, backed by vibrant acidity. Fruit and spice persist on the finish. Drink now through 2027. (*Issue: Dec 15, 2020*)

90 ALBERT BICHOT Beaune Les Epenottes Domaine du Pavillon 2018

Firm, even chewy, this red's cherry and raspberry flavors are locked in a grip of tannins. It's fleshy and succulent at midpalate, before the tannins flex their muscles on the compact finish. Best from 2022 through 2033. (*Issue: Dec 15, 2020*)

89 ALBERT BICHOT Santenay Les Charmes 2018

An oaky note distracts from the juicy black currant and blackberry fruit, leaving a thread of drying, dusty tannins, yet the fruit prevails as this red finds a nice equilibrium by the lingering finish. Best from 2022 through 2027. (*Issue: web only 2020*)

91 ALBERT BICHOT Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru Domaine du Pavillon 2018

Vanilla and butterscotch accents frame the peach and apple pie flavors in this lush white. Though fluid, there is good cut behind the creamy texture, along with harmony and length. Offers a lingering, spicy finish. Drink now through 2026. (*Issue: Sep 30, 2020*)

89 ALBERT BICHOT Meursault Domaine du Pavillon 2018

Floral, pear, lemon and earth flavors are defined by vibrant acidity. Finishes with a subtle grapefruit peel bitterness. Offers a tad more intensity and length than its peers. Drink now through 2024. (*Issue: web only 2020*)

88 ALBERT BICHOT Meursault 2018

A fruity style, offering peach, apple and buttered popcorn notes. Ripe and heady, with very good length. Drink now. (*Issue: web only 2020*)

88 ALBERT BICHOT Santenay 2018

Lean, this delivers lemon cake, vanilla, nutmeg and clove flavors backed by tangy acidity and a spicy aftertaste. Drink now through 2024. (*Issue: web only 2020*)

89 ALBERT BICHOT Mercurey Les Champs Michaux Domaine Adélie 2018

A good dose of toasty oak frames apple and lemon cake flavors in this sleek white, which comes together nicely on the languid finish, buoyed by the brisk acidity. Drink now. (*Issue: Nov 30, 2020*)

90 ALBERT BICHOT Pouilly-Fuissé 2018

This white walks a line between round and sleek, courtesy of the vibrant structure. Yet these are good bookends or the peach, apple and citrus flavors. Fine harmony and length. Drink now through 2024. (*Issue: Dec 15, 2020*)

87 ALBERT BICHOT Viré-Clessé 2018

Here is a creamy, opulent white, featuring peach, butterscotch and quinine aromas and flavors. A hint of rosewater and spice as it winds down on the moderately long finish. Drink now. (*Issue: Dec 15, 2020*)

86 ALBERT BICHOT Macon-Villages 2018

Apricot and honey are the main flavors in this round white. Straightforward, with moderate length. Drink now. (*Issue: Sep 30, 2020*)



Régional « Bourgogne » wines

88 ALBERT BICHOT Bourgogne Côte d'Or Chardonnay Secret de Famille 2018

A subtle version, this reveals lemon, floral, yellow plum and mineral flavors. It's vibrant and long, leaving a mouthwatering impression. (Issue: Dec 15, 2020)

88 ALBERT BICHOT Bourgogne Hautes-Côtes de Nuits 2018

This white leans a bit more to the earthy, stony side of the flavor equation, evoking apple and lemon fruit to match. It has subtle intensity and fine overall balance and length. Drink now. (Issue: Dec 31, 2020)

88 ALBERT BICHOT Bourgogne Vieilles Vignes de Chardonnay 2018

Rich yet lively, this harmonious white delivers apple, white peach and pastry aromas and flavors, lingering with a cleansing citrus element. Drink now. (Issue: Dec 15, 2020)

86 ALBERT BICHOT Bourgogne Aligoté 2018

Sharp, pungent aromas of wild herbs and almond settle into apple and almond flavors. It's crisp and mouthwatering. Drink now. (Issue: web only 2020)

87 ALBERT BICHOT Bourgogne Vieilles Vignes de Pinot Noir 2018

Cherry, strawberry and earth flavors are set against firm chalky tannins in this red. It's sinewy, with a smoky finish. Drink now through 2024. (Issue: Dec 31, 2020)



Beaujolais wines

93 ALBERT BICHOT Rochegrès Moulin à Vent Domaine de Rochegrès 2018

Medium-bodied, with open-knit layers of rose petal, licorice-tinged cherry and raspberry flavors that are infused with clove and vanilla details. Supple tannins show nice integration through the long, mineral-infused finish. Delicious. Drink now through 2028. (Issue: Dec 31, 2020)

90 ALBERT BICHOT Fleurie La Madone 2018

This bright red offers cherry and raspberry notes detailed with dried herb, white pepper and woody accents. A firm, tangy acidity keeps focus through the grippy, mineral-laced finish. Nice energy. Drink now through 2025. (Issue: Dec 31, 2020)

87 ALBERT BICHOT Moulin à Vent Domaine de Rochegrès 2018

A brooding Gamay with dried blackberry, mocha and leather notes that are matched with spice, licorice and herb details. Smoky finish. Drink now through 2023. (Issue: Dec 31, 2020)

87 ALBERT BICHOT Morgon Les Charmes 2018

Currant and blackberry notes are matched with leather, earth and mocha details in this plush red, with a spice-tinged finish. Drink now through 2023. (Issue: web only 2020)

86 ALBERT BICHOT Beaujolais-Villages Château de Varennes 2018

Fresh brambly fruit flavors are mixed with spice, herb and mineral notes in this tangy, light-bodied red. Light, integrated tannins. Drink now. (Issue: Dec 31, 2020)

November 15, 2020

91 ALBERT BICHOT Chablis Grand Cru Les Preuses Domaine Long-Depaquit 2018

A light touch of oak adds vanilla and a textural grain to this intense white. Green plum, apple and grapefruit peel notes are offset by a salty, savory component. Overall, this is focused and balanced, with fine length. Drink now through 2024.

91 ALBERT BICHOT Chablis Grand Cru Les Vaudésirs Domaine Long-Depaquit 2018

Though ripe and fleshy, this maintains integrity, featuring apricot, honeysuckle and seashore aromas and flavors. The lively structure lends focus and drive. Drink now through 2024.

90 ALBERT BICHOT Chablis Grand Cru Les Clos Domaine Long-Depaquit 2018

A ripe style, with plenty of peach and apricot flavors, a hint of pineapple and good cut keeping everything focused. There is a touch of heat on the finish, but overall, this is well-balanced and intense. Drink now through 2024.

92 ALBERT BICHOT Chablis 1^{er} Cru Les Vaucopins Domaine Long-Depaquit 2018

This is creamy in texture, with restrained aromas and flavors of apple, white flowers, green fruits and oyster shell. Complex and balanced, with a long aftertaste echoing the fruit, mineral and herb elements. Drink now through 2025.

90 ALBERT BICHOT Chablis 1^{er} Cru Montée de Tonnerre Domaine Long-Depaquit 2018

There is latent energy in this white, whose apple, peach and stone flavors show typicity. Everything is corralled by the vibrant structure, which is rare for the vintage in Chablis. The aftertaste evokes green plum and light herb accents. Drink now.





November
2020

INTERNATIONAL WINE CHALLENGE

2020

2 TROPHIES

8 GOLD MEDALS



INTERNATIONAL ORGANIC TROPHY

VOLNAY TROPHY

GOLD MEDAL

for VOLNAY 1^{ER} CRU LES SANTENOTS
Domaine du Pavillon 2018

TASTING NOTES

Red fruits, and violets on the nose. Engaging and alluring, with classic Volnay finesse. A juicy wine with a tannic bite and core of wild strawberry sweetness underpinned by vanilla oak. - Panel Chair: Simon Woods | Co-Chair: Peter McCombie MW



IWC 96 POINTS



GRANDS-ECHEZEAUX Domaine du Clos Frantin 2018: GOLD MEDAL

Really pretty perfumed floral aromas entice. Dark raspberries with subtle new oak gives hazelnut and all spice. Palate of dark fruit violets and lavender. Very structured and elegant. Needs time but will be worth the wait. 95 points



ECHZEAUX Domaine du Clos Frantin 2018: GOLD MEDAL

Vibrant. Generous bouquet of morello cherries, violets and hints of toasted hazelnut. Succulent and supple on long palate. Complex, elegant and young. 95 points



VOSNE-ROMANÉE 1^{ER} CRU LES MALCONSORTS Domaine du Clos Frantin 2018: GOLD MEDAL

Youthful burgundy with silky texture, vibrant red cherry and black current aromas. Tight knit tannins and bright acidity suggests good future potential. 95 points



MOREY-SAINT-DENIS 1^{ER} CRU LES SORBETS 2018: GOLD MEDAL

Gorgeous pure fruit - lovely blueberry and raspberry flavours on an elegant rosehip nose. Soft and gentle tannins. Subtle and pleasing, lovely elegance and poise. 95 points



CORTON-CHARLEMAGNE GRAND CRU Domaine du Pavillon 2018: GOLD MEDAL

Beautifully balanced style, intense yet fine bodied, floral notes alongside the citrus, apple and nut flavours with great potential. 95 points



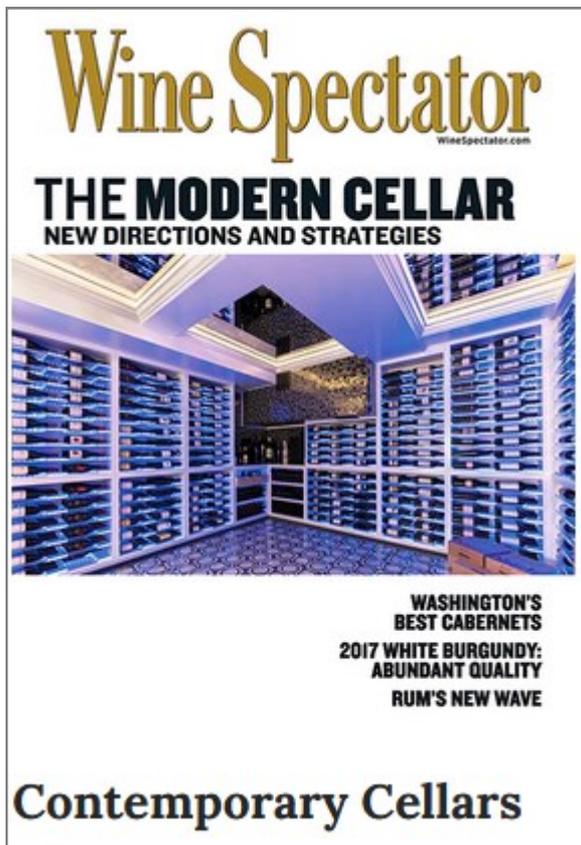
MEURSAULT 1^{ER} CRU LES CHARMES Domaine du Pavillon 2018: GOLD MEDAL

Restrained on the nose with a flinty edge. Creme brulee and coconut notes in the flavour. Incredible grip, poise and elegance. 95 points



BEAUNE 1^{ER} CRU CLOS DES MOUCHES Domaine du Pavillon 2018: GOLD MEDAL

Hazelnut, peach and ripe quince nose which follows through to rich and rounded palate. Elegant finish. 95 points



September 30, 2020

ALBERT BICHOT

Corton-Charlemagne Domaine du Pavillon 2018

91

Tasting Note

Vanilla and butterscotch accents frame the peach and apple pie flavors in this lush white. Though fluid, there is good cut behind the creamy texture, along with harmony and length. Offers a lingering, spicy finish. Drink now through 2026. *BS*





Neal Martin

2018 CHABLIS

The **2018 Chablis Les Beugnons 1er Cru** offers fragrant lime and Conference pear scents that gently unfurl in the glass. The palate is well balanced with a fine bead of acidity, taut and crisp, not powerful but lightly spiced on the finish. This is a commendable Chablis to enjoy over several years. **91**

The **2018 Chablis Les Lys 1er Cru** is initially tight on the nose, giving way to light hazelnut and damp earthy scents that are nicely defined. The palate is very pretty and harmonious, with a keen thread of acidity, bright and citric, and a beautifully poised finish. An elegant Les Lys. **92**

The **2018 Chablis Les Vaillons 1er Cru** is precise and focused on the nose, this cuvée displaying a more noticeable oyster shell note, laced with citrus lemon and almond. The palate is well balanced. Good depth, and spicier than expected, especially on the persistent finish, which lingers in the mouth. Excellent. **92**

The **2018 Chablis Montmains 1er Cru** has a tightly wound nose that opens up to offer enticing Chinese white tea and light pressed flower aromas. This is very classy. The palate is taut and focused with citrus lemon and a touch of lemongrass on the entry. It is harmonious and displays fine poise on the finish. **92**

The **2018 Chablis Montée de Tonnerre 1er Cru** has a delineated bouquet of freshly squeezed lime, chalk and smoky aromas, this cuvée really exhibiting the terroir of the vineyard. The palate is well balanced with a steely opening, proceeding toward a very focused, citrus-fresh middle. Good tension here, and a lovely white pepper note that hangs around on the aftertaste. Superb. **93**

The **2018 Chablis Les Vaucopins 1er Cru** is quintessential Chablis on the nose of Granny Smith apples, petrichor and touches of pressed white flowers. The palate is vibrant and poised, presenting a citrus core of fruit surrounded by traces of blackberry leaf, ginger and dried quince. So much tension here! This is a great Vaucopins from the domaine. Superb. **93**

The **2018 Chablis Les Blanchots Grand Cru** has intensity and delineation, offering traces of orange peel, melted wax and light peppery aromas; plenty of vigor here. The palate is well balanced with a fine bead of acidity, and nicely poised. The pretty clementine and white peach finish just needs a bit more bite. Drink over the next 12–15 years. **93**

The **2018 Chablis Les Preuses Grand Cru** has a generous bouquet, a little creamy in style, with light nutmeg notes percolating through the citrus fruit. The palate is well balanced with nicely integrated oak, a honeyed texture and traces of orange peel and pear toward the poised finish. **92**

The **2018 Chablis Bougros Grand Cru** has a nose not dissimilar to the Les Preuses, presenting candied orange peel, vanilla and almond notes and displaying moderate definition; the oak needs more time to assimilate. The palate is well balanced, with more bite and race than the Les Preuses, offering fine salinity and a touch of lemon and orange peel toward the finish. Enjoy this over the next 12–15 years. **93**

The **2018 Chablis Les Vaudésirs Grand Cru** has a well-defined nose with lightly honeyed fruit, touches of grilled walnut and a very subtle marine influence. The palate is well-defined, displaying crisp acidity, nice focus and admirable depth. It does not convey a great deal of mineralité or tension on the finish, but it feels harmonious and persistent. Overall, a thoroughly enjoyable Vaudésir. **93**

The **2018 Chablis Moutonne Grand Cru** has a delineated, crushed stone and lightly sea-influenced bouquet that gains intensity with aeration. The palate is well balanced with a fine bead of acidity, elegant and poised, and the finest finish among the domaine's Grand Crus. There is a sense of energy here, and a great aftertaste. Excellent. **94**

2020 Decanter® WORLD WINE AWARDS

September 2020

ECHÉZEAUX GRAND CRU 2018

Domaine du Clos Frantin

BEST IN SHOW: 98/100

**The only Burgundy wine
awarded in this category**



The ultimate accolade of « BEST IN SHOW » is given to the finest wines further to a final tasting of Platinum winners.

It was awarded to only 0.3% of the 16,518 wines tasted during the competition.



PLATINUM MEDAL: 97/100

**Vosne-Romanée 1er Cru
Les Malconsorts 2018
*Domaine du Clos Frantin***



PLATINUM MEDAL: 97/100

**Fixin 1er Cru
Clos de la Perrière
2018**



GOLD MEDAL: 95/100

**Meursault 1^{er} Cru
Les Charmes 2018
*Domaine du Pavillon***

August 20, 2020

Spotlight on Moulin-à-Vent 2018: 72 wines tasted and rated

Considered the 'king' of the ten Beaujolais crus for the power, concentration, structure and ageability of its wines, Georgina Hindle tastes over 70 from the 2018 vintage...

Albert Bichot, Domaine de Rochegrès Moulin à Vent Rochegrès 2018

Tasted by **Georgina Hindle** (at France, 13 Jul 2020)



Good structure here combining concentrated juicy fruits with oak-spiced edges. This is solid and intense, revealing aromatic notes of wild red berries and subtle hints of flowers with elegant tannins giving grip on the palate. From vineyards located at the heart of one of the 18 recognised single-vineyards in the appellation, translated as 'grey rock', with pink granite visible on the surface of the vineyard soils.

Drinking Window 2020 - 2027



3 August 2020



Albert Bichot, Domaine Long-Depaquit Chablis 1er cru Les Vaucopins 2018

Tasted by **Georgina Hindle** (at France, 05 Jun 2020)



Lovely pineapple on the nose with spritzy vibrant lemon and peach on the palate as well as notes of biscuit and brioche. This is a more concentrated and linear style with defined minerality running underneath and finishing on a wet stone flavour. It's juicy, succulent and really moreish. Plenty to enjoy here.

Drinking Window 2020 - 2030

Published on July 27th, 2020

CORTON-CHARLEMAGNE GRAND CRU Domaine du Pavillon 2018 **97**

Wow. This is really something. Shows such pedigree and strength, yet with finesse and balance. It's full-bodied with a compact palate that gives this wine density yet tension, together with phenolics that are intertwined to give such presence. Cooked apples, straw, hints of oak, white truffles and sea shells. Has so much going on. Try after 2023 and onwards.

PULIGNY-MONTRACHET 1^{ER} CRU CHAMP GAIN 2018 **94**

Very intense, linear white with apple, mango and pie-crust character to the crushed stones. It's full-bodied with a compact palate that is tightened down, providing presence and focus. Energy, too. Serious white. Drinkable now, but better after 2021.

MEURSAULT 1^{ER} CRU LES CHARMES Domaine du Pavillon 2018 **93**

Like the poise and tension to this with sliced cooked apples, hints of vanilla and pie crust. It's medium-bodied with beautiful depth and tension and nicely oaked undertones that give complexity and focus to the fruit. Drink or hold.

BEAUNE 1^{ER} CRU CLOS DES MOUCHES Domaine du Pavillon 2018 **92**

A creamy-textured white with sliced apples, pears, cream and some lemon and lime rind. Hints of morning yogurt and smoke. Medium-bodied, ready and delicious. Drink now or hold.

BOURGOGNE CÔTE D'OR CHARDONNAY SECRET DE FAMILLE 2018 **90**

A straightforward chardonnay with sliced cooked apples, honey and straw. Medium-bodied with pleasant fruit and a fresh finish. Drink now.

**CLOS DE VOUGEOT GRAND CRU Domaine du Clos Frantin 2018** **95**

The depth and complexity to this young Clos de Vougeot is impressive, to say the least. It's full-bodied and layered with chewy, polished tannins and excellent berry, smoke, walnut and black-tea character. Just a hint of wild herbs. A wine that needs time to soften. Try after 2023.

VOSNE-ROMANÉE 1^{ER} CRU LES MALCONSORTS Domaine du Clos Frantin 2018 **94**

A rich, layered red with intense, very ripe fruit that shows dried cherries, smoked oak and some meat. It's full-bodied and very layered. Solid tannins give depth to the wine. Try after 2023.

NUITS-SAINT-GEORGES 1^{ER} CRU CHÂTEAU-GRIS 2018 **93**

Such beautiful perfumes of ripe strawberries, seaweed and smoke follow through to a full body that is compact and very tight with tension and linear texture that makes it very impressive for the appellation. Try after 2022.

FIXIN 1^{ER} CRU CLOS DE LA PERRIÈRE 2018 **91**

A fresh, fruity red with dried strawberry and cherry character, as well as some seaweed and wet-earth undertones. Linear and compact. Medium body. Medium chewy tannins. Drink or hold.

POMMARD CLOS DES URSULINES Domaine du Pavillon 2018 **92**

A solid, linear red with crushed cherries, ripe strawberries and some wet earth and leaves on the nose and palate. Medium to full body, firm and creamy tannins and a flavorful finish. It's tight and poised and needs two or three years to soften. Better after 2023.





www.winemag.com

August 1, 2020



Anne Krebiehl MW

2018 WHITES

Premiers Crus and Grands Crus from Côte de Beaune

2018 Beaune 1er Cru “Clos des Mouches” *Domaine du Pavillon*: **92**

Cream and roasted hazelnut notes create an inviting, rounded nose on this wine. The palate has that same hazelnut richness and creamy flow, buttressed by freshness that recalls lemon and yellow pear. A lovely balance and a juicy, fresh finish do justice to the warm 2018 vintage. Drink by 2035.

2018 Meursault 1er Cru “Les Charmes” *Domaine du Pavillon*: **93**

A hint of fresh beeswax precedes creamy limestone on the nose of this wine. The concentrated palate seems like a buffered blanket of creaminess, edged with limestone, a whisper of flinty reduction and ripe lemon for an interplay of rigor and softness. It's smooth on the long finish.

2018 Chassagne-Montrachet 1er Cru “Morgeot”: **93**

A subtle nose on this wine offers hints of corn husk and buttermilk, with a slight edge of lemon. The palate comes in with gentle freshness and a smooth, bright texture that seems bedded on soft chalkiness. It shows wonderful understatement, paying tribute to finesse rather than power. Drink by 2035.

2018 Chassagne-Montrachet 1er Cru “Vide Bourse”: **93**

Cold butter, toasted hazelnut, yeast and chalk meet on the nose of this wine to create a gentle, seductive scent. The palate retains this elegance with its detailed texture that gives a velvety feel to the medium body. Freshness supports, with a lemony gentleness. The wine is gentle but also precise. Drink by 2035.

2018 Puligny-Montrachet 1er Cru “Les Perrières”: **93**

A touch of butter informs the nose of bright, ripe Mirabelle plum. The palate of this wine has wonderful concentration, fruity and fresh, reminiscent of Mirabelle skin and citrus zest. The finish is slender, poised, zesty and incisive. Butteriness returns on the last note of this mouthwatering wine.

2018 Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru *Domaine du Pavillon*: **94**

A shy nose on this wine gives almost nothing away, just a notion of wet limestone. Freshness and concentrated poise on the palate shows a structured, firm nature softened by inherent creaminess. Ripe lemon fruit sets bright accents while lemon pith highlights the creamy, textured midpalate. This wine is still tightly coiled, but promises a structure bathed in mellow light. The finish is long and chalky.





www.winemag.com

August 1, 2020



Anne Krebiehl MW

2018 WHITES

Côte Chalonnaise and Maconnais

2018 Mercurey “Les Champs-Michaux” *Domaine du Pavillon*: 91

Apple blossom, hazelnut and freshly cut apple flesh make for an inviting nose on this wine. The palate offers almost breezy freshness and allows the nutty, toasty and floral tones to swirl. All is bedded in a creamy texture. The finish is bright and fresh.

2018 Montagny 1^{er} Cru: 90

A trace of flinty reduction is all the nose on this wine gives away. The palate presents gentle notes of greengage and lemon, bound in an easy flow but showing good concentration. Freshness brightens all and delivers an unpretentious wine with real balance.

2018 Viré-Clessé: 90

The nose on this wine is shy and subtle. The palate comes in with easy but balanced flow, speaking of Mirabelle, a certain creaminess, subtle mouthfeel and lovely freshness considering the ripeness of 2018. It's a gentle wine with inherent balance.

2018 Pouilly-Fuissé: 90

A hint of ripe pear juice hovers above the creamy nose on this wine. The palate conveys the fruit-driven generosity of 2018 and reveals more juicy pear and russet-pear-peel texture. It's rounded, mellow, balanced and fresh.

Villages from Côte d'Or

2018 Nuits-Saint-Georges “Les Terrasses” *Château-Gris*: 92 **Editors' Choice**

Floral, nutty and creamy elements combine intriguingly on the nose of this wine and continue on the bright, poised palate. Stoniness, texture, yeast and concentration make for an intense mouthfeel surrounded by freshness. It's an elegant wine with inherent balance.

2018 Meursault: 92

A shy nose on this wine reveals little besides limestone creaminess. On the palate, supermellow roundness descends like a cloud of creaminess on the palate where lemony freshness sends gentle, bright highlights. The finish is full of lemony and creamy yeastiness.

2018 Meursault *Domaine du Pavillon*: 92

Hints of chalk and Golden Delicious apple are all the nose on this wine gives away. On the palate real attraction is felt in the creamy, mellow mouthfeel, highlighted by a ripe lemony glow and harmonious balance. This wine is billowy and smooth, leaving an impression of limestone, cream and lemon on the long finish.

2018 Puligny-Montrachet: 92

Reductive flintiness on the nose of this wine almost has a lifted touch of mint. The palate reveals a juicy core of peachy, plummy fruit before concentrated mellowness wraps everything in its fruity, creamy charm. An edge of freshness keeps things poised. The finish is creamy, dry, perfumed, nervy and really long.

2018 Chassagne-Montrachet: 92

Gentle aromas of cream and yeast on the nose of this wine have a spicier edge of corn husk. The palate offers smooth richness lit by sparks of freshness. Concentration is evident in the yeasty, chalky mouthfeel. This elegant wine finishes with a hint of toasted hazelnut.



WINE ENTHUSIAST

Published on July 8, 2020

Nine of Our Top Chardonnays from France and California

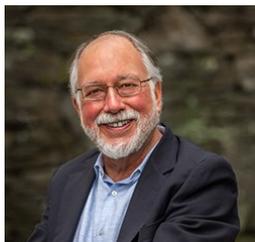
BY WINE ENTHUSIAST



92
POINTS

Albert Bichot 2018 Domaine Long-Depaquit Vaillons Premier Cru (Chablis)

92 points. The slightest flinty redition accompanies ripe Mirabelle plum fruit on the nose of this wine. The palate is expressive in its juiciness, concentration and fresh core. It conveys cool freshness and a zesty texture along with a slightly creamy touch. Textured and vivid, the wine offers ripeness, generous structure and a dry finish. Albert Bichot USA. —Anne Kreibheil MW



Bichot is Back

By Michael Apstein
Jun 16, 2020

If I needed any convincing—and I did not—that Bichot, the venerable Beaune-based Burgundy négociant, is back, it was after tasting a line-up of their 2018s. That vintage was precarious for winegrowers because the weather provided the potential for both fabulous wines or over-ripe ones with high alcohol levels depending on harvest date, location of the vineyards, and viticulture practices. Bichot avoided the potential pitfalls and hit the bullseye with both their reds and whites in 2018.

Matthieu Mangenot, formerly the estate manager at Bichot's Chablis property, *Domaine Long-Depaquit*, and recently promoted to Assistant Technical Director to Alain Serveau, Bichot's Technical Director, summed up the growing season succinctly, in four words: wet, drought, hot and sunny. The winter was wet with twice as much water as usual, which turned out to be beneficial because it kept the vines from stress during the drought that occurred from April through September. The summer was hot and sunny, with the thermometer breaking 100° some days in September. The overall result was the potential for alcoholic wines with low acidity. Mangenot echoed what I had heard from many other growers, namely, that the key to success was an early harvest. Bichot started theirs about two weeks earlier than usual, at the end of August. In the cellar, Bichot opted on shorter aging with less time in barrel to preserve the vibrant fruitiness of the wines. Like many other growers to whom I spoke, they were anxious about the wines at harvest, but thrilled with how they turned out by the time of bottling.

Although I have tasted at Bichot many times over the years, I did not have the time to taste their wines during my annual trip to Burgundy in November, and due to COVID-19, the usual spring press tastings are not occurring. That did not stop the Bichot team from showing me their 2018s. They put together an inventive tasting by pouring small, two-ounce, samples of finished, ready-to-be bottled wines—not barrel samples—into small screw-top jars and then rapidly distributed them to tasters (and, indeed, right on schedule they appeared on my porch). We could taste them simultaneously, via Zoom, with the Bichot team in France, who had assembled in the cellar of their famous *Nuits-St. Georges*-based property, *Domaine du Clos Frantin*. In addition to Mangenot, Christophe Chauvel, who is in charge of viticulture for all their domaines, and Albéric Bichot, who runs the family-owned business, guided us through the wines.

Before getting to the wines, some background about Albert Bichot is helpful. Albert Bichot, the grandson of Bernard Bichot, who founded the company in Monthélie in 1831, expanded it and moved its headquarters to Beaune, where it remains, in 1912. Since 1996, Albéric Bichot, representing the 6th generation of the family, has been running the company and has been responsible for its meteoric rise in joining the other top-tier Burgundy négociants. Under his direction, Bichot has expanded, adding domaines to their portfolio.

The most critical change that Albéric instituted was a conversion from a “quantity” to a “quality” mentality. A major part of that change occurred in the vineyard. Enter Chauvel, a revered viticulturist. (I've heard so much praise from many respected sources about Chauvel that I think “revered” is appropriate.) Chauvel joined Bichot in 1999 after working for seven years with Pierre Morey, one of Burgundy's top winemakers, who currently makes wine at his eponymous domaine and was winemaker at *Domaine Leflaive* for years. Chauvel told me during a visit in 2008 that his toughest decision was when he and the Bichot team decided to decrease yields by 10 to 15 percent. He noted it was far more important for the reds than the whites because Chardonnay can handle a higher yield better than Pinot Noir. But the major hurdle was a mental one. As a farmer, decreasing yields voluntarily—without a guarantee that the price will increase—is a big challenge and an even bigger risk.

Like the other well-regarded négociants, Bichot is an important grower, owning six individual domaines, comprising about 250 acres of vines, from Chablis in the north to Beaujolais in the south. Unlike other négociants who own vineyards, and therefore are growers as well, the Bichot properties, *Domaine Long-Depaquit* in Chablis, *Domaine du Clos Frantin* and *Château-Gris*, both in *Nuits St. Georges*, *Domaine du Pavillon* in Pommard, *Domaine Adélie* in Mercurey, and *Domaine de Rochebrès* in *Moulin-a-Vent*, each have their own winery and dedicated team, all, of course, under the supervision of Chauvel and Serveau. The advantage of this organization, according to Albéric, is that the grapes have only a short distance to travel from vineyard to winery and there is a certain amount of friendly—one hopes—competition among the domaines each year.

June 16, 2020

The Wines

Domaine Long-Depaquit, Chablis Grand Cru “Les Clos” 2018: With holdings totalling 150 acres of vines, almost half of which are located in Premier or Grand Cru vineyards, Long-Depaquit is one of the most notable estates in Chablis. They own roughly ten percent of all Grand Cru acreage in Chablis, including the entirety of La Moutonne, an anomalous site of almost 6-acres spanning two Grand Cru vineyards, Vaudésir and Preuses. In Les Clos alone, Long-Depaquit owns two parcels totaling almost 4 acres, which they blend together for this wine. The full-bodied and mineraly 2018 is forward and easy to appreciate now, but should develop beautifully over the next several years because of its impeccable balance. The long and graceful finish makes it particularly attractive. **93**

Domaine Adélie, Mercurey “Les Champs-Michaux” 2018: Albéric purchased this almost 20-acre estate in Mercurey in 2003, the year of his first daughter’s birth. Hence the name of the domaine. Mercurey is known for its red wines, but with more whites like this one, the reputation of its whites might well outdistance the reds. Chauvel explains that the soil at Les Champs-Michaux is better suited for Chardonnay than Pinot Noir and believes that the clay in the soil imparts roundness to the wine. Punching far above its weight, this exceptional village Mercurey is sensational. Floral, with hints of ripe stone fruits, it has extraordinary elegance for a white Mercurey. Delicious now. **92**

Domaine du Pavillon, Meursault 2018: This village Meursault, a blend of five plots from the northern end of the appellation, is vinified at the Domaine du Pavillon, just down the road in Pommard. One taste shows the dramatic textural difference between this white from the Côte d’Or and the Les Champs-Michaux from the Côte Chalonnaise. Creamy, as opposed to stoney, this Meursault has good weight on the palate. Fine acidity keeps it lively. **89**

Domaine du Pavillon, Corton-Charlemagne 2018: Bichot owns about three acres in the Les Languettes lieu-dit, a sunny southeast facing part of the Corton-Charlemagne vineyard. From it, they have made a glorious wine in 2018, showing nuances of spiced pineapple offset by a crispy edginess. Its stature is not in overall weight or power, rather in its layered complexity and elegance. Very tight at this stage, it starts to show its stature with air. A Grand Cru white that will need years to show itself. **94**

Domaine de Rochegrès, Moulin-a-Vent 2018: Bichot purchased this 12.5-acre estate in the heart of Moulin-a-Vent, arguably the top Beaujolais cru, in 2014. The grapes come from three lieux-dits within Moulin-a-Vent, La Rochelle, Au Mont, and the young vines from Rochegrès itself. It is ripe, spicy and suave, combining richness, minerality and bright acidity. A triumph. **93**

Domaine du Pavillon, Pommard “Clos des Ursulines” 2018: Unlike Bordeaux, most Burgundy vineyards are divided among multiple owners, which explains why the consumer can see multiple bottlings of Pommard Epenots, for example. By contrast, Clos des Ursulines, a nearly 10-acre vineyard located in the southeast part of the village, is owned entirely by the Domaine du Pavillon. It’s what the Burgundians call a monopole. The 2018 is muscular with remarkable suaveness for a wine from Pommard, which gives real elegance to its burly frame. An excellent village wine—and bargain-priced for what it is. **90**

Château Gris, Nuits-St. Georges 1er Cru “Château Gris” 2018: The 1er cru vineyard, Château Gris, takes its name from the 19th century castle the Earl of Lupé-Cholet built on the site after phylloxera destroyed the vines. Instead of the usual multi-colored tiles of Burgundian roofs, it had only slate tiles, giving rise to the nickname of Gris (grey). This monopole, owned by Bichot since 1978, covers 8.5 acres and is planted with both Chardonnay and Pinot Noir, but only the red wine from the site is classified as 1er cru. The 2018 is positively stunning. Far more elegant than you’d expect from Nuits-St. Georges, it still conveys a touch of wildness for which the appellation is known. Long and finesse-filled, it dances on the palate. Chauvel believes that the terraced rows at different elevations in the vineyard allows for varying levels of ripeness of the grapes, imparting freshness to the wine. That likely explains its bright finish, which amplifies the wine’s charms. **95**

Domaine du Clos Frantin, Echézeaux 2018: Bichot’s Domaine du Clos Frantin owns two and a third acres in the lieu-dit of Champs Traversin from which they make a consistently spectacular Echézeaux. The 2018 is no exception. It is explosive, yet not weighty. It delivers a touch of spice along with a plethora of subtle fruit flavors. Its understated power and suaveness are captivating. It’s my definition of Burgundy—flavor without weight. **96**

In summary, Bichot’s 2018 whites reflect their sites. The Meursault is creamy, while, in contrast, the Mercurey is stoney. Those who criticize négociants by claiming a “house style” obliterates site specificity are just plain wrong, at least in this case. The whites are charming and forward with surprisingly good acidity. While most of them, the Corton-Charlemagne aside, lack the verve for long aging, like the 2010 or 2014 whites, they are beautifully proportioned and, most importantly, delicious.

The reds, like the whites, speak of their origins. They are all wonderfully balanced, showing no signs of the over-ripeness that one might have expected given the growing conditions. They are stylish, balanced, and should evolve beautifully over the decade with proper cellaring. These wines convey the charm of Burgundy, no easy feat with such heat during the growing season. Clearly, careful and thoughtful minds were at work here, all the better for us who will drink and admire these fine wines in the years to come.





2018 white Burgundies

2018 Bourgogne Côte d'Or Chardonnay "Secret de Famille": 86

Pungent aromas of straw, lemongrass, petrol and apple scents introduce nicely vibrant and reasonably detailed flavors that conclude in a clean, dry and refreshing finish. This could use a bit more depth, but it is perfectly good for what it is. 2021+

2018 Nuits-Saint-Georges "Les Terrasses" Château-Gris: 89

A cool and pretty nose reflects notes of matchstick, citrus, green apple and a hint of mineral reduction. There is excellent intensity to the detailed and overtly stony middle weight flavors that culminate in a linear if slightly lean finale that is quite dry. I suspect that this will flesh out with a few years of bottle age and overall, this is a quality Nuits villages. 2023+

2018 Beaune 1er Cru "Clos des Mouches" *Domaine du Pavillon*: 91

An overtly floral nose combines notes of various white-fleshed fruit with those of lemon grass and spice wisps. The sleek, delicious and equally seductively textured medium-bodied flavors possess very good depth and sneaky length. This balanced effort should drink well young as well as with a few years of bottle aging. 2024+

2018 Meursault *Domaine du Pavillon*: 88

(from Les Corbins, Criots and Les Dressoles). Elegant aromas consist of hazelnut, acacia blossom, pear and a whiff of citrus rind. There is excellent delineation to the racy and delicious middle weight flavors that offer good persistence on the mildly warm finale. This minerally effort could use a bit more depth but it's already very pretty. 2023+

2018 Meursault "Clos de Magny" *Domaine du Pavillon*: 88

An admirably deft touch of wood sets off slightly more complex aromas of citrus, green apple and a whiff of acacia blossom. There is more volume if less minerality to the delicious, round and seductively textured medium weight flavor that also could use a bit more depth on the mildly warm finale. 2024+

2018 Meursault 1er Cru "Les Charmes" *Domaine du Pavillon*: 90

Touches of petrol and phenolic character are present on the pear and apple compote aromas that are tinged with hints of tangerine peel. There is a bit more volume as well as more minerality to the delicious, plump and sappy finish that is clean, dry and refreshing. 2025+

2018 Chassagne-Montrachet 1er Cru "Morgeot": 90

A discreet application of wood frames the ripe and fresh aromas of poached pear, petrol and rosemary oil. The delicious, round and caressing medium-bodied flavors possess good power while the mid-palate texture is nicely seductive, all wrapped in a dry and lingering finale. 2024+

2018 Chassagne-Montrachet 1er Cru "Vide Bourse": (90-93)

Here too there are hints of petrol and rosemary oil to the citrus peel and white orchard fruit compote aromas. There is excellent volume to the slightly sleeker medium weight flavors that aren't quite as dense as those of the Morgeot but they're finer while exhibiting notably better depth and persistence. 2025+

2018 Puligny-Montrachet 1er Cru "Les Perrières": (91-93)

An attractively layered nose features notes of citrus, acacia blossom, lemon rind and an admirably subtle hint of wood. There is a lovely mouth feel to the caressing, cool and detailed middle weight flavors that possess a lovely underlying tension as well as good mid-palate fat before culminating in along, youthfully austere and well-balanced finale. This should be reasonably approachable young but reward mid-term cellaring too. 2026+

2018 Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru *Domaine du Pavillon*: 92

(from a 1 ha parcel situated in Languettes). Discreet wood is present on the ripe aromas of white orchard fruit compote that is laced with plenty of floral and spice nuances. The delicious, vibrant and muscular larger-scaled flavors exhibit ample amounts of minerality on the agreeably dry, youthfully austere and solidly long finale. This is quite tightly wound and will need at least 5 years to further flesh out and add depth. 2027+





Exploring quality at Maison Albert Bichot plus 17 wines worth seeking out

A trip to Burgundy earlier this year led Andy Howard MW to discover the many facets, and wines, of the historic, family-owned company - one of the largest and most dynamic producers in the region...

In mid-February, I was invited by my Master of Wine colleague Richard Bampffield MW, to join him on a three-day visit he was making with a group of students to Burgundy. The focus was Maison Bichot - one of the most influential producers within Bourgogne.

Although Bichot may not immediately spring to mind as one of the top names in the region, the visit confirmed what I already suspected - Bichot should be seen as one of the region's most dynamic, quality-focussed and sustainability orientated producers, whose wines are well-worth exploring.

The range of wines produced by Bichot is almost mind-boggling. When I last checked, there were 143 wines listed on the company's website, ranging from generic Bourgogne wines to the loftiest Grand Cru.

Geographically, Bichot's reach stretches from Moulin-à-Vent in Beaujolais to Chablis. For 20 years, the company has been the largest buyer at the annual Hospices de Beaune auction, and produces organically at all of its own domaines.

The history of Bichot's can be traced back as far as 1214 but it was in 1350 when the family first settled in Burgundy. In 1831 interests in wine started to develop with the creation of a négociant house in Monthélie by Bernard Bichot. His son, Hippolyte, purchased Bichot's first vines in Volnay, convinced that control in the vineyards was key to quality. Bernard's grandson, Albert, took the business in a new direction with the creation of Maison Albert Bichot which settled in the centre of Beaune in 1912. Bichot became a significant force in the export market, still a key focus today.

Albéric Bichot represents the 6th generation to run the family house, and is regarded by many as a visionary and someone who has taken the quality of Bichot's wines to levels unforeseen just two decades ago.

He is also one of the most endearing, humorous and generous managing directors one might encounter - traits which seem to infuse Bichot's wines. In typically self-effacing style, he compares himself to the 'conductor of an orchestra, proud to bring people and their talents together over a common project'.

Christophe Chauvel has managed Bichot's vineyards since 2000, whilst Alain Serveau is Technical Director/head winemaker. The company owns four separate vinification centres in Chablis and the Côte d'Or, and all Domaine wines are organic.





Bichot owns 107 hectares of vineyards across six estates – Domaine Long-Depaquit in Chablis; Château Gris and Domaine du Clos Frantin (Nuits-Saint-Georges); Domaine du Pavillon (Pommard); Domaine Adélie (Mercurey); and Domaine de Rochegrès (Moulin-à-Vent).

The Bichot vineyards comprise several monopoles – Grand Crus Corton Clos des Maréchaudes and Chablis Moutonne, along with Aloxe-Corton 1er Cru Clos des Maréchaudes. It has the largest holding (1.76ha) within Malconsorts, Vosne's best Premier Cru. Long-Depaquit, with 65ha, is one of the largest domaines in Chablis, over 6ha of which are Grand Cru.

The company also owns vineyards in many leading Côte-de-Nuit Grand Crus – Richebourg, Echézeaux, Grands-Echézeaux, and Chambertin.

Top-wines are competitively priced and offer great value for money – 2015 Malconsorts can be purchased in the UK for £105 per bottle in-bond, compared to Domaine de Montille £285, and Dujac £395.

Wines were tasted blind with many Premier and Grand Cru wines assessed. The Bichot style is focussed on showing terroir characteristics but also emphasising purity and a bright fruit profile. These are wines that can, in most cases, be enjoyed relatively early on.

During one dinner, Bichot wines were paired (blind) with the benchmark producers of specific appellations, from identical vintages. On several occasions the Bichot wines scored more highly than their competitors and, in all cases, showed a deftness of touch with oak which makes the wines subtle and highly appealing.

Domaines Albert Bichot may not yet have quite the same name as luminaries such as Leroy, Cathiard, Rousseau, Roumier, to name but a few. However, this is a source of some wonderfully crafted Bourgogne wines, which combine early appeal with balance, accessibility and good value. They should not be over-looked.

THE WINES

Meursault 1er Cru Les Charmes Domaine du Pavillon 2018

From a 1.17ha plot, Bichot's vines are planted on calcareous clay soils in three plots, mainly within the upper Charmes-Dessus. With an average age of 30 years, this is a generous Meursault from the fine 2018 vintage, showing youthful characters of succulent pear fruit, a fine line of zesty lemon/lime acidity, with a concentrated, fresh finish. Needs a couple of years to flesh out.



Beaune 1er Cru Clos des Mouches Domaine du Pavillon 2016

One of Beaune's top Premier Crus, Clos des Mouches is named after the presence of bees, rather than 'flies'. The Bichot plot is 0.75ha at 300m on marly limestone to the west of the vineyard. The wine reflects the warm vintage with a plush, tropical character on the palate combined with quite showy oak. There is fresh acidity to balance this weight, along with a flinty finish. Ready to drink now.



Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru Domaine du Pavillon 2017

Often one of Bichot's standout wines. Showing some characteristic smokiness, this is a chiselled Corton-Charlemagne with plenty of concentration and grip for the long-haul. Very precise and pure on the nose and palate this combines finesse, with understated power and some toasty oak.



Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru Domaine du Pavillon 2015

This lovely Corton-Charlemagne shows an impeccable balance between the ripeness of the 2015 vintage, a pronounced chalky mineral texture and oak driven orange-box characters. Just starting to approach its peak, this will develop for several years.





Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru Domaine du Pavillon 2014

As expected from the 2014 vintage, this is concentrated, intense and has a very long future ahead. Acidity is still prominent with some lovely nutty characters starting to emerge on the palate. Lemon zest combines with smoky, saline notes and the oak is very well balanced. A very fine Corton-Charlemagne which is highly typical of the appellation.



Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru Domaine du Pavillon 2012

2012 was a very fine Bourgogne vintage and the extra bottle age is certainly on show. Intense, rich and surprisingly voluptuous, this is a complex amalgam of spices, floral notes, a creamy, buttery texture and a mineral, slaty finish. The oak is fully integrated and subtle. A fine Corton-Charlemagne, à-point now.



Mercurey 1er Cru Champs Martin Domaine Adélie 2017

Bichot spread to the Cote Chalonnaise in 2005 with the creation of Domaine Adélie, a 4.5ha estate in Mercurey. Les Champs-Martin is a 0.9ha plot on a steeply sloping, southerly facing slope. The southerly location shows with more glycerol in the glass, a nose driven by spices and wood notes, and a palate showing quite firm, slightly rustic tannins and a hint of bitterness to finish.



Aloxe-Corton 1er Cru Clos des Maréchaudes Domaine du Pavillon 2017

This is a more rustic Pinot Noir, with spicy redcurrant fruit on the palate and a muscular character. Certainly shows some of the typical character of a wine from Aloxe-Corton. Clos des Maréchaudes is a monopole 1er Cru, directly neighbouring the monopole Grand Cru Corton of the same name. Covering 1.4ha, the vines here are between 30-40 years old, planted on brown limestone soils over scree, with a high proportion of clay.



Volnay 1er Cru Les Santenots Domaine du Pavillon 2016

In typically complicated Burgundian fashion, Volnay Santenots 1er Cru lies within the village of Meursault. From a small parcel of 0.29ha sited in Les Plures, the higher proportion of clay here suits Pinot Noir. Aged 100% in oak barrels, with one-third new, this is a refined, precise Volnay with crisp, focussed acidity, fine tannins and ripe, redberry fruit. Drinking well now.



Pommard 1er Cru Les Rugiens Domaine du Pavillon 2016

Located in Les Rugiens-Bas, this is a very fine example of Pommard which carries the weight and power expected of the AC but combines this with purity and a high degree of elegance. Dark and brooding in the glass, this is a powerful, earthy Pommard with 60% new oak still needing slightly longer to integrate. Ripe fruit flavours of dark cherry compote, blackcurrant and spice make this a refined Pommard with a good future ahead.



Fixin 1er Cru Clos de la Perrière 2016

Clos de La Perrière is the best vineyard in Fixin, historically seen as a match for the finest Chambertin. The 5ha Clos is a monopole owned by the Joliet family but Bichot buy grapes and vinify their own wine. A Fixin which is floral and perfumed, quite light and vibrant, although not hugely concentrated. Reminiscent of Chambolle-Musigny, this is a very pretty wine with leafy redcurrant and lavender notes.



Chambolle-Musigny 1er Cru Les Chabiots 2016

Bright, relatively easy and forward on the palate - a Chambolle which is more about florality and delicacy than power. This doesn't mean there is any lack of concentration but the wine has a lovely lift, fine tannins and succulent, integrated oak. A fine, typical, Chambolle-Musigny. Chabiots is situated just above Amoureuses, sharing similarly shallow soils and proximity to limestone bedrock as its more illustrious neighbour.



Charmes-Chambertin Grand Cru 2017

Dark and concentrated in the glass, very attractive woody/spicy notes are starting to emerge on the nose, combining with sappy, bright, dark cherry and berry fruit on the palate. Finishes with firm tannins and a long aftertaste - this needs several more years in bottle. Another Grand Cru produced with purchased grapes, the vineyard is sited on calcareous clay soil with silt and, in the upper patches, a gravel scree.



Clos de Vougeot Grand Cru Domaine du Clos Frantin 2016

Domaine du Clos Frantin owns 0.63ha within the 50ha of Clos du Vougeot. Bichot has two parcels - one in the higher part of the vineyard adding structure, and a larger parcel in the lower part which is more fruit driven. The 2016 is full of bright dark berry fruits with freshness and crisp acidity still very evident. This is a youthful, powerful Grand Cru which needs a bit of time to soften. Will be very classy and long-lived.



Clos de Vougeot Grand Cru Domaine du Clos Frantin 2015

A fine example from the 2015 vintage, with the density and concentration to age for many years. Still youthful in colour and with a powerful tannic framework. There is plenty of sweet dark cherry and plum fruit on the palate, notes of underbrush and lavender, and very well integrated oak (60% new). Ripe fruit flavours are interwoven with freshening mineral/slaty characters on the finish - this has the potential to improve over 3-5 years.



Latricières-Chambertin Grand Cru 2012

Produced from purchased grapes on long-term contract, this Latricières-Chambertin is showing its age - but in a positive manner. Medium-plus in colour, intense aromas of spices combine beautifully with red berry and currant fruits, all kept fresh by crunchy acidity and smooth, ripe, tannins. Elegant, rather than a blockbuster in style - this will age happily for another five years.





Roger Voss

Beaujolais Crus 2018

Published on April 1st, 2020

MOULIN-À-VENT ROCHEGRÈS *Domaine de Rochegrès* 2018 **94 POINTS** **CELLAR SELECTION**

This wine comes from a five-acre vineyard in the domaine. Aged partly in barrels, it has intense red-cherry fruits and acidity that contrast with the dry tannins. Those tannins are the secret behind the wine's considerable potential. Drink from 2022.

MOULIN-À-VENT *Domaine de Rochegrès* 2018 **93 POINTS**

Property of the Bichot family, this vineyard has produced a firmly structured wine. Bold tannins and rich black fruits are the starting point for a complex combination of spice, acidity and richness from wood aging. Drink the wine from 2022.

MORGON LES CHARMES 2018 **92 POINTS** **CELLAR SELECTION**

Lush and generously structured, this wine is rich and concentrated. Tannins and dark black fruits shine in this powerful texture, giving a wine that has weight and potential richness. Drink from 2022.

FLEURIE LA MADONE 2018 **91 POINTS**

The steep hill of La Madone vineyard gives structured wine such as this. It is powerfully ripe, full of black cherry and spice with a core of tannins that will soften comfortably. Fresh acidity adds to the aging potential. Drink from 2021.

Beaujolais and Beaujolais-Villages 2018

Published on January 1st, 2020

BEAUJOLAIS CHÂTEAU DE JARNIOUX 2018 **90 POINTS** **BEST BUY**

Albert Bichot has produced a ripe wine made in a more Burgundian style. That gives the wine structure, richness and layers of berry fruits along with succulent acidity. Drink now.

BEAUJOLAIS-VILLAGES CHÂTEAU DE VARENNES 2018 **89 POINTS** **BEST BUY**

Albert Bichot has produced a wine from selected parcels. It provides a fresh take on Gamay, full of bright acidity as well as red-currant fruitiness. Drink this wine now.



2018 Côte de Beaune reds**2018 Savigny-lès-Beaune 1er Cru “Les Grands Picotins” *Domaine du Pavillon*: (87-90)**

A notably ripe nose features notes of plum, earth and soft spice nuances. There is very good volume to the rich and seductively textured, indeed even velvety, flavors that possess very good depth on the ever-so-mildly tangy and warm finale. This should drink well on the younger side. 2023+

2018 Beaune “Les Epenottes” *Domaine du Pavillon*: (87-89)

(from the villages portion of the vineyard). A slightly higher-toned nose offers up notes of red raspberry, pomegranate, cherry and a touch of warm earth. The sleeker if less seductive flavors possess a lovely mouth feel while exhibiting just a touch of warmth on the ever-so-mildly rustic finale. 2023+

2018 Beaune 1er Cru “Les Bressandes” *Domaine du Pavillon*: (88-91)

There is a whiff of volatile acidity on the ripe nose that consists of elegant redcurrant, earth and vague hint of the violet. Here too there is both good volume and richness to the detailed and energetic flavors that culminate in a slightly attenuated and youthfully austere finish that needs to flesh out. This is still very pretty. 2024+

2018 Volnay 1er Cru “Les Brouillards” *Domaine du Pavillon*: (88-90)

A pungent nose is composed by notes of menthol, ripe poached plum and liqueur-like aromas of black cherry. The succulent, round and velvet-textured middle weight flavors also need to flesh out. 2025+

2018 Volnay 1er Cru “Les Santenots” *Domaine du Pavillon*: (90-92)

(from Les Plures). A more elegant and cooler nose speaks of the pure essence of various red berries that are laced with lovely and floral nuances that include violet, lilac and rose petal. There is fine volume to the slightly denser medium-bodied flavors that brim with minerality on the more tightly wound finale that is youthfully austere. This firm effort is going to require at least a decade of cellar time to see it at its apogee. 2028+

2018 Pommard “Clos des Ursulines” *Domaine du Pavillon*: (89-91)

(a huge 4 ha monopole of the domaine). A mentholated top note can be found on the very ripe nose of cassia, roasted plum and dark raspberry that is liberally sprinkled with warm earth nuances. The middle weight flavors are not especially dense, but I like both the vibrancy and delineation that carries over to the nicely complex and lingering finish. This is really quite a nice Pommard villages. 2026+

2018 Pommard 1er Cru “Les Rugiens” *Domaine du Pavillon*: (90-93)

(from Rugiens Bas). This is at once more elegant and more complex with its overtly spicy and floral-suffused aromas of both red and dark pinot fruit where pretty nuances of lilac, violet and anise emerge. There is impressive volume to the super-sleek, intense and well-detailed flavors terminate in a refreshing and bright mineral-laden finish. This is lovely though note that it is a classic Rugiens that will need extended keeping. 2030+

2018 Aloxe-Corton *Domaine du Pavillon*: (88-90)

(from Les Crapousuets). A relatively pretty nose is comprised by notes of various red berries, earth and a whisper of the sauvage. There is good freshness to the velvet-textured and mouth coating middle weight flavors that possess a juicy and fleshy mouthfeel while delivering fine length on the rustic but not tough finale. This is sufficiently supple that it will likely be approachable after only 4 to 5 years of cellaring. 2025+

2018 Aloxe-Corton 1er Cru “Clos des Maréchaudes” *Domaine du Pavillon*: (89-91)

A fresh if reticent nose grudgingly offers up ripe but cool notes of red and dark currant, earth and a pretty range of floral elements. There is very good volume to the lightly mineral-inflected middle weight flavors that possess a beguiling texture that contrasts somewhat with the dusty, firm and slightly warm finale. This is sufficiently structured to require at least 5 to 7 years of bottle age to unwind. 2030+

2018 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. A ripe yet reasonably elegant nose consists of rose petal, plum liqueur, lilac, spice and menthol-tinged aromas. The rich, intense and vibrant big-bodied flavors evidence obvious minerality on the mouth coating and impressively long finish. This is a big but refined effort that is definitely built-to-age, so patience required. 2033 +





ISSUE 67 2020 / A YEAR ON THE CÔTE D'OR / PRESTIGE CUVÉE ROSÉ
2018 BURGUNDY / 2015 BAROLO / LALOU BIZE-LEROY / GREDOS / KOSHU

2020 - Issue 67

Chablis Grand Cru Les Clos

SB | Firm and reticent nose, not upfront or fruity but none the worse for that. Rich, full-bodied, and concentrated, this has grip and minerality. It's robust and tangy, with a chalky persistent finish. | 93

Chassagne-Montrachet Premier Cru Morgeot

SB | The nose is bright and appley, precise and poised. The fresh attack contributes more tension than most wines in this vintage, and there is fine acidity, force and persistence, and a toasty finish. | 93

Meursault Premier Cru Charmes

SB | The nose is opulent with ripe pear aromas. Suave and concentrated, this has a fine texture, while delicate acidity gives finesse. Balanced and charming with depth of flavor, fine and long. | 92

Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru

SB | The nose has typical force, robust and mineral, with appley aromas. Creamy and concentrated, this shows power and force. It's mineral, gently toasty, with good potential and welcome grip. | 94



2018 BURGUNDY
Taster : Stephen Brook

Chambolle-Musigny Premier Cru Amoureuses

SB | There's poised raspberry fruit on the nose, which is subdued but exceptionally elegant. Concentrated and fleshy but discreet, this is in a style that's nimble, sleek, and charming. Long. | 93

Vosne-Romanée Premier Cru Malconsorts (Clos Frantin)

SB | The nose still seems reticent, but it has purity of fruit, and the new oak is well integrated. Aromatically, it shows more charm than force. Suave and concentrated on the palate, it's supported by ripe tannins and ample acidity. Textured and long. | 92



Echézeaux Grand Cru

SB | Reticent but elegant and poised raspberry nose. This is clearly still reserved and dense, but the weight and grip here suggest good potential, and the finish is textured and long. | 92

Chambertin Grand Cru (Clos Frantin)

SB | Given the reserve shown by other top crus here, the nose is surprisingly open and aromatic, with juicy but imposing raspberry and cherry fruit. Velvety and concentrated, this gains in grip from ripe tannins, and the oak gives plenty of spice and vigor. Fine length and potential. | 94



Clos de la Roche Grand Cru

SB | Here, too, the red-fruits aromas are subdued. On the palate it's solid and chunky, concentrated and assertive, showing pungency and force. Rather than finesse, it offers substance and weight of fruit. It will benefit from more bottle-age. | 93

Pommard Clos des Ursulines

SB | The nose is ripe but delicate, with cherry and raspberry aromas. Lean and fresh, though there are tannins in the background. Polished, quite long. | 90

Burgundy-Report

January Report / Published on February 2nd, 2020

Domaine Long-Depaquit - 2018

Tasted in Chablis with Cécilia Trimaille, 22 January 2020



Bill NANSON



Cécilia on 2018:

"In 2018 I never had the impression that the vines suffered, even hardly the young wines, and that was the reserve of water that we had at the start of the year. We started our harvest 03 September - we had a few other domaines harvesting at the same time - certainly more than in 2019."

The wines...

Cécilia's first complete vintage - and well-done for such a great and rather classical selection of Chablis - the Chablis and 1ers have such super mineral tension - 2018 really fits the style of this producer.

2018 Chablis

100% tank fermented, no oak. This cuvée usually represents about 30 hectares worth of vines from all around Chablis over both banks.

A little cushioning to this agrume nose. Bright, mineral and fresh, even a little suggested austerity from the zesty structure. Super finishing - bright and growing. Bravo! Wait for 6-months and then harvest!

2018 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 deeper nose, the merest suggestion of reduction and even an impression of aniseed. Wide, classical, mouth-watering. Excellent Chablis - again a growing more structural element in the finish and properly saline too!

2018 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 élevage 'to keep the purity of this place.'

Faintly citrus fruited but less open. Steely freshness, layered, more mineral than fruit, not a big burst of finishing flavour, but anyway very long. Overall fresher yet showing a little tighter than Les Lys.

2018 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.

Also compact aromatics but swirling does help dislodge a little interest. Hyper mineral - wide, mouth-watering, more depth of finishing flavour. Perhaps a hint of fruit in this one - certainly in the zesty finish there's some interesting action. A great set of 1ers.

2018 Chablis 1er Vaucoupins

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

A little more forward nose, faintly saline, more overtly mineral. More beautiful, mouth-filling, shape than the preceding wines. Gorgeously textured, supple, long flavour. Less overt freshness, more overt complexity. A beautiful peak of finishing intensity though - bravo!



Burgundy-Report

January Report / Published on February 2nd, 2020

2018 Chablis 1er Les Montmains

20% oak élevage. From Forêts

A freshness of aroma, aided by swirling. Wide and fresh, more structural, still a faint saline and phenolic touch to the texture. There's more active energy here and a simply brilliant line of finishing flavour. Bravo again - starting compact on the nose and getting bigger and bigger.

2018 Chablis 1er Montée de Tonnerre

Less wood in élevage - only 20% - before it was all wood. It's back to all wood in 2019 but larger-format, older barrels.

Here is a nice, almost floral, freshness but still quite a compact nose. A volume similar to the Vaucoupins, more structural, less textural. A suggestion of reduction in the minerality. More a finish with successive waves of flavour. Excellent.

All the grand crus were bottled in December:

2018 Chablis Les Blanchots

1.5 hectares from the end of the valley, near the trees, almost always harvested 1 week after Les Clos.

Whilst not a large aroma, there's certainly a little extra versus the 1ers. A little richer, more layering of flavour, deep, delicious agrume with overt energy until the finish - here there's plenty of life, not to mention length!

2018 Chablis Les Vaudésirs

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

A little more aromatic width, but again some tightness below. Brighter, fresher, more mineral character, supple, easy energy, a touch of tannin in the texture. A very good finale with a little zestiness and textures - I like it a lot!

2018 Chablis La Moutonne

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

A little extra depth to this nose. Super across the palate - mineral, great freshness and clarity - super energy too. There's some richness in the finish but not at the expense of anything, as there's such energy and complexity - here it's great wine. Much potential here!

2018 Chablis Les Clos

1.5 hectares worth from 2 plots.

Just a little more open with a touch of salinity and a depth of energetic minerality. Ooh - that's rather rich - layered, lacking a bit of zip for my liking, yet the finish is really super, it's open, airy, complex and deliciously long...

These last two wines have all barrel élevage in 19 the Preuses moving to larger barrels, perhaps the Bougros may follow:

2018 Chablis Les Preuses

A more open nose, of-course with plenty of oak. Powerful, some richness but the fresh minerality really cuts through that. Clearly much more oak flavour than I would like to taste today - but in 2-3 years this could be grandiose - bravo I think!

2018 Chablis Les Bougros

Here the oak is hardly visible. Bright, fresh, über-mineral - so wide, lovely energy, vibrantly finishing - less volume of finishing flavour but with lovely energy - a more up-front wine with a smaller (volume) finish today but fine length all the same.



Bill NANSON



Burgundy-Report

December Report / Published on January 29th, 2020



Bill NANSON

Albert Bichot - 2018

The wines...

Very good whites. The reds here have an uncommon sophistication for the vintage – nothing opaque or alcoholic. It's a great return I think! "I think it was easier in 2018 than 2019, the lower volume of 2019 further magnifies the differences in maturities and harvesting/elevage choices."

One or two of the entry wines have been bottled, the rest are a mix of barrel and tank samples:

The whites

2018 Macon-Lugny Les Charmes

A pretty sweetness to this nose, slightly muscaté. Mouth-filling a subtle impression of richness, but also a saline mineral impression that brings balance.

2018 Bourgogne Côte d'Or Chardonnay Secret de Famille

Fresh, wide, a little spicy, perhaps reductive, less obviously fruity. This is rather mineral and beautifully shaped – yes a little touch of savoury reduction. Carafe for a really delicious Bourgogne!

2018 Mercurey Les Champs-Michaux, Domaine Adélie

Deeper, some biscuit reduction, but a very fine mineral shape. Full, energetic, complex – what a great mouthful of wine! Delicious pineapple and minerality. Great Mercurey Blanc!

2018 Nuits Saint Georges Les Terrasses Château-Gris

Again a faint whiff of savoury reduction – it's not the corks, these are tank samples. Nice shape and super energy in the mouth – a little more clarity and energy after the Mercurey – more intensity of agrume-styled flavour. Delicious finishing too! Yes!

2018 Meursault, Domaine du Pavillon

This smells a little of the fining, dulling the aroma a little. But there's an energy and open freshness across the palate – that's mouth-watering and delicious. This will be excellent!

2018 Meursault 1er Cru Les Charmes, Domaine du Pavillon

More depth of aroma here, riper citrus fruit but with energy too. Hmm, that's fine – its mouth-filling but very open slightly spiced complexity here. Melting over the palate, a grain of tannin always present. It's a great year for Charmes I think and here is a slightly different interpretation – super wine – probably carafe to get the best from this. As a minimum, excellent!

2018 Beaune 1er Cru Clos des Mouches, Domaine du Pavillon

A touch of cushioning to fresh, slightly mineral, comforting fruit. Super in the mouth – ultra-mineral, mouth-watering and complex. That's really something. Bravo! Touched, by a suggestion of barrel today, but it's obviously great wine!

2018 Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru, Domaine du Pavillon

Hmm, a silky depth of mineral aroma, a suggestion of caramel too. Lots of mouth-filling volume here – silkier wine too – the grain of tannin less visible than for the last 2 but there is still something here. Intense – wide, melting flavour long flavour that's a super Charlemagne.



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Bill NANSON

The reds

2018 Moulin-à-Vent, Domaine de Rochegrès

Not bottled.

An easy and wide nose with tighter depth. Nice shape in the mouth, clearly gamay, with layers of acid-led flavour. Really deliciously, finishing with a fine blend of clarity and complexity – lovely here.

2018 Moulin-à-Vent Rochegrès, Domaine de Rochegrès

Hmm, a more floral and perfumed aroma here, fine minerality at the base. Beautiful extra volume but clarity too – this is gorgeous in the mouth – a clarion of deliciousness but with proper open structure too – bravo – and again great finishing!

2018 Bourgogne Côte d'Or Pinot Noir Secret de Famille

Hmm, this, to start, seems a little harder than the Rochegrès, but slowly opens with some attractive violet flowers over a more savoury depth. Fine width and shape – there is freshness and a lovely ripe but fresh liqueur fruit in the middle – this is an attractive 18 Bourgogne nothing here out of balance – carafe – it's excellent.

2018 Mercurey 1er Cru Champs Martin, Domaine Adélie

Plenty of colour – still a waft of creamy oak on this nose. Quite full but layered and delicious. This sample has far too much oak for today – but the shape, balance and concentration are excellent...

2018 Pommard Clos des Ursulines, Domaine du Pavillon

Hmm, that's a fine nose – of amplitude, depth and enticing perfume. Fine texture and mouth-filling volume. Deliciously finishing – bravo – top villages Pommard.

2018 Pommard 1er Cru Les Rugiens, Domaine du Pavillon

More freshness – a more vertical (up and down) nose – super, slightly spiced, but the villages is the more inviting today. More open, more structural but the tannin is modest – this has great open shape – architecture – super finishing complexity – mouth-watering all the way. A great finish!

2018 Aloxe-Corton 1er Cru Clos des Maréchaudes, Domaine du Pavillon

A more powerful nose, some floral aspects too – nicely presented. Nice drive and energy but a rather wide presentation too – not so sweet either for an Aloxe in 2018. Fine finishing – delicious.

2018 Corton Grand Cru Clos des Maréchaudes, Domaine du Pavillon

A narrower but deep nose, subtly floral and more obviously complex and inviting. Mouth-filling but in a well-judged way, slowly, slowly developing complexity and a more mouth-watering middle and finishing flavour. Not a bit overdone, some practically grain-free tannin. A great and open finish – great Corton.

2018 Fixin 1er Cru Clos de la Perrière

A waft, indeed a raft of oak – not quite to the level of the Mercurey – but redolent! Very fine shape in the mouth – a little less in all directions after the Corton – of course – but layered, open and really beautifully constructed. This is great Fixin – hopefully, the assemblage will be less oaked – anyway it will last very well.

2018 Morey Saint Denis 1er Cru Les Sorbets

Hmm, that's a fine, open, fresh and complex nose – faintly spiced complexity – a great invitation. Round, supple, a lovely fresh and wide wave of flavour flowing over the palate. Lovely texture too. Wide finishing – classy, delicious wine! Bravo!



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Bill NANSON

2018 Nuits Saint Georges 1er Cru Chaines Carteaux

Fresh and deep – some creamy oak – but less than the others that are affected. This has cool fruit and drive – a bubbling undercurrent of energy and slowly growing intensity. Excellent!

2018 Nuits Saint Georges 1er Cru Château-Gris

Aromas of nice depth, a little narrower than the ‘Chaines.’ Fuller but open in style – architectural – a little like the Fixin today – but here with more impact. Really a fuller finish – quite some power here in the finish. Very nice.

2018 Chambolle-Musigny 1er Cru Les Chabiots

Plenty of aromatic volume – quite attractive too. Actually this has nice freshness and an airy style despite the obvious volume in the mouth. Truly an elegant and enticing 2018 Chambolle!

2018 Vosne-Romanée, Domaine du Clos Frantin

Hmm – now that’s an attractive perfume! Mouth-filling, not too much. Mobile complex, changing over the palate. Lovely villages, correct, mouth-watering complexity – delicious!

2018 Vosne-Romanée 1er Cru Les Malconsorts, Domaine du Clos Frantin

Less depth of aroma but much more width and complexity. More zip of freshness and energy – ooh this is a bundle of energy. Dynamic, complex – brilliant finishing – bravo!

2018 Clos de Vougeot Grand Cru, Domaine du Clos Frantin

A fine herb and floral top note – deep too – less width – a vertical high and low nose. Fresh, open, complex, fine energy, proper but not daunting structure. I love my wine like this – so intense and mouth-watering in the finish. Bravo!

2018 Echézeaux Grand Cru, Domaine du Clos Frantin

A little more colour but still clear at the rim. A deep, deep nose but freshly floral above. Fuller, but actually freshly mineral too. Very wide, slow waves of mouth-watering flavour in the finish – a different beast. Super.

2018 Charmes-Chambertin Grand Cru

A nice volume of aroma, and of attractive freshness within. Full, but depth of finely concentrated texture – energy and fine fruit – juicily delicious. Very long. Another Charmes of character in 2018! Excellent.

2018 Clos de la Roche Grand Cru

Plenty of colour but again clear at the rim. An extra freshness – indeed clarity, of complexity – deep, not so wide – hyper-attractive and adding further floral references. This is mouth-watering, mineral, and a touch saline. Easy energy over the palate, fine finishing intensity too – slowly fading here. Lovely wine.

2018 Chambertin, Domaine du Clos Frantin

Hmm – the most perfumed nose of all – super. Supple, deep, mouth-filling wine – always mouth-watering, touched by a little oak, but just an anecdote. Mouth-wateringly long, impressive weight to this finishing flavour too. Great wine!



2018 Côte de Nuits reds**2018 Gevrey-Chambertin “Les Evocelles” : (89-91) TOP VALUE WINE**

A fresh and high-toned nose features notes of essence of red currant, cherry and wafting floral nuances. There is unusually good volume for Evocelles along with solid mid-palate density to the saline-suffused flavors that culminate in an impressively long if slightly chewy finish. Still, this is a very good village. 2028+

2018 Fixin 1er Cru “Clos de la Perrière” : (89-92)

Moderate amounts of wood and reduction make for a pungent introduction to the delicious, intense and concentrated medium-bodied flavors that coat the palate with sap that also serves to buffer the balanced and lightly stony finale. This isn't particularly energetic but I like the depth and harmony. 2025+

2018 Nuits St.-Georges 1er Cru "Chaînes Carteaux" : (89-92)

Here the expressive nose plays right on the edge of perceptible volatile acidity though I stress that it's very subtle on the moderately high-toned nose of various red berries, pomegranate and lavender scents, all of which is trimmed in soft oak. The racy and solidly intense medium-bodied flavors possess very good detail along with slightly more evident acidity on the stony, serious and mildly rustic finale. 2026+

2018 Nuits St. Georges 1er Cru “Château Gris” : (89-92)

A spicy and quite peppery mix is comprised by notes of red and dark currant, soft wood and a floral top note. There is reasonably good volume to the stony and well-detailed middle weight flavors that terminate in a refreshingly saline-inflected finish. This high elevation vineyard is always better in warm vintages and 2018 is exactly that. 2028+

2018 Morey St.-Denis 1er Cru “Les Sorbets” : (90-92)

There is a more sophisticated mouthfeel to the middle weight flavors thanks to the relatively fine-grained tannins shaping the markedly saline and refreshing finish. This is almost tender in character and a wine that should be approachable young. 2026+

2018 Chambolle-Musigny 1er Cru “Les Chabiots” : (90-92)

A deft application of wood is present on the cool but ripe array that is comprised by notes of essence of plum, red currant and a dollop of various spice elements. There is fine volume to the attractively textured and mouth coating flavors that are at once refined while flashing focused power on the delicious and solidly persistent finish. This needs to develop more depth but it's very Chambollesque. 2026+

2018 Chambolle-Musigny 1er Cru “Les Amoureuses” : (90-93)

A markedly spicy nose is both quite pretty and floral in character with just a touch of wood toast to the mostly red currant-scented aromas. The ultra-refined, sleek and lacy middle weight flavors that possess a velvety mouthfeel that contrasts with the firm and youthfully austere finally that is very well balanced. This should reward medium-term patience. 2028+

2018 Vosne-Romanée 1er Cru “Les Malconsorts”***Domaine du Clos Frantin* : (90-93)**

(from a large 1.76 ha parcel). A fresh, bright and expressive nose offers up an elegant collection of red cherry, pomegranate, floral and an abundance of spice scents. There is good volume and muscle as well as an attractive underlying tension to the intensely mineral-driven medium weight plus flavors that deliver excellent punch and drive to the lingering if grippy finale. This is presently very firmly structured and while by no means hard, it will need all of 12 to 15-ish years or so for the tannins to fully resolve. 2033+





2018 Côte de Nuits Reds

2018 Echézeaux *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: (90-93)

(from a .99 ha parcel in Champs Traversin). A notably ripe and very spicy nose combines notes of cassis, blue berry, violet and sandalwood. The seductive and velvet-textured middle weight flavors possess both good volume and plenty of sappy dry extract that mostly buffers the firm tannic spine shaping the better balanced if youthfully austere finish. This is not particularly reserved though it will still need at least a few years of patience first. 2030+

2018 Grands-Echézeaux *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: (91-93)

(from a .6 ha parcel). A more restrained nose features equally spicy and more floral-infused aromas that also evidence a trace of volatile acidity. The exceptionally rich and full-bodied flavors possess very good power and muscle while the copious sap coats the palate on the firm, saline, very compact and built-to-age finale. 2033+

2018 Charmes-Chambertin: (90-93)

(from Charmes proper and Mazoyères). A decidedly reserved if not mute nose reflects notes of cassis, plum liqueur, earth and suggestions of the sauvage. The round and nicely voluminous middle weight plus flavors possess an enveloping mouthfeel as well as very fine length on the firm finish. This too should age well over the medium to perhaps even longer-term. 2039+

2018 Chambertin *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: (91-93)

Evident wood and menthol elements frame the mostly cool and reserved dark berry fruit, earth and freshly turned earth aromas. The rich broad-shouldered flavors possess excellent punch and minerality while flashing obvious muscle on the stony, chiseled and powerful finish that is once youthfully austere and linear. Like the Grands Ech, this is going to need considerable time to shed its very firm tannic shell. 2033+

2018 Richebourg *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: (91-94)

This is even more aromatically restrained than the Chambertin at present with its riper aromas of cassis, poached plum, exotic tea and a broad array of floral influences. The sleek, intense and beautifully delineated large-scaled flavors that brim with both minerality and dry extract, all wrapped in a strikingly long, stony and linear finish that is trimmed in just enough wood to merit pointing out. This is also clearly built-to-age and I very much like the complexity. 2035+



January 2020

CÔTE DE BEAUNE & CÔTE DE NUITS REDS

SAVIGNY-LES-BEAUNE LES GRANDS PICOTINS Domaine du Pavillon 2018: 16

POMMARD CLOS DES URSULINES Domaine du Pavillon 2018: 16+

POMMARD 1^{ER} CRU LES RUGIENS Domaine du Pavillon 2018: 16.5

Very juicy appealing palate in which the fruit almost disguises the polished tannins.

VOSNE-ROMANÉE Domaine du Clos Frantin 2018: 16.5

Very juicy with the drive of the village. This seems balanced, without obtrusive tannins. Good pace.

FIXIN 1^{ER} CLOS DE LA PERRIÈRE CRU 2018: 17

Rich nose reminiscent of dunked digestive biscuits. Very sweet palate entry is pretty charming. Lots of energy here. No shy retiring flower! Long on the end.

MOREY-SAINT-DENIS 1^{ER} CRU LES SORBETS 2018: 16.5

Interesting, well-integrated nose. Savoury energy. Well balanced.

VOSNE-ROMANÉE 1^{ER} CRU LES MALCONSORTS Domaine du Clos Frantin 2018: 17

Hint of oak on some quite precise raspberry fruit. Chalky texture. This should come right eventually.

LATRICIÈRES-CHAMBERTIN GRAND CRU 2018: 17

Trace of oak on the nose. Sweet start and some delicate precision. Appetising.

CHARMES-CHAMBERTIN GRAND CRU 2018: 17

Quite an intense nose. Round nose and then crunchy fruited. Good attack. Quite forward.

CLOS DE VOUGEOT GRAND CRU Domaine du Clos Frantin 2018: 17 +

Clove, vanilla, a touch of earth and strawberry. Well-structured palate, with the intensity to carry it off over the medium-to-long term.

ECHÉZEUX GRAND CRU Domaine du Clos Frantin 2018: 17+

Solid concentrated fruit with freshness that complements it. Very lively wine. Lots of structure in evidence at the moment, with masses of energy.

CHAMBERTIN GRAND CRU Domaine du Clos Frantin 2018: 17.5

Intense and concentrated nose. Good balance with near-majestic fruit almost covering the oaky structure. Definitely the star of the tasting.



January 2020

CHABLIS

CHABLIS 1^{ER} CRU LES VAUCOPINS Domaine Long-Depaquit 2018: 17

Very exciting and lively. Very classic Chablis with juiciness and limpidity. Chapeau!

CHABLIS GRAND CRU LES BLANCHOTS Domaine Long-Depaquit 2018: 16.5

Excellent structure and raciness on the palate. Already approachable, though with some chewiness.

CHABLIS GRAND CRU LES CLOS Domaine Long-Depaquit 2018: 17

Lean and clean and fresh. Some green streak. Long and firm. As good as the Vaucopins with a bit more weight.

CHABLIS GRAND CRU MOUTONNE Domaine Long-Depaquit 2018: 17.5

Creamy almond notes, with oyster shell, spice and yellow apple. Dense, chalky and tight, with brisk acidity rather than crisp. Creamy and long, and certainly needs time. Worthy of grand cru.

COTE D'OR WHITES

NUITS-SAINT-GEORGES LES TERRASSES Château-Gris 2018: 16

BEAUNE 1^{ER} CRU CLOS DES MOUCHES Domaine du Pavillon 2018: 16

MEURSAULT 1^{ER} CRU LES CHARMES Domaine du Pavillon 2018: 16.5





Neal Martin

2018 REDS

2018 MOULIN-À-VENT Domaine de Rochegrès

90

It has a pretty, pure red cherry and crushed strawberry bouquet – bright and perky! The palate is medium-bodied with supple tannins, a fine bead of acidity and a gentle but nicely defined finish. Enjoy this well-made Beaujolais over the next five years.



2018 BOURGOGNE CÔTE D'OR PINOT NOIR "SECRET DE FAMILLE"

87

It offers strawberry and raspberry scents, and the palate is balanced and clean, with a welcome touch of sour cherry on the finish. Likely to be good value.

2018 MERCUREY CHAMPS MARTIN 1^{ER} CRU Domaine Adélie

88-90

It has a light, fresh bouquet of raspberry and cranberry fruit, a little earthy and rustic in a positive sense. The palate is medium-bodied with supple tannins and a fine bead of acidity. Quite pastille-like toward the finish, where I find the whole bunch neatly enmeshed. Enjoy this light-hearted, approachable Mercurey over the next five or six years.



2018 SAVIGNY-LÈS-BEAUNE LES GRANDS PICOTINS Domaine du Pavillon

90-92

The gung-ho nose flaunts a bit of brio that I admire, along with plenty of brambly red berry fruit. The palate is well balanced with sappy red fruit, a fine bead of acidity and discreet touches of apricot and blood orange on the finish. This is just superb.



2018 POMMARD LES RUGIENS 1^{ER} CRU Domaine du Pavillon

90-92

It has a more introverted bouquet, while the fruit feels a little darker. The palate is medium-bodied with grippy tannins. Clean and pure with a sensual finish. Good potential.

2018 ALOXE-CORTON CLOS DES MARÉCHAUDES 1^{ER} CRU Domaine du Pavillon

89-91

It has quite an elegant bouquet for this appellation, the whole bunch perhaps putting a bit of restraint on its precocity. The palate is medium-bodied with supple tannins. This is a pliant Aloxé-Corton with a caressing, slightly citrus-fresh finish that delivers satisfying tension. Recommended.



2018 CORTON CLOS DES MARÉCHAUDES GRAND CRU Domaine du Pavillon

92-94

It has a pretty bouquet of brambly red fruit, briar and light tertiary scents that gradually unfold in the glass. The palate is well balanced with nice grip on the entry. This is underlined by a fine bead of acidity that lends wonderful freshness and race on the finish. Superb.

2018 FIXIN CLOS DE LA PERRIÈRE 1^{ER} CRU

90-92

It has a ripe, generous bouquet of macerated red cherries, wild strawberry and quince aromas that don't hold back. The palate is well balanced with gutsy red berry fruit laced with sherbet and orange peel, and a little spice toward the succulent finish. There is a subtle headiness here, but I suspect it will be absolutely delicious after bottling.

2018 GEVREY-CHAMBERTIN PETITE-CHAPELLE 1^{ER} CRU

90-92

It feels a little pinched on the nose. The palate is slightly grainy in texture and there is a fine bead of acidity here. Quite a structured and spicy Petite-Chapelle, with a dash of black pepper on the finish. This certainly improves with aeration.

2018 CHAMBOLLE-MUSIGNY LES AMOUREUSES 1^{ER} CRU

91-93

It has a lovely, very pure and charming bouquet with copious red cherries, crushed strawberry and pressed rose petal aromas, veins of blue fruit emerging with aeration. There is a sensuality that is irresistible. Drink over the next two decades.



Neal Martin

2018 REDS

2018 VOSNE-ROMANÉE LES MALCONSORTS 1^{ER} CRU Domaine du Clos Frantin 92-94

This has a high-class bouquet of pure red cherries, cranberry and wild strawberry scents, hints of rose petal and orange blossom emerging with time. The palate is medium-bodied with crisp red berry fruit and a frame of quite firm tannins that should guarantee the longevity of this Malconsorts. It feels a little aloof on the finish, but it just needs time to soften its edges.



2018 CLOS DE VOUGEOT GRAND CRU Domaine du Clos Frantin 90-92

It offers a mixture of red and black fruit on the nose, which is a little tertiary in style, the whole bunch being a little more conspicuous at the moment. The palate is medium-bodied with supple tannins and fine acidity. A nubile Clos de Vougeot with a rich, dense finish. Give it three to five years in bottle.

2018 CLOS DE LA ROCHE GRAND CRU 91-93

It has an intense red cherry and crushed strawberry bouquet, touches of incense and rose petals emerging with time. I appreciate the precision here. The palate is medium-bodied with supple tannins, very poised and focused, with a sorbet-fresh finish that maybe just needs a little more weight and density. Hopefully that will develop by the time of bottling.



2018 ECHÉZEAUX GRAND CRU Domaine du Clos Frantin 91-93

The transparent, generous bouquet is quite floral in style, with pressed rose petals present as much as the red fruit. The medium-bodied palate delivers fine tannins and good acidity. This is a very well balanced and focused Echézeaux with a structured, stony finish.

2018 CHARMES-CHAMBERTIN GRAND CRU 92-94

There is a sense of sumptuousness on the nose of pure dark cherry, cranberry and tangerine. The palate is well balanced with grippy tannins, a fine bead of acidity and satisfying tension and vivacity on the edgy, stony finish. This is an excellent Charmes-Chambertin.

2018 CHAMBERTIN GRAND CRU Domaine du Clos Frantin 94-96

It has a very pure, generous bouquet with layers of red cherries, crushed strawberry and cranberry fruit and well-integrated oak. The palate is medium-bodied with supple tannins. Very lithe and fresh, leading to a delineated finish that ranks alongside many others I have tasted. This is a superb Chambertin that will age with style.



2018 WHITES

2018 MÂCON MILLY-LAMARTINE 87

It has a clean, fresh bouquet of red apples and light apricot scents. The palate is well balanced with orange zest and citrus fruit on the entry, a fine bead of acidity and a welcome touch of sour lemon mixed with almond toward the finish.

2018 MERCUREY LES CHAMPS-MICHAUX Domaine Adélie 89

It has an attractive bouquet of pressed white flowers filtering through the beeswax and light apricot scents. The well-balanced palate displays a fine bead of acidity, good weight and a fresh, white peach and nectarine finish. Fine.

2018 MEURSAULT LES CHARMES 1^{ER} CRU Domaine du Pavillon 91

It has a pleasant bouquet with subtle aromas of praline and walnut. The well-balanced palate offers orange zest and apricot on the entry. A pretty rather than a cerebral wine, with satisfying delineation and length on the finish. It actually improves with aeration and ends up a very commendable Charmes.





Antonio Galloni

January 2020

2018 CHABLIS

The **2018 Chablis** is a very pretty wine. Dried pear, almond and dried flowers give the Chablis lovely aromatic complexity and nuance. Soft, silky and expressive, the 2018 is promising. **(88-90)**

The **2018 Chablis Les Beugnons 1er Cru** is ample and creamy in feel, emerging from the combination of warm soils and steep, south-facing site. Dried pear, crushed flowers, mint and spice notes all flesh out in this super-expressive, open-knit Chablis. There is real character and depth here. **(90-92)**

The **2018 Chablis Les Lys 1er Cru** is bright, precise and beautifully lifted, with lovely citrus, almond, dried herb, saline and white floral character. Medium in body and vibrant, the Lys clearly benefits from the northern exposure of this site and aging in steel. This is an impeccably done wine that shows the more savory style of Chablis. **(90-92)**

The **2018 Chablis Les Vaillons 1er Cru** is fabulous and also the most complete of the three wines from the Vaillons valley. Bright citrus and floral notes confer lift and airiness to this very pretty, gracious Chablis. A wine of total precision and class, the Vaillons is simply terrific. The 10% oak (all neutral) is not especially evident. **(91-93)**

The **2018 Chablis Montmains 1er Cru**, from Les Forêts, is ample and expressive, with an extra kick of raciness from the 20% new oak. Apricot, almond, dried flowers, chamomile and lightly honeyed notes all grace this exquisite, impeccably balanced Chablis from Long-Deaquit. The balance of fruit richness, aromatics and structure here is compelling. **(91-93)**

The **2018 Chablis Montée de Tonnerre 1er Cru** is brisk and vibrant, as wines from this site tend to be. Citrus peel, white flowers, white pepper and chalk give the 2018 striking aromatic presence and brilliance. This finely sculpted, nuanced Chablis has so much to offer. I loved it. **(91-93)**

The **2018 Chablis Les Vaucopins 1er Cru** is bright, precise and full of energy. Floral, savory and mineral notes are pushed forward in this lively, nicely delineated Chablis. The Vaucopins is a bit tight today, but that should not be an issue in time. The 15% new oak adds texture without being especially noticeable. Stylistically, the Vaucopins is more about texture and palate presence than overt fruit. **(90-92)**

The **2018 Chablis Les Blanchots Grand Cru** emerges from the highest and easternmost border of this grand cru, which gives the wine its distinctive airy, weightless feel. Floral and citrus notes are finely sketched in this understated, nuanced Chablis from Long-Deaquit. Time in the glass brings out an attractive tropical quality. **(91-93)**

The **2018 Chablis Les Preuses Grand Cru** is dense and powerful in the glass. It is also one of the few wines that is done entirely in oak, an approach that, in my view, constricts the wine and leaves it feeling austere, which is not at all typical for the year. Even, the Preuses has quite a bit of energy. I can't wait to taste it with a bit more bottle age. **(91-93)**

The **2018 Chablis Bougros Grand Cru** is creamy and silky, with pretty floral notes that add lift. Jasmine, pear, green apple, mint and a touch of new oak all grace this super-expressive, inviting Chablis. Aging in oak adds texture and resonance, without marking the wine excessively. **(92-94)**

The **2018 Chablis Les Vaudésirs Grand Cru** shows the richer, riper side of the year, all of that accented by 25% new oak that adds richness and volume. Apricot, orange peel and tropical fruit are all laced together in this lush, racy Chablis. This is a wine of real power, depth and density but also of energy. **(92-94)**

The **2018 Chablis Les Clos Grand Cru** is very airy, weightless and lifted. The 35% new oak is not especially evident. The 2018 shows real finesse and aromatic intrigue. Citrus, white flowers, chalk, white orchard fruit, white pepper and mint come together in a very pretty and gracious wine with a long, persistent finish. **(92-94)**



Antonio Galloni

January 2020

2017 CHABLIS

The **2017 Chablis** is a silky, perfumed and open-knit wine with lovely depth to play off the lifted floral aromatics. Lemon confit, white flowers, mint and white pepper add brilliance to this racy, polished Chablis. **90**

The **2017 Chablis Les Lys 1er Cru** is powerful, dense and savory with lots of energy. Savory herbs, dried flowers and lemon peel come together in a Chablis that is bright, punchy and full of character. The 2017 is a bit hearty and rough around the edges, but it certainly isn't lacking in depth or intensity. **90**

The **2017 Chablis Les Vaillons 1er Cru** is resonant and super-expressive. Lemon confit, almond, dried herbs, crushed flowers and mint come together in an attractive, nuanced Chablis that will drink well right out of the gate. The finish dries out just a touch. Otherwise, the 2017 is nicely done. **90**

The **2017 Chablis Montmains 1er Cru** is soft, open-knit and expressive, with no hard edges and plenty of immediacy. Bright citrus and floral character adds lift. There is not a ton of complexity here, but the 2017 makes up for that with its creamy, inviting personality. Hints of orange peel and white flowers linger nicely on the close. **90**

The **2017 Chablis Les Vaucopins 1er Cru** is bright, precise and lifted. Floral, citrus and spice notes are nicely delineated. There is good energy and resonance here, but ultimately, the Vaucopins feels a bit compact, especially in the mid-palate. **89**

The **2017 Chablis Les Blanchots Grand Cru** is soft, precise and understated. White orchard fruit, lemon peel, crushed flowers, mint give this delicate, inviting Chablis its classy personality. Overall the 2017 is very pretty and quite supple. It will drink well with minimal cellaring. **91**

The **2017 Chablis Les Vaudésirs Grand Cru** is soft and creamy in feel. Hazelnut, pineapple, dried flowers, orange peel and tropical overtones give the Vaudésirs its distinctly flamboyant personality. **90**

The **2017 Chablis Les Clos Grand Cru** is quite rich and powerful. Tropical fruit, exotic spice and strong oak inflections give the Clos its breadth and sweetness. The 2017 is nicely done. **91**

A heady, powerful wine, the **2017 Chablis Les Preuses Grand Cru** captures the house style at its best. What impresses most is a real sense of explosive energy that gives the wine shape and persistence. Moreover, the Preuses clearly has the stuffing to handle the 100% new oak. With a bit of air the flavors and textures open up nicely. **93**

The **2017 Chablis La Moutonne Monopole Grand Cru** is powerful and explosive in the glass, with tremendous textural resonance and richness that builds into the substantial finish. The Moutonne captures all of the signatures of the house style in its breadth and overall feel. **92**

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