

PRESS REVIEW

Years 2023-2022-2021

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.”



Published on July 22nd, 2022

CHABLIS Domaine Long-Depaquit 2021

Score: 90 Points

An aromatic wine for a regular Chablis, with plenty of fresh-lemon, white-peach and tarte-au-citron character. Cooler and crisper on the palate than the nose suggested, but that makes it very clean and refreshing. Good length, the finish nicely supported by a touch of tannin. Drink now.

SAINT-VÉRAN 2021

Score: 90 Points

There's plenty of ripe mirabelle and melon fruit here, but the acidity is quite crisp at the front of the medium-bodied palate. Good depth and length. A touch of positive tannin at the finish. From the northern part of this appellation, where the soils are quite similar to those of Pouilly-Fuisse. Drink now.

MÂCON-LUGNY LES CHARMES 2021

Score: 89 Points

Plenty of ripe mirabelle and apricot fruit gives this round and lively Macon plenty of appeal, and almost completely masks a hint of rusticity. You only feel it directly right at the finish, but this still has very satisfactory harmony, in fact it is very round. From the plateau of Macon-Lugny. Drink now.



Published on March 20th, 2023

FLEURIE LA MADONE 2021

Score: 89 Points

A light-bodied Fleurie that's got plenty of pretty floral aromas, but also a gentle touch of tannin and a crisp stony acidity. Drink now while the red berry fruit is still lively.

MOULIN-A-VENT LE ROC DOMAINE DE ROCHEGRÈS 2021

Score: 90 Points

A solid Moulin-a-Vent that has the black fruit and delicate earthiness we look for in the wines from this appellation. Lively acidity on the quite bold palate. Long finish with plenty of licorice character. Drink or hold.



Tasted by Andy Howard MW

CHABLIS GRAND CRU LES CLOS Domaine Long-Depaquit: 94

Cool, understated with plenty of concentration and structure waiting to flesh out over the next three to five years. A restrained Les Clos with plenty of smoky characters emphasising the vibrant notes of orange zest on the palate. Very subtle wood adds to the complexity. A fine wine in the making and a very good result for new winemaker Louis Gimonet.

CHABLIS 1^{ER} CRU LES VAILLONS Domaine Long-Depaquit: 91

A fine blend of white peach and pear fruit on the palate, some lifted floral notes and plenty of drive on the finish. New winemaker here, Louis Gimonet, is bringing his own interpretation to this significant domaine, part of the important Bichot group. Should age well for three to four years.

CHABLIS 1^{ER} CRU LES LYS Domaine Long-Depaquit: 91

A plush, rounded Les Lys with plenty of acidity to keep the palate in check. Mineral notes on the finish. Plenty going on here - this wine will benefit from at least six months ageing in bottle as everything is still very primary. But there is no shortage of concentration and the wine will continue to develop well.



Tasted by Charles Curtis MW

MEURSAULT 1^{ER} CRU LES CHARMES Domaine du Pavillon: 92

The Charmes from Domaine du Pavillon is slightly closed at first but opens with time to show a lush, ripe fruit with more honeyed character than the village-level wine. The texture shows the concentration from the low yields (17 hl/ha) —it is dense with extract, but the acidity is concentrated as well, and the overall balance is vibrant and lively. The grapes come from three parcels that total 1.17 hectares, two in Charmes Dessus and one in Charmes Dessous.

MEURSAULT Domaine du Pavillon: 92

The village-level Meursault from Domaine du Pavillon boasts ripe aromas of quince, lemon peel, spice, and butter on the initial attack. The flavours continue with impressive definition and depth, leading to a remarkably well-balanced texture with fresh acidity, plenty of extract, and enough stuffing to carry it to a lingering finish. The grapes come from five parcels totaling 2.3 hectares, all located in the northern part of the village between the town and the border with Volnay.



Jancis Robinson

January 2023

VINTAGE 2021



Jancis Robinson MW

REDS

VOSNE-ROMANÉE 1^{ER} CRU LES MALCONSORTS Domaine du Clos Frantin 2021: 16.5+

Some real pace on this wine and quite a bit of tannin too. A little bitter on the end but good fruit on the way there.

VOSNE-ROMANÉE Domaine du Clos Frantin 2021: 16

Rich and solid – not quite as pacy as a typical Vosne. Some depth and pleasure here already.

NUITS-SAINT-GEORGES 1^{ER} CRU CHÂTEAU-GRIS 2021: 16.5

Rich, layered, dramatic, verging on flashy! Lots going on here – who says Nuits is dull...?! Quite a powerhouse! Tannin currently in evidence but the fruit should come to the fore eventually.

CORTON GRAND CRU CLOS DES MARECHAUDES Domaine du Pavillon 2021: 16.5++

Rich, dense and somehow rather sparkling-bright on the nose! The note of bitterness on the end is positive rather than negative in this case. But it tapers to a point on the end at the moment. Needs time.

BOURGOGNE CÔTE D'OR PINOT NOIR Domaine du Clos Frantin 2021: 16

Light and very much leaning in to the vintage character. There is some ripeness and even richness as well as the very modern transparency. Nice!

BOURGOGNE CÔTE D'OR PINOT NOIR SECRET DE FAMILLE 2021: 15.5

Sweet and seems a little simple after all the energy of the Moulin-à-Vent! But there is pure black-cherry fruit – less funky, and perhaps more mainstream, than the Clos Frantin counterpart.

MOULIN-À-VENT Domaine de Rochebrès 2021: 16.5

Edgy and lively with real punch, fruit and direction. Long, quite impressive.



WHITES

CHABLIS 1^{ER} CRU LES MONTMAINS Domaine Long-Depaquit 2021: 16

Bone dry and mineral – true to Chablis. A little riper than some, and maybe a little too ripe for Chablis purists?

CHABLIS GRAND Cru LES CLOS Domaine Long-Depaquit 2021: 16.5

Lots of edge and life with excellent energy and definition. Too young now.

Meursault 1^{ER} CRU LES CHARMES Domaine du Pavillon 2021: 16.5

Both rich and precise – well done! Lots of pleasure delivered. Definitely has premier-cru, if not grand-cru, weight. All stops pulled out for maximum impact and length.

Bourgogne Côte d'Or Chardonnay Secret de Famille 2021: 16

Broad and creamy with a streak of lime to keep it zippy. Lots of acidity in here!

Bourgogne ALIGOTÉ CHAMP RENARD Domaine Adélie 2021: 16

A bit ordinary on the nose. Sufficient fruit and breadth on the palate – quite a surprise in fact! Grip and ripe fruit with a hint of passion fruit.

Mercurey LES CHAMPS-MICHAUX Domaine Adélie 2021: 16+

Lots of fruit here. With acidity and more precision than many Côte Chalonnaise whites.



Jasper Morris MW

2021, Clos-Vougeot Grand Cru, Domaine du Clos Frantin

93-95

The bouquet offers a mix of intelligent oaking with a certain amount of raspberry fruit. The detail, as ever in young Clos Vougeot, is more muted. Yet there is an impressive weight on the palate with a light pepperiness at the finish. I like the way the fruit builds towards the back, and this should emerge well hereafter. Drink from 2027-2033.

2021, Vosne Romanée 1er Cru Les Malconsorts, Domaine du Clos Frantin

93-95

Pure beautiful purple, with the nose of exceptional hedonistic class associated with this vineyard. One can detect the remains of a little reduction in the mouth, which holds it back a fraction at this stage, but this is still a really good wine underneath and will be thoroughly exciting. It has the Malconsorts magic. Drink from 2026-2032

2021, Vosne Romanée, Domaine du Clos Frantin

88-91

Quite an elegant bouquet, with perfumed alpine strawberries. This continues through on the palate, softly elegant, few tannins behind, will be ready relatively early, and attractive. Drink from 2025-2029.

2021 Chambolle-Musigny Les Chabiots 1er Cru

90-92

Rather attractively perfumed. Sensual red fruit in a softer style, a slight toughening of tannins behind, but the rest of the barrel maturation should sort that. Discreet yet charming finish. Should be good. Drink from 2026-2030.

2021, Pommard Les Rugiens 1er Cru, Domaine du Pavillon

90-93

There is a little more oak showing on the nose which holds the fruit back. However, it does emerge, especially on the mouth, and fills the mouth quite nicely in a similar flavour profile to Ursulines, perhaps a little more raspberry than cherry. Drink from 2027-2031.

2021, Pommard Clos des Ursulines, Domaine du Pavillon

89-91

An immediately delicious bouquet with some depth, ripe cherry and raspberry, very good. Enough structure to prove its Pommard origins but just the right amount of high class fruit alongside with fine acidity. Drink from 2026-2030.

2021, Aloxe-Corton Clos des Maréchaudes 1er Cru, Domaine du Pavillon

89-92

A slight coffee grain toasty reduction to the nose. Then more depth of red fruit on the palate. One expects suppleness in the Maréchaudes but the wood and or reduction has slightly tightened up the framework. Drink from 2026-2030.

2021, Bourgogne Côte d'Or Clos Frantin, Domaine du Clos Frantin

88

There is some weight of sound pinot fruit on the nose. In fact, I find an impressive depth in the mouth, strawberry with a touch of raspberry, and good acidity. Plenty to like here. Drink from 2024-2026.



93-95



93-95

2021, Meursault Les Charmes 1er Cru, Domaine du Pavillon

89-92

The bouquet is backward, but the fruit works well on the palate with good acidity to back it up. Quite full bodied, predominantly white fruit, a little citrus. Drink from 2026-2030.

2021, Meursault Domaine du Pavillon

88-90

A little touch of coconut on top of some fatter fruit. Significant density, good acidity, while the personality still awaits development, but this should make a sound full-bodied Meursault. Drink from 2025-2029.

2021, Nuits-St-Georges Les Terrasses, Château-Gris

88-90

Unusually, this is mostly Gobelet pruned though they are switching to Guyot with much better results. Fresh yellow colour, and once again quite oaky. The oak adds a lactic note to the palate. Plenty of fruit density too with a slightly spicy finish.

2021, Mercurey Les Champs Michaux, Domaine Adélie

86-88

There is some weight of fruit on the nose, and some oak. Fleshy with just a touch too much oak at the moment but this may be tidied up by the bottling.

2021, Bourgogne Chardonnay Côte d'Or Secret de Famille

87

In bottle. Relatively high-toned nose. Yellow and white fruit with a crystalline note to refresh the finish. There is good intensity here, they have worked hard to produce an impressive blend this year. Drink from 2024-2026.

2021, Bourgogne Aligoté Champ Renard, Domaine Adélie

87

In bottle. This is a softly perfumed Aligoté with peaches on the palate. Rather delicious, the acidity is folded into the generous weight of the (not frozen) fruit. Delicious, more than classical, though some more typical greengages return to finish. Drink from 2023-2026.



Jasper Morris MW

2021: THE VINTAGE REPORT - CHABLIS WINES

2021, Chablis Moutonne Grand Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit

93-95

Clear bright lemon yellow. There is a weight here in quite a different style to the intensity of Les Clos. Really mouthfilling, with no feeling of a more difficult year. This year's Moutonne has a complex finish with generous white fruit, some citrus, just avoiding the vegetal, perhaps more Côte d'Or fruit weight, and very persistent. Extremely good. Perfect acidity as well. Drink from 2026-2033.



93-95

2021, Chablis Les Clos Grand Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit

92-95

Mid yellow colour. White fruit infuses the bouquet. This has a classical Chablis structure, with intense kimmeridgian energy at the back. The fruit is medium bodied for Les Clos but the balance is perfectly in place and the finish pleasingly persistent. A step up here. Nervy lemons at the very back. Drink from 2026-2032.

2021, Chablis Les Vaudésirs Grand Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit

91-94

Pale primrose colour, a little more fruit showing, then greater generosity on the palate, and a well balanced mouthfeel ending in some saline notes at the back. There is adequate tension to support the fairly generous white fruit. Drink from 2026-2030.

2021, Chablis Les Blanchots Grand Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit

90-93

Pure pale yellow. Not so much on the nose, light white fruit. Not so floral as Blanchots can sometimes be. Quite refined on the palate, linear rather than rounded, a light dash of citrus at the back, quite persistent. Drink from 2025-2029.



92-95

2021, Chablis Les Vaucopins 1er Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit

91

Pretty mid lemon yellow. There is a little more power to the bouquet, and fruit weight behind. Indeed, I can find a lot more on the palate. Juicy with some exotic aromatics, peaches and ripe pears, and then a fine clean finish with a light coating of minerals. More flesh than the stony Vaillons. Drink from 2024-2027.

2021, Chablis Les Vaillons 1er Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit

90

Fine pale lemon. The bouquet has a vegetal reduction which soon blow off to leave the stones beneath. Soft white fruit through the middle, then a more biting acidity, lightly lemon scented at the back. Will make a sound Vaillons for drinking moderately soon. Drink from 2024-2026.

2021, Chablis Les Beugnons 1er Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit

91

Pretty mid lemon yellow. Quite perfumed with some citrus notes, and some lees feel. Pretty on the palate though softer than in a classic year. This Beugnons shows the priceless quality of making the palate salivate. Drink from 2024-2027.

2021, Chablis, Domaine Long-Depaquit

87

Mid lemon yellow. Properly Chablisian austerity on the nose and a suggestion of some fruit weight, a little bit leaner in the mouth, all made in tank but a light toasty feel nonetheless. Lemongrass notes, agreeable. Drink from 2023-2025.



2021 Chablis

Long-time *régisseur* (estate manager) Matthieu Mangelot has been kicked upstairs as the saying goes to join the Bichot team in Beaune. He has been replaced by the young Louis Gimmonet, who took over the direction of the domaine as of July 2021. If the family name seems familiar to Champagne fans, it should as he is a member of the Gimmonet family. Gimmonet's take on the 2021 vintage was, like most of his peers, that the "growing season was really complicated. A mild winter and early bud break were the perfect conditions for damage from an April frost and thus we protected the vines for 6 nights. Thereafter there were attacks of both mildew and oidium and because the summer was often wet, it made getting into the vineyards to apply treatments very tricky. Remarkably, we even had oidium post-véraison, which is unusual but even more unusually, it attacked the bunches which obviously makes sorting all the more difficult. September was sunny but maturities seemed largely stuck and we were then hit by an attack of botrytis, which was an increasing concern before we finally started picking on the 21st of September. We continued through to the 3rd of October where we finished up with our parcel of Blanchots. It was necessary to seriously sort and then press gently because the skins were so fragile from the botrytis. Pressing gently isn't really a problem but it does take more time and when you're in a hurry, it's an inconvenience if you don't have multiple presses. Then it was necessary to do an equally serious lees settling, which was complicated by the fragile skins which tended to break into small pieces. All of these factors contributed to yields that were only 30% of normal, which is to say that they ranged from 14 to 23 hl/ha. Overall, my take on the 2021s is that they are a work in progress because they change from month to month. Happily, they seem to be getting better, which bodes well for their ultimate quality."

2021 Chablis 1er Cru Les Lys *Domaine Long-Depaquit*: (89-91)

A cooler nose reluctantly offers up its array of iodine, oyster shell, floral and much more discreet citrus wisps. There is good volume and richness to the vibrant and delicious medium-weight flavors where the more persistent, clean and moderately austere finish is also shaped by bright but not drying acidity. 2026+

2021 Chablis 1er Cru Les Beugnons *Domaine Long-Depaquit*: (89-91)

A slightly riper nose flirts with exoticism in the form of white peach and lychee that adds breadth to the aromas of citrus confit and quinine. There is more volume and power though not the same finesse to the caressing and punchy flavors that also culminate in a clean, dry and solidly long finale. 2027+

2021 Chablis 1er Cru Les Vaillons *Domaine Long-Depaquit*: (90-93)

Here too the expressive nose plays on the edge of exoticism though there is a bit more classic Chablis character present in the form of seashore, shellfish, white pepper and pretty floral wisps. The rich and generously proportioned medium bodied flavors possess a beguiling texture thanks to the abundant dry extract. It is promising and worth considering. 2028+

2021 Chablis 1er Cru Montmains *Domaine Long-Depaquit*: (89-92)

This too displays a phenolic element to the citrus-inflected aromas of tidal pool, acacia and essence of pear. The generously proportioned flavors possess excellent volume before concluding in a caressing but punchy, stony and bitter lemon rind finish where a touch of wood slowly emerges. 2028+

2021 Chablis Grand Cru Les Blanchots *Domaine Long-Depaquit*: (90-93)

A somewhat troubled nose displays post-malo aromas of lactic and reduction. More interesting are the sleek, fresh, delicious and overtly mineral-driven bigger bodied flavors that exhibit fine length on the compact, primary and sneaky long finish. This too will undoubtedly benefit from additional *élevage* as it's promising. 2029+

2021 Chablis Grand Cru Les Vaudésirs *Domaine Long-Depaquit*: (91-94)

This is also mildly funky aromatically while exhibiting an interesting touch of pineapple. Otherwise, there is almost painful intensity to the refined and beautifully delineated middleweight flavors that possess an almost delicate texture while terminating in a compact and primary finish where a touch of wood surfaces. This notably firm effort is already more complex than the Blanchot and a wine that should age well over the next decade. 2031+

2021 Chablis Grand Cru Les Preuses *Domaine Long-Depaquit*: (91-93)

Here too the nose is somewhat difficult with its aromas of generous wood, menthol, lactic nuances and exotic fruit. The succulent, round and seductively textured flavors are delicious while the lingering and mildly warm finish is shaped by lemon-tinged acidity. This will need at least a few years to develop better depth. 2029+

2021 Chablis Grand Cru Les Clos *Domaine Long-Depaquit*: (91-94)

An interesting and mildly atypical nose displays notes of orange peel, pineapple, oyster shell and wood nuances. The impressively concentrated and powerful broad-shouldered flavors possess excellent size and weight along with almost painful intensity on the bone-dry and hugely long finale. 2031+

2021 Chablis Grand Cru Moutonne *Domaine Long-Depaquit*: (92-94)

A very pungent nose consists of firm reduction and wood toast. The larger-scaled and impressively rich flavors brim with dry extract that helps to buffer the notably firm acid spine shaping the bone-dry, austere and powerful finish. This too should age effortlessly over at least the next decade. 2031+

WINE ENTHUSIAST

www.winemag.com

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Roger Voss

ROCHEGRES MOULIN-À-VENT *Domaine de Rochegrès* 2020

94 POINTS

The wine from the best parcels in the Rochegrès vineyard has ripe tannins along with great black-cherry fruits and a serious character. The wine's acidity and spice are great elements in this powerful wine. It should definitely be aged further. Drink from 2024.



94

MOULIN-À-VENT *Domaine de Rochegrès* 2020

93 POINTS

The Domaine de Rochegrès has produced this rich, full-bodied wine. It is packed with fruit and a firm core that will allow it to age. Drink from 2024.



93

FLEURIE LA MADONE 2020

92 POINTS

The wine is rich, structured and full of ripe berries. It is an ebullient wine—rich, but also with a fresher side. The wine is dense and will age further. Drink from 2023.

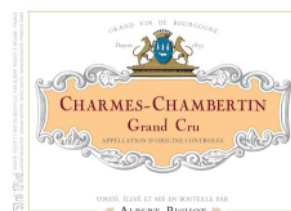


92

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CHARMES-CHAMBERTIN GRAND CRU 2020**98 Points**

Very complex nose with lots of spice and some savory notes. Deep and densely structured, but so refined. Builds to a bold crescendo, yet is always very precise, making a strong argument for why the Grand Crus of Gevrey-Chambertin have gained a special reputation. Drink or hold.

**ECHIZEAUX GRAND CRU Domaine du Clos Frantin 2020****Score: 96**

A very elegant and refined Echezeaux that nimbly moves over your palate. Underplayed power and very fine tannins make this a shy beauty, but if you give it time and attention then you will be amply rewarded. Very silky and delicate, long finish. From organically grown grapes. Drink or hold.

VOSNE-ROMANÉE 1^{ER} CRU LES MALCONSORTS Domaine du Clos Frantin 2020**Score: 95**

Striking nose, with delicate herbal notes, as well as great sour-cherry fruit. Suave and succulent, this flows over the palate in a great arc, in spite of the firm core. Very long and classically elegant finish. From organically grown grapes. Drinkable now, but best from 2024.

NUITS-SAINT-GEORGES 1^{ER} CRU CHÂTEAU-GRIS, Monopole 2020**Score: 95**

A stunningly sensual Nuits-Saint-Georges with stacks of red-fruit character. Such a beautiful balance of fine tannins and ripe fruit, the finish very refined and precise. Just glides off into the distance. From a 5-hectare terraced vineyard. From organically grown grapes. Drink or hold.

FIXIN 2020**Score: 93**

This is a strong argument for taking this underrated appellation a lot more seriously. The depth and ample body of a very good Gevrey-Chambertin is married to a degree of freshness that those wines don't always have. The serious, beautifully integrated tannin structure drives the long finish. Drink or hold.

ALOXE-CORTON 1^{ER} CRU CLOS DES MARÉCHAUDES, Monopole, Domaine du Pavillon 2020**Score: 94**

Very fresh sour-cherry nose with a hint of hibiscus. Ripe and concentrated, but with sleekness and coolness that make it compelling. Stacks of ripe tannins give this very clear contours right through the long, generous finish. From organically grown grapes. Drink or hold.

POMMARD CLOS DES URSULINES, Monopole, Domaine du Pavillon 2020**Score: 94**

Black is black! Intense blackberry, damson-plum and bitter-chocolate aromas. Generous, powdery tannins that easily carry the ample body and are beautifully balanced by the sweet black fruit. Very long, ripe finish that's intense and complex, but does not push the envelope a jot too far. From organically grown grapes in a 4-hectare clos, a real one with walls around it. Drink or hold.

SANTENAY 1^{ER} CRU CLOS ROUSSEAU 2020**Score: 91**

What a subtle red-fruit nose this Santenay Premier Cru has. Firm structure, but the wine handles it well. Medium-bodied with pleasantly dry tannins that are married to bright cassis fruit. Drink or hold.

BEAUNE CLOS DE L'ERMITAGE 2020**Score: 95**

Very expressive nose of sour cherries and summer flowers! Stunning fruit and freshness, the palate feeling a lot lighter than it really is, and that helps it move so gracefully over the palate. Long, very clean and bright finish. From a site above Beaune Clos des Mouches with very stony soils. Drink or hold.

SAVIGNY-LÈS-BEAUNE 2020**Score: 92**

A joyful Savigny-Les-Beaune! Full black cherry with a touch of mulberry and hibiscus on the nose. And the tannins are correspondingly ripe on the generous palate. I love the zesty freshness at the long finish. Drink or hold.

MERCUREY 1^{ER} CRU CHAMPS-MARTIN Domaine Adélie 2020**Score: 90**

Attractive sour-cherry and cassis nose leads you into this medium-bodied and quite tannic Mercurey 1er Cru. Stacks of fruit and lively acidity, the long finish firm and quite mineral. From organically grown grapes. Drink or hold.

BOURGOGNE CÔTE D'OR PINOT NOIR SECRET DE FAMILLE 2020**Score: 92**

Such a joyful red Burgundy. Bursting with black cherry fruit, this has a wonderful harmony of effusive fruit and healthy yet discreet tannins. Long finish with fine tannins and lively acidity. A rather little-known appellation that only exists since 2017 and this wine comes mainly from vineyards around Nuits-Saint-Georges, Chambolle-Musigny and Morey-Saint-Denis. Drink or hold.

Published on August 8th, 2022

CORTON-CHARLEMAGNE GRAND CRU Domaine du Pavillon 2020**Score: 96**

Not at all the austere Corton that the old wine books lead you to expect! Plenty of orange-zest and orange-blossom aromas, but also flinty and earthy notes. Rich and creamy at the front, but then it turns in a much more serious and stony direction. However, even here the structure is wrapped in ripe stone-fruit character. From organically grown grapes from the southeastern side of this famous site. Drink or hold.

CHABLIS GRAND CRU LES VAUDÉSIRS Domaine Long-Depaquit 2020**Score: 94**

Deep, smoky nose with fine mirabelle and candied-lemon notes, plus a hint of fresh nuts. Rich and creamy, with excellent concentration, the chalky minerality building beautifully at the complex finish. Zero new oak and just 25% vinified in oak barrels. Drink or hold.

CHABLIS 1^{ER} CRU LES VAUCOPINS Domaine Long-Depaquit 2020**Score: 93**

Lovely lemon-curd and tarte-au-citron aromas with hints of spring flowers. As ripe as it is elegant, with a silky mid-palate for Chablis, but everything fits together very neatly. Long, mineral finish with a hint of oak tannin giving it some firmness. From an almost 5-hectare holding in the steep part of this site. Drink or hold.

MEURSAULT 2020**Score: 91**

This Meursault makes quite a statement. Bold nose of mirabelle and candied orange with a touch of toast, then an equally bold palate, in which the oak underlines the ample body, giving the wine an emphatic dryness that some may find a bit much, while other chardonnay fans will delight in it. Drink or hold.

BEAUNE 1^{ER} CRU CLOS DES MOUCHES Domaine du Pavillon 2020**Score: 92**

A rich white Burgundy, showing plenty of pineapple and a touch of grapefruit with some vanilla from oak. Impressive tannin structure that compensates well for the moderate acidity on the fleshy palate. From organically grown grapes. Drink or hold.

MEURSAULT 1^{ER} CRU LES CHARMES Domaine du Pavillon 2020**Score: 95**

All you want in wine from this famous Meursault Premier Cru site! Rich and creamy with tons of stone fruit and every bit as much chalky minerality, and together they really dance across your palate. Wonderful, citrusy freshness at the very long, ripe yet elegant finish. Very polished. From organically grown grapes. Drink or hold.

BOURGOGNE CÔTE D'OR CHARDONNAY SECRET DE FAMILLE 2020**Score: 92**

A serious white Burgundy that's easy to understand. Full nose of fresh hazelnut, toast and pear. I love the complex texture of the this well-structured wine, in which fruit, body and fine tannins are neatly interwoven. A rather little-known appellation that only exists since 2017, and this wine only comes from vineyards directly on the Cote slopes around Meursault and Puligny-Montrachet. Drink or hold.





A Bullseye for Bichot

By Michael Apstein

Jun 1, 2022

The house of Albert Bichot made an outstanding line-up of both red and white Burgundies in **2020**, no mean feat since the growing conditions made success with both colors difficult because of the heat. Many critics, myself included, have raved about the overall success of the 2020 vintage for white Burgundies. I was equally enthusiastic about the reds initially, but now, having tasted a greater range of them, I realize that there is enormous variability among them. Some are spectacular and others, reflecting the heat of the growing season, are overblown, heavy, and alcoholic. However, my enthusiasm for the whites, from the Chablis in the north to the Mâconnais in the south, remains strong.

I tasted only two wines from Bichot during my three visits to Burgundy in the fall of 2021 and March 2022, a stellar **Corton-Charlemagne**, and an equally superb **Corton Grand Cru Clos des Maréchaudes**, so I was especially pleased when they sent me a dozen samples nicely packaged in glass-stopper-sealed 200-ml bottles. Among the samples was **Corton Grand Cru Clos des Maréchaudes**, which showed just as beautifully from the 200-ml tasting sample as it did from the normal 750-ml bottle from which it was poured in March. It reinforced my opinion of the stature of the wine. It also assured me that the samples overall were in good condition and accurately reflected the wines.

Founded in 1831, Albert Bichot, still a family-run business, is one of Burgundy's venerable négociants. Like other top houses such as Maison Louis Jadot, Maison Louis Latour, and Maison Robert Drouhin, they both own vineyards throughout Burgundy and buy grapes or must from growers. The wines Bichot makes from their own vineyards are bottled under the names of six different domaines, which are, moving, from north to south, the 165-acre Domaine Long-Depaquit in Chablis, the 18.5-acre Domaine du Clos Frantin and almost 9-acre Château Gris in Nuits-St.-Georges, (both in Côte du Nuits), the 38-acre Domaine du Pavillon in Pommard (Côte de Beaune), and the almost 20-acre Domaine Adélie in Mercurey (Côte Chalonnaise) and the 13-acre Domaine du Rocheegrès in Moulin-à-Vent (Beaujolais).

Not only was Bichot successful with both colors, they succeeded with both their négociant bottlings and their domaine wines.

Bichot's charming **Fleurie La Madone** had just the right amount of spice and energy to balance its fruitiness (**90 pts**). It's delicious now.

With a seamless combination of red fruit and earthy notes, their floral **Beaune Clos de l'Ermitage** showed just how enticing a village red wine can be in 2020 (**93 pts**). Enjoyable even now, a few years in the cellars will amplify its charms.

Bénigne Joliet, owner of the famed **1er Cru Clos de la Perrière** monopole in **Fixin** sells a bit of his harvest to Bichot. In 2020 Bichot made an elegant wine showing the darker-fruited and alluring character of the Côte de Nuits (**93 pts**). This one will benefit from up to a decade in the cellar.

From the Domaine Adélie comes a delightful **Mercurey En Pierre Milley** delivering bright, cherry-like fruit offset by a hint of stoniness that makes it ideal for current consumption (**90 pts**).

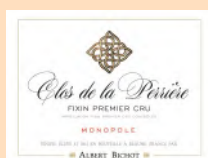
In contrast, the Domaine du Pavillon's velvety **Volnay 1er Cru Les Santenots**, needs time. It's poised, possessing lovely structure and concentration without a trace of heaviness (**94 pts**).



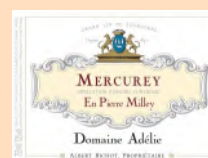
90 pts



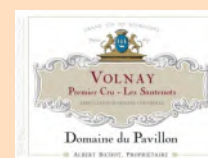
93 pts



93 pts



90 pts



94 pts



A Bullseye for Bichot

By Michael Apstein

Jun 1, 2022

The Clos de Maréchaudes vineyard on the east-facing side of the hill of Corton is emblematic of the complexities of Burgundy: a portion is classified as Grand Cru, whereas another portion was only awarded Premier Cru status. Bichot's youthful **Corton Grand Cru Clos des Maréchaudes** (1.3-acre monopole of the Domaine du Pavillon) displays an appealing iron-tinged character. Layered and luxurious, it is truly worthy of its Grand Cru status. It's explosive, yet not heavy, with invigorating acidity that keeps it fresh (**96 pts**). You will be rewarded for a decade of cellaring.

Turning to the whites, we come to Bichot's lip-smacking **Bourgogne Aligoté Champ Renard** from Domaine Adélie. Though ripe for Aligoté—here, again, the vintage speaking—it nonetheless has the great verve you'd expect from that grape. It's a refreshing white that's sure to cut through this or next summer's heat and humidity (**91 pts**).

Bichot's white, **Bourgogne Hautes-Côtes de Nuits**, may lack the breeding of the best Côte de Beaune whites, but it has good density, is amiable and refreshing, and will be more affordable than its Côte de Beaune cousins (**90 pts**).

If you needed more evidence that village wines should be embraced, look no further than **Domaine du Pavillon's Meursault**. Rich, creamy and energetic, it towers above many lesser producers' Premier Crus (**93 pts**). With its 165 acres, the Domaine Long-Depaquit is a long-time leader in Chablis.



Their monopole, **Moutonne**, a nearly 6-acre plot, 95 percent of which lies in Vaudésir and the remainder in Les Preuses, is unique, spanning two Grand Cru vineyards in the heart of the appellation, but carrying the name of neither. Though I didn't taste it this round, it's always one of their top Chablis.

Domaine Long-Depaquit's youthful and penetrating **Chablis Les Vaudésirs** is ripe yet stone-y and tight as a coiled spring (**94 pts**). Chablis-lovers should put this in their cellars for a decade. In the meantime, look for their floral and mineral **Chablis 1er Cru Les Vaucopins**, which is seemingly delicate, but amazes with its presence and length (**93 pts**).

In short, judging from these samples, you can close your eyes and point when buying Bichot's 2020 and be very happy. These wines are pure, reflective of their origins, balanced and—most important—energetic. Not a single one is hot, disjointed or overdone.



96 pts



91 pts



90 pts



93 pts



93 pts



93 pts

2022 Decanter® WORLD WINE AWARDS

June 2022



PLATINUM MEDAL

CLOS DE LA ROCHE GRAND CRU
Hospices de Beaune
Cuvée Cyrot Chaudron 2020
97/100



GOLD MEDALS

MOREY-SAINT-DENIS 1^{ER} CRU LES SORBETS 2020
96/100

FIXIN 1^{ER} CRU CLOS DE LA PERRIÈRE 2020
95/100



SILVER MEDALS

VOSNE-ROMANÉE 1^{ER} CRU LES MALCONSORTS 2020
Domaine du Clos Frantin
93/100

BEAUNE 1^{ER} CRU CLOS DES MOUCHES 2020
Domaine du Pavillon
93/100

CHABLIS GRAND CRU LES PREUSES 2020
Domaine Long-Depaquit
91/100

MEURSAULT 1^{ER} CRU LES CHARMES 2020
Hospices de Beaune Cuvée Albert Grivault
90/100





May 2022

INTERNATIONAL WINE CHALLENGE 2022

7 TROPHIES
6 GOLD MEDALS
5 SILVER MEDALS



FRENCH WHITE TROPHY

for

MEURSAULT 1^{ER} CRU LES CHARMES
Hospices de Beaune Cuvée Albert Grivault 2020



Aromatic and intense with mealy, spicy citrus fruits on the nose. The palate is rounded, concentrated and expressive with a mineral core and a tapering, spicy finish.



WHITE BURGUNDY TROPHY
MEURSAULT TROPHY
GOLD MEDAL
97 points



INTERNATIONAL PINOT NOIR TROPHY

for

CLOS DE LA ROCHE GRAND CRU
Hospices de Beaune Cuvée Cyrot Chaudron 2020



Intense brooding aromatics of sweet crusted raspberries and spice. This has a wonderful intensity of ripe fruit but there's a hint of over ripeness, it's bold and structured with great balance of ripe fruit and savoury structure.



RED BURGUNDY TROPHY
CLOS DE LA ROCHE TROPHY
GOLD MEDAL
96 points





Taster: Bruce Sanderson

Published on www.winespectator.com

COTE DE NUITS REDS

93 ALBERT BICHOT Vosne-Romanée 1er Cru Les Rouges Domaine du Clos Frantin 2020

Succulent and layered, revealing cherry, black currant, violet, mineral and toasty oak aromas and flavors. Lithe and defined, with a vibrant structure and a long fruity, minerally aftertaste. Best from 2024 through 2038.

93 ALBERT BICHOT Fixin 1er Cru Clos de la Perrière 2020

A classy red, with supple cherry, strawberry, floral and mineral flavors underscored by a deft touch of new oak. Balanced, with the refined structure exerting itself as this winds down on the lingering, spicy finish. Impressively elegant. Best from 2024 through 2040.

92 ALBERT BICHOT Vosne-Romanée Domaine du Clos Frantin 2020

Packing a mix of floral, red fruit and spice aromas and flavors, this red boasts cherry, strawberry, rose, cinnamon, oak and earth notes. Firms up on the finish, suggesting short-term cellaring. Drink now through 2032.

91 ALBERT BICHOT Gevrey-Chambertin Les Evocelles 2020

A succulent, even tangy red, exuding blackberry, boysenberry, earth and spice flavors. Delivers dusty tannins, along with a flash of tobacco on the finish. Drink now through 2032.

89 ALBERT BICHOT Bourgogne Côte d'Or Clos Frantin 2020

A suave, velvety Bourgogne, expressing black cherry, blueberry and earth flavors, with integrated tannins and fine, spicy length. Drink now.



COTE DE BEAUNE REDS

94 ALBERT BICHOT Corton Grand Cru Clos des Maréchaudes Domaine du Pavillon 2020

Delivers depth, with a well of black cherry shaded by earth, sweet spice, vegetal and iron notes. Balanced, approachable even, with a supple texture and terrific length. A mineral underpinning gathers steam through the finish. Best from 2024 through 2040.

93 ALBERT BICHOT Volnay 1er Cru Les Santenots Domaine du Pavillon 2020

Oaky, yet there is a beam of dark berry fruit underneath as well as a mineral component. The structure is marked by both high acidity and dusty tannins. Racy and intense overall, with a long black cherry and blackberry aftertaste. Best from 2024 through 2040.

92 ALBERT BICHOT Pommard 1er Cru Les Rugiens Domaine du Pavillon 2020

A sleek, intense style, with ripe blackberry, pomegranate and earth flavors accented by oak spice. This has a graphite edge, too, accentuated by bracing acidity. A bit compact on the finish for now, yet lingering. Best from 2025 through 2043.

92 ALBERT BICHOT Aoxe-Corton 1er Cru Clos des Maréchaudes Domaine du Pavillon 2020

A round wine, saturated with black cherry, blackberry, iron, earth and violet aromas and flavors. Shows well-defined structure throughout, and finishes long and compressed. Best from 2024 through 2036.

92 ALBERT BICHOT Beaune 1er Cru Les Bressandes Domaine du Pavillon 2020

This graceful red is highlighted by ripe black cherry, blackberry, vanilla and resinous oak aromas and flavors. Vibrant acidity drives the long finish, where firm tannins emerge. Best from 2024 through 2040.





Taster: Bruce Sanderson

COTE DE BEAUNE & COTE CHALONNAISE REDS

91 ALBERT BICHOT Savigny-lès-Beaune 1er Cru Les Peuillets 2020

Packed with juicy black cherry and blackberry fruit, this red is firmly structured and lively. Delivers violet, mineral and oak spice details, which add depth as this cruises to the lingering finish. Best from 2024 through 2033.

91 ALBERT BICHOT Beaune Les Epenottes Domaine du Pavillon 2020

A fluid, polished red, offering cherry, blackberry, floral and spice flavors. Firm and linear, with a solid line of tannins on the lingering finish. Fine balance overall. Best from 2024 through 2036.

91 ALBERT BICHOT Beaune Clos de l'Ermitage 2020

A tightly wound version, this reveals black cherry, blackberry and wood shavings in the grip of sinewy tannins. The iron fist, velvet glove analogy fits this red. Best from 2024 through 2038.

90 ALBERT BICHOT Aloxé-Corton 1er Cru Les Fournières Domaine du Pavillon 2020

A rich version, this sports black cherry, plum and earth flavors backed by dense tannins and bright acidity. Closes up slightly on the finish for now, where spice elements linger. Best from 2023 through 2030.

90 ALBERT BICHOT Aloxé-Corton Domaine du Pavillon 2020

A balanced, flowing red highlighted by bright black cherry and blackberry flavors. Shows a touch of spice from the oak treatment, with lively acidity driving the juicy finish. Drink now through 2030.

90 ALBERT BICHOT Savigny-lès-Beaune Les Grands Picotins Domaine du Pavillon 2020

Rich and vibrant, this red is laced with cherry, blackberry and spicy oak flavors. Open-knit, displaying balance and fine length, with a hint of blood orange on the finish. Best from 2023 through 2032.

90 ALBERT BICHOT Meursault (red) Domaine du Pavillon 2020

Offers black cherry and blackberry flavors embraced by resinous oak, leaving a coating of tannins. This has a nice core of blackberry, black cherry and violet flavors. Two hours of aeration brought this into better focus, so decant now or age 2-3 years. Best from 2025 through 2037.

90 ALBERT BICHOT Chœrey-Lès-Beaune 2020

Bright and fruity, sporting black cherry and blackberry flavors and a kiss of oak spice. Light tannins line the finish, and this is charming and enjoyable now. Drink now through 2028.

90 ALBERT BICHOT Mercurey En Pierre Milley Domaine Adélie 2020

A bright red, offering pure cherry, raspberry and violet flavors. Elegant and balanced, ending in a mouthwatering impression. Drink now through 2030.





Taster: Bruce Sanderson

COTE DE BEAUNE & COTE DE NUITS WHITES

93 ALBERT BICHOT Meursault 1er Cru Les Charmes Domaine du Pavillon 2020

Shows ample concentration and structure, framing the peach, citronella, butterscotch and clove flavors. The texture verges on oily, just pulling back as this turns more precise on the citrusy aftertaste. Best from 2024 through 2030.

91 ALBERT BICHOT Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru Domaine du Pavillon 2020

Lean and infused with lemon, earth and mineral flavors. Balanced and racy, picking up chalk dust and a tactile feel on the lemony finish. Best from 2024 through 2032.

91 ALBERT BICHOT Nuits-Saint-Georges Les Terrasses Château-Gris 2020

An almost ethereal white, with white flowers and lemon serving as the main flavor themes. This has a texture that verges on creamy, with an underlying mineral element. Fine length. Drink now through 2028.

90 ALBERT BICHOT Beaune 1er Cru Clos des Mouches Domaine du Pavillon 2020

Delivers a mix of lemon and melon flavors accented by star fruit and oak spice. Reveals an earthy, stony element that adds another dimension as this fades gracefully. Drink now.

89 ALBERT BICHOT Meursault Domaine du Pavillon 2020

A sleek, crisp white, revealing peach, apple, lemon and a touch of honey. Open-knit yet firm, with baking spices adorning the lingering finish. Drink now through 2026.

89 ALBERT BICHOT Mercurey Les Champs-Michaix Domaine Adélie 2020

Delivers delicate floral, lemon and apple flavors wrapped in toasty oak and supported by a bracing structure. Long? with an aftertaste of oak spice. Drink now through 2026.

90 ALBERT BICHOT Viré-Clessé 2020

Creamy in texture, boasting apple pie, baking spice and earth flavors. Broad and expansive on the finish, ending with an almond cake accent. A fine thread of acidity keeps this balanced. Drink now through 2025.

89 ALBERT BICHOT Pouilly-Fuissé 2020

Ripe, featuring peach, apple pie and sweet spice aromas and flavors. The acidity is buried beneath the broad, slightly viscous texture, lending softness. Firms up on the compact finish. Drink now through 2028.

88 ALBERT BICHOT Saint Véran 2020

A bright, open-knit style, this offers floral, peach, apple and lemon aromas and flavors backed by precision and cut. Lingers on the lemony finish. Drink now.





Taster: Bruce Sanderson

CHABLIS

94 ALBERT BICHOT Chablis Grand Cru Les Vaudésirs Domaine Long-Depaquit 2020

Linear and focused, exhibiting lemon, mirabelle plum, quince and apple aromas and flavors, with a lingering element of mineral. Balanced, if angular in style, with a hint of herbs on the finish. Best from 2024 through 2030.

93 ALBERT BICHOT Chablis Grand Cru Les Clos Domaine Long-Depaquit 2020

Elegant, featuring peach, melon, yellow plum and floral flavors aligned to a fresh, succulent structure. Revealing richness balanced by mouthwatering acidity, this ends with a fruity, minerally aftertaste. Best from 2024 through 2030.

93 ALBERT BICHOT Chablis Grand Cru Les Preuses Domaine Long-Depaquit 2020

A mellow white, with a light touch of vanilla and clove accenting peach, apple tart and honey flavors. Well-delineated and balanced, with honey, spice and mineral accents on the finish. Best from 2024 through 2030.

92 ALBERT BICHOT Chablis Grand Cru Moutonne Domaine Long-Depaquit 2020

Leads wit lemon, lemon oil and vanilla aroma and flavours, with an underlying stony note. Borders on oily in txture, with a hint of lanolin. The lemon theme returns on the finish. Drink now through 2029.

92 ALBERT BICHOT Chablis Grand Cru Les Blanchots Domaine Long-Depaquit 2020

A deftly balanced white highlighted by apple, yellow plum, floral and stone aromas and flavors. Offers a rich and supple texture, making this almost seamless from start to the finish, where a stony element emerges. Drink now through 2028

91 ALBERT BICHOT Chablis 1er Cru Les Vaillons Domaine Long-Depaquit 2020

Intense and complex, featuring lemon cake, apple, yellow plum and mineral flavors. Bright and fresh, with a lemon-infused aftertaste. Drink now through 2027.

90 ALBERT BICHOT Chablis 1er Cru Les Vaucopins Domaine Long-Depaquit 2020

This brisk white walks a line between crisp and rich, creating tension to display lemon, apple and mineral flavors. Balanced and lingers, with notes of lemon verbena on the finish. Drink now through 2026.





May 31, 2022

Bruce Sanderson's Recommended 2019 Red Burgundies

■ From the May 31, 2022, issue

For lovers of red Burgundy, the past decade has offered almost nothing but good news. A nearly unbroken string of excellent vintages—some of them superb—have produced an array of choices from the Côte d'Or, as well as plenty of great options from the region's outlying areas.

The current crop of wines, primarily early releases from the hot, dry 2019 vintage, indicate another spate of brilliant Pinot Noirs that should provide allure and pleasure for decades to come, while offering instant gratification in some cases as well. That's because the vintage features ripe fruit flavors that are beautifully defined, plus silky textures and plenty of flesh to cover the wines' underlying structures at this stage.

In terms of quality, the 2019s equal the refined and elegant 2016s, though they are closer in character to the powerful 2015s or 2005s, the latter another hot, dry year. These comparisons will become clearer as many more 2019s are released this spring.

Black cherry, blackberry, black currant and occasionally plum fruit are the main themes, with some versions revealing red fruit notes, augmented by accents of violet, sandalwood, licorice, iron, mineral and spice. Overall, the wines are intense and vibrant, alternating between power and grace depending on the appellation.

Matthieu Mangenot, assistant technical director for Albert Bichot in Beaune, notes that the temperatures over the summer were about 4 degrees F higher than the 20-year average, with 20% more sun and 30% to 50% less water. Nevertheless, Bichot fielded two classic-rated wines, plus another 13 at the outstanding level, among the estate's 2019 reds.

Mangenot cites better viticulture as the key to mitigating warmer vintages. Across Burgundy, various vineyard management and vinification techniques are being used to achieve balance and vibrant structures in the region's wines, including lowering yields; reducing leaf removal, if doing any at all; keeping the top of leaf canopies wider for more protection from the sun; careful plowing to keep the soil as moist as possible; and, in hotter years, retaining 15% to 25% whole clusters to maintain freshness.

Among the other classic-rated 2019s are a handful of 96-pointers that nicely showcase the strengths of the vintage. The intense [Albert Bichot Chambolle-Musigny Les Amoureuses](#) combines elegance and power, delivering black currant, blackberry, violet and mineral flavors;



Workers harvest grapes at Maison Albert Bichot, whose Côte de Nuits vineyards yielded a number of exceptional reds in 2019.

DOMAINES
ALBERT BICHOT
—MAISON FONDÉE EN 1831—

Top Wines



96

ALBERT BICHOT

Chambolle-Musigny Les Amoureuses 2019

Score: 96

WS Review: Intense, with earth and vegetal accents boosting the core flavors of black currant, blackberry and violet. Combines elegance with power.

Latricières-Chambertin 2019

Score: 95

WS Review: Floral, cherry, raspberry, mineral and spice flavors are the hallmarks of this silky red, which is graceful and persistent in a subtle way.



95

Top Values

ALBERT BICHOT

Bourgogne Vieilles Vignes 2019

Score: 89

WS Review: Supple, with a smoky accent to the black cherry and blackberry fruit.



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May 2022

INTERNATIONAL WINE CHALLENGE 2022

7 TROPHIES

6 GOLD MEDALS

5 SILVER MEDALS



CHAMBOLLE-MUSIGNY 1^{ER} CRU LES AMOUREUSES 2020

GOLD MEDAL & CHAMBOLLE-MUSIGNY TROPHY

Youthful, deeply coloured still primary dark fruits, lemons and raspberries, smoky spice, quite concentrated with youthful plumpness a tight core and a long finish. 95 points



VOSNE-ROMANÉE 1^{ER} CRU LES MALCONSORTS Domaine du Clos Frantin 2020

GOLD MEDAL

Dark plum with a hint of violet and toasted oak. Smoky clove with raspberry and blueberry. Caressing tannins and a lingering finish. 95 points



MOREY-SAINT-DENIS 1^{ER} CRU LES SORBETS 2020

GOLD MEDAL

Spicy, smoky oak aromas with black plums. Fruit cake and exotic spices; Finessed acidity and well integrated oak ending with a long finish. Better to keep 10 years! 95 points



BEAUNE 1^{ER} CRU CLOS DES MOUCHES Domaine du Pavillon 2020

GOLD MEDAL

Butter, toasted hazelnut. Bruised peach, apple and guava. Savoury marmite notes, well balanced elegant finish. 95 points



CHABLIS GRAND CRU LES CLOS Domaine Long-Depaquit 2020

SILVER MEDAL

Elegant with flinty and mineral acidity, slight under ripe green banana, textured with citrussy edge. Creamy and medium bodied with great balance. Long lasting with integrated ABV. 94 points



CORTON-CHARLEMAGNE GRAND CRU Domaine du Pavillon 2020

SILVER MEDAL

Super bright, fresh honey baked apples, poised fruity acidity, with nutty complexity. Textured. 92 points



POUILLY-FUISSÉ 1^{ER} CRU CLOS REYSSIÉ 2020

SILVER MEDAL

Lemon gold colour. Fresh and fragrant with citrus oil and apple notes. Lemon meringue on the palate and a creamy underbelly. Luscious. 92 points



FIXIN 1^{ER} CRU CLOS DE LA PERRIÈRE 2020

SILVER MEDAL

Deep colour, strawberries, raspberries and cedar oak spice. Black plums and graphite minerality and soft red fruits with toast on finish. 92 points



VOLNAY 1^{ER} CRU LES SANTENOTS Domaine du Pavillon 2020

SILVER MEDAL

Youthful and backward but with a plush dark fruity core and a firm but fine backbone. Wait for it. 92 points



The 9th “SAKURA” Japan Women’s Wine Awards judging was held in Tokyo (at Hotel Gajoen Tokyo on April 4th) and Osaka (at Hotel Nikko Osaka on April 13th).

A total of 430 judges, all women in the Japanese wine industry, judged 4,652 wines from 25 countries.

286 wines were awarded “Double Gold”, 1,425 wines were awarded “Gold”, 614 wines were awarded “Silver”.

March 26, 2022

French Wine Producer And Explorer Of Antarctica Studying Terroir Of The Ocean

Cathrine Todd Contributor

A storyteller who focuses on wine and the people who make it.



Antarctica, underwater view of arched iceberg GETTY

Twisted and squeezed by the force of the rapids in the river, the hand crafted canoe took on a banana shape as food and a rifle fell out into the swiftly moving river as the two 18-year-old young men paddling the vessel were grabbed by the current that carried them against their will 1,000 feet away to shore. Still fiercely determined to continue their seemingly crazy journey along the desolate trail beginning from the indigenous village of Schefferville in the North East section of the Canadian province of Quebec to the even further north indigenous area of Kangiqsualujjuaq to meet the Inuit people, the young men went back upstream, jumping in the freezing cold water to find their supplies. Nothing could be found and hence they were left with a big decision to make that would forever shape their lives.

This mission involved a total of four French young men who had the opportunity to meet a French explorer named Alain Rastoin in the early 1980s, who they saw on the TV show *Les Carnets de L'Aventure*; they were fascinated with his attempted journey to reach Kangiqsualujjuaq, known as Port Nouveau Québec in French. The last part of the trip that would take two months of travel time had a tragic turn for Alain Rastoin as a rapid with huge waves flipped their canoe, and his photographer, who was accompanying him, died. He never finished the trip and these young men told him they would finish the journey for him. "You are all mad," exclaimed Alain to the young men and he warned them that they had no idea of the treacherous terrain that awaited them.

A few years later, these young men attempted the unsuccessful final segment of Alain's journey and the accident among the rapids left them only one tent, half the amount of intended food, no rifle to hunt with and only one canoe but they decided to continue and hike the rest of the way instead of going back to safety.

Unfortunately, they couldn't find the fishing camp drawn on a map for them by Alain Rastoin himself, and so eventually stranded with no food, they climbed up a hill where hopefully they could signal one of the aircrafts that passed monthly along the path to supply the Kangiqsualujjuaq village. They could have just missed the monthly aircraft, or maybe they were located where they were still not visible but that didn't stop them from making fires day and night that might be noticed from the sky.

An overwhelming wave of guilt washed over one of the young men, Albéric Bichot, as he regretted all the decisions that led him to possibly die of starvation or hypothermia while his parents were back in France with no idea of his fate. Why didn't he heed Alain's warning? Why didn't he at least turn back when the canoe accident happened? Over and over again, he replayed these moments in his mind wishing that he could relive them. As he imagined the tremendous amount of lifelong pain his unexpected death would cause his parents, he begged the universe at that moment for a miracle, and if the miracle came, he swore he would never come back to that part of the world again.

Luckily, a helicopter noticed them as it was part of a mining exploration that had been in the area for four months. Albéric Bichot went back home completely traumatized from the experience while one of his friends, Nicolas Vanier, stayed and Nicolas would become a famous French explorer, writer and film director.

But despite the fear, something was awakened in Albéric during that journey and a few years later he found himself taking on the same journey and successfully accomplishing the mission the second time around as well as traveling to remote areas of Polynesia and finally making a trip from Quebec to Ushuaïa, the southernmost tip of Argentina, with only the equivalent of \$1,000 in his pocket.



Schefferville in Canada, Quebec with the Aurora Borealis over a lake GETTY

March 26, 2022

French Wine Producer And Explorer Of Antarctica Studying Terroir Of The Ocean

Cathrine Todd Contributor

A storyteller who focuses on wine and the people who make it.

Burgundy Wine Estates

To his family's relief, Albéric joined his family's business in 1996, Domaines Albert Bichot, which today owns six estates, a.k.a. domaines, ranging from Burgundy's north, Chablis, down to Beaujolais just south of Burgundy – five in Burgundy and one in Beaujolais. The Bichot family traces their roots in Burgundy as far back as the mid-1300s and Albéric certainly takes the idea of devotion to sense of place to the next level as he believes that each area of vineyards should have its own dedicated team that lives and breathes those vineyards every day.

Having "small passionate and fully dedicated teams" at each location is critical in preserving the "typicity of each vineyard," Albéric explained.



Horse ploughing at Albert Bichot's Château Gris FLORE DERONZIER

Domaines Albert Bichot and Tara Ocean Partnership

Recently, Albéric has taken on a major project that combines his love for the exploration of the ocean, as well as the land, with the Tara Ocean Foundation. The foundation had a sailing ship (schooner) leave for a 43,000-mile journey in December 2020 that is currently studying the invisible marine microorganisms in the ocean. Since there is a partnership between Domaines Albert Bichot and the Tara Ocean Foundation, Albéric was able to join the crew for ten days in December of 2021 that included the section from the South Atlantic to Antarctica.



Albéric Bichot in Antarctica © MARIN LE ROUX / POLARYSE - FONDATION TARA OCEAN

Albéric, who has been committed to organic viticulture since the early 2000s, has taken a serious interest in how climate change is melting icebergs that will not only change entire ecosystems but could potentially release a significant amount of CO2 trapped within the soils underneath their several layers of packed ice. He notes that Burgundy has evident climate change, with more erratic climatic events increasing every year.

One of the studies that Domaines Albert Bichot is conducting with the foundation directly links to their wines as 12 magnums of wine, representing six ideal expressions of their top vineyard from each estate, is currently evolving among the powerful influences of such a journey while other magnums of the same wine rest peacefully in their historical wine cellar in Beaune, Burgundy in France. When the ship returns in October of 2022, a unique comparative tasting will occur.



Tara Ocean Foundation sailing ship (schooner) in Antarctica © MARIN LE ROUX / POLARYSE - FONDATION TARA OCEAN

As Albéric looks back at that moment when he thought that he would die a brutal, slow death in a desolate place all those years ago, he knows that it forever changed him. At first, he thought the trauma would force him to live a life of fear, never seeking out adventure again, but he could not immediately comprehend that it unlocked something deep inside that gave him the strength to overcome such a terrifying event.

The gift of experiencing how fragile life can be, at only 18 years old, has made him determined to make his life matter. Bringing attention to the concerning changes in Antarctica, by using resources from Domaines Albert Bichot, will hopefully open more eyes to the worrying distress signals Mother Nature is giving in the most remote areas of the world.

Even when all hope should have been lost all those years ago, Albéric and his friends found a way to go on, and he is taking that same fierce perseverance to find a way to save the planet even when others are saying all is lost.



Domaines Albert Bichot wines in Antarctica © MARIN LE ROUX / POLARYSE - FONDATION TARA OCEAN

March 26, 2022

As of the 2018 vintage, Domaines Albert Bichot wines from the Côte d'Or (Domaine du Clos Frantin, Château Gris and Domaine du Pavillon) as well as their Côte Chalonnaise property (Domaine Adélie) are all certified organic. The name Adélie comes from the territory Adélie Land (Adélie Terre) on the continent of Antarctica. Albéric not only named his property in Chalonnaise after it when he purchased it in 2005 but he also named his oldest daughter Adélie.

NV Albert Bichot, Crémant de Bourgogne Brut Réserve, Burgundy, France: 60% Chardonnay and 40% Pinot Noir. A traditional sparkling wine with notes of croissants and white flowers that has tiny bubbles on the palate with a stony minerality on the sustained finish.

NV Albert Bichot, Crémant de Bourgogne Brut Rosé, Burgundy, France: 80% Pinot Noir and the rest made-up of Chardonnay and Gamay. This traditional sparkling rosé has a spicy white pepper note with freshly picked strawberries and bright acidity.

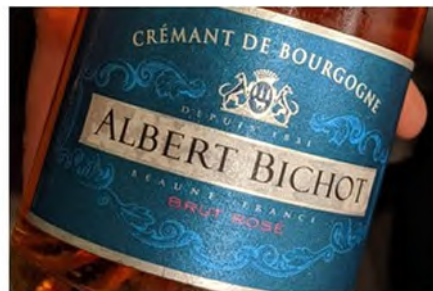
2020 Albert Bichot, Horizon de Bichot Pinot Noir, France: 100% Pinot Noir. Enchanting nose with floral notes mixed with ripe raspberries that has juicy fruit on the palate and baking spices in the background.

2019 Albert Bichot, Chassagne-Montrachet, Côte de Beaune, Burgundy, France: 100% Chardonnay. Zingy on the nose with lemon zest and fierce limestone minerality that has good energy on the palate with lots of vitality.

2018 Domaine du Pavillon, Pommard 1er Cru 'Les Rugiens', Côte de Beaune, Burgundy, France: 100% Pinot Noir. Black cherries with hints of upheaved earth and tree bark that had an electric body with notes of rhubarb finishing with lingering forest floor.



NV Albert Bichot, Crémant de Bourgogne Brut Réserve CATHRINE TODD



NV Albert Bichot, Crémant de Bourgogne Brut Rosé CATHRINE TODD



2020 Albert Bichot, Horizon de Bichot Pinot Noir CATHRINE TODD



2018 Domaine du Pavillon, Pommard 1er Cru 'Les Rugiens' CATHRINE TODD

März 2022

ERFOLGREICH VERWELTLICHT

FÜR DIE DOMAINE LONG-DEPAQUIT IN CHABLIS GABEN
IN DER FRANZÖSISCHEN REVOLUTION ZWEI MÖNCHE
IHRE GEISTLICHEN PFLICHTEN AUF UND SCHUFEN DIE
BASIS FÜR FEINFÜHLIGEN TERROIR-CHARDONNAY

Von BIRTE JANTZEN Fotos LEIF CARLSSON

Zehn Uhr morgens, sieben Grad unter null. Rebzeilen zeichnen geometrische Muster in die schneebedeckten Weinberge von Chablis, und Matthieu Mangenot, seit 2017 stellvertretender technischer Leiter der Maison Albert Bichot, strahlt mit dem blauen Himmel um die Wette, während er durch die Grand-Cru-Lagen stapft.

Seit Anfang der 1970er-Jahre gehört das heute 65 Hektar große Gut Long-Depaquit zum Reich von Albert Bichot, einem der bekanntesten Weinproduzenten in Burgund.

Das Handelshaus, 1831 von Bernard Bichot in Monthelie gegründet und seit 1912 in Beaune ansässig, kauft nicht nur überall in der Region Trauben, um sie selbst zu keltern, auszubauen und abzufüllen. Es besitzt auch sechs Güter mit mehr als 100 Hektar Weinbergen, verteilt über ganz Burgund, von Chablis bis ins Beaujolais. Als größtes von ihnen ist Long-Depaquit mit seinem klassizistischen Herrenhaus aus dem 18. Jahrhundert und dem Jardin

à la française eine architektonische Ausnahme im eher bodenständigen Örtchen Chablis. Doch so aristokratisch es wirkt, die Tür steht jedem Besucher offen, und die Weine sind im Hof-

laden ganz unkompliziert erhältlich. Gastfreundschaft gehört bei der Familie Bichot einfach dazu.

Matthieu Mangenot selbst hat Long-Depaquit von 2007 bis 2017 geleitet, er kennt das Gut in- und auswendig. »Die Geschichte des Anwesens ist amüsant«, sagt er, »sie ist eng mit der Zisterzienserabtei von Pontigny verbunden.« Jahrhundertlang betrieben die Mönche in und um Chablis herum Weinbau,





bis die Französische Revolution dem ein Ende setzte. Damals waren zwei Brüder, Jean und Simon Depaquit, als Mönche für das Kloster verantwortlich. Als der französische Staat 1791 die kirchlichen Güter beschlagnahmte und anschließend versteigerte, nutzten sie die Gunst der Stunde, warfen ihre geistlichen Aufgaben über Bord und kauften über einen Herrn Mignard als Mittelsmann die Weinberge der Abtei. Dazu gehörte unter anderem La Moutonne, eine 2,35 Hektar kleine Monopollage und inoffiziell der achte Grand Cru von Chablis.

So schufen die Brüder das Weingut Depaquit und gründeten Familien. »Einer von ihnen blieb kinderlos«, erzählt Mangenot, »und adoptierte einen seiner Neffen, Auguste Long. Als der das Anwesen erbte, fügte er einfach seinen Namen hinzu, und dabei ist es dann geblieben.« Erst Anfang der 1970er-Jahre hat der letzte Nachfahre der Familie, Doktor Louis Long-Depaquit, wegen gesundheitlicher Probleme und mangels Erben das Gut an die Bichots verkauft. Noch heute erinnern sich die Älteren im Dorf an diesen Herrn – und an den imposanten Ledersessel, in dem er seine Besucher empfing.

»Damals wurde die Familie Bichot ausgelacht«, erzählt Mangenot: »Was wollt ihr denn in Chablis?«, fragte man sie. Denn was heute vielleicht verrückt erscheinen mag – damals war Chablis Brachland. Nur wenige verstanden das Potenzial dieser kristallinen, säurebetonten, mineralischen Weine, diesen ganz besonderen Ausdruck des Chardonnay.« Das Gut war damals nur zehn Hektar groß, hauptsächlich in Grand-Cru-Lagen. Heute umfasst es 65 Hektar, zehn davon in Grand-Cru und 15 in Premier-Cru-Lagen. »Seit Anfang der 1970er-Jahre

ist Chablis wieder gewachsen«, sagt Mangenot, »von etwa 550 auf mehr als 5800 Hektar.« Technische Fortschritte in Anbau und Keller, effektive Lösungen zur Frostbekämpfung und schließlich der wirtschaftliche Erfolg hätten der Region den lang erhofften Rückenwind gegeben.

Für Matthieu Mangenot liegt das Besondere des Chablis in seinem vielfältigen Terroir und in der wandelbaren Natur der Rebsorte Chardonnay: »Long-Depaquit produziert 13 verschiedene Weine – sechs Grands Crus, sechs Premiers Crus und einen Ortswein, den Chablis. Jeder hat seine ganz eigene Signatur und Persönlichkeit. Es ist faszinierend! Im Rebberg und im Keller wird alles darangesetzt, die Unterschiede so präzise wie möglich herauszuarbeiten.« Manch einen mag diese Vielfalt verwirren, doch das Terroir von Chablis ist eben voller Feinheiten.

Die Aufteilung und Klassifizierung der Lagen kommt tatsächlich nicht von ungefähr, sie beruht auf jahrhundertelangen Erfahrungswerten. »Da sind zum Beispiel die beiden Premiers Crus Vaucopain und Les Lys«, erklärt Mangenot: »Beide sind wundervoll, und doch liegen Welten zwischen ihnen.« Vaucopain am rechten Ufer des schmalen Flusses Serein ist nach Süden ausgerichtet, hat einen etwas steileren Hang und ähnelt dem Grand Cru Vaudésir. Hier bekommt der Chardonnay einen sonnigen, stärker konzentrierten Charakter und besticht durch reife Aromen von Quitte, Aprikose, Fruchtpaste, unterstrichen von einem fein salzigen Abgang. Les Lys am linken Flussufer schaut nach Nordosten und ist wesentlich

WINE ENTHUSIAST

www.winemag.com

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Roger Voss

Editors' Choice

93



92



MOULIN-À-VENT *Domaine de Rochegrès* 2019

93 POINTS

EDITOR'S CHOICE

From one of the top sectors of the appellation, this wine is perfumed, structured and still young. Good balance between intense fruitiness and structure will allow it to age further. Drink from 2023.

FLEURIE LA MADONE 2019

92 POINTS

EDITOR'S CHOICE

There is good structure to this young wine. Perfumed and shot through with black fruits and tannins, the wine is balanced although needing to soften. Drink from 2023.

BROUILLY ROCHE ROSE 2019

90 POINTS

This Beaune-based producer has produced a ripe and juicy wine. Tannins and berry flavors give balance as well as a fruity aftertaste. Drink from late 2022.

2020 BEAUJOLAIS-VILLAGES CHÂTEAU DE VARENNES

88 POINTS

This single-estate wine has a soft, generous character. Bright fruits are smoothed out and ripe, giving a gentle texture that is lifted by final acidity. Drink now.

frischer, wozu auch der nicht ganz so steinige, lehmigere Boden beiträgt. Die Weine zeichnen sich durch lebendige Säure aus, durch mineralischen Charakter und filigran blumige Aromen. »Obwohl beide Premiers Crus sind, werden sie im Keller sehr unterschiedlich verarbeitet«, verrät Matthieu Mangenot: »Wir passen uns der Charakteristik der Lagen an. Vaucopain zum Beispiel wird zu bis zu 15 Prozent im Holzfass ausgebaut.« Les Lys (übersetzt: die Lilien) bleibt mit seiner blumigen, dennoch energiegeladenen Zartheit hingegen immer im Stahltank.

Von der Göre bis zur alten Dame – jede Lage hat ihren Charakter

Ähnlich individuell sind die Grands Crus, zum Beispiel Les Clos und La Moutonne. »Les Clos«, erläutert Mangenot, »liegt in süd-südwestlicher Ausrichtung und sieht den ganzen Tag über die Sonne. Das Terroir gibt dem Chardonnay ordentlich Stoff und Körper, in manchen Jahren wirkt er fast schon wie ein Meursault. Für mich haben diese Weine die unbändige, spontane und großzügige Energie eines Kindes. La Moutonne hingegen liegt in einem natürlichen Amphitheater. Die Lage bekommt weniger Abendsonne und gewinnt dadurch an Raffinesse, Mineralität und Zurückhaltung.« Lachend fügt er hinzu: »La Moutonne ist wie eine vornehme alte Dame.« Die Grand-Cru-Lagen seien einfach faszinierend, »auf der einen Seite das ungebändigte Kind, auf der anderen die distinguierte Lady. So, wie sich der Grand-Cru-Hügel aufbaut mit seinen Falten, Kuppeln, Süd- und Nordexpositionen, ist er für mich der Archetyp des Terroirs. Auf diesen 100 Hektar ist alles vorhanden. Ständig muss man sein Verständnis des Terroirs hinterfragen, und es liegt bei uns, das Beste daraus zu machen.«

Dem Terroir will man auch durch integrierten Weinbau gerecht werden. Ein Großteil der Rebberge wird mittlerweile ökologisch bewirtschaftet, 2021 waren es 45 Hektar. Noch ist Long-Depaquit nicht zertifiziert, doch das ist nur noch eine Frage der Zeit; vier der sechs Güter der Familie Bichot sind es bereits. »Seit zehn Jahren arbeiten wir darauf hin«, erklärt Mangenot,

»allerdings haben wir hier in Chablis viele Hanglagen, und die Bodenpflege bleibt unsere größte Herausforderung.« Eine andere seien die klimatischen Veränderungen: »Die Erderwärmung ist eine Tatsache, man braucht sich nur die vergangenen 20 Jahre anzuschauen. Die ältere Generation erntete zum Beispiel nie vor Oktober. Heute sieht es ganz anders aus. Auch das Gleichgewicht der Weine hat sich verschoben. Noch vor 15 Jahren ging es beim Qualitätsdenken um das Verhältnis zwischen Frische, Reife und Alkohol.«

In den 1970er-Jahren war ein typischer Chablis ziseliert und säurehaltig, seit Anfang des 21. Jahrhunderts hat er an Körper und Fülle gewonnen. Bei Long-Depaquit sieht man diese Entwicklung positiv, die Weine sind in ihrer Jugendzeit zugänglicher geworden. Mittlerweile werden die Beeren nicht mehr nur im Labor analysiert, um das richtige Erntedatum zu bestimmen, sondern auch im Weinberg verkostet. »2018 und 2019 gaben uns recht«, berichtet Matthieu Mangenot: »Der Zuckergehalt war zwar recht hoch, aber die phenolische Reife noch nicht ausreichend. Im Labor sieht man das nicht. Hätten wir uns nur auf die Analysen verlassen, hätten wir ein Problem gehabt.«

Beim Pressen wirken die Traubenstiele als Filter

Insgesamt verwandelt man die Trauben hier ohne große technische Eingriffe in Wein, wobei jede Lage für sich gekeltert und ausgebaut wird. Als 2014 der Keller renoviert wurde, ging es für Mangenot nicht nur um Modernisierung: »Wir wollten



Ein schmucker Ziergarten umgibt das klassizistische Gutshaus. In den vielen Hanglagen ist die Bodenpflege eine besondere Herausforderung



Seine Ortsweine baut Matthieu Mangelot durchweg im Stahltank aus, manche Lagenweine kommen zudem anteilig in gebrauchte Eichenfässer

die Premier- und Grand-Cru-Trauben nicht mehr entrapfen, sondern sanfte Ganztraubenpressung machen können.« Seitdem wird in den Premier- und Grand-Cru-Lagen in kleine Kisten geerntet, und der gesamte Leseprozess ist darauf angelegt, dass die Trauben so wenig wie möglich gehandhabt werden müssen – sie kommen von der Rebe in die Kiste, von der Kiste auf den Sortiertisch, vom Sortiertisch in die Presse. Ein Vorteil dabei: »Die Stielgerüste der ganzen Trauben bilden einen natürlichen Filter, und der frisch gepresste Most enthält kaum noch Trub, gewinnt an Präzision, Reinheit und Qualität«.

Während der Most für den Ortswein im Stahltank gekeltert und ausgebaut wird, können Premiers und Grands Crus für zehn bis zwölf Monate bis zu 35 Prozent im gebrauchten Holzfass liegen – oder auch nicht, wie Les Lys. In jedem Fall setzt Matthieu Mangelot dieses Mittel immer nur sparsam ein: »Schließlich wollen wir den Chablis nicht in einen Meursault verwandeln, sondern seine Mineralität hervorheben. Das Holz dient lediglich dazu, die Struktur und das Volumen des Weins herauszuarbeiten. Wir setzen bevorzugt Eichenfässer aus den Vogesen ein. Durch das kühle Klima wachsen die Bäume dort langsamer, daher ist das Holz feinmaschiger und enthält weniger Vanillin.« Seit einigen Jahren wird bei Long-Depaquit, wie auch bei vielen anderen Winzern Frankreichs, mit größeren Holzfässern experimentiert.

Die Weine des Chablis sind vielfältig, und jedes Gut arbeitet seinen eigenen Stil heraus, mal mineralischer, mal etwas runder. Long-Depaquit setzt auf Terroir und Zugänglichkeit. »Unsere Weine sollen Genussweine sein«, betont Mangelot, »der Chablis und die Premiers Crus sind frische, fruchtige Weine. Das ist die Signatur der Familie Bichot. Unsere Kunden sollen keinen Wein 30 Jahre im Keller liegen lassen müssen, bevor sie ihn genießen können. Auch bei den Grands Crus ist es uns wichtig, dass sie trotz langem Lagerpotenzial schon jung getrunken werden können.«



Nur ein Wein passt nicht so recht zu dieser Philosophie: La Moutonne, das schönste Original des Guts. Für Matthieu Mangelot bietet diese Lage 2,35 Hektar pure Magie: »Die Mönche hatten ein unglaubliches Gespür fürs Terroir. Die Rebzeilen unterhalb der Trockensteinmauer liegen wärmer und bringen Reife, während die oberhalb der Mauer kühleren Winden ausgesetzt sind und Frische beisteuern. Es ist ein natürlicher Kompromiss komplementärer Eigenschaften, am Ende ist eins plus eins gleich drei. Es ist schon ein bisschen verrückt. Erst nach 15 Jahren auf der Flasche zeigt diese Lage ihr volles Potenzial.«

La Moutonne soll endlich auch amtlich ein Grand Cru werden

95 Prozent der Reben stehen auf dem Grand Cru Vaudésir, fünf Prozent auf Les Preuses. Jahrhundertlang blieb das Kataster von La Moutonne unverändert, und das soll auch in Zukunft so bleiben. »Sie ist nicht nur Grand Cru und Monopol, sondern auch ein echtes Markenzeichen«, sagt Mangelot. Warum sie 1938 nicht offiziell zum achten Grand Cru erklärt worden sei, bleibe ein Rätsel. »Wahrscheinlich passte es der Familie Long-Depaquit damals nicht ins Konzept«, mutmaßt er: »Sie nutzte den Namen La Moutonne nicht nur für die Grand-Cru-Lage, sondern vermarktete erfolgreich unter anderem perlenden La Moutonne und roten La Moutonne, höchstwahrscheinlich aus zugekauften Trauben. Wäre La Moutonne offiziell ein Grand Cru geworden, wäre das nicht mehr gegangen.«

Heute aber besteht die Möglichkeit, der legendären Lage endlich den verdienten Ritterschlag zu verleihen. Vor zwei Jahren trat das INAO, das Institut National de l'Origine et de la Qualité, an die Familie Bichot heran, um La Moutonne offiziell in die Chablis-Grand-Cru-Verordnung aufzunehmen – ein langwieriger Prozess, der bis zu zehn Jahre dauern kann. Doch schon die Zisterzienser wussten: Gut Ding will Weile haben. 🍷





2022 - Issue 75

2020 BURGUNDY

Taster : Sarah Marsh MW

Latricières-Chambertin Grand Cru

Expressive, warm but cool, raspberry-ripe aroma. Quite a lot of oak showing and some lifted notes. It mixes a hint of the exotic with herbal tarragon notes. It's racy and intense and has a well-sustained silky-powdery finish. 2026–35. **95–96**

Echézeaux Grand Cru Domaine du Clos Frantin

An intriguing aroma with blueberry fruit, white pepper, and orange zest. Supple and richly textured, with a glossy cruise onto the palate. Quite sumptuous, it develops an exotic, purple aromatic profile on the nicely sustained finish. 2026–35. **94–95**

Vosne-Romanée Premier Cru Les Malconsorts Domaine du Clos Frantin

Intense, rather sophisticated forest-fruit aroma. Silky and fresh on the attack. Fine-textured, with a crisp snap to the black-chocolate tannin. It certainly has a zesty herbal freshness which carries the finish. 2026–35. **93**

Nuits-St-Georges Premier Cru Château-Gris

Upright, ripe, but cool redcurrant aroma. Clean-cut edges. Concentrated but precise. Brushes off its 14% ABV. Good tension. Fine-textured tannins, with an airy, herbal touch, and I like the fresh, sappy follow through, with a touch of silk to finish. A stylish and refined NSG. 2025–30. **93–94+**

Pommard Premier Cru Les Rugiens Domaine du Pavillon

Spicy, cocoa power and mint aromas. A high-toned and arresting scent. This is from the lower, *bas* part. Showing super-tight and reserved. Compact energy. Fine-grained tannins and a well-sustained, cold, sappy finish. The tannins catch a little on the finish, but this shows good potential. 2027–35+. **94**

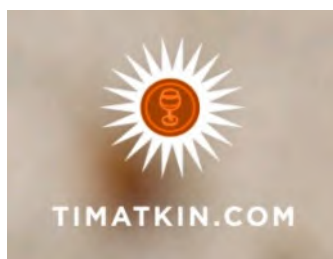
Beaune Premier Cru Clos des Mouches Domaine du Pavillon

From the top of the *climat*. Gently rounded and creamy, with smooth minerality and a coolish undercut of freshness. I like the savory quality contrasting with sweet notes, and the bitter-lemon, slightly phenolic, salty finish. 2024–30. **93–94**

Meursault Domaine du Pavillon

Sturdy, rich, and vigorous. Surprisingly, as the vines are located lower down on the north side, the wine has a smooth stone element and earthy minerality to finish. Bold and punchy vigor and plenty of freshness to boot. It's a jolly good Meursault. 2024–27. **90**





February 2022

Burgundy 2020 Special Report

BY CHRISTY CANTERBURY MW



Christy Canterbury MW

Top 25 Chablis Producers: *Domaine Long-Depaquit*

96

Albert Bichot, Dom. Long-Depaquit 2020 Chablis GC Les Clos

Two parcels combine to form this wine: one mid-slope and another at the top of the slope. This is as impressively big as one would expect a Clos to be, yet in contrast, it shows delicate fresh herb and yeasty notes. On the finish, the wine is an echo chamber of its concentration and needs time to settle down. 2025-34

95

Albert Bichot, Dom. Long-Depaquit 2020 Chablis GC Les Vaudésirs

An exuberant Les Vaudésirs, this oozes tropical fruit, vanilla bean and toasted oats. Sensuously rounded on the palate - for a Chablis, even a Grand Cru, this is silky, long and tastes of sunshine. This is the domaine's largest Chablis Grand Cru holding at 2.6 hectares. 2024-30

95

Albert Bichot, Dom. Long-Depaquit 2020 Chablis GC Moutonne Monopole

Made of Les Vaudésirs with a 5% dollop of Les Preuses, this is always a unique wine. This vintage shows good cut with chiselled acidity and lifting minerality. The sappy mid-palate is a combination of golden apples, sweet peaches and crushed oyster shells. 2023-2034

94

Albert Bichot, Dom. Long-Depaquit 2020 Chablis GC Bougros

Like the Preuses, this undergoes aging entirely in oak, but in oak of two to three uses. The oak is slightly less marked here as the wine is more exotic with pineapple, mango and green tea notes. The mid-palate is slightly custardy, and there's a hint of tannin on the finish that cleans up the concentrated palate with the punchy acidity. 2023-32

94

Albert Bichot, Dom. Long-Depaquit 2020 Chablis GC Les Preuses

Though Bichot owns 65 hectares of vines in Chablis, this is the smallest holding at only 0.25 hectare. These recently replanted vines stand next to La Moutonne. This spends 10 months in oak, from new to five uses, and there are clear vanilla and caramel notes that cling to the poached apples and pears. Supple and smooth, this is a broad-shouldered Chablis. 2024-30

93

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

93

Albert Bichot, Dom. Long-Depaquit, Chablis PC Les Vaucopins

93

Albert Bichot, Dom. Long-Depaquit, Chablis PC Montmains

93

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

92

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

92

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

90

Albert Bichot, Dom. Long-Depaquit, Chablis





February 2022

Burgundy 2020 Special Report

BY CHRISTY CANTERBURY MW



Christy Canterbury MW

Top 25 Négociants: *Maison Albert Bichot*

95

Albert Bichot 2020 Criots-Bâtard-Montrachet GC

Christophe Chauvel says Bichot usually buys one to three barrels of Criots grape must and bought two in 2020. The scintillatingly pure nose pops with a very stylish, Puligny nose of garden flowers, minerals and ripe pears. The palate follows with a waterfall of juicy, flavorful fruit that feels remarkably light thanks to the racy acidity. Toasty notes come out on the long finish. All in all, this is already very well knit. 2022-34



95

Albert Bichot, Domaine du Pavillon 2020 Corton-Charlemagne GC

Bichot's Pavillon owns a 1.2-hectare parcel in the Les Languettes sector that averages 40 years in age. This, like all the Pavillon wines, are certified organic. Apple peels and white flowers start the nose, and the palate turns on flavors of fresh pineapple cake and cinnamon. The curvy, concentrated palate finishes with buoyant acidic lift. 2023-32

94

Albert Bichot, Domaine du Pavillon 2020 Beaune PC Clos des Mouches

Pavillon's 75 ares are in the upper and final part of Clos des Mouches. The nose starts with buttered and toasted cinnamon bread then follows with baked apples. The palate is smooth and much perkier than the rich nose initially suggests. There's excellent tension that draws out the solid finish. 2022-30



94

Albert Bichot, Domaine du Pavillon 2020 Meursault PC Les Charmes

Domaine du Pavillon holds 1 ha 17 across three parcels in the Dessus, or upper, and Dessous, or lower, portions of Charmes. Unsurprisingly, this wine shows the breadth of Meursault with more ethereal, floral aromatics – fitting for vines that lie both in clay (evoking the former) and on limestone (providing the latter.) Lovely floral notes intertwine with melon, yellow cherry and tapioca pudding on the palate. 2022-28



93

Albert Bichot, Dom. du Pavillon, Meursault Les Criots

92

Albert Bichot, Château-Gris, Nuits-Saint-Georges Les Terrasses

90

Albert Bichot, Dom. Adélie, Mercurey Les Champs Michaux

89

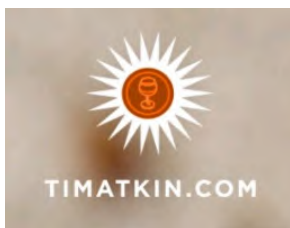
Albert Bichot, Macon Lugny Les Charmes

89

Albert Bichot, Dom. Adélie, Bourgogne Aligoté Champ Renard

88

Albert Bichot, Bourgogne Côte d'Or Chardonnay Secret de Famille



Burgundy 2020 Special Report

BY CHRISTY CANTERBURY MW



Christy Canterbury MW

February 2022

98

Albert Bichot, Domaine du Clos Frantin 2020 Chambertin GC

This is a flamboyant, wildly perfumed Chambertin! Its vines lie in the chilly upper reaches of the Grand Cru, which certainly contributes to the wine's vivacity. Dark cherry fruits meet pain au chocolat on the nose. As it opens, evergreen and struck flint weave into the mix. Rather masculine in style, the tannins are dense and somewhat strappy. Blazing acidity pulls the wine into a long finish dappled with smoky minerality. 2025-45

96

Albert Bichot 2020 Latricières-Chambertin GC

Bichot harvests these purchased grapes whose vines are planted in clay and limestone soils. The nose starts with tangy red fruits layered with potpourri nuances. Excellent acidic tension and drizzle soft tannins give this simultaneously delicate and powerful Grand Cru instant allure. 2023-40

96

Albert Bichot, Domaine du Clos Frantin 2020 Clos-de-Vougeot GC

Domaine du Clos Frantin has parcels in the top and bottom of the Clos. The combination makes for a vibrantly intense palate with excellent density. The blueberry coulis and forest berry core are shaped by silky, caressing tannins and bracing acidity. While built for the long-term, this should be accessible fairly early, too. 2024-40

95

Albert Bichot, Domaine du Clos Frantin 2020 Echézeaux GC

This 1 hectare of vines is in the Champs Traversins, which has rather sandy soils and lies in the line of the Combe d'Orveau. Blueberries and bramble pour from the glass while perky acidity pounces on the palate. The tannins are fine and persistent through the generous finish. 2023-40

95

Albert Bichot, Domaine du Clos Frantin 2020 Vosne-Romanée PC Les Malconsorts

A generous 1.75 hectares of this coveted Premier Cru are in the hands of Bichot, which is its largest landowner. Romanée-Conti and Richebourg are neighboring vineyards. As one would suspect, this is sheer class and very, very moreish. The nose starts with spicy oak, bramble and black cherries. The fruit-filled palate is framed by soaring freshness and suave, powdery tannins. 2023-38

95

Albert Bichot, Domaine du Pavillon 2020 Corton GC Clos des Maréchaudes Monopole

Planted in the early 1950s, these 2 hectares of vines sit close to the bedrock on a solid slope. The resulting wine is seriously dense in fruit concentration and structure. Field strawberries, plum compote and cherry preserves slide across the palate into a vividly fruit-driven finish. 2024-40

94

Albert Bichot, Nuits-Saint-Georges PC Château-Gris

93

Albert Bichot, Chambolle-Musigny PC Les Chabiots

93

Albert Bichot, Dom. du Clos Frantin Vosne-Romanée

93

Albert Bichot, Gevrey-Chambertin Les Evocelles

93

Albert Bichot, Dom. du Pavillon, Pommard PC Les Rugiens

92

Albert Bichot, Morey-Saint-Denis PC Les Sorbets

92

Albert Bichot, Fixin PC Clos de la Perrière

92

Albert Bichot, Dom. du Pavillon, Aloxe-Corton PC Clos des Maréchaudes

92

Albert Bichot, Dom. du Pavillon, Pommard Clos des Ursulines

90

Albert Bichot, Dom. Adélie, Mercurey PC Champs Martin

89

Albert Bichot, Bourgogne Pinot Noir Côte d'Or Secret de Famille



January 24, 2022

Best Burgundy 2020 premier cru wines

In his Burgundy 2020 en primeur report, Charles Curtis MW concludes that across both red and white wines, 2020 is certainly a vintage worth buying. Here he highlights some of the top-scoring premier cru wines worth seeking out.



Charles Curtis MW

January 24, 2022

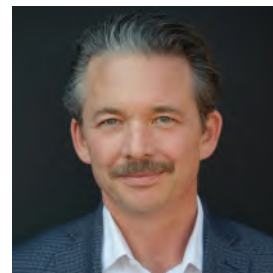


Tasted by Charles Curtis MW (at Burgundy, 10 Nov 2021)

Part of **Best Burgundy 2020 premier cru wines**

The wine shows a pronounced aroma of ripe black cherry and floral notes the winemaker describes as peony, mingled with notes of mineral, spice and smoke. Initially somewhat reserved on the palate, the texture is silky and with time reveals substantial but fine-grained tannins, good freshness and impressive length. Bichot owns two parcels of Malconsorts that total 1.75ha at the southern extremity of the lieu-dit bordering Nuits. Picking began on the 31st August, right after the first small shower that refreshed the vines.

Drinking Window 2025 - 2060



Charles Curtis MW

Vintage 2020

CRIOTS-BATARD-MONTRACHET GRAND CRU: 95

A wine with subtle ripe pear and floral notes that are refreshingly not overly marked by the wood. The texture is silky and fine, and despite the warmth of the year there is very pleasant tension and balance. Well done. Made from purchased grapes picked on the 24th of August. The grapes were gently pressed and briefly settled before fermentation in used casks.



CHAMBERTIN GRAND CRU Domaine du Clos Frantin: 95

Dark blackberry fruit, with notes of mineral and spice. On the palate the wine is very tannic, structured and very long. It is a bit closed and backwards, but there is great potential for ageing and it should open well with time. Bichot owns a 0.17ha parcel of Chambertin at the very top of the slope, planted north-south. The grapes are fermented slowly in open-top wood fermenters and punched down regularly.



LATRICIÈRES-CHAMBERTIN GRAND CRU: 93

A pleasant cherry and floral aroma, and a silky texture. Made from purchased grapes that the team from Bichot picked. The harvest here was among the very last (4th September) when the grapes had reached almost 14% potential alcohol. The grapes were partially destemmed and gently fermented before ageing in 35% new casks.



CLOS DE VOUGEOT GRAND CRU Domaine du Clos Frantin: 94

Lovely and ripe cassis fruit, in a silky yet dense texture, balanced by abundant freshness that leads to a pleasant persistence on the finish. Produced from two parcels, one that passes from Baudes Basses to Baudes Hautes, and the other in Grand Maupertuis. The total is 0.71ha and harvest began on the 31st August. A long, slow fermentation in conical wooden vats and ageing in cask (60% new).



VOSNE-ROMANÉE 1^{ER} CRU LES MALCONSORTS Domaine du Clos Frantin: 96

The wine shows a pronounced aroma of ripe black cherry and floral notes the winemaker describes as peony, mingled with notes of mineral, spice and smoke. Initially somewhat reserved on the palate, the texture is silky and with time reveals substantial but fine-grained tannins, good freshness and impressive length. Bichot owns two parcels of Malconsorts that total 1.75ha at the southern extremity of the lieu-dit bordering Nuits. Picking began on the 31st August, right after the first small shower that refreshed the vines.



CHAMBOLE-MUSIGNY 1^{ER} CRU LES CHABIOTS: 91

Inky dark colour, with aromas of cassis and fig, plus an undercurrent of chocolate within a rich and soft texture. This wine was produced from purchased fruit from a parcel of 0.8ha in Chabiots. The tiny grapes were fermented with one-third whole clusters in the tank.



MOREY-SAINT-DENIS 1^{ER} CRU LES SORBETS: 92

Very forward plum and fig fruit, with a note of dark chocolate. The texture is ripe and velvety, but there is plenty of depth here. Very pleasant. Bichot purchases the fruit from this parcel of 1.28ha in Les Sorbets. In 2020 it was picked on the 28th of August and fermented with one-third whole clusters.



VOSNE-ROMANÉE Domaine du Clos Frantin: 93

Ripe and forward, with a lush, liquorice-scented mulberry fruit and a brambly edge. The texture is plump and round in this altogether very pleasant wine. Blended from three parcels in Vosne of 0.5ha each: two in Damaudes, including one at the top of the slope, and one in Basses Maizières. In Damaudes - the sunnier spot - picking commenced on the 28th August.



GEVREY-CHAMBERTIN LES MUROTS Domaine du Clos Frantin: 91

The nose is perfumed, with an aroma of bright red cherry and smoke, while the grippy tannins are typical of the village. This is about elegance rather than power.





Andy Howard MW

CÔTE DE NUITS REDS

ECHEZEUX GRAND CRU Domaine du Clos Frantin 2020: 17+

Toasty, mocha evident on the nose. Sweet fruit – dark cherry and raspberry. Subtle, understated oak. An elegant, precise Echezeaux which is more about finesse than power.

LATRICIÈRES-CHAMBERTIN GRAND CRU 2020: 16.5++

Violets on the nose. Great elegance on the palate, concentrated, fine and dense. There is a hint of rusticity here but in a very good way, adding more character to this grand cru and suggesting plenty of upward potential.

CLOS DE VOUGEOT GRAND CRU Domaine du Clos Frantin 2020: 16.5+

Earthy, spicy, long and exotic. Lovely balance with fresh black fruit – blackberry and damson. Firm tannins, hit of oak which needs a year or two to settle. Substantially better than many a Clos de Vougeot.

VOSNE-ROMANÉE 1^{ER} CRU LES MALCONSORTS Domaine du Clos Frantin 2020: 17.5++

Closed, intense but still complex. Deep hue, violet and rose-petal nose, plenty of substance. Pure, black fruit, oak evident. An electric, energetic Vosne which has a wonderful balance of precision, acidity and density. Will age several decades.

CHAMBOLLE-MUSIGNY 1^{ER} CRU LES AMOUREUSES 2020: 18++

A massive step up from the Chablots. Intense, inky colour. Brooding dark blackberry fruit with a lovely leafy lift on the nose. Plush and luscious in texture, great smoothness of tannin with crisp acidity all in great balance. More than delivers what is expected for a premier cru.

CHAMBOLLE-MUSIGNY 1^{ER} CRU LES CHABIOTS 2020: 16.5+

A bit lighter in hue, lifted floral aromas. Elegant and with sweet fruit on the palate. Very classy, quite typical Chambolle, no blockbuster but will age. Ballet dancer.

MOREY-SAINT-DENIS 1^{ER} CRU LES SORBETS 2020: 16+

Intriguing, floral, violet nose, intense dark hue, plenty of weight here. Savoury palate. Firm tannins, needs more time to soften.

FIXIN 1^{ER} CRU CLOS DE LA PERRIÈRE 2020: 16.5+

Fresh, quite delicate and elegant with rose petal on the nose. Seems to favour purity over power and extract. Lively, blackberry fruit, bright acidity and subtle oak. Clos de La Perrière is Fixin's top climat. Worth a punt.



18++



17.5++

CÔTE DE BEAUNE REDS

CORTON GRAND CRU CLOS DES MARECHAUDES Domaine du Pavillon 2020: 16.5++

Restrained, dark redcurrant and cherry on the palate. Plenty of purity and finesse for Corton. Freshness in the mouth combined with spicy oak, bright acidity and a lingering, savoury finish. Not a blockbuster but certainly classy.

POMMARD 1^{ER} CRU LES RUGIENS Domaine du Pavillon 2020: 16.5+

Plenty of intensity and weight. Old-school 'four-square' Pommard feel to the palate. Black fruit, plenty of acid and some firm tannins, this has the purity and concentration to develop very well. I suspect this will gain a lot of elegance with a few years' ageing.

VOLNAY 1^{ER} CRU LES SANTENOTS Domaine du Pavillon 2020: 16+

Lives up to the Santenots name. Floral, purity on the palate, deep colour, very good texture with fine grain to the tannins, cleansing acidity and a good balance of oak which should enable this concentrated, classy Volnay to evolve very well.





January 2022

VINTAGE 2020



Andy Howard MW

OTHER REDS

MERCUREY 1^{ER} CRU LES CHAMPS MARTIN Domaine Adélie 2020: 16

Toasty oak dominates the nose, deep colour, youthful appearance. Dark berry and raspberry on palate. Very fine texture – fine tannins should enable this to age well. A pretty good introduction to 'lieu-dit' Mercurey.

MOULIN À VENT Domaine de Rochebrès 2020: 15.5

Deep colour, intense, inky. Primary blackberry fruit, lots of drive here. Not the densest or most structured Moulin on the palate but there is plenty of freshness and vitality here. Violet notes to finish.

WHITES

CHABLIS GRAND CRU MOUTONNE Domaine Long-Depaquit 2020: 17.5+

Full-bodied, ripe and exotic (for Chablis) there is great purity here with plenty of acidity to promote long-term ageing. Apple fruit with a touch of creamy almond on the finish. I suspect this has a great future ahead of it.

CORTON-CHARLEMAGNE GRAND CRU Domaine du Pavillon 2020: 17.5+

This could almost be mistaken for the Chablis Grand Cru. Restrained nose. Pebbly/mineral palate. Lime zest adds complexity to the light peach/green-apple fruit. Stony finish with depth and length. Will age very well.

MEURSAULT 1^{ER} CRU LES CHARMES Domaine du Pavillon 2020: 16.5

Much more floral. Restraint. Fine balance of spice, concentration, oak and ripeness of tree fruit. Attractive already, best in a year or two.

BOURGOGNE CÔTE D'OR CHARDONNAY SECRET DE FAMILLE 2020: 16

Each year, Bichot's interpretation of the (relatively) new Bourgogne Côte d'Or AOP improves. Oak is more evident here, allied with some ripe peach and cedar notes together with a fleshy palate. Sourced from vineyards in Puligny and Meursault. Should be pretty fair value for what it offers.

BOURGOGNE ALIGOTÉ CHAMP RENARD Domaine Adélie 2020: 16

Aligoté really seems to be hitting new heights in the warmer vintages of 2018, 2019 and 2020. Touch of golden honey on the palate, some spice notes and with quite a deep colour in the glass, this is balanced by green-apple freshness with plenty of acidity. Not complex but certainly enjoyable.





2020 Côte de Nuits reds

Technical director Alain Serveau, and Cyrille Jacquelin (who is also responsible for the Clos Frantin wines) commented that 2020, much like 2019 “was another hot and dry growing season though 2020 was even more precocious as the vegetative cycle was some 3 weeks ahead of a normal season. We picked between the 25th of August up to the 5th of September. The fruit was very clean, and the only sorting needed was to eliminate a few sunburned or wilted berries. The quality of the fruit was excellent but unfortunately, there was even less of it than in 2019 and much less than 2018. Ripeness levels were very good, indeed to the point that the average potential alcohols ranged between 13.5 and 14%. Phenolic ripeness levels were also good and, again like 2019, this was very favorable to the use of whole clusters, so we fermented softly while using very high percentages of them. And in another parallel with 2019, the solid to liquid ratios were quite high so it would have been exceptionally easy to over-extract had we not vinified gently. Once we barreled down the new wines, they were initially very closed and didn't seem to have much personality but as the élevage progressed, they have really improved and particularly so with respect to terroir transparency. Thanks to the excellent concentrations, the 2020s are built to last and should age gracefully for years.”

2020 Bourgogne Côte d'Or Secret de Famille: (86-89)

(made with fruit entirely from the Côte de Nuits and most if from Morey). Ripe and fresh aromas display a mentholated top note on the dark berry and earth scented nose. There is excellent volume to the medium weight for a wine at this level along with good verve and length. This delicious effort should benefit from 2 to 3 years of cellaring and is worth a look. 2023+

2020 Bourgogne Côte d'Or “Clos Frantin” Domaine du Clos Frantin: 86

This had just been bottled and not surprisingly, the nose was somewhat reduced though I doubt that it will last. Otherwise, there is good vibrancy and freshness to the succulent, round and seductively textured flavors that terminate in a clean if somewhat tangy finish that may also be related to the recent bottling. 2023+

2020 Gevrey-Chambertin “Les Evocelles”: (88-90)

A brooding, cool and more deeply pitched nose reflects notes of wild dark cherry, plum and underbrush. The succulent, fleshy and solidly concentrated flavors exude an almost bracing minerality on the punchy, youthfully austere and nicely long finale. 2026+

2020 Fixin “Clos de la Perrière”: (89-92)

There is enough reduction present to push the underlying fruit to the background. Otherwise, there is both good vibrancy and freshness to the tautly muscular middle weight flavors that also flash good minerality on the slightly more austere finale. At least some patience advised. 2028+

2020 Nuits St. Georges 1er Cru “Château Gris”: (89-91)

Pretty aromas of kirsch, poached plum and earth give way to finely detailed and delicious middle weight flavors that exude a subtle bead of minerality on the moderately persistent and mildly rustic finish that firms up. This needs to add depth and I would suggest allowing it at least a few years of bottle aging. 2027+

2020 Morey St. Denis 1er Cru “Les Sorbets”: (89-92)

An interesting nose of very ripe pepper, ripe plum, dark raspberry and warm earth precedes relatively refined and lilting flavors that contrast significantly with the mildly rustic finish that really firms up as it sits on the palate. Note that this has the stuffing to reward a decade or so of cellaring. 2030+





2020 Côte de Nuits reds

2020 Chambolle-Musigny 1er Cru “Les Chabiots”: (90-92)

A slightly more elegant and slightly fresher nose speaks of both red and dark cherry, raspberry, spice and pretty floral nuances. The mouthfeel of the medium-bodied flavors is finer still with good minerality suffusing the moderately firm and youthfully austere finale. This too should have no problem cellaring well for a decade or more. 2030+

2020 Vosne-Romanée 1er Cru “Les Rouges” *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: (90-93)

A slightly more elegant and airier nose freely offers up its array of cool dark berries, anise and violet. There is fine volume and excellent punch to more mineral-driven flavors that also conclude in a dusty and chewy but not really rustic finale. 2032+

2020 Vosne-Romanée 1^{er} Cru “Les Malconsorts” *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: (90-93)

(from a large 1.76 ha parcel). A pungent nose of wood toast and reduction introduces the supple, round and surprisingly forward medium-bodied flavors that flash evident minerality on the powerful and dusty finish that really tightens up. This youthfully austere effort is going to require extended patience before it will be ready for prime time drinking. 2035+

2020 Clos de Vougeot Grand Cru *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: (90-93)

(from a .72 ha parcel). There is a mentholated top note present on the nicely layered nose of warm earth, black cherry and a touch of oak. There is fine volume to the round, velvety and succulent larger-scaled flavors that also conclude in a firm, austere, mouth coating and serious finale. Patience will again be required. 2035+

2020 Latricières-Chambertin Grand Cru: (91-93)

Pungent aromas are comprised of firm reduction and wood toast. The sleek, vibrant and intense bigger-bodied flavors brim with minerality on the rich, sappy and palate soaking finale that flashes excellent length. 2032+

2020 Echézeaux Grand Cru *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: (91-93)

(from a .99 ha parcel in Champs Traversin). This is aromatically quite similar to the Clos de Vougeot but with markedly more spice elements to be appreciated. There is good volume to the relatively finely textured medium-bodied flavors that coat the palate with sappy dry extract that also helps to buffer the firm tannins supporting the powerful, serious and built-to-age finale. 2035+

2020 Grands-Echézeaux *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: (91-94)

(from a .6 ha parcel). Pungent aromas of wood, menthol and firm reduction render the nose virtually impossible to assess. Interestingly, the mid-palate of the larger-scaled flavors is quite supple and round, indeed it's almost easy-going, though the finish gathers intensity and power on the saline-infused and strikingly persistent finale. 2037+

2020 Richebourg Grand Cru *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: (91-94)

This too is pungently reduced with hints of menthol and wood. More interesting are the impressively rich and concentrated broad-shouldered flavors that exhibit focused power on the sappy and lingering finish where hints of warmth and bitter chocolate slowly emerge. This needs to develop more depth but the underlying structure is such that it should have no trouble developing in time. 2037+





Jasper Morris MW

2020: THE VINTAGE REPORT - CHABLIS

2020, Chablis Les Beugnons 1er Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit

92

In bottle. Pale lemon colour, this has a much more classical Chablis nose, white fruit with marine notes, excellent tension, deeply crisp apple notes, a hint of lemon zest, full body, good persistence. Will need some ageing.

2020, Chablis Les Vaillons 1er Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit

92

In bottle. Clear attractive yellow, the nose is delightful and very typical, with that drier style, a little bit of dry lemon on the stones, this is very classical on the palate too, with a fine consistency throughout. Some verbena notes as well, pretty long and some flesh on the bones.

2020, Chablis Les Vaucopins 1er Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit

90

In bottle. Pale lemon yellow. Some weight of fruit and a little flesh on the nose, then an extra strong lemon, middleweight, pretty persistent.

2020, Chablis Les Blanchots Grand Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit

92-94

Mid lemon yellow. The bouquet is remarkably elegant, given its power, strongly floral but more summer flowers than the usual edelweiss, this is really pretty too in the mouth with ripe nectarines infused by the kimmeridgian purity.

2020, Chablis Les Vaudésirs Grand Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit

93-95

Good clear lemon yellow. The bouquet combined sunshine and a more classical nerviness. Some sensuality comes up behind, more fruit than flowers after Blanchots. There is a fine core of pure white fruit, sitting on its limestone bench and just at the very finish a peachy note showing the ripeness of the vintage. But the acidity and structure are impeccable.

2020, Chablis Les Clos Grand Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit

92-95

Full yellow, just when you think the bouquet is going to be rich and ripe there is a certain balancing grassiness, and they use a little more wood here. Grassy and grapey, with a little heat at the back and now the wood kicks in. This needs longer elevation and may well come out at a higher level.

2020, Chablis Moutonne Grand Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit

93-96

Pale lemon colour. The nose indicates class and power but is not quite ready to speak to us yet. More intense than Vaudésirs, with a very clean powerful backbone of white fruit, that just opens up a little at the end, and in a more harmonious place than Les Clos at the moment. The finish is very precise but with extra intensity lurking. Should be very good.





Jasper Morris MW

2020: THE VINTAGE REPORT - WHITE WINES



93-96

2020, Criots-Batard-Montrachet Grand Cru

93-96

Powerful lemon yellow. Waxy, rich, just short of volatile, a touch of banana, huge intensity, certainly grand cru, some lemon rind inset in the otherwise ripe fruit, offering several little waves of flavour. This could possibly be fresher but it has its place. Not only long but the finish is properly nuanced. If post-bottling this Criots-Bâtard-Montrachet gains in refinement, as it well may, the score will reach the upper part of the range.

2020, Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru, Domaine du Pavillon

92-95

From Les Languettes. Glowing fresh yellow, with plenty of energy and a light overlay of oak. There's a lot going on here. Superbly concentrated without being overly weighty, good acidity, this Corton-Charlemagne is in a fairly bombastic rather than lightly stony style.

2020, Meursault Les Charmes 1er Cru, Domaine du Pavillon

92-94

Rich yellow colour, a very clear-cut bouquet with fresh wax, the roundness of Charmes. The fruit is certainly not too ripe, and there's a lovely tingle factor. Very crisp and crunchy, and particularly persistent.

2020, Meursault Les Criots, Domaine du Pavillon

89-91

Powerful mid yellow. The bouquet combines rich sunshine fruit with something cooler, fresher, stonier. Interesting mix of ripenesses in the fruit on the palate, some bacon fat, some yellow fruit, some salinity.

2020, Nuits-St-Georges Les Terrasses, Château-Gris

89-91

Clear pure lemon yellow. This wine is grown at relative altitude, with a variety of exposures using low yielding gobelet pruned vines. Splendid intensity with only at the end a little extra ripeness showing through. This has considerable weight infused with lively zest. A touch of bacon to finish.

2020, Mercurey Les Champs-Michaix, Domaine Adélie

87-88

Grown on a northern facing plateau. A fuller vibrant yellow, the nose shows a touch of lactic oak and plenty of sunshine. The typical touch of liquorice is followed by powerful lemon acidity and a sizeable lick of oak.

2020, Bourgogne Chardonnay Côte d'Or Secret de Famille

88-89

Largely from Bourgogne territory in Puligny, St-Aubin and St-Romain. Lovely vibrant fresh lemon yellow. The nose is quite classy too, plenty of flesh on the palate but with an excellent backbone, customers will get their money's worth from this excellent Bourgogne.

2020, Bourgogne Aligoté Champ Renard, Domaine Adélie

88

In bottle. From the commune of Mercurey. Light reduction, but a strong and interesting Aligoté with a grassy tang, and the feel of adequate ripeness. Though there is ripe fruit and flesh, the acidity comes up behind in fairly trenchant fashion. 50% in wood and you can see a touch at the finish, though it will be rapidly assimilated. Really very long finish.

2020, Mâcon-Lugny Les Charmes

86

In bottle. The bouquet shows a muscatty element in a very cheerful way, which seems to be characteristic of these hotter years. A pretty, medium bodied wine which will be attractive to drink early on.



Jasper Morris MW

2020: THE VINTAGE REPORT - RED WINES



93-97

2020, Chambertin Grand Cru, Domaine du Clos Frantin

93-97

Rich imperial purple, a little bit of oak, perhaps something lightly oxidative in this sample. High acidity, ripe supple tannins, a very significant intensity of a pure red concentrated fruit. Pretty much all whole bunch. There is a very significant wealth of fruit towards the back, full of energy, I think this will come through, and the wine will be fresher than the first nose suggested.

2020, Echezeaux Grand Cru, Domaine du Clos Frantin

92-95

From the Champ Traversin sector. Rich deep purple. The bulk of the fruit has stayed in balance, the tannins are ripe, fine even and there is just a little acidity to hold it all together. Quite long and detailed. Champ Traversin is a sandy site which drains quickly, but they got there in time.

2020 Chambolle-Musigny Les Chabiots 1er Cru

91-93

Quite rich purple, attractive, raspberry and plum, not over-ripe, there is potential here. Fresh acidity behind and sufficiently ripe tannins, the fruit has all the concentration it needs. Some ripe cherry notes too. Promising.

2020, Morey-St-Denis Les Sorbets 1er Cru

90-92

Deep but not exaggerated purple. Ripe plums on the nose, this has not gone over the limit. A couple of chocolate notes mixed in with the dark red fruit, good acidity of course, considerable length. Attractive wine of middling density and good balance.

2020, Nuits-St-Georges Château-Gris 1er Cru

91-94

Royal, indeed imperial, purple, with rather a wonderful bouquet. Quite a mix of fruits, fresh lively intense, purple fruit once could day, not too plummy, lively dark raspberry, a lot of power at the back of the palate for a wine which is aiming at elegance, with a finely poised finish.

2020, Vosne Romanée, Domaine du Clos Frantin ★ 5 Star Wine

91-94

From Les Damaudes and Basses Maizières. Rich deep purple. The bouquet is very pleasing, it has depth but does not overwhelm. Such power at the back and then the chiselled limestone fresh acidity, the liveliness comes from the hillside, the ballast from Basses Maizières. Together they work really well, with an excellent long finish.

2020, Gevrey-Chambertin Les Evocelles

88-90

Clear deep purple, the bouquet is taking a bit of coaxing. Rather on the ripe side. Clean pure but overpowerful, almost blackcurrant, or at least black cherry, and a little bit forced at the finish. The tannins and acidity are fine.

2020, Pommard Les Rugiens 1er Cru, Domaine du Pavillon

89-92

Plump purple, exceptionally concentrated but in living fruit. A bit like the Mercurey it has a riotous explosion followed by rather firm structure but the fruit is fresh enough that it will live to win the battle. Crisp fresh apples too.

2020, Aloxe-Corton Clos des Maréchaudes 1er Cru, Domaine du Pavillon

90-93

A brilliant purple with a pinkish edge and rather a high-class fresh raspberry and cherry fruited nose. The wood is a little bit present on the palate at the moment but will soon be swamped by the sumptuous fruit. Ripe, but this has not gone too far and the tannins also have good maturity. Quite a long, balanced finish.

2020, Mercurey Champs Martin 1er Cru, Domaine Adélie

89-91

Hugely intense deep dark purple, with a flamboyant richness of dark raspberry and plum fruit, heady and possibly heavy. Super-massive on the palate but still in red fruit, a very sunny fruit, tannins present but ripe enough, good acidity too – I think this will make it, and in style. Needs time though. A little bit of blood orange at the finish.

2020, Bourgogne Côte d'Or Clos Frantin, Domaine du Clos Frantin

88

In bottle. Punchy purple with considerable but not exaggerated ripeness of fruit, and once again the good acidity of the vintage, the fruit becoming fresher at the back of the palate. All red fruit, a little more raspberry than cherry. A pleasure with the possibility of further ageing!

2020, Roche Grès Moulin-à-Vent, Domaine de Roche Grès

90-93

Some of the élevage is in 350 litre barrel. Glowing intense purple, some reduction just after the bottling. Heavyweight but the fruit is fresh. Strawberry notes but otherwise dark red fruit with some bite to it. There is a nice touch of crystalline acidity and ripe enough tannins. Very long.

VINTAGE 2020

Red wines



Neal Martin

The **2020 CHAMBERTIN GRAND CRU** comes from parcels in close proximity to Latricières. It has a well-defined bouquet with blackberry, briary, crushed stone and a touch of menthol, the latter just a little incongruous. The palate is medium-bodied with a succulent opening, a fleshy and quite generous Chambertin, caressing and velvety with a deep, almost "plump" finish. This should be approachable vis-a-vis its peers, though there is satisfying substance here. **(93-95)**

The **2020 LATRICIÈRES-CHAMBERTIN GRAND CRU**, which does not come from the estate but is harvested by their team, has a very sorbet, menthol-fresh bouquet that has a hard time following the excellent Grands-Echézeaux. The palate is sweet on the entry with candied black cherry and boysenberry fruit, lightly spiced with good weight on the finish. This actually meliorates as it goes along and if the aromatics can gain more complexity in bottle, this should end up being a fine Latricières. **(92-94)**

The **2020 GRANDS-ÉCHÉZEUX GRAND CRU** has a much more complexity and a more nuanced bouquet, dark berry fruit and briary, crushed stone, clove and a touch of sage. Lovely. The palate is medium-bodied with sappy red fruit, fine tannins and perfectly judged acidity. This is a fine Grands-Echézeaux that will age well in bottle. Two barrels produced. **(93-95)**

The **2020 CLOS DE VOUGEOT GRAND CRU** offers a mélange of red and black fruit on the nose, touches of tobacco and sous-bois, quite well-defined. The palate is medium-bodied with saturated tannins on the entry, fine structure, good acidity, slightly candied with veins of blood orange and marmalade towards the grippy finish. This should age well in bottle. **(92-94)**

The **2020 CHAMBOLLE-MUSIGNY LES AMOUREUSES 1^{ER} CRU** has a glorious bouquet, very pure with plenty of black cherries, blueberry, violet and mineral scents. This is beautifully-defined. The palate is medium-bodied with sappy black fruit, fine acidity, quite caressing in terms of its silky texture but with real backbone behind it. This is one of the standouts from Albert Bichot this vintage. **(95-97)**

The **2020 NUITS SAINT-GEORGES CHÂTEAU-GRIS 1^{ER} CRU** has a clean and ripe bouquet with black cherries, raspberry coulis and light cassis scents. The palate is medium-bodied with sappy red fruit, fine grip, a little granular in texture with a touch of salinity on the finish. Fine. **(89-91)**

The **2020 GEVREY-CHAMBERTIN LES EVOCELLES** offers black cherries, cassis and light violet aromas on the nose, a little heady in style, though it manages to retain delineation. The palate is medium-bodied with supple tannins, a fine bead of acidity, quite an elegant Les Evocelles with a lightly spiced finish. Give this 3-5 years in bottle. **(89-91)**

The **2020 POMMARD LES RUGIENS 1^{ER} CRU**, which comes from Rugiens-Bas, certainly has one of the best aromatics from Bichot in this vintage with well-defined red berry fruit, briary and crushed rose petals, sous-bois scents emerging with time. The palate is medium-bodied with crunchy red fruit, partial whole bunch lending pepperiness towards the finish. This is definitely worth seeking out. **(91-93)**

The **2020 POMMARD CLOS DES URSULINES** has a clean and pure bouquet with black cherries and blueberry fruit, quite rich for a Pommard. The palate is well balanced, the 30% new oak neatly integrated, quite sinewy towards the black olive-tinged finish. Give this two or three years in bottle. **(87-89)**

The **2020 MERCUREY CHAMPS-MARTIN 1^{ER} CRU** offers lifted red cherry and strawberry scents on the nose, touches of violet emerging with time. The palate is medium-bodied with dark berry fruit, fine acidity and decent freshness towards the finish. **(88-90)**



95-97



93-95

VINTAGE 2020

White wines



Neal Martin

Côte de Beaune

The **2020 CRIOTS-BÂTARD-MONTRACHET** Grand Cru, which comes from purchased must, has an attractive bouquet with pretty white peach, Conference pear and orange pith aromas, fine delineation. The palate is well balanced with fine acidity, good weight with a peach, apricot and grapefruit tinged finish. Fine length. **(91-93)**

The **2020 CORTON-CHARLEMAGNE GRAND CRU** has a light, fresh bouquet with pressed white flowers, white linen and light peachy aromas. The palate is well balanced with fine acidity, quite taut for a Corton-Charlemagne, certainly one of the better Bichot whites with more mineralité on the finish. This should age well. **(91-93)**

The **2020 MEURSAULT LES CHARMES 1^{ER} CRU**, mostly from Charmes-Dessus, has a well-defined bouquet with touches of orange pith and white peach, a hint of almond. The palate is well balanced with a viscous opening, a fine line of acidity. Fine. **(88-90)**

The **2020 CHASSAGNE-MONTRACHET MORGEOT 1^{ER} CRU** had been bottled when I visited. It has a clean and focused bouquet with white peach and touches of fresh pear. The palate is well balanced with fine acidity, lime cordial and orange zest, just a touch of reduction on the finish that works to its advantage. Fine. **(88-90)**



Chablis

The **2020 CHABLIS MOUTONNE GRAND CRU** shows quite a bit of reduction on the nose, which is unsurprising given how young it is. The palate is fresh and crisp with a fine line of acidity, touches of blood orange and quince, and fine salinity developing toward the finish. This is very primal at present and needs to cohere, but there is plenty of potential. **92+**

The **2020 CHABLIS LES BLANCHOTS GRAND CRU** has an attractive bouquet of honeysuckle and jasmine scents, sultry at first but opening with 10 minutes' aeration. The palate is well balanced with a citric entry. A fine, driving bead of acidity engenders a tensile, quite steely finish for a Blanchot. I think this will age with style. **92**

The **2020 CHABLIS MONTMAINS 1^{ER} CRU** has a lovely floral bouquet of orange blossom with hints of honeysuckle and jasmine. The palate is well balanced with a supple opening, slightly honeyed in texture and pithy toward the finish, revealing hints of peach skin and spices. This is a very promising Montmains that should age with style. **92**

December 1 & 15, 2021

Chablis 2020: top-scoring wines

Andy Howard MW reports on the consistent quality of the 2020 vintage in Chablis, which continues a run of fine vintages for this key Burgundian appellation, and picks his top-scoring wines from almost 200 tasted.

Domaine Long-Depaquit, Chablis, Moutonne Grand Cru Monopole 2020



As hoped for, this is another fantastic example of the special qualities of Moutonne, with great intensity of pear and apple fruit, with a faint tropical edge. Despite the concentration the fruit is pure and the focused acidity keeps the palate fresh and wanting more. The oak is barely noticeable and the wine finishes with a chalky, dry note which adds even more to the appeal. Very, very classy.

Drinking Window 2023 - 2037



Chablis 2020: top-value wines

After tasting almost two hundred Chablis 2020 wines, Andy Howard MW selects a dozen that should represent both good quality and value for money when the wines are available to buy.

Domaine Long-Depaquit, Chablis, 1er Cru Les Vaucopins, 2020



Showing a steely edge to balance the slightly exotic, stone fruit characters on the nose, this is another classy Chablis from Long-Depaquit. A Premier Cru Chablis with plenty of concentration on the palate and a sunny character, yet framed by citrus acidity and a lingering mineral, saline finish. This has the power to age very well.

Drinking Window 2022 - 2027





2020 Chablis and Chablis Premier Crus

Before starting the tasting, Régisseur (estate manager) Matthieu Mangenot explained that the conversion to organic farming is continuing. With respect to the 2020 vintage, he noted that "the season once again started early and thankfully the winter was relatively wet as we would definitely need those water reserves later. There were a few cold nights in April that made us nervous but in the end there was no real damage. The vegetative cycle advanced quickly and the flowering started in mid-May, almost one month in advance of a normal season, at least historically. June and July were exceptionally warm, indeed almost 2° C warmer than average, which means that those months were warmer than 2003! As a result, the vines used up the excess water from the winter and by the end of July we found ourselves with close to a 40% precipitation deficit. As such there were sectors where hydric stress was a problem. Thankfully, we had just enough rain in August to allow the vines to finish their ripening cycle. We chose to begin picking on the 24th of August as we had the alcohol levels we wanted but we also really wanted to preserve acidities. Other than some sunburned berries, the thick-skinned fruit was as clean as could be so we could pick relatively quickly. Yields were barely average to good at between 35 to 40 hl/ha with potential alcohols of 12.5 to 13%. As to the wines, perhaps the most surprising thing is how good the acidities are as this was totally unexpected. To be sure, the aromas are ripe but not really exotic and I really like the interplay of tension and delicacy. In short, the 2020s are clearly the product of a very ripe vintage yet they don't drink like it." Mangenot also mentioned that in 2020, and for the next few years, there will be no Montée de Tonnerre as the vines were pulled up.

2020 Chablis *Domaine Long-Depaquit*: (88-90)

(100% stainless). There is good Chablis typicity to the ripe and fresh aromas of pear, apple and citrus confit. In the same vein, there is good energy, volume and richness to the medium weight flavors that conclude in a delicious, markedly saline and refreshing finish that is topped off by a touch of bitter lemon. 2024+

2020 Chablis 1er Cru Les Lys *Domaine Long-Depaquit*: (90-92)

(from a 2-ha holding; all stainless). A more elegant if more restrained nose combines notes of mineral reduction, honeysuckle and citrus zest. The finer and more intense flavors possess a lovely sense of underlying tension while displaying solid length on the chalky and bone-dry finish. Lovely and understated in style. 2026+

2020 Chablis 1er Cru Les Beugnons *Domaine Long-Depaquit*: (90-92)

(from a 2.3 ha parcel). Significantly riper aromas include those of white peach, citrus confit and quinine along with a similar note of mineral reduction. The succulent, round and generously proportioned middle weight flavors possess very good punch that carries over to the clean and dry finish that is supported by bright acidity. 2025+



2020 Chablis 1er Cru Les Vaillons *Domaine Long-Depaquit*: (90-93)

(from a holding of 4.3 ha that is 80% from Epinottes with the balance from Séchet and Les Lys; 10% wood). Cool, pure and airy array is comprised by notes of freshly sliced white-fleshed fruit, oyster shell and a hint of iodine. There is excellent intensity and lovely detail to the medium-bodied flavors that also conclude in a lingering and bone dry finish that, like the Les Lys, is noticeably chalky. One to check out. 2026+

2020 Chablis 1er Cru Les Vaucopins *Domaine Long-Depaquit*: (89-92)

(raised in ~15% wood). A whiff of the exotic that includes lychee and passion fruit is laced with floral and lemongrass wisps. The caressing and round if not especially dense middle weight flavors exude a subtle minerality on the focused and lingering finish. 2025+

2020 Chablis 1er Cru Montmains *Domaine Long-Depaquit*: (91-93)

(from .5 ha parcel in Forêts). Restrained aromas of citrus confit, iodine, spice and apple give way to notably denser medium-bodied flavors that flash evident power that builds on the bitter lemon-inflected finish that is markedly dry, sleek and balanced. This is quite good and worth your interest plus it's very Forêts in character. 2027+





2020 Chablis Grand Crus

2020 Chablis Grand Cru Les Blanchots *Domaine Long-Depaquit*: (91-93)

(from a 1.5 ha parcel of 40+ year old vines; ~25% wood). Moderate wood surrounds the overtly floral suffused nose of softly exotic white peach, sea breeze and pretty spice whiffs. The succulent, round and plump flavors exude a refreshing salinity on the very dry and sneaky long finish. Like several wines in the range, this needs to develop more depth, but the underlying material appears to be present for that to occur. 2027+

2020 Chablis Grand Cru Les Vaudésirs *Domaine Long-Depaquit*: (91-94)

(from a holding of 2.6 ha; ~25% new wood). Here the wafting nose flirts with exoticism with its aromas of both white and yellow peach, mineral reduction, salt water and algae. The refined and almost delicate flavors dance across the palate though there is good richness on the sappy, clean and equally dry finale. This too needs to develop more depth but it's promising. 2027+

2020 Chablis Grand Cru Moutonne *Domaine Long-Depaquit*: (91-94)

(2.35 ha monopole that spans a parcel of vines situated in both Vaudésir and Preuses though 95% of it is in Vaudésir; the site is protected from the wind and often gives very ripe wines; ~25% new wood). Once again there is good Chablis typicity to the ripe but cool and reserved aromas of dried orchard fruit, anise, acacia and orange peel. There is an appealing tension and refinement to the succulent medium weight flavors that are supported by lemon-tinged acidity on the refreshingly dry finale. This is firm enough to need at least a few years of patience. 2028+

2020 Chablis Grand Cru Les Preuses *Domaine Long-Depaquit*: (92-94) Sweet spot wine

Discreet though certainly perceptible wood sets off the ripe aromas of citrus confit, spring flowers, iodine and shellfish. The mouthfeel of the medium weight plus flavors is nothing short of gorgeous as it's at once caressing but punchy on the sappy and strikingly long finish. This too would benefit from having better depth, but the density of material is such that more will almost certainly develop if allowed a few years first. 2028+

2020 Chablis Grand Cru Les Clos *Domaine Long-Depaquit*: (90-93)

(from a 1.5 ha parcel; ~35% new wood). Here too the nose is cool, airy and restrained with its combination of oyster shell, floral, quinine and green apple aromas. There is equally good refinement though not the same mid-palate density to the beautifully detailed and even drier finale. Like both the style and the delivery but this is presently somewhat one dimensional though with that said, there is ample cellaring potential present. 2030+

2020 Chablis Grand Cru Bougros *Domaine Long-Depaquit*: (91-94)

The aromas of green fruit, lemon-lime and tidal pool are trimmed in hints of wood toast and menthol. There is again very solid mid-palate density to the more powerful and muscular flavors that possess a generous mouthfeel before tightening up on the impressively persistent if slightly rustic finale. 2030+

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



October 8, 2021

Affordable Burgundy: top 30 buys

The headlines may be full of rarified names with stratospheric auction price tags, but don't despair – it's still possible to get highly enjoyable Burgundy whites and reds at realistic prices. Here we pick 30 of the best available right now at £25 or less.



Andy Howard MW
October 8, 2021



Albert Bichot, Secret de Famille, Bourgogne, Côte d'Or, Burgundy, 2019



Maison Bichot has produced this fine example of Bourgogne Côte d'Or from grapes sourced from Meursault, Puligny and Saint-Aubin. In 2019, low-yields add extra concentration, with 35% of the blend aged in oak for eight months (10% new oak) for extra depth while retaining crisp acidity and crystalline fruit flavours. A whiff of struck-match reduction on the nose gives this more than a hint of village-level Puligny or Meursault - impressive for this newly created quality tier.

Drinking Window 2021 - 2023



Albert Bichot, Santenay, Burgundy, 2014



The quality of wine from Maison Albert Bichot continues to rise, as shown by this Santenay - an elegant wine from the cooler 2014 vintage. With a fragrant, precise texture of spiced berry fruit on the palate balanced by crisp acidity, this appealing Santenay is a great advert for the wines from the south of the Côte d'Or. With very subtle oak ageing and autumn leaf character, there is appealing maturation here. 2014 is not the richest of recent vintages but there is plenty of substance here, albeit in a less overt way.

Drinking Window 2021 - 2023



96 ALBERT BICHOT Chambolle-Musigny 1^{er} Cru Les Amoureuses 2019

This is intense from beginning to end, with earth and vegetal accents boosting the core flavors of black currant, blackberry and violet. Combines elegance with power, while an underlying mineral note builds to the long aftertaste. Terrific balance and length. Best from 2025 through 2045. (Issue: Nov 30, 2021)



95 ALBERT BICHOT Latricières-Chambertin Grand Cru 2019

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. (Issue: Nov 30, 2021)

94 ALBERT BICHOT Echezeaux Grand Cru Domaine du Clos Frantin 2019

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. (Issue: Nov 30, 2021)

93 ALBERT BICHOT Gevrey-Chambertin 2019

This lithe red is packed with ripe cherry, strawberry and floral aromas and flavors, allied to a supple texture. Firms up as it builds to a lingering finish, remaining fresh and balanced. Very charming and long. Drink now through 2033. (Issue: Nov 30, 2021)

92 ALBERT BICHOT Vosne-Romanée Domaine du Clos Frantin 2019

This red is defined by gorgeous cherry, strawberry and currant fruit flavors, accented by hints of cinnamon, vanilla and light, toasty oak. Fresh and harmonious, with a lingering finish of fruit and spice notes. Drink now through 2032. (Issue: Nov 15, 2021)

91 ALBERT BICHOT Gevrey-Chambertin Les Murots Domaine du Clos Frantin 2019

A rich style, this red boasts cherry, raspberry, earth and tobacco flavors. The tannins are robust yet integrated, leaving a dense matrix of support on the finish. Best from 2023 through 2033. (Issue: Nov 30, 2021)

91 ALBERT BICHOT Fixin 1^{er} Cru Clos de la Perrière 2019

A firm red, yet with a beam of cherry fruit offsetting the iron and tobacco notes. This is focused and vibrant, with a long finish of fruit, spice and mineral. Best from 2024 through 2038. (Issue: Nov 30, 2021)



VINTAGE 2019

Côte de Beaune wines

Taster: Bruce Sanderson

93 ALBERT BICHOT Beaune Clos de l'Ermitage 2019

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. (Issue: Sep 15, 2021)

92 ALBERT BICHOT Beaune Les Epenottes Domaine du Pavillon 2019

Lush and intense fruit, this red features cherry, plum, small red berries and spice flavors. There is a suppleness and harmony that extends through the lingering finish. Drink now through 2032. (Issue: Nov 15, 2021)

92 ALBERT BICHOT Pommard Clos des Ursulines Domaine du Pavillon 2019

A lush, polished style, whose texture is saturated with black cherry, blackberry, vanilla and toasty oak flavors. The underlying structure emerges on the lingering finish. Best from 2023 through 2038. (Issue: Nov 30, 2021)

90 ALBERT BICHOT Aloxe-Corton 1^{er} Cru Clos des Maréchaudes Domaine du Pavillon 2019

This is packed with bright cherry fruit and stays lively as accents of earth and spice add detail. Firm, chalky tannins exert their presence as this red plays out on the long, dense finish. Best from 2024 through 2035. (Issue: Nov 15, 2021)

90 ALBERT BICHOT Savigny-Les-Beaune 1^{er} Cru Les Peuillets 2019

Strawberry, cherry and spice flavors highlight this intense, lively red, which is lean, ending on the sinewy side, with chalky tannins. Fresh and long. Best from 2023 through 2032. (Issue: Nov 30, 2021)

Regional wines

90 ALBERT BICHOT Bourgogne Côte d'Or Clos Frantin Domaine du Clos Frantin 2019

There is a sappiness to this red, enhancing the wild cherry, boysenberry and earth flavors. A mineral element also emerges as this cruises to a long finish. Drink now through 2025. (Issue: Nov 30, 2021)

89 ALBERT BICHOT Bourgogne Vieilles Vignes de Pinot Noir 2019

There is an appealing smoky accent to the black cherry and blackberry fruit in this supple red. Firms up nicely, remaining fresh and persistent on the finish. Drink now through 2025. (Issue: Nov 30, 2021)

Beaujolais wines

91 ALBERT BICHOT Moulin à Vent Domaine de Rochebrès 2019

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: Oct 31, 2021)

90 ALBERT BICHOT Fleurie La Madone 2019

An enticing red, with hints of tea rose and violet leading to ripe cherry and wild strawberry fruit, backed by a subtle underpinning of fresh, loamy earth. Light, creamy tannins firm the fresh finish. Drink now through 2024. (Issue: Dec 15, 2021)

87 ALBERT BICHOT Morgon Les Charmes 2019

A subtle red, with a delicate skein of spice, light, creamy tannins and hints of dried cherry and strawberry fruit. Drink now. (Issue: web only 2021)





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December 2021-May 2022



Anna Lee C. Iijima

2019 REDS

Pommard Clos des Ursulines *Domaine du Pavillon*: 94

Cellar Selection

Dustings of crushed stone, ash and violet petals introduce this red-berried, satiny sip sourced from the southern end of Pommard near Volnay. Red-cherry and red-plum flavors on the palate are ripe but youthful and pure, accented by hints of fur and smoke and a lingering frame of fine-grained, sharply lingering tannins. It should approach peak by 2023 and improve through at least 2035. (December 1, 2021)

2019 Chassagne-Montrachet: 93

Red-cherry pastilles and smoky, spicy notes of charred anise and clove introduce this fresh, fruit-focused Pinot Noir. Finely etched with tannins and mouthwatering in style, it's an immediately enjoyable wine with an elegant, subtly earthen finish. At peak now-2027. (May 1, 2022)

Santenay 1^{er} Cru Clos Rousseau: 92

Delicate notes of toast and crushed granite accent zippy red cherry and redcurrant flavors in this fresh-fruited, medium-bodied wine. Matured 14 to 16 months in 100% oak (20% to 30% new), it balances crisp red-fruit flavors against hints of charry caramel and black pepper. Fine, silky tannins make it approachable young but the wine is likely to improve through 2030 and hold much longer. (December 1, 2021)

Savigny-les-Beaune 2019: 91

Rounded, velveteen streaks of blackberry and plum flavors are kissed with hazelnut and violet in this smoky Pinot Noir. While plump and weighty, it's balanced by a kick of black-currant acidity and subtle hints of sage and bramble on the finish. Welcoming young, the wine should maintain through 2026. (May 1, 2022)

Fixin: 92

Editor's choice

Seductive notes of rose petal and raspberry preserves introduce this ripe yet pristine Pinot Noir. Matured 14 to 16 months in 100% oak (only 15% to 20% new), it reveals just a whisper of smoke, accenting notes of black spice, musk and lilac. Crisp and medium bodied but concentrated and juicy too, it drinks particularly well young for its exuberant, fruity demeanor and fine-grained, taut tannins. (March 1, 2022)

Gevrey-Chambertin Les Murots *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: 91

Whiffs of nutmeg and musk lend savory nuances to fleshy black-plum and roasted-cherry flavors in this wine. Ripe and supple with soft, yielding tannins, the palate is muted by layers of earth and smoke. Approachable young, the wine should hit peak from 2024 through 2027 and hold further. (March 1, 2022)

Cellar Selection

94



Editors' Choice

92





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)

Cellar Selection

94



93



Editors' Choice

92



92





www.winemag.com

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)





Web Only - 2021

VINTAGE 2019

White Burgundies

Taster: Bruce Sanderson

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.

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*

Published on July 21st, 2021

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.

Published on July 21st, 2021

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+





**VOSNE-ROMANÉE 1er CRU
LES MALCONSORTS
2019**

Domaine du Clos Frantin

BEST IN SHOW: 97/100



The ultimate accolade of « BEST IN SHOW » is given to the finest wines selected among the Platinum winners. In 2021, it was awarded to only 50 wines among the 18,094 wines tasted during the competition.



June 2021

Top 100 Values of the Year

Our blind panels tasted more than **11,500** wines during the past 12 months. Our critics—**Patrick J. Comiskey, Joshua Greene, Stephanie Johnson, Rachel DelRocco Terrazas, Tara Q. Thomas and Corey Warren**—selected these 100 as the best performers priced \$20 or less. Within each category—sparkling, white, rosé and red—we present the wines by score, descending; by price, ascending, then by winery. Find a complete list of wines tasted and all reviews at wineandspiritsmagazine.com.

93 POINTS

Horizon de Bichot

2017 Vin de France Chardonnay (France, 93 points) From the Languedoc venture of Burgundy négociant Albert Bichot, this stands out for its cool restraint. It's gently fruity, with notes of peach, pear, lemon; it's lightly leesy, with a shortbread-like richness and snap. And it's refreshing, finishing with notes of citrus zest and herbs. Even ABCers can appreciate this—especially at the price.
—T.Q.T. *Albert Bichot, NY*





June 2021

What Ray's Pouring Now Executive Wine Editor Ray Isle's favorite things to drink this month



2018 ALBERT BICHOT DOMAINE DE ROCHEGRÈS MOULIN-À-VENT

Early summer is perfect for lightly chilled reds, and cru Beaujolais definitely serves that need. This one, from a notable Burgundy name, has vivid black cherry-strawberry flavors and a touch of black pepper.



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 wine's 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



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





May 2021

INTERNATIONAL WINE CHALLENGE 2021

10 TROPHIES
7 GOLD MEDALS



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 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, kreidig, 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 statuesk 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 untermauert 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 Kirschfrucht 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 Kastanienpüree, 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, Frucht reife 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 Kirschfrische 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

vorherrscht – 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 Kirschfrucht, 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.



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+

Burgbound.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 village 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 ★ 5 Star Wine 91-94**
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.

ECHÉZEUX 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 MARECHAUDES 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 MARECHAUDES 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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