



HOUSE OF TOWNEND

FAMILY WINE MERCHANTS SINCE 1906

BURGUNDY 2023

EN PRIMEUR





BURGUNDY

EN PRIMEUR

2023

BURGUNDY 2023

Burgundy is renowned for producing some of the world's finest Chardonnay and Pinot Noir in one of the most challenging of growing environments. The climate is temperate but prone to spring frosts and summer hailstorms that can ravage the vineyards. It seems that this wine producing region, situated in eastern France, has faced the full force of the climatic changes that we have experienced over the last 15 years.

It is also one of the most exquisite places to visit. There is no greater sight than the Côte d'Or (Golden hillside) in full autumn splendour when the vines leaves turn into a breathtaking vision of vibrant colours, a mélange of gold, yellow, orange and red. We timed our visit well during the last week in October, with temperature around 20°C, blue skies overhead and the vineyards a picture of beauty. Global demand for Burgundy far outstrips supply and the clamour for allocations from wine merchants around the world is just another challenge the top producers have to contend with. We have worked with many of our producers for many, many years, often decades and these long-term relationships are fundamental in helping to secure parcels of some of the finest wines produced, often only a few barrels each vintage and in some cases only a single barrel.

The 2023 vintage can be described as a successful one all round. On the back of a plentiful 2022 vintage, this is the first time for many years that the Bourguignons have had the fortune of back-to-back vintages of above average quantities. It is also a big success qualitatively with both white and red wines performing very well.

Although the growing season was somewhat unstable, it was also kind. Whilst the summer months saw a lot of hot weather, there was also plenty of rain, which fortunately fell at the right time, perfect conditions for a good quantity of high-quality grapes. It is a plentiful vintage with yields the highest since 2018 and the grapes arrived at the wineries in excellent sanitary conditions.

The really pleasing aspect of our barrel and tank sample tastings was the freshness and balance that was evident in both the white and red wines. The fruits are exuberant, opulent and concentrated but the acidities are also surprisingly good for a hot vintage. That said, our view is that this is a vintage that can, and possibly should, be enjoyed at a relatively youthful age. The immediate pleasure that these wines offer is exceptional, so why wait?!

All the wines in this offer are available to purchase on-line www.houseoftownend.com. Please do ring us on 01482 638888 if you would like to discuss the wines on this offer.



JOHN C. TOWNEND



NEIL GOLDIE





2023

THE GROWING SEASON

The winter of 2022-2023 was generally mild, a continuation of the trend over recent years that has seen the growing season starting well in advance, with all the risks associated with spring frosts front of the vigneron's mind. Fortunately, the early months were fairly dry and there were minimal frost episodes, which until last year seemed to cause havoc at the time of budburst on an annual basis. The absence of any significant frost allowed for a steady start to the season, though vigilance was high among the growers.

Bud burst passed off successfully in April, followed by a cooler period in May slowing the vine's growth, which until then had gathered speed due to the previous mild weather. The last week of May saw temperatures rise and they remained above the season norm. The fine weather continued through to a textbook flowering of the vine in June, with warm sunshine and dry days.

As the days went by the growers were encouraged to see the vines full of healthy bunches, with all signs pointing to a plentiful harvest. Even with green harvesting 2023 was to deliver a very strong yield. Remember, until the 2022 vintage the Bourguignons had lost the equivalent of two vintages in four, so the hopes of back-to-back plentiful harvests saw smiles all round.

However, it wasn't all plain sailing with unstable weather throughout July, hailstorms hitting on both the 11th and 15th July punctuating the hot weather. The first two weeks of August saw cooler temperatures along with some rain which quenched the

thirst of the vines, veraison arrived and from the 16th August the temperatures rose...and rose again! By the end of August, the vines were beginning to block due to the excessive heat. The key decision was 'when to pick'. After veraison you would expect the harvest to take place 30-40 days later, but it was so hot that there was a danger of overripening. 2½ days at 40°C can raise alcohol levels by 1%.

Once the decision to harvest was made, the challenge was to pick the grapes as quickly as possible. Temperatures soared to 40°C and the backbreaking work of the pickers was to be carried out in a heatwave, at temperatures that were dangerous to the pickers. Picking started very early in the morning and also at night but speed was of the essence. 2023 was one of the shortest harvests on record with a race to pick the grapes before over ripeness set in and freshness and acidities were lost.

As the laden baskets were unloaded at the wineries the vignérons were excited to see the high quality grapes that the vintage had bestowed upon them – no rot, healthy, clean and beautifully ripe with high natural sugars. Both the Chardonnay and Pinot Noir looked in perfect condition”.

The 2023 vintage delivered an abundant crop of excellent fruit; however, such large vintages do come with a warning sign of potential dilution, lack of intensity and complexity. It was that in mind that we set out on our week of tastings at the end of October, working from cellar to cellar to form our own judgements of this vintage.

2023 - THE WINES

The sunny weather during our weeklong visit to the region at the end of October was the perfect setting to taste the barrel and tank samples of the 2023 vintage. We tasted some lovely wines – beautiful, opulent Chardonnays and succulent, luxurious and fruit packed Pinot Noirs.

In Chablis we tasted some wonderfully vibrant wines. The malic acid was relatively low, a positive outcome, as the acidity levels after the malolactic fermentation did not drop markedly. The naturally high sugar levels have delivered wonderful rich and ripe wines, brimming with green apple and a classic minerality. It is the hottest vintage since 2018 in Chablis but we feel the acidity levels are better providing a finer equilibrium. Pick of the bunch was Cyril Testut's 'Chablis Côte de Brechain', make sure to snap up a case or two. The wines of Samuel Billaud seem to get better and better and also deserve a place in every Chablis lover's cellar.

Further south in both the Côte d'Or and down into the Chalonnaise and Mâconnais, the timing of the harvest was crucial, with those timing it well producing wines with good concentration of flavour, whilst maintaining freshness and acidity. However, some left it too late and we tasted some overripe wines that were heavy in the mouth and lacking energy and vitality.

The Chardonnays show beautiful perfumes, fragrant and flowery with notes of pear and peach filling the palate. Despite the hot weather the top growers have managed to lock in the acidities and there are some electrifying white wines, riper than the 2022 vintage and extremely approachable when young. The pithy, citrus tang of acidity provides wonderful balance to the wines.

My experience tells me that when they taste this good at such a young age, don't wait to get stuck in. Leave the 2021's and 2022's in the cellar to develop and immerse yourself in this rich and lush vintage as soon as they arrive. As Antoine Vincent of Château Fuissé commented as we tasted, ... "this is a beautiful millésime solaire – drink the sunshine". Up in Chassagne-Montrachet the feelings of Fabrice Amiot were the same." Ah John these are such sunshine wines!" as we tasted through his wonderful 1er Crus.

We also tasted some wonderful Aligoté, a late ripening grape that benefited from the hot summer – 2023 is a good year for this often maligned varietal. Remember though, "He who does not know a good Aligoté.... does not know Burgundy!" Overlook the Aligoté from Château de Chamilly at you peril!

Turning to the red wines, we were presented with some absolutely delicious Pinot Noirs that displayed a great depth and complexity, oozing dark blackberry fruits and super ripe tannins, but the great surprise was the balance and freshness that provided equilibrium to the wines. The hot weather during the summer of 2023, most notably in the run up and during harvest, lulled us into expecting over ripe, heady wines akin to those produced in 2003. The vigneronns have learnt over the last ten years or so how to manage the higher temperatures, with a closer eye on the protection offered by better canopy management, along with the introduction of a percentage of whole bunch ferment during vinification. Stylistically this vintage is similar to 2017 but with a concentration more akin to 2019. It also reminds me of the 2009 vintage in terms of its fruit character and structure. One thing is for sure, I agree with Nathalie Tollot when she says simply... "people will love this vintage!"

THE

BUYING PROCESS

The process of purchasing wine under bond can seem a little daunting if you have never done it before, but it is actually quite simple.

One of the main benefits of buying wine under bond is that it allows you to split the cost of the purchase. As wine is a product that is subject to Excise Duty and VAT in the UK, a significant proportion of the cost to the consumer of buying wine is actually tax. Buying wine under bond allows the consumer to purchase the wine and then pay the tax that is due on the wine at a later date – when it is removed from bonded storage.

There is the initial payment to purchase the wine from the wine merchant, and at that point the wine becomes yours. Most merchants will offer you the facility to store your wine under bond with them for a charge. In our case we have climate controlled storage facilities for which the charge is 15 pence per case per week (£9.36 per year), for which you will receive an annual invoice. When the time comes that you wish to remove your purchase from bond, the Duty and VAT on the wine becomes due to the Government – this payment is made to the Government by the wine merchant on your behalf and then you will be invoiced for the amount. Duty and VAT will be invoiced at the prevailing rate when the wine is taken out of Bond. By placing an order you acknowledge your responsibility for these costs.

You can then either collect your wine from our Cellar Door or we can organise delivery on your behalf. We will advise you of the cost of delivery at the time.

We have decided to include a worked example which might make things clearer if you have never bought under bond before. Please note that the tax costs are based on the current rates of Duty and VAT and these are liable to change.

Example

You purchase a case of 6 bottles at 12.5% ABV for £120.00.

When the wine arrives in the UK and you wish to remove it from bond, the following process is completed in order for this to happen. Charges will apply.

- Payment of VAT on initial purchase - £24.00
- Duty payment including VAT at the current rate - £16.62
- Total Duty and VAT - £40.62

Therefore, bringing the total cost of your case of wine to £ 160.62 or £26.77 bottle.

You can then collect your wine from our Cellar Door, or we can arrange delivery (at your cost) to an address in the UK.

CONTACT US

VISIT US ONLINE:

Over 1,500 wines for you to browse 24/7 from the comfort of your own home with FREE click and collect from the Cellar Door.

Visit: www.houseoftownend.com for regularly updated offers, our top picks and downloadable specification sheets.

FIND US:

House of Townend
Wyke Way, Melton West Business Park,
Hull, HU14 3BQ
(for sat navs use HU14 3HH)

SHOP WITH US:

Please do come and visit our Cellar Door. We always aim to add extra value to the products we sell by spending as much time with our customers as they need, advising and consulting, including giving you the chance to taste wines before you buy.

Opening Hours:

Monday - Friday	9:00am - 6:30pm
Saturday	10:00am - 5:00pm
Sunday	Closed

TALK TO US:

To speak to the team directly; call us on 01482 638899 or email cellardoor@houseoftownend.co.uk



THE DOMAINES

Burgundy is our passion and the wines that we have selected for this offer are sourced from domaines and producers who are at the very pinnacle of Burgundian winemaking. Most are long standing multi-generational producers where knowledge and understanding of the vineyards they work, are passed down from Mother and Father to son and daughter. We are proud to work with such skilled artisans.

CHABLIS

Domaine Testut
Domaine Daniel Dampit
Domaine des Marronniers
Samuel Billaud

MÂCONNAIS

Domaine Merlin
Domaine Luquet Depuis 1878
Château Fuissé

CHALONNAISE

Cave de Buxy
Château de Chamilly

CÔTE DE BEAUNE

Domaine Hubert Lamy
Domaine Prunier-Bonheur
Domaine Jean-Louis Chavy
Domaine Bachelet-Monnot
Domaine Etienne Sauzet
Domaine Jacques Carillon
Domaine Michelot
Domaine Camus- Bruchon et Fils
Domaine Lafarge
Domaine Joseph Voillot
Domaine Guy Amiot et Fils
Domaine Tollot-Beaut

CÔTE DE NUITS

Domaine Sérafin
Domaine Machard de Gramont
Domaine Jean Grivot
Domaine Lécheneaut



Alban Machard de Gramont



Arnaud Desfontaine



Guillaume Camus



Étienne Grivot



Olivier Lamy



Étienne Chaix



Jacques Carillon



Olivier Merlin



Frédéric Lafarge



Cyril Testut



Nicolas Mestre



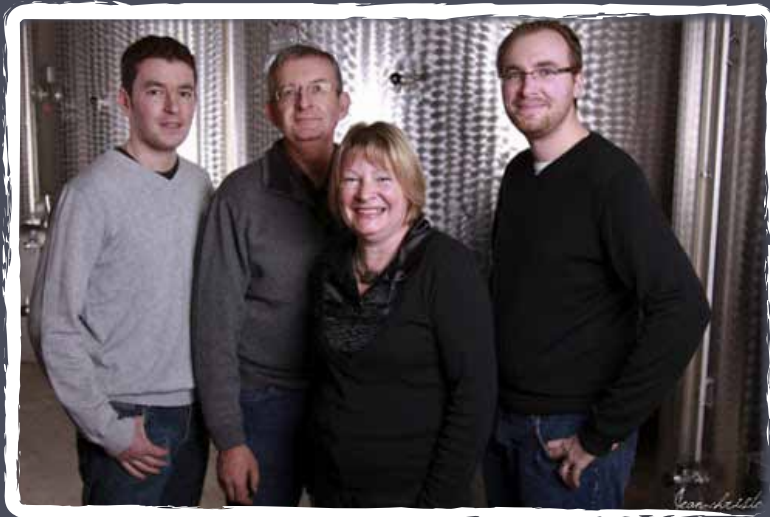
Vincent Lécheneaut



Frédérique Goulley

CHABLIS

Chablis stands as the ultimate benchmark for cool climate, steely, and elegant white wines – in essence retaining a unique freshness and bracing tightness. This is due entirely to the cooler temperatures in this Northern Burgundy outpost. Chablis lies some 160km north of Beaune in the Auxerre departement, and its over 4000 ha are planted almost entirely with the white Chardonnay grape. The soil is Kimmerdgian limestone, soil with fossilised seashells which retain heat and drains well, along with pockets of lesser quality Portlandian; these soils, many say, give Chablis its bracing salinity and freshness which, in combination to the aspect of the vineyards, are crucial to successful ripening. We buy from a number of small, family-owned vigneron, who are amongst the finest in the region.



The Dampt Family

Chablis, Domaine Daniel Dampit (12x75cl)

£129.00 per case IB

Produced from two parcels. 80% of the blend is from a plot of 60 year old vines situated just below the 1er Cru Les Lys, in Milly, a stone's throw south of the village of Chablis, with the remaining 20% produced in Beines and Fonteney. In years gone by this wine was sold under the now defunct 1er Cru La Vieille Voye. A beautiful, floral white flower bouquet, the palate is quite opulent, pure and clean with notes of green apple and a tangy citrus acidity. There is a wonderful tension to the wine and a slaty minerality on the finish provides an appealing length. So refreshing and fruit packed you can drink this now!



Drink 2025+

Chablis, Domaine des Marronniers (12x75cl)

£135.00 per case IB

Produced from 10 different parcels from vines of between 25-30 years old, this is a very classic style of Chablis. The 11ha of vines are spread around the village of Pr  hy and centered on the sub region of Courgis, where the chalk soil gives the wines an intense minerality.

This wine is fermented wholly in steel tanks and aged for 12 months, partly on the lees. Elegant and refined aromas of citrus fruits, lemon and grapefruit, mingle with green apple, white flowers and a distinct mineral flintiness. The palate is crisp and vibrant with a lively acidity, zesty lemon, lime, and underripe peach. The finish is clean and refreshing, with lingering citrus and a whisper of nuttiness.



Drink 2025+

Chablis Vieilles Vignes, 'C  te de Brechain' Domaine Testut (12x75cl)

£150.00 per case IB

Produced from vines nestled in a cleft between the Grand Cru of Blanchot and the 1er Cru of Mont  e de Tonnerre where the deep and highly mineral soils are packed with chalk and Kimmeridge and the vines are nearing 50 years old, this is without doubt one of the finest Chablis produced.

The aromas are concentrated and underpinned by a wonderful green apple freshness. The palate is tight and lean with a classic steely minerality, broad in the mouth with a tangy puree apple note and the finish is long and refreshing.



Drink 2025+

Chablis 'Les Grands Terroirs' Vieilles Vignes, Samuel Billaud (6x75cl)

£112.00 per case IB

Samuel Billaud is now one of the true superstars of Chablis, producing sublime wines that rightly demand their place in any great cellar. His Chablis is produced from three separate plots all with different exposures totalling 5.5ha – Les Pargues, towards the village of Pr  hy, Les Cartes between the Premiers Crus of Vaillons and Montmains, where the vines are 60 years old and Bas de Chapelots which is situated just below Mont  e de Tonnerre.

Hand-picked, fermented in steel tanks at a low temperature. The nose is unyielding, typical Chablis lean, sparky and energetic. There are notes of melons, tropical grapefruit and white pear on the palate with a zesty mineral freshness, similar in style to the 2018 vintage. A very impressive length of finish.



Drink 2025+

CHABLIS

1ER CRU

The vineyards of Chablis Premier Cru have seen an expansion to around 850Ha in recent years, spread across almost 40 Climats, with the best Premier Cru sites planted on the more acidic Kimmeridge limestone, pockets of which are scattered around the many hills surrounding the town. Like the Grand Cru's, the finest vineyards such as Montée du Tonnerre, Montmains, Vaillons and Côte de Léchet all rest on finer terroir, with better aspect and positioning. As with everything else in Burgundy, the producer is key – the top growers limit yields, manage vineyards to express the Chardonnay grape to perfection and strive to make unique and age worthy wines.



Cyril Testut

Chablis 1er Cru Vaillons, Domaine Daniel Dampt (12x75cl)

£192.00 per case IB

Produced from 3 sub climats, 50% Les Leys (north facing), 25% Séchet and 25% Chatains, this is a cracker! Aromatic and expressive citrus notes dominate the bouquet with peach flavours developing on aeration. The palate is crisp and vibrant with a chiselled texture and a lovely underlay of almond. There is gunflint on the finish and a salinity that we have rarely seen in the 2023 vintage.

A proper Chablis 1er Cru !



Drink 2025+

Chablis 1er Cru Côte de Léchet, Domaine Daniel Dampt (12x75cl)

£195.00 per case IB

This steep, south, south-east facing vineyard looking over the village of Milly and just above Dampt's home, is set on a stony clay subsoil and enjoys a great aspect. The fruit normally shows a great degree of ripeness and generosity. There is always a lot of millerandage (small grapes) in this vineyard which produces great concentration, and aids long ageing.

An inviting bouquet, this is so rich and perfumed it clears the nose! The palate is opulent balanced by a tight, limey acidity. This wine has everything – the rich opulence associated with the right bank, but also the minerality of the left. Always one of the most popular Chablis in our range.



Drink 2025+

Chablis 1er Cru Montmains, Domaine des Marronniers (12x75cl)

£228.00 per case IB

The low hills to the south-west of sleepy Chablis hold some of the best terroir in the region, and this is where you can find the 1er cru vineyards of Montmains, whose serried rows of Chardonnay face almost due south-south-east.

Aged on fine lees for twelve months, this wine boasts an opulent bouquet full of grapefruits and tropical aromas.

A ripe, fruit driven wine, broad in flavour with ripe pear, white peach and a touch of apricot, but balanced by a tight mineral infusion and wet stone minerality.



Drink 2025+

Chablis 1er Cru Montée de Tonnerre, Domaine Testut (12x75cl)

£295.00 per case IB

This is the most prestigious 1er Cru, located on the right bank of the Serein River, south-west facing and not far from the Grand Crus. The vines of this 1 ha vineyard plot are over 60 years old. Hand harvested and fermented purely in tank and then aged in tank for a further 16 months.

This wine exhibits a pale straw yellow hue with great clarity. Good yields this year (at last!) have delivered a very impressive, concentrated wine, with notes of green apple and a lick of honey providing a riper feel to the wine. There is an appealing freshness and precision with a flinty, wet stone minerality that you would expect from this super 1er Cru.



Drink 2026+



Chablis 1er Cru Montmains, Samuel Billaud (6x75cl)

£216.00 per case IB

Produced from 35 year old vines that are planted on the deep clay soils of this popular 1er cru situated to the south-west of the village of Chablis, this is always one of the more fruit forward wines in the Billaud range. Overt, ripe and opulent, there are delicious Granny Smith apple flavours that combine with nectarines and melon, impressively weighty and finely balanced by a steely minerality. This is a sumptuous wine offering real pleasure.



Drink 2026+

Chablis 1er Cru Vaillons Vieilles Vignes, Samuel Billaud (6x75cl)

£237.00 per case IB

Vaillons is one of the finest and most popular Premiers Crus on the left bank of the River Serein, with a south-easterly exposure on a single, central plot that captures all the morning sun.

Brilliant pale gold with vibrant green highlights. A wonderful, refined and aromatic bouquet. The palate is dynamic and precise, a lime zest and mineral infusion complimenting the complex fruit makeup, orchard fruits, lemons, subtle notes of fennel with a beautiful salinity and oyster shell freshness.



Drink 2026+

Chablis 1er Cru Séchet Vieilles Vignes, Samuel Billaud (6x75cl)

£270.00 per case IB

This Premier Cru comes under the wider Vaillons appellation, situated on the left bank of the river Serein. The 95 year old vines on 161/49 rootstock are planted on Kimmeridgian soil, on top of hard clay which retain moisture.

Fermented in stainless steel tanks followed by 18 months on fine lees.

Luminous pale straw in colour, clear, bright and youthful. The nose is so expressive with lemon and grapefruit aromas pierced by a mineral wet stone character. The palate is typical Billaud winemaking – precise, laser focussed and vibrant. Crushed apples, citrus notes all framed in a tight mineral structure, a wonderful expressive wine with added notes of almond, white peach and an oyster shell finish. Lip smackingly good!



Drink 2026+



CHABLIS

GRAND CRU

Around the sleepy town of Chablis on the northern side of the River Serein lies the 7 Grand Cru vineyards, all 100ha of neat vines facing SW and SE. These steep hills, 150-250m above sea level, are distinct mesoclimates, with a perfect combination of aspect, soil, protection from the prevailing west winds and proximity to the faint warmth offered by both town and river. Frosts and hail are frequent dangers, especially for a northern region such as this. It is here that the finest Chablis are produced.



Samuel Billaud

Chablis Grand Cru Bougros, Samuel Billaud (6x75cl)

£495.00 per case IB

Situated on the western central edge of the Grand Cru hill, looking south and west to the sleepy town of Chablis, Billaud makes very small quantities of this steely, forceful wine.

Hand-picked, 50% is fermented in 3 year old barrels, followed by 1 year in old oak, then transferred into steel tanks to 'marry' the wine with the 50% element of stainless steel fermented wine – get it? A further ageing on fine lees for 6 months prior to bottling.

Complex and intense on the nose, there are initial notes of lemon curd and candied lime, white peach and apricot beautifully balanced by an assertive minerality—crushed stone, chalk, and seashells. Hints of acacia blossom, hazelnut, and a delicate touch of smoky flint also emerge. The palate is rich yet impeccably balanced, displaying both power and finesse, seamlessly integrated with a vibrant, saline minerality leading to a long, refined finish that lingers with flavours of citrus zest and wet stone.



Drink 2027+

MÂCONNAIS

This large southern appellation of Burgundy, comprising around 17000 acres bridges the 30km gap between Chalonnaise in the North and Beaujolais in the south. A warmer region, this is where Northern France starts to turn Mediterranean.

The regions countryside is mainly agricultural with grain, orchards and cattle farming sitting alongside separate blocks of vineyards – the rolling hills and valleys more similar to the Cotswolds or Berkshire, and there is the continual hazards of spring frosts, lessened slightly by the naturally warmer temperatures that give a softer mouthfeel to the whites and a riper sweeter fruit to the reds. The soil is split into 2 types; limestone, planted mainly with the white Chardonnay with a little Aligote, and clay/sand – planted with Pinot Noir and Gamay.

Comprising over 70 communes, this is an area which has risen in quality in recent years. Half of these 70 communes are allowed to add their own village name – Mâcon Lugny, Mâcon la Roche Vineuse, Mâcon Chardonnay etc – this being a sign of better quality, and also, more importantly, here the Cooperative system excels, by raising the standards of wine generally and showing how good this region is at making savoury, well made and affordable Burgundy. The Cave Cooperative at both Buxy and Lugny are perhaps the result of the dominance of mixed farming, but it really works as a system.

SAINT-VÉРАН

Saint Véran is a scattered appellation with most vineyards of the AOC in the warm south of the Mâconnais, but the finest wines are produced in the north-east, around the Pouilly and Prissé areas.

MÂCONNAIS

Mâcon Azé, Jules Richard, Cave de Buxy (6x75cl)

£44.00 per case IB

Situated north of Mâcon, near Viré, where a south-east exposure and planting at a higher altitude benefits the vines.

Fermented and aged in 100% steel tanks at a controlled low temperature, this is a lovely, quenching, deliciously lush and fruit-driven Mâcon, offering crunchy Gala and Golden delicious apple fruit, a trace of lemon balm and balancing fresh acidity.



Drink 2025+

Mâcon La Roche Vineuse, Domaine Merlin (6x75cl)

£60.00 per case IB

Winemaking at this stellar estate is now overseen by Theo Merlin. An impressive nose from this 100% tank fermented Chardonnay, produced from older vines situated around the village. This leads to a ripe, deliciously fruit driven palate of Golden Delicious apple, wet stones, quince and zesty acid, there is definite concentration here, with overtones of melon, butter and sweet cream.

Picking started on 1st September, before the start of the extreme heat, with all hand-picking, sorting before the grapes are pressed and fermented in steel tanks at a controlled low temperature. Ageing is on large lees for several months, as Theo believes this helps in hot years to reduce oxidative effects.



Drink 2025+

Mâcon La Roche Vineuse Vieilles Vignes, Domaine Merlin (6x75cl)

£82.50 per case IB

Produced from 3ha of vineyards split into four separate parcels planted in 1922, 1932, 1949 and 1951.

100% Barrel fermented in a mix of 10% new oak and 90% old, with the used barrels ranging in age from 1 to 8 years. The average age of the vines is 65 years, so the concentration is always increased. On the nose, the wine leaps heartily from the glass, rich and buttery with immense fruit. The palate continues in the same vein, showing ripe buttered Fuji apple, cream, honey, citrus and notes of cereal. The finish is rounded, generous and complex. More Meursault than Mâcon!



Drink 2025+

SAINT-VÉРАН

Saint-Véran 'Vers les Monts', Domaine Luquet Depuis 1878 (12x75cl)

£118.00 per case IB

A wine of great precision and yet open and forward in style, Patrick Luquet picks from 2 plots totalling around 1.5ha in the villages of Chasselas and Solutré-Pouilly, on soils of red clay. The Chardonnay grapes are pressed, then fermented in steel tank before ageing on fine lees. The bouquet is immediate, ripe and forward, with creamy apple pie nuances and a hint of freshly cut lime.

It is lovely, ripe, rounded and slightly buttery, but always with that approachability and open style, balanced by zesty acidity and mild minerality. No added sulphites.



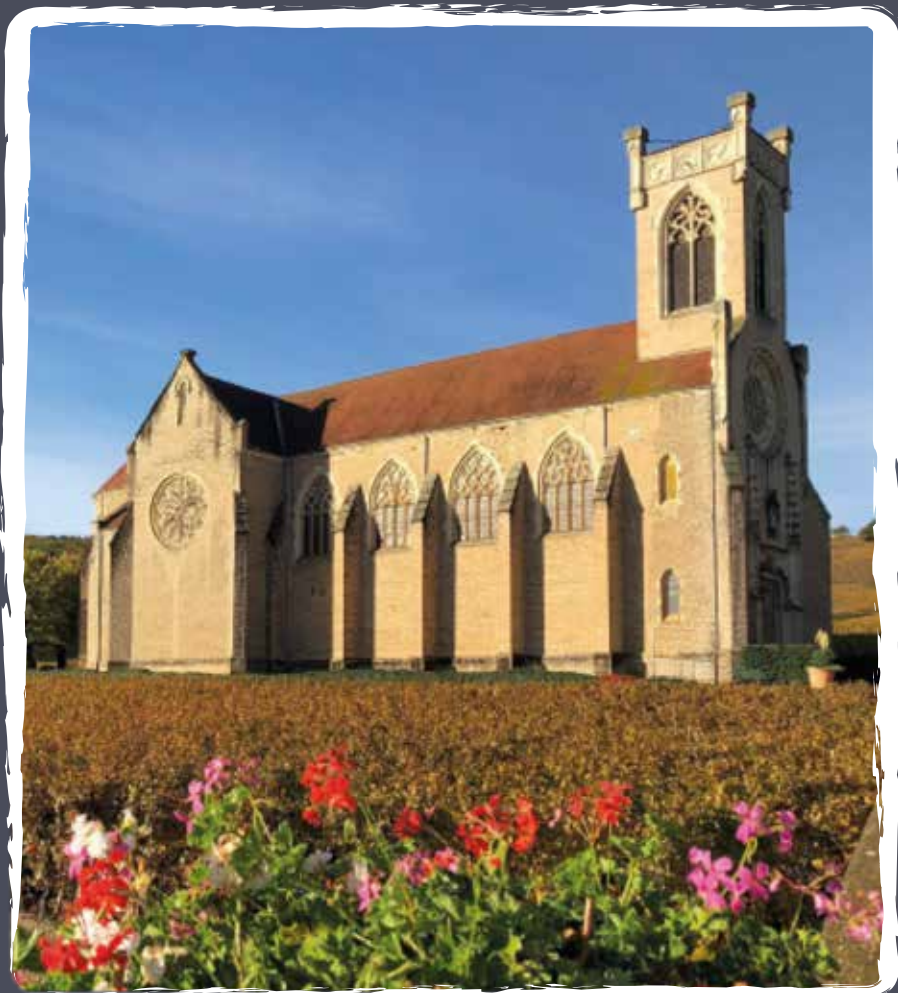
Drink 2025+



POUILLY FUISSÉ

One of the greatest white wine appellations in France, Pouilly Fuissé comprises 5 sleepy little hamlets. The finest wines, produced from the ideally sited slopes around the village of Fuissé, tend to be fatter, more honeyed with an almost Meursault-like character, a fact now recognised by the awarding of Premier Cru status for a handful of top vineyards. The soil here is Jurassic limestone similar to that found on the Côte d'Or, with similar flavour qualities found in the resultant dry white wines – an elegance and richness that is balanced by razor sharp acidity and honeyed depth.

In 2020 the appellation received approval for the official recognition of 22 Premier Cru 'climats'.



Pouilly Fuissé, Domaine Merlin (6x75cl)

£95.00 per case IB

A wine that is produced from several plots of 50-60 year old vines situated around the villages of Vergisson, Fuissé and Chaintre, each plot on a different soil and showing the complex steeliness and flesh of the region. The wine sees one year in barrel, of which 15% is new. The higher elevation of Vergisson adds a lovely freshness and steely acidity that balances the ripe apple and creamy fruit from Fuissé – there are notes of pear, peach and stone fruits, with subtle oak edging.



Drink 2025+

Pouilly Fuissé 'Tête de Cuvée', Château Fuissé (6x75cl) ALSO AVAILABLE IN MAGNUMS (3x150cl)

£126.00 per case IB

£130.00 per case IB

The grapes come from 14 plots around the 5 sub regions of Pouilly, taking advantage of the slate and sandy soils of Fuissé blended with the heavier clay and marl soils of Vergisson, to make a wonderfully complex and polished style of Pouilly Fuissé. Produced from 40 different cuvee's of wine – 50% in tank, 50% in steel with just 20% new oak. The nose of Conference pear is immediately striking, followed by lush peach, apricot and apple fruit, bound with creamy oak and rapier-like acidity. There is tension in the wine and the finish is long.



Drink 2025+

Pouilly Fuissé 'Au Bourg', Domaine Luquet Depuis 1878 (12x75cl)

£190.00 per case IB

Produced from vines that average nearly 97 years old, situated in the Clos just in front of the church in the centre of the village of Fuissé. The church protects the vines from the westerly winds which makes this the warmest parcel of Fuissé. This vineyard was initially planted back in 1927 by the Great Grandfather of the current generation, Maurice Luquet.

100% steel tank fermented following which the wine is held in tank on fine lees for 7 months. The style is elegant and moreish, very fruit forward in 2023, and showing ripe pear, mango and baked apple, with creamy mid-palate and lovely steely tension. Always a highlight of any visit to the Mâconnais!



Drink 2025+

Pouilly Fuissé, Clos de Quartz (6x75cl)

£TBA per case IB

Sourced from a 2.23 ha plot which is a monopole, Château du Quartz is a collaboration between Dominique Lafon and Olivier Merlin founded in 2012 and situated near Chaintre south of Pouilly Fuissé and is fast becoming a cult classic. Grown on very, very poor soil near the village itself, and protected by a high stone wall which protects the ancient vines, some of which date back to 1917. The Riparia rootstocks struggle with thin topsoil and hard bedrock underneath, producing small yields of incredibly concentrated fruit, all of which is hand-picked; the wines spend 18 months in oak – 1 year in a mix of new and used barrels, with a further 12 months in older used barrels. The style is rich, creamy and complex, with notes of mango, pineapple and baked dessert apple, balance by a sharp fresh acidity and layers of complex wet stone minerality. A trace of saline adds a further note of complexity, as does a hint of hedgerow. Long, long finish.



Drink 2026+

Pouilly Fuissé 1er Cru Le Clos Monopole, Chateau Fuissé (6x75cl)

£260.00 per case IB

A monopole of just 2.68ha situated in an amphitheatre around the Château itself and separated into 3 soil types – clay at the bottom, marl in the middle and fragmented limestone at the top. The vines were planted in 1929, 1963, 1968 and the most recent in 1985.

100% new oak and aged for 9 months, then transferred to steel tanks on fine lees to marry. The nose is incredibly intense and complex, peach and cream, mango, cereal and integrated oak, all with a tension and tautness that is startling. Amazing!



Drink 2026+

CHALONNAISE

The climate of this mid to southern region is less sheltered and more affected by prevailing westerly winds on the typically higher situated vineyards. Around 200 – 350m above sea level is the norm, whereas the finest Côte d’or vineyards are sited at around 180-240m, with low undulating hills and less fertile, more stony soil giving leaner wines, whose vines struggle to get the required warmth and sunlight to fully ripen. This is where, perhaps, a degree of appreciation for Global warming may come into its own.

Vineyard site is crucial here, as is dominance of heat retaining, well-draining limestone soils. The Chalonnaise is part of the continuous fault line that forms the ridge that runs like a spine down the whole Côte d’Or, wedged between the Saone (where soils washed and scraped by centuries of time have deposited in thick layers on the valley floor, rub against the thinner, scraped Jurassic limestone and Permian soils of the Horst de Mont St Vincent and Blanzay Rift.

Standout villages such as Montagny, Bouzeron (only for the white Aligoté), Mercurey, Givry and Rully are where the quality lies in the Chalonnaise, with the finest wines produced from the all white appellation of Montagny to the south, where Chardonnay rules supreme. The vineyards are planted on stony soils where heat and drainage give a more bracing, richer style more akin to a Chassagne in a lighter year.



Château de Chamilly

Bourgogne Aligoté, Château de Chamilly (6x75cl)

£60.00 per case IB

Produced from vines that are planted in both Chamilly and Buxy. This variety must incise the tongue, awaken the taste buds and make you salivate.

Fermented in stainless steel tanks followed by 8 months on its fine lees, this is an impressively rich, stony mineral Aligoté. Zingy on the palate, notes of citrus with a mouth quenching, spikey acidity that gives balance to the ripe white peach fruits, enhanced by a fine savoury note on the finish.



Drink 2025+

Montagny 'Les Reculerons' Château de Chamilly (6x75cl)

£82.00 per case IB

This 1.3ha plot is perfectly positioned on a grey clay with rock subsoil and a southeastern exposure, producing perfect Chardonnay grapes. The grapes are hand-picked in small baskets and fermented in stainless steel. The wine is settled in tank on fine lees for 6 months prior to bottling. There is no oak aging at all.

Overt, aromatic and fruit packed, the structure is tight and lean with an impressive streak of minerality sown through the structural core. There are notes of white peach, Granny Smith apple with a mouthwatering tangy acidity. A delicious wine!



Drink 2025+



CÔTE DE NUITS

NUITS-SAINT-GEORGES

Nuits-Saint-Georges is at the heart of the Côte de Nuits, midway between Dijon and Beaune, and its vines spread up the lowly undulating and rising slopes toward the west, away from the road as you head north. The soil here is mixed, with thicker clay soils, more marl, more ironstone and less broken limestone. The majority of vines are planted on the flatter, more alluvial soils, where richer soil gives more fruit and less concentration. This is where the negociants find their Nuits-Saint-Georges.

CÔTE DE BEAUNE

CÔTEAUX BOURGUIGNONS

In 2011 the now defunct appellations of Bourgogne Ordinaire and Bourgogne Grand Ordinaire were replaced by the newer appellation of Coteaux Bourguignons, a regional level appellation that covers the entire Burgundy region, from Auxerre in the north near Chablis, down to the Beaujolais. The white wines, which account for around 25% of production, are produced mainly from Chardonnay and Aligoté, as well as Pinot Blanc. The advantage of this relatively new appellation is that it gives the growers a greater amount of freedom to innovate and provides the consumer with some terrific value for money.

Bourgogne Aligoté, 'Le Chapitre', Domaine Machard de Gramont (6x75cl) £58.00 per case IB

Only a very small amount of this wine is produced and after a lot of cajoling we have managed to snaffle a parcel! Produced from 60 year old vines this is a really intriguing wine from a declassified Marsannay vineyard. Aged in 50% new oak – though you would never know- it is a delicious apply, quenching wine with a delicious underlay of mouth filling citrus fruits. Long and seamless on the finish.



Drink 2025+

**Nuits-Saint-Georges Blanc 'Creux Fraiche Eau'
Domaine Machard de Gramont (6x75cl)**

£165.00 per case IB

A small lieu-dit of 0.5ha situated between Vosne-Romanée and Nuits, situated in the north of the Nuits appellation, high up in the upper slopes and facing south-west with a southerly exposure. Aged in 60% new oak and 40% 1 year barrels for 10 months. Alban yielded over 50hl/ha in 2023. This is a stellar white Burgundy; rare and absolutely delicious We thought you could pretty much drink it from the barrel! The nose is incredibly lush, appealing and decadent, with layers of gunflint, ripe peach, exotic white fruits, intense minerality and a very rounded, sweet-edged finish. Well balanced, complex and moreish!



Drink 2025+

**Coteaux Bourguignons Blanc Le P'tit Bonheur (Meursault) (6x75cl)
Domaine Prunier-Bonheur**

£72.00 per case IB

Produced from vines planted very close to the village of Meursault with an average age of 70 years. Hand-picked, gently pressed and the juice transferred into steel tanks to ferment with some lees stirring. A very small proportion of new oak (5%), this is one the finest 'value for money' wines on this offer. Stylish, fruit packed, with notes of tropical fruits, grapefruit zing and a wonderful textured, creamy mid palate. Tasted blind, you would believe this wine is from a far higher appellation than mere Coteaux Bourguignons.



Drink 2025+



BOURGOGNE CHARDONNAY

This is a far and widely scattered appellation, which can be confusing and open to much interpretation, leading consumers to either feel saddened by the quality, or smiling with joy at the fabulous value for money that these basic white wines can often offer.

As with everything in Burgundy, the name of the appellation is almost the least important clue – look below for the name of the maker – this gives the clue as to the wine's real origins, and the quality of the person who grows the grapes and makes the wine.

Bourgogne Chardonnay can come from anywhere in Burgundy. Top producers will often use younger vines, where the concentration isn't yet sufficient for their top wines, blended with wines from lesser vineyards that lie on the boundaries of the famous villages. Usually they share a similar soil & aspect, and, most crucially, are produced in the same manner as the top wines. Top producers will sometimes declassify parcels of wine from the better vineyards into their blended Bourgogne wines, again, the key to keeping the top wines at a higher level. As such, this is where bargains can be found. A top producer can offer 'basic' Bourgogne Chardonnay from a village such as Puligny, Saint Aubin or Chassagne, which is often better than many, lesser producer's top wines, and at more affordable prices.

**Bourgogne Chardonnay 'Cuvée Flavie',
Domaine Guy Amiot et Fils (Chassagne-Montrachet) (6x75cl)**

£87.00 per case IB

A blend of estate wines sourced from 4 parcels around the villages of Chassagne, Puligny and Saint Aubin – all very classy addresses! 30% fermented in new oak and 70% in stainless steel tanks.

Seductive, elegant and classically white Burgundy on the nose, with a palate that is plump and concentrated, yet with lovely tension and a lighter oak treatment. This is precise and focused, and showing a delicious youthful character. A baby Chassagne!



Drink 2025+

Bourgogne Côte d'Or Chardonnay, Domaine Michelot (Meursault) (6x75cl) £102.00 per case IB

Harvested from 10 separate plots, totalling 3.8ha, that surround the Village and border the main road. Fermented in one and two year old 500 litre demi-muids and aged for 11 months followed by a further 6 months in tank.

A wine of great purity, it was so clear that it needed very little fining and no filtration.

Very much in the old Michelot style; bags of rich, creamy fruits, honey, hazelnuts and a touch of vanilla. The acidities are refreshing and provide a perfect balance to the viscous creaminess. This is Meursault in all but name.



Drink 2025+

Bourgogne Côte d'Or Chardonnay, Domaine Bachelet-Monnot (6x75cl) £106.00 per case IB

Produced from parcels of vines, 80% of which are situated in Puligny and 20% in Meursault and aged for 12 months in 350 litre barrels.

This tastes like Puligny with a dose of Meursault richness! Ripe and honeyed on the nose, the palate is open, buttery and creamy and packed with sun-filled fruits. The acidity is firm and steely which instils a great balance to the wine. This is so well constructed, voluptuous with a tiny hint of liquorice on the finish.



Drink 2026+

**Bourgogne Chardonnay,
Domaine Jean-Louis Chavy (Puligny-Montrachet) (6x75cl)**

£106.00 per case IB

Produced from 75 year old vines in 4 parcels in Puligny with one small plot in Meursault and another near the road close to the domaine. Fermented and aged in 228 litre casks, with 5-10% new oak with the remainder of the wine in barrels that range from one to four years of age.

A very overt and expressive bouquet, the palate is dense and thick, oozing runny honey and tropical fruit quench. Do not wait, just enjoy! Absolutely delicious!



Drink 2025+

**Bourgogne Blanc La Tuféra,
Domaine Etienne Sauzet (Puligny-Montrachet) (6x75cl)**

£132.00 per case IB

Produced from four small separate parcels of vines and vinified in a mixture of 4-5 year old barrels and large foudres, Racked several times before marrying in tank on the fine lees.

The Sauzet style is razor sharp, and in 2023 there is a lovely generous and open quality of fruit. Peach, fennel, a touch of honey and roasted nut – all layered with incredible minerality. Surprisingly ripe and almost lush. This is top drawer Bourgogne Chardonnay.



Drink 2025+

**Bourgogne Chardonnay 'Les Chataigniers',
Domaine Hubert Lamy (Saint-Aubin) (6x75cl)**

TBA per case IB

Produced from vineyards that lie on the upper slopes as the hill bends around towards Meursault and away from Saint-Aubin itself. Olivier Lamy has been slowly reducing the levels oak used in the ageing of his wines for some years in order to preserve an intense minerality, also purchasing glass demi johns to help preserve acidity in the wines. This is an outstanding wine from one of today's superstar winemakers.



Drink 2026+

Note: Lamy now releases his wines in June. Please contact us to register your interest.

BOURGOGNE HAUTES CÔTE DE BEAUNE

The vines of Hautes Côtes de Beaune sit inland through valleys carved in the ridged limestone escarpment, that continues down from Beaune, and crucially, these AOC vineyards are 50-75m higher than the fabled ones on the Côte de Beaune itself. The narrow, winding valleys, orchards and farmland of the Hautes Côtes hide many good wines, and it is here that you can find surprisingly Chardonnay, often from top domaines that manage the neat vineyards in the same meticulous and sustainable way as their more well known appellations. The whole region covers some 850 hectares, and the aspect is less ideally angled toward the sunshine. Due to the vineyard's altitude, the region is often beset with wind and has a higher rainfall and cooler conditions than the Côte de Beaune, so its wines tend to be lighter and expressive with higher acidity. In an age of global warming, the wines of the Hautes Côtes are ones to watch.

SAINT ROMAIN

Saint Romain was one of the first places where the Celts and Gallo-Romans cultivated the vine, situated at the foot of a cliff, but also at an altitude that allows it to overlook the plain below. The drive up to the village is steep and you get the immediate impression of being higher than anywhere else on the Côte.

The appellation was established in 1947, before then the vineyards were simply categorised as Hautes Côtes de Beaune. The terroir derives from the early Jurassic period, the vines planted on steep slopes of limestone and marl, facing south/south-east and north/north-east, at an altitude of 280 to nearly 400m, perfect for the production of high-quality Chardonnay. Better known for its white wines, brimming with white flowers, lime and minerality, it also produces lighter, fruit packed Pinot Noir reds. An appellation that is definitely on the up, especially given the warmer climates of recent years.

Saint Romain 'La Combe Bazin', Domaine Prunier-Bonheur (6x75cl) £132.00 per case IB

This south-west facing, single 0.96 plot of vines, was planted in 1990 on a steep slope to the east of the village of Saint-Romain towards Auxey-Duresses. The soil is predominantly white marl and limestone with some clay.

Hot vintages such as 2023 are perfect for this higher altitude, steep slope appellation where the temperatures are naturally cooler. Vinified in 350 litre oak barrels of which only 15% is new. Lush and textured, intense and vibrant, Pascal has produced a quite stunning wine this vintage. The wet stone minerality on the finish adds to the quenching, mouthwatering nature of this wine.



Drink 2026+



AUXEY-DURESSES

Situated in the Côte de Beaune, where smaller valley's cut through the ridge of vineyards that flow down from the Côte de Nuits, the 140 ha of vineyards of Auxey-Duresses lie within such a deep cleft of the ridge, slicing westwards for a mere 3km from the outskirts of Meursault into the hills where a meso-climate gives a degree more warmth. The aspect is south east facing, and the soil is an ideal combination of limestone under a scraping of reddish clay for the higher vineyards, with thicker clay and marl soils lower down. What makes Auxey-Duresses so unique, however, is its ability to make wines similar in style to a good Meursault, but with a degree more bracing acidity, elegance and lightness of touch, less honeyed and a little more saline, making a dry white with less ageing, but more appeal earlier in its life.

MEURSAULT

The Village of Meursault, with its hunkered down pale honey stone walls and narrow streets is home to many producers of arguably the fattest and ripest of all white Burgundies, where the notes of honey, fatness of glycerine, oatmeal and rich apple fruit tend to be balanced by a bracing acidity that comes from planting the Chardonnay on thin limestone soils. Whilst the appellation of Meursault abuts Puligny-Montrachet, whose wines are renowned for their acidity and tautness, it is the texture of a Meursault which gives its uniqueness. The soil in Meursault, generally, is Jurassic limestone over clay deposits with the best vines sited on the upper vineyards, where more stony, broken limestone outcrops are prevalent, with very thin topsoil. Ideally with an aspect that faces south to south-east. the slopes are gentler here, with a gradient a few degrees less inclined than the Nuits, and the best vineyards, many of which are of Premier Cru status, are all mid slope here at a height of around 220-300m. The best sited wines of the 1er Cru's are arguably Les Charmes and Les Genévrières, due to the near perfect aspect, soil and drainage. Unlike Puligny-Montrachet, Meursault contains no Grand Crus.

Auxey-Duresses Vieilles Vignes, Domaine Prunier-Bonheur (6x75cl) £156.00 per case IB

Produced from two parcels of vines, with an average age of 65 years old, that touch the appellation of Meursault. The combined 1.4ha lie on the top of the hill, and the vines are an average of 70 years old. The grapes are hand-picked into small baskets and sorted at the winery. Fermentation is in tank at a low temperature, with 20% new oak, spending 12 months in barrel before a simple racking. Aged for a further 6 months in tank before bottling.

Rich and honeyed bouquet, the theme continues on the palate with runny honey galore, nuts and butteriness. This wine has all the texture and weight and balance of a good Meursault. Outstanding value!



Drink 2025+

Meursault, Domaine Michelot (6x75cl) £235.00 per case IB

Assembled from 7 different plots, which form 3 distinct cuvées, subsequently blended after fermentation, all with differing aspects of soil, microclimate and aspect. This wine is enriched by grapes produced from the lieux-dits vineyards of Les Casse Têtes and Limozin near Volnay, which give an added richness and intensity.

Fermented in tank and barrel, with 10% new oak and using a variety of barrels. 1/3 in 500 litre foudres, 1/3 in traditional Burgundy 228 litre barriques, and 1/3 in grès pots.

The wine is aged in barrel for 12 months and then for a further 6 months in tank.

A beautifully defined bouquet with notes of nuts and honey, the palate is succulent, rich and creamy, more in the old style of Michelot. This takes me back! There is opulence and fatness, a trait of the 2023 vintage, but there is balance too with a lemon zest streak laced through the core. Beautiful!



Drink 2026+

Meursault Clos St Felix, Domaine Michelot (6x75cl) £288.00 per case IB

Named after the small walled vineyard ('Clos') that lies huddled down to the front of the estate, this sheltered 0.94ha site enjoys an extra 1°C degree of temperature, adding richness, mouthfeel and concentration. The late Bernard Michelot claims that he always felt that extra degree of warmth after he jumped over the wall, returning from seeing his girlfriend in the early hours, after breaking the evening curfew during the 2WW.

Fermented in tank and barrel, with 10% new oak and using a variety of barrels – 35% in 500 litre foudres, 40% in traditional Burgundy 228 litre barriques, and 20% in clay eggs.

A mouthful of honeyed fruit, round and creamy with notes of brioche and French toast, there is also an impressive energy to the wine that gives balance and equilibrium. An absolute belter!



Drink 2026+

Meursault 1er Cru Les Genévrières, Domaine Michelot (6x75cl) £475.00 per case IB

This is one of the most highly regarded 1er Crus, situated to the south of the village where the soil is poor with high mineral content. Michelot has just 0.8 ha in a single plot.

Produced in a mixture of 70% barrique (228 litre) of which 50% is new, and 30% large oak barrels, of which 15% is new. A small proportion is fermented in neutral clay eggs to add a purity to the finish.

A powerful wine – rich, lush and opulent with honey fruits, almond notes and French toast. It is broad on the palate but there is also a steely acidity, freshness and balance. The top drawer of the Michelot cellar. Quite outstanding!



Drink 2026+

PULIGNY-MONTRACHET

A tiny village of just 210 ha of vineyards yet with a huge reputation. Amongst its immaculate vineyards lie 4 Grand Cru's, Montrachet, Bienvenues-Bâtard Montrachet, Bâtard-Montrachet and Chevalier Montrachet, with Bâtard and Le Montrachet shared between Puligny and Chassagne, and 17 1er cru's making up a large proportion of its acreage (the official trade website of Bourgogne states these top classified vineyards make up over 90ha of the whole appellation).

Puligny is almost 100% white wine, and it is often held up as the epitome, the ideal and perfect expression of the Chardonnay grape. As a village it lies south of Meursault, approx. 13km from Beaune, and its vines curve majestically around the broken brown limestone and clay slopes which are for the most part south-east and south exposed. Where the soil is thinnest you will find the best wines, and here is where you can find the best producers, names such as Sauzet, Leflaive, Carillon and Chavy dominate the rankings.

What makes Puligny-Montrachet unique, above all else, is a tautness and almost savoury leanness that seems to fatten and develop with age. A dry wine whose rich baked apple and honeyed flavour show both salinity and stony minerality at birth, yet evolves and becomes more beguiling, full and complex with age.



**Puligny-Montrachet Les Houillères
Domaine Machard de Gramont (6x75cl)**

£225.00 per case IB

A 2/3 ha plot purchased a number of years ago from Louis Chavy, this wine always provides excellent value for money and punches way above its price tag.

A long, slow pressing gives a lot of free-run juice which aids clarity and texture on the finished wine. Fermented partly in tank and barrel and aged in 50% new oak for ten months.

The wine is ripe, forward and showing nice tropical fruit notes, almost exotic with an immediate appeal and lush, open, generous style. The wet stones minerality is there, but in 2023 it is all about the decadent fruit and balancing acidity. Very good – you can almost drink it now!



Drink 2025+

**Puligny-Montrachet, Domaine Jean-Louis Chavy (6x75cl)
ALSO AVAILABLE IN HALVES (12x37.5cl)**

£275.00 per case IB

£290.00 per case IB

Produced from 12 parcels scattered around the village of Puligny and towards Meursault, planted to 10,000 vines per ha with an average age of 50 years old, on an aspect and soils that benefit from ample water. The fermentation is carried out in 228 litre casks, 20% of which is new, with the use of natural yeasts. This vintage shows more opulence and richness, more of a Meursault style, but the steely character of Puligny scythes through the ripe honey notes to provide a stunning balance.



Drink 2026+

Puligny-Montrachet, Domaine Bachelet-Monnot (6x75cl)

£288.00 per case IB

Produced from 2 ha of vines made up of 6 different parcels, each vinified separately.

This wine was matured in 20% new oak, using larger 350 litre demi-muids to restrain the oak character for 12 months, with regular racking and finished in steel tanks for 6 months prior to bottling.

A complex and smouldering bouquet – quite beguiling. The palate is tight and finely structured with expressive notes of honey and nuts and a lovely underlay of slatey minerality and pithy lemon acidity. Long on the finish.



Drink 2026+

Puligny-Montrachet, Domaine Jacques Carillon (6x75cl)

£TBA per case IB

The Carillon family has been making wine in the village of Puligny-Montrachet since the 16th century, beginning with Jehan Carillon, who was a vintner in Puligny in 1520. After completing his studies at the winemaking school in Beaune, France, Jacques Carillon joined his father in the family vineyard in 1980. In 2010, Jacques and his brother split the Carillon domaine and now farms his 5.25 hectares of vines with wife Sylvia.

Produced from 7 separate perfectly exposed plots spread around the village totalling 2.7ha, with an average vine age of 40 years.

Fermented and aged in 15% new oak, the bouquet is impressively tight and lean, but the palate is quick to sing. An incredible density of pineapple and grapefruit, powerful and opulent with an amazing streak of steely acidity providing a perfect equilibrium. One of the truly great producers of this appellation.



Drink 2027+

Puligny-Montrachet, Domaine Etienne Sauzet (6x75cl)

£300 per case IB

Produced from 12 parcels spread around the village but primarily on the Meursault side, totalling 3.5ha, planted with vines that average 50 years old, the oldest of which was planted in 1934.

Hand-picked, fermented in tank then transferred into 10% new oak, with the remaining barrels 1-5 years old. The yield was high at 50hl/ha, but Benoit explained that it was unusual not to have to discard much, even though the grapes were sorted several times in both vineyard and winery.

The wine is intense on the nose, ripe, opulent and offering sweet peach and mango characters, thick inner core and balancing acidity. This is a taut, lean and vibrant dry white, wonderfully crisp and showing tremendous complexity.



Drink 2026+

Puligny-Montrachet 1er Cru Clavoillon
Domaine Jean-Louis Chavy (6x75cl)

£420.00 per case IB

There are only three lucky producers of this exceptional 1er Cru, which is really a Grand Cru in all but name. Chavy has a small 0.7ha plot, situated on the north side with soils of broken limestone and clay. Hand-picked, sorted and fermented in tank, racked into barrels with 25% new oak and the remainder in 350 litre demi-muids. The wines undergo a very gentle fining after 12 months. Very impressive, similar to Leflaive in style. It is rich and viscous, lush and overt. The intensity of ripe tropical fruits is boosted by a tight minerality, leading to a long and explosive finish. Magnificent – in fact regal!



Drink 2026+

Puligny-Montrachet 1er Cru Les Perrières
Domaine Etienne Sauzet (6x75cl)

£585.00 per case IB

The Sauzet estate owns 1.4ha at the heart of the Perrières vineyard, on the Meursault side, with a great aspect and a thinner calcareous soil structure, just 80cm deep, giving long lived wines with wonderful finesse. Hand-picked and yielding 45hl/ha this wine benefited from 20% new oak with the remaining barrels 1-4 years old.

The bouquet is intense, slightly unyielding at first, but opens after a short while, showing rich ripe honey, cashew, almond and peach flavours, layered with dessert apple and some oak, centred within a structure of racy fresh acidity, saline and intense minerality.



Drink 2027+

Puligny-Montrachet 1er Cru Champ-Canet
Domaine Etienne Sauzet (6x75cl)

£585.00 per case IB

Situated adjacent to the Meursault 1er Cru Les Perrières at almost the highest slope of Puligny. The soil in Champ-Canet is just 40-60cm deep – clay over limestone with oxidised red clay and limestone chippings. The resulting wine seems more fulsome, riper and has a higher concentration of quince, Fuji apple and white peach flavours.

Matured in 20% new oak for 12 months, the 2023 wine is highly complex with higher levels of acidity and energy. Very taut, almost lean but I love its brooding nature.



Drink 2027+

Puligny-Montrachet 1er Cru Les Folatières
Domaine Bachelet-Monnot (6x75cl)

£630.00 per case IB

This old vineyard, close to Meursault and on the same contour with the same soil composition as Chevalier-Montrachet, contains a thick broken limestone substrata showing through the thin topsoil.

53 year old vines ensure complexity, power and intensity. Aged in 25% new oak 350 litre demi-muids, this is a wonderful polished wine demonstrating classic Puligny character, steely and mineral with a sumptuous wet stone minerality. A profound tropical fruit wrap continues with a long and intense finish.



Drink 2027+

Puligny-Montrachet 1er Cru Les Demoiselles
Domaine Guy Amiot et Fils (6x75cl)

£975.00 per case IB

The Demoiselles vineyard, lying to the northern edge of Montrachet and across from the 1er Cru of Pucelles, is owned by just 3 producers. It is arguably the finest of the 1er cru, and, for the sake of 9 feet of pathway and a small wall, could be Montrachet itself. Amiot's 0.25ha of 70 year old vines are wedged between the northern edge of the Grand Cru of Le Montrachet, and just below Chevalier-Montrachet.

Big, powerful and opulent, this is a supremely complex wine full of runny honey richness balanced by a tight minerality. Outstanding!



Drink 2026+



CHASSAGNE MONTRACHET

The village of Chassagne Montrachet lies 1.5km south of Puligny-Montrachet. Between these villages lie the Grand Crus shared between Puligny and Chassagne-Montrachet and the valley that carves westward toward the village and vines of Saint Aubin. Chassagne-Montrachet consists of around 300ha of vines, split 65/35 Chardonnay to Pinot Noir, with around 120ha of Premier Cru vineyards (mainly, but not always for white wines), as well as part of both Le Montrachet and Bâtard Grand Cru's. However, whereas the village of Puligny-Montrachet sits amongst Bourgogne vines, with the better names on the outskirts, the village of Chassagne-Montrachet is slap-bang in AOC Chassagne vineyards itself.

Geologically, Chassagne is similar to Puligny-Montrachet. They share a common geographical fault line that slices between them, where the Grand Crus sit atop this minor scarp fault, and the soils are similar – brown limestone with the thinnest soils supporting the best wine of the Premier Cru and Grand Cru. Limestone is the bedrock of Chassagne-Montrachet, and names such as Caillerets and Combettes (Quarries) are signs of the importance of the local Nantoux limestone, that is a feature of the subsoil here. The major difference between Puligny-Montrachet and Chassagne-Montrachet is that in some areas Chassagne have a slightly heavier soil, and the vines face a few degrees more to the south, thus the dry whites of Chassagne can be characterised (but not always) as a degree fuller, heavier and more honeyed with a touch less acid freshness.



Fabrice Amiot

**Chassagne-Montrachet Vieilles Vignes
Domaine Guy Amiot et Fils (6x75cl)**

£245.00 per case IB

12 separate parcels of vines, spread across 2.5ha of the lower slopes all around the village, each parcel with a different aspect. The majority of the vines are aged 40-90 year old, though 2 parcels have 'younger' vines at just 20 year old.

With yields of almost 50hl/ha this was a joyous and bountiful harvest for Thierry and Fabrice Amiot. Tasted from tank just after racking from barrel and benefiting from 25% new oak, this 2023 Chassagne is showing a ripe, nutty and richly structured palate, balanced, tense and showing lovely precision and depth of ripe fruit. White peach, nuance of pear and baked dessert apple, layered with traces of honey, cereal and sweet oak. Very textured and opulent.



Drink 2026+

**Chassagne-Montrachet 1er Cru Les Macherelles
Domaine Guy Amiot et Fils (6x75cl)**

£299.00 per case IB

This larger vineyard, planted in 1983, lies directly beneath Vergers and gently slopes to the upper reaches of the village and across to the boundary with Puligny and Bienvenues-Bâtard-Montrachet. Amiot owns a 0.5 plot of clay dominant soil which helps retain a softer, more opulent style of Chassagne. Exposure is north-east and the vines are 50 years old.

Known as the La Femme Classique of Chassagne this is a big, rich, concentrated, opulent wine, with a lovely density of ripe peach, apple and honeyed fruit, supported by 25% new oak. In 2023 the yield was 45hl/ha



Drink 2026+

**Chassagne-Montrachet 1er Cru Les Vergers
Domaine Guy Amiot et Fils (6x75cl)**

£335.00 per case IB

Meaning 'Orchard', the vineyard of Vergers is situated at the top of the slope, as it bends north away from the village. The aspect is north-east, so the vines enjoy a longer, less sun-kissed aspect and hence the freshness of the wines are immediate. Amiot's 0.5ha is planted with 65 year old vines.

In 2023 Fabrice started picking around 6th September, just as the heat built in the vineyards. In Vergers, they lost a percentage of grapes due to sun damage, but at 40hl/ha it was still a healthy crop. The stony soil also further restricted the yield. The wine is very ripe, very rich and shows tremendous weight of fruit, almost golden and honeyed in the glass and balanced by a degree of tension that may be surprising – but then that is the magic of Amiot! Peach, apricot, honey, saline and great minerality. Stunning!



Drink 2026+

**Chassagne-Montrachet 1er Cru Les Caillerets
Domaine Guy Amiot et Fils (6x75cl)**

£385.00 per case IB

The steeper slopes of Caillerets, strewn with lumps of limestone and pebbles, lie beside the winery on the southern aspect of the village, and this benefit from the afternoon sun. Amiot's 0.5ha is split between 2 parcels, one 86 years old, the other a mere 48! Aged for 12 months in 25% new oak and 9 months in tank before bottling.

Wow – what a stunning wine! Big, rich, deeply opulent and sumptuous – baked sweet apple, honeycomb, cereal, intense minerality and slaked with lime zest, saline and peach. This is a BIG, deep and concentrated wine. Complex and very age-worthy.



Drink 2026+

**Le Montrachet Grand Cru
Domaine Guy Amiot et Fils (6x75cl)**

£3850 per case IB

A small plot on the Grand Cru 'Clos' of Le Montrachet, and planted with Chardonnay of 45-75 years of age, all with perfect exposure and a warm microclimate. Hallowed soils, amazing wine!

The grapes were hand-picked, and the wine fermented and then aged in 100% new oak for 12 months, followed by 6 months in steel before bottling.

A wonderful, complex and aristocratic wine full of brooding power, poise and tension. Sometimes you just have to ...!



Drink 2027+

SAINT-AUBIN

The hamlet of Saint-Aubin is a mere 4 minute drive from both Chassagne-Montrachet and Puligny-Montrachet, the minor D906 snakes between the 2 villages, passing the hallowed Grand crus of Chevalier and Le Montrachet on the right, as you wind your way west for a few clicks.

Saint-Aubin has shot to prominence in recent years, thanks to a resurgence of interest in high quality wines produced by landmark domaines such as Lamy and Colin, whose quality is as close to, if not above, many from the 'Hollywoods' of neighbouring Chassagne and Puligny. Saint-Aubin's vineyards are made up of approximately 170ha of vines, with 80% being Chardonnay, spread across around 30 Premier Cru climats (vineyards), including a dominance of Premier Crus that lie close to and share a similar slope and aspect to, the Grand Crus of Bâtard and Le Montrachet. It is on these white clay and limestone soil slopes you will find top estates such as Lamy. A wonderful aspect toward the south-east gives extra warmth and the slopes, gentle and even, give good drainage. Go further into the valley and the air is cooler, the slopes steeper, with less warming, well drained limestone and the wines are awarded the AOC Saint-Aubin appellation.



Olivier Lamy

Saint-Aubin La Princée, Domaine Hubert Lamy

£TBA per case IB

This wine is produced from ten parcels and also includes 20% of grapes from his 1er Cru Fionnes vines located in a cooler part of the appellation. This gives an added depth and complexity to the wine. No new oak, the barrels used are anywhere up to 10 years old.



Drink 2027+

Saint-Aubin 1er Cru Clos du Meix, Domaine Hubert Lamy

£TBA per case IB

The Clos de Meix is a small 0.7ha walled plot of vines overlooking the Southern aspect of the village - the extra warmth of the 'clos' gives a higher degree of richness. The vines were planted in two blocks in 1985 and 1995 on a soil of hard chalk and rock overlaid with large stones.



Drink 2027+

Saint-Aubin 1er Cru en Remilly, Domaine Hubert Lamy

£TBA per case IB

Produced from 2 parcels, each 1 ha, planted by the Lamy family over the past two generations. This is the finest Saint-Aubin 1er Cru - a steep south facing slope which is effectively a continuation of the famous Grand Cru Le Montrachet.



Drink 2027+

Note: Lamy now releases his wines in June. Please contact us to register your interest.



CÔTE DE NUITS

BOURGOGNE PINOT NOIR

One of the most commonly seen appellations of Burgundy, this is a prime example of the complexity, and also simplicity, of the Burgundy appellation system. The rules of the AOC mean that on this level the wine can come from any vineyard area within Burgundy and must be a minimum of 85% Pinot Noir, with a maximum yield of 55hl/ha. On one hand you have the large names of Burgundy, negociants such as Drouhin, Faiveley and Louis Latour, who essentially purchase stocks of wine from all the Burgundy regions and blend them together to make up export orders and to fill the demand for Burgundy, with evocative names such as Gevrey-Chambertin, Vosne-Romanée and Nuits-Saint-Georges. With lesser appellations such as Bourgogne AOC, these large blenders will often blend dozens of producer's wines together, irrespective of their quality and typicity.

However, great Bourgogne Pinot Noir can be found, offering a style and quality far above its humble AOC labelling. Wines from top producers in famous villages are all available, albeit in smaller quantities, yet at remarkably attractive prices. These great domaines will often have a lower yield, more concentration, more typicity and a great degree of regional characteristics, as well as age worthiness and breeding. The name of the producer, however, is crucial to finding a decent bottle.



Côte de Nuits



Bourgogne Pinot Noir ‘Le Chapitre’, Domaine Machard de Gramont (6x75cl) £72.00 per case IB

This is one of only three Bourgogne Pinot Noirs that can attach the vineyard name to its label. It has now been given the go ahead to be re-classified to the appellation of Marsannay. However, Alban very kindly continues to declassify this wine especially for us. What a lovely man!

Hand-picked, crushed and fermented in tank before transfer to a mixture of 2-4 year old Hungarian and French oak, some of them with American oak ends (unique - but in a good way!). Aged for 6-8 months before marrying back in tank prior to bottling.

This is a wonderful Pinot Noir, very ripe, loaded with mulled black fruits, liquorice, cherry smoky spice. It has an open structure and a lovely, sophisticated quality to both tannins and acidity. It is robust, yet elegant with a very long finish.



Drink 2025+

Bourgogne Pinot Noir, Domaine Lécheneaut (6x75cl)

£102.00 per case IB

This superb 12ha domaine was created in the 1980's by Fernand, father of Philippe and Vincent who now run the domaine. Produced from 3 separate parcels of vines ranging from 20-60 years old, surrounding the village of Nuits-Saint-Georges, with 100% destemming before pressing. Aged in 2 to 3 year old barrels for 16-17 months.

An exuberant, rich bouquet, full of moreish black fruits with a fragrant balancing freshness. The palate is so succulent, the tannins are so ripe and there is also a hint of minerality – great intensity. A super mid-week treat!



Drink 2025+

Bourgogne Pinot Noir, Domaine Sérafin (Gevrey-Chambertin) (6x75cl) £159.00 per case IB

Harvested from 2 parcels, a 0.33ha parcel of 48 year old vines named Pressonnier, which for 30 years, between 1956 and 1986, had the right to be sold as Gevrey-Chambertin.

Vinified in 50% new oak, there is a wonderful energy and intensity to this fragrant Pinot Noir, exhibiting fresh raspberry fruits, strawberry with finely poised, ripe tannins. We detected a more feminine aspect to this vintage which will make it more approachable at an earlier stage.



Drink 2027+

GEVREY-CHAMBERTIN

Arguably the most recognised of all the red Burgundy appellations as well as being one of the largest in the Côte de Nuits at around 420 hectares, which includes approximately 80ha of Premier and Grand Cru vineyards. Situated 30 mins drive north from Beaune, the large village of Gevrey-Chambertin sits astride the D974, and the 9 Grand Cru's all lie to the left as you enter the village, the gentle 10-15 degree slopes of serried vines leading the eye up to the forest capped summits, a crucial element of protection from the harsh prevailing westerly winds.

Pinot Noir is king here, with the Jurassic limestone seen poking through the reddish clay, often mixed with pebbles and brown marl. The Premier and Grand Cru vineyards are all mid slope, where perfect drainage, sunnier aspect and thinner soils, often with a degree of iron present, give world class, richly structured red wines. The vineyards of Gevrey-Chambertin sit astride 2 minor fault lines, where Crinodial limestone butts up against Primeaux limestone, the porous rock covered in scree and slope wash from centuries of erosion. Thicker soils lower down the slopes give more yield but less concentration, therefore the top producers prune their vines to limit yields, maximising concentration, as well as planting only on well drained, thinner soils and picking at the optimum point. Criss-crossing the fields of vines are small stone walls, the sign of 'Clos' or separate climats of vineyards, owned by a single grower. Within these normally tiny demarcated vineyards some of the greatest wines in Burgundy are produced. The style of Gevrey is above all full bodied. The soils, aspect, vinification and nature of the appellation all combine to make Pinot Noir which is often firm and brooding when young and usually needs 7-10 years to develop. The lower yields of 50hl/ha (top producers will produce substantially less) for Gevrey are rarely reached, and the Grand Cru's have a maximum limit of 35hl/ha, but for the greatest wines this can mean a wine which needs 15-20 years to really develop and show its breathtaking perfume, richness, breeding and power.

Gevrey-Chambertin 'Pressonnier' Domaine Machard de Gramont (6x75cl)

£171.00 per case IB

This small 0.3 ha plot produces only 9 barrels a year. Aged in 30% French mountain oak and 15% German, both of which are 100% new oak. The remainder is matured in used French barrels. A very intense, lushly concentrated and dense Pinot Noir, offering thick weight of creamy black and red fruits, intense minerality, a welling core of super-ripe fruit and savoury tannins. What is not to love about this great wine – except Alban made just 6 barrels!



Drink 2026+

**Gevrey-Chambertin,
Domaine Sérafin (6x75cl)
£240.00 per case IB**

Produced from grapes grown on 6 separate plots and aged for 16 months in 50% new oak, Frédérique couldn't contain her grin when talking of the healthy yields in 2023 – "about bloody time" was the rough translation!

The bouquet draws you in, seductive ripe fruits and fragrant wild strawberry aromas. The palate is a rich melange of Crème de Mûre and strawberry compote, supported by carefully defined oak and ripe tannins – very classy Gevrey.



Drink 2028+

**Gevrey-Chambertin Vieilles Vignes,
Domaine Sérafin (6x75cl)
£325.00 per case IB**

Produced from 7 parcels totalling 1ha, situated adjacent to Grand Cru and 1er Cru vineyards. The vines average 73 years old, the oldest of which are nearly 100 years old but are still producing excellent quality grapes. Vinified and aged for 18 months in 100% new oak.

This is a wine with broad shoulders. The nose is powerful yet also seductive, holding your attention with its delectable fragrance. Powerful and persistent on the palate, laden with black fruits wrapped around a firm structure and supported by an impressive tannin structure. Chapeau!



Drink 2028+

**Gevrey-Chambertin 1er Cru Les Corbeaux,
Domaine Sérafin (6x75cl)
£420.00 per case IB**

This 1er Cru is situated just outside the village of Gevrey, adjacent to the Grand Cru of Mazis-Chambertin. Within the Corbeaux vineyards there is a small 0.45ha walled vineyard (a Clos) which is owned exclusively by the Sérafin family. Planted on deep clay and rocky soils, the vines are 55 years old, or as Frédérique says, "...they are now at the end of their adolescence!" Hand-picked, 100% destemmed, fermented in 100% new oak and aged for 18 months.

A stunning, rich and powerful wine oozing strawberry as well as black fruits and a fine, cherry stone freshness. Multi-layered, wonderfully rich with a great energy and tension. Beautifully balanced.



Drink 2029+

**Gevrey-Chambertin 1er Cru Fonteny,
Domaine Sérafin (6x75cl)
£525.00 per case IB**

Produced from 64 year old vines, enjoying an east west exposure to the daily sunshine that sit on a very rocky soil, producing very small grapes. Situated next to the Grand Cru Ruchottes.

A very alluring nose, perfumed with raspberry freshness. The palate offers more weight, intensity and power with a highly concentrated black purée fruit structure. This is a wine of great definition showing finely polished tannins and a long lingering finish. This wine always shines at this domaine.



Drink 2029+

**Gevrey-Chambertin 1er Cru Les Cazetières,
Domaine Sérafin (6x75cl)
£675.00 per case IB**

Produced from 66 year old vines, this 1er Cru is situated immediately next to the famous Clos Saint Jacques vineyard. Four years ago, the family increased their holding of this great 1er Cru to 0.33ha, after realizing that Christian Sérafin's garden was within the appellation boundaries! Dig up the lawn and plant the vines!

Fully destemmed, fermented in 100% new oak and aged for 18 months.

Always the last 1er Cru to be picked, this a deep, brooding wine full of muscle and power – a classic Gevrey-Chambertin. Yet there is also a seductive element to this wine, with a stoney minerality underpinning the core of black cassis fruits. Perfectly balanced this is a remarkable wine.



Drink 2030+

**Charmes-Chambertin Grand Cru,
Domaine Sérafin (6x75cl)
£1,100.00 per case IB**

Produced from two parcels of vines averaging 82 years old, one in Charmes and one in Mazoyères totalling only 0.3ha. (It is an interesting peculiarity that Mazoyères can be used as Charmes Chambertin.) 5 barrels were made in 2023. Always one of the most sought after wines in our annual Burgundy En Primeur offer.

Produced from grapes grown on the mid-slope of Charmes, hand-picked, sorted and fermented in 100% new oak and aged for 18 months.

A decadent, rich and powerful wine, the bouquet is singing, full of deeply intense strawberry freshness and underlying notes of black fruits. The palate is a supercharged, multi-layered cacophony of voluptuous black fruits. There is a streak of tight minerality and tension that adds energy and balance. A complex wine worthy of its appellation.



Drink 2032+

MOREY-SAINT-DENIS

A signpost on the D974 is pretty much all that alerts you to this famous village, as you head north to Gevrey-Chambertin. The tiny hamlet is on the left as you head north, situated at the foot of the upper slopes of vineyards butting up against Gevrey-Chambertin. This commune of just 100ha is home to five prestigious Grand Cru's (including the mighty Clos de Tart and Bonne-Mares) and twenty Premier Crus. As a village, Morey-Saint-Denis punches well above its stature.

The first thing to notice is a slight increase in gradient. Here it increases to around 15-27degrees, and the soil is a little paler, a sign of crumbly White Oolite above Primeux limestone, clay and scattered marl. This is a unique soil and gives a perfume and elegance to the wines of Morey, especially the Premier Cru, with these better wines benefiting greatly from good drainage, an aspect perfectly slanted toward the south-east, and better protection from the winds by the higher protective caps of the hills behind the vineyards. Essentially these Premier Cru lie just below the Grand Cru and are separated by a mere track in most cases. The style of wine is elegant yet full, with a distinct perfume and hint of chocolate and cherries.

CHAMBOLLE-MUSIGNY

Set into the cleft of Combe Ambin in the hillside south of Morey, this small appellation of just 150ha includes 24 Premier Cru, as well as sharing the two Grand Crus of Bonnes-Mares (Morey) and Musigny, adjoining Vougeot to the south. The protection from the westerly winds ends at the head of this gully, meaning the mid rump of the commune contains just village and Premier Cru wines, all turning to the South and South east, to capture the precious sunlight, and the soils are a mixture of eroded rich soils from the upper part of the narrow gorge of Ambin, as well as a scraping of limestone and marl. Chambolle-Musigny is often described as the most feminine of the top Pinot dominated communes in the Côte d'Or. Its perfume is intoxicating, and the wines fleshy, succulent and elegant above all else.

**Morey-Saint-Denis 1er Cru Les Millandes,
Domaine Sérafin (6x75cl)
£395.00 per case IB**

This 0.3 plot of 1er Cru is located next to the Grand Cru of Clos de la Roche with a south-west exposure on mild slopes called the Côte-Rôtie. The average age of the vines is 55 years old. Fermented in 100% new oak and aged for 18 months.

Very much in the classic Morey mould – rich and fruit forward yet firm and structured. There is a lovely depth to this wine, tight and fruit packed, cassis and raspberry liquor with a lush creamy palate. There is minerality too and a fine balancing acidity. This is an appellation that is often overlooked, and, on this showing, you have to ask why....



Drink 2030+



Frédérique Goulley

**Clos de la Roche Grand Cru, Domaine Lécheneaut (6x75cl)
£996.00 per case IB**

The Clos de la Roche is highly chalky with barely 30 cm of topsoil, a few pebbles and some large blocks of stone from which it derives its name. The vineyards, located in “Monts Luisants”, are planted directly in the marls of ostrea with a limestone outcrop from Premeaux in the upper layers that nourish the limestone and marly soil. Limestone fossils can more often be found on the lower part of Clos de la Roche.

Produced from a parcel of 0.2ha planted with 60 year old vines, this is a colossal wine showing aromas of pepper, cinnamon, and cloves that are weaved into the intense black fruits. Big in structure but with oodles of finesse.



Drink 2032+

**Chambolle-Musigny,
Domaine Lécheneaut (6x75cl)
£234.00 per case IB**

Produced from parcels in Chardannes, Herbues, Maladières, and Babillère totalling 0.4ha, between 250 and 300 meters facing the East, the downslope close to the thin bedrock soil. Numerous cracks in the hard limestone soil allow the roots to delve deep in the Jurassic undergrounds. Blocks of stone and gravel ensure a good drainage at the bottom of the valley.

Intense and oozing finesse, the bouquet is overt with violets and red berries. There are notes of mature fruit, prunes, and truffles. Rich and complex, there is a fleshy delicacy that combines with plush tannins around a solid structure. A classic Chambolle.



Drink 2028+

**Chambolle-Musigny 1er Cru ‘Les Baudes’,
Domaine Sérafin (6x75cl)
£570.00 per case IB**

Produced from 49 year old vines which are located adjacent to the Grand Cru of Bonne-Mares. Fully destemmed, coming in at a healthy yield of 48hl/ha. Fermented in 100% new oak and aged for 18 months.

This is quite delectable. Beautifully fragrant and perfumed with a wonderful purity on the nose. The palate is elegant yet there is an impressive underlying power and length that fills the mouth along with creamy black fruits and suave tannins. A wonderful wine from the top drawer. From my experience of older vintages this is always a wine to stash away for future pleasure!



Drink 2030+

VOSNE-ROMANÉE

The vineyards of Vosne-Romanée lie on the northern suburbs of Nuits-Saint-Georges, rising on the left as you drive north, on slopes of broken limestone, red/brown marl and clay mixed with pebbles, and criss-crossed with narrow stone walls demarcating individual 'Clos'. The names above the entry gates to these separate vineyards are sheer poetry – La Tâche, Richebourg, Les Chaumes, Les Suchots....., but all eyes should surely turn toward a non-descript single plot of vines, visible from the northern edge of the village of Vosne-Romanée itself. For here is planted the iconic and titular Romanée Conti, Domaine de Romanée Conti, a single plot of Grand Cru vines that makes, without contest, the most expensive red Burgundy of them all.

Outside these hallowed vines ripple great vineyards, with the 150ha including 6 Grand cru's and 14 Premier Cru. The best wines are all mid slope, with the village AOC Vosne-Romanée vines situated above and below these Premier and Grand Cru sites. The soil is a mixture of broken limestone, clay and marl, with a higher dominance of pebbles in the favoured sites. The exposure is easterly and south easterly in aspect with a mere 15 degrees of gradient. The vines are well protected from the wind and the yields are often lower, averaging 35 hl/ha for Premier Cru and as low as 25hl/ha for Grand Cru in the last 8 years.

The style of Vosne-Romanée is robust and full, with haunting perfume when young. Intense concentration of red fruits, sturdy tannins that are absorbed by the sweet fruit as the wine develops.



**Vosne-Romanée, Domaine Lécheneaut
(6x75cl) £238.00 per case IB**

Produced from the Lieu-dit of Aux Ravioles between Vosne-Romanée and Nuits-Saint-Georges located at the bottom of the hill on lightly chalky soils mixed with marl and clay.

Very ripe fruit on the bouquet with a spicy background of strawberry, raspberry, blueberry, and blackcurrant. The complexity of refined aromas evolves with notes of cherry, and the palate is viscous and rich, seductive and moreish with great length in the mouth.



Drink 2028+



Etienne Grivot

Vosne-Romanée, Domaine Jean Grivot (6x75cl)

£360.00 per case IB

A blend of 8 different parcels covering 5 separate terroirs, the largest being just to the south of the village of Vosne Romanée, on a white limestone soil that gives an intense minerality to the wine. The essence of this wine is Pinot Noir and Burgundian terroir. 100% destemmed and aged in 20% new oak, 20% 2nd wine and 60% old barrels.

Seductive and alluring, the bouquet shows fragrant ripe strawberry aromas and a beautiful freshness. The palate oozes charm with notes of strawberry and cherry liqueur, finely crafted tannins and long finish. A really sumptuous wine.



Drink 2028+

**Vosne-Romanée, 1er Cru Les Gaudichots,
Domaine Machard de Gramont (6x75cl)**

£540.00 per case IB

A tiny plot of just 0.5ha that lies adjacent to La Tâche and Romanée Conti. Alban produced 5 barrels in 2023, aged in 100% new French oak barrels.

I kid you not – this is an amazing wine – regal and as rare as hens gnashers. A dichotomy of flavours express themselves on the palate. It is rich, dark, dense, complex and layered with complex dark fruits, spice, oak and chocolate. A powerful wine supported by a stunning tannin structure.



Drink 2028+



Alban Machard de Gramont

NUITS-SAINT-GEORGES

In parallel with Gevrey-Chambertin to the north, this large appellation is much sought after and capable of producing first class wines when made by a top grower, though it may not often be the case when you consider that within its 320 hectares of vine (95% red) there are around 250 growers.

Nuits-Saint-Georges is at the heart of the Côte de Nuits, midway between Dijon and Beaune, and its vines spread up the lowly undulating and rising slopes toward the west, away from the road as you head north. The soil here is mixed, with thicker clay soils, more marl, more ironstone and less broken limestone. The majority of vines are planted on the flatter, more alluvial soils, where richer soil gives more fruit and less concentration. This is where the negociants find their Nuits-Saint-Georges.

The escarpment of Comblanchien starts to dip down towards the road here, its protective height diminishing, but on the protected slopes to the north you will find a handful of good Domaines, toiling amongst the neat vines, pruning and farming more sustainably where possible, and this is also where you will also find all 41 of the Premier Crus of Nuits-Saint-Georges. The better drainage, aspect and soils give lower yields, more frost and wind protection and a better concentration of fruit in the resultant wines. The southern commune of Primeux-Prissey is often mentioned as amongst the best of the villages. In all cases the wines of Nuits-Saint-Georges are full, muscular and need several years to develop their signature black fruits character.



Vincent and Jules Lécheneaut

**Nuits-Saint-Georges En La Perrière Noblot,
Domaine Machard de Gramont (6x75cl)**

£162.00 per case IB

This domaine is the dominant landowner (out of 3) of this lieu-dit with a 1.7 ha limestone plot of late ripening vines, some of which are 50 years old. It is situated on this mid-slope in between the villages of Nuits-Saint-Georges and Vosne Romanée, facing east and benefiting in warmer years from a little more acidity and richness. This is a wonderfully decadent and muscular Pinot Noir. The nose is incredibly sweet and ripe, cranberry, cherry and spicy vanilla. On the palate the tannins are plush and held in check by the concentrated fruit and there is a lovely chocolatey note on the finish.



Drink 2026+

Nuits-Saint-Georges, Domaine Lécheneaut (6x75cl)

£199.00 per case IB

This wonderful Nuits comes from 7 separate parcels, 1 of which is within the 1er cru of Les Damodes. The others are situated between the villages of Corgolin and Magny sur Villers, planted at an altitude to allow better exposure and trained to a height that gives more freshness. Partly destemmed and aged in 25% new oak for 18 months. An open and very expressive wine, brimming with rich, ripe cassis and red berry fruits. The tannin structure is refined and soft with a hint of sweet oak and mulling spices.



Drink 2026+

Nuits-Saint-Georges Au Chouillet, Domaine Lécheneaut (6x75cl)

£219.00 per case IB

This single 0.7 ha plot is situated on the Vosne-Romanée side of Nuits-Saint-Georges and is planted with vines that are over 80 years old. Hand-picked, partly destemmed and crushed, the juice is fermented in tank then transferred into oak, 25% of which is new, for 18 months.

Fragrant and overt ripe black fruits, the mouthfeel is hedonistic, with a powerful underbelly of cassis, liquorice and Crème de Mûre. There is some hedgerow providing an edgy balance with plush ripe tannins supporting well. Super wine!



Drink 2027+

Nuits-Saint-Georges 'Aux Lavières' Domaine Jean Grivot (6x75cl)

£315.00 per case IB

Produced from a plot situated on the Vosne-Romanée side of Nuits-Saint-Georges and thereby take influences from both villages – the linearity of Nuits-Saint-Georges and the seductive succulence of Vosne-Romanée. Destemmed and aged for 15 months in 20% new oak.

A finely structured wine, full of energy, tightly packed black fruits and succulent tannins. As usual this wine is a great expression of Pinot Noir.



Drink 2029+

**Nuits-Saint-Georges 1er Cru Les Corvées Pagets,
Lécheneaut et Fils (6x75cl)**

£395.00 per case IB

Partly sourced from a single grower in Primeux-Prissey, with 70 year old vines, growing on deep clay and limestone sub soil. Hand-picked, partly destemmed and crushed, the juice is fermented in tank then transferred into oak, 25% of which is new.

A complex and powerful wine, muscular in structure but with a really fine mix of intensely ripe black fruit and stony minerality. The length of finish is persistent and concentrated. This is a very impressive 1er Cru.



Drink 2028+

RED WINES CÔTEAUX BOURGUIGNONS

In 2011 the now defunct appellations of Bourgogne Ordinaire and Bourgogne Grand Ordinaire were replaced by the newer appellation of Coteaux Bourguignons, a regional level appellation that covers the entire Burgundy region, from Auxerre in the north near Chablis, down to the Beaujolais. The red wines are produced using Pinot Noir and Gamay as well as the little known Tressot and César (in the Yonne only) grape varieties.



Pascal Prunier

**Coteaux Bourguignons Rouge Le P'tit Bonheur,
Domaine Prunier-Bonheur (6x75cl)**

£72.00 per case IB

At last! There is so little of this wine produced that we have had to bide our time, cajoling and pushing Pascal into letting us have an allocation. Finally, he has yielded, and we can now offer this lovely partner to the Chardonnay. As a pair they are the perfect mid-week Burgundy.

Produced from 2 parcels of 73 year old Gamay vines, the grapes are fermented in old oak barrels and then aged for 15 months. Beautifully constructed, there is so much energy in this wine – rich and succulent it just makes me smile!



Drink 2025+



CÔTE DE BEAUNE

BOURGOGNE PINOT NOIR

One of the most commonly seen appellations of Burgundy, this is a prime example of the complexity (and also simplicity) of the Burgundy appellation system. The rules of the AOC mean that on this level the wine can come from any vineyard area within Burgundy and must be a minimum of 85% Pinot Noir, with a maximum yield of 55hl/ha. On one hand you have the large names of Burgundy, negociants such as Drouhin, Faiveley and Louis Latour, who essentially purchase stocks of wine from all the Burgundy regions and blend them together to make up export orders and to fill the demand for Burgundy, with evocative names such as Volnay, Pommard and Beaune. With lesser appellations such as Bourgogne AOC, these large blenders will often blend dozens of producer's wines together, irrespective of their quality and typicity.

However great Bourgogne Pinot Noir can be found, offering a style and quality far above its humble AOC labelling. Wines from top producers in famous villages are all available, albeit in smaller quantities, yet at remarkably attractive prices. These great domaines will often have a lower yield, more concentration, more typicity and a great degree of regional characteristics, as well as age worthiness and breeding. The name of the producer, however, is crucial to finding a decent bottle.



Nathalie Tollot

Bourgogne Côte d'Or Pinot Noir
(Savigny-lès-Beaune),
Domaine Camus-Bruchon et Fils (6x75cl)
£90.00 per case IB

Produced from two lieux-dits – Les Boutières and Préveaux with an average of 60 years old, it is rare to find such concentration at this level. Aged in 10% new oak barrels for 13 months followed by another 2 months in stainless steel tank, this is almost a New World style of Pinot and is hugely attractive. Bags of blackcurrant fruits, the mouthfeel is so textured and creamy, the tannins are plush and it has a super balancing freshness. An exotic wine!



Drink 2025+

Bourgogne Pinot Noir,
Domaine Joseph Voillot (6x75cl)
£98.00 per case IB

Produced from 2 plots, Les Long Bois and Les Grandes Terres, covering approximately 1.3 hectares, the vineyards are situated on the lower slopes in the village of Volnay, with vines that average 60 years old. Hand-picked, pigeage is done by hand, starting at twice a day for the first 6 days, then 1 a day thereafter. A maturation for 8 months in 2-10 year old barrels follows.

The nose is incredible! Ripe, sweet and lush, with notes of red and black cherry, damson, an edge of Kirsch and some spice. The tannins are supple and refined with a lovely generous feel and the finish is long in the mouth.



Drink 2026+

Bourgogne Côte d'Or Pinot Noir (Chorey-lès-Beaune),
Domaine Tollot-Beaut (6x75cl)

£115.00 per case IB

Picked from 3 separate parcels totalling 3ha, planted on heavy clay soil. Hand-picked grapes, de-stemming, and fermenting on skins with a slow and prolonged extraction gives great colour and rich sweet fruit. Aged in 15% new oak.

Rich, ripe raspberry coulis, kirsch and profound nose – very upfront and intoxicating. The palate is decadent, lush and broad, layered with good minerality and fresh acids and some notes of menthol toward the finish.



Drink 2025+



HAUTES CÔTE DE BEAUNE

The vines of Hautes Côtes de Beaune sit inland through valleys carved in the ridged limestone escarpment, that continues down from Beaune, and crucially, these AOC vineyards are 50-75m higher than the fabled ones on the Côte de Beaune itself. The narrow, winding valleys, orchards and farmland of the Hautes Côtes hide many good wines, and it is here that you can find surprisingly good Pinot Noir, often from top domaines that manage the neat vineyards in the same meticulous and sustainable way as their more well known appellations. Yields are still set at 50hl/ha for red wines, the whole region covering some 850 hectares, and the aspect is less ideally angled toward the sunshine. Due to the vineyard's altitude, the region is often beset with wind and has a higher rainfall and cooler conditions than the Côte de Beaune, so its wines tend to be lighter, more expressive of red fruits, and have a more delicate expression of tannins. In an age of global warming, the wines of the Hautes Côtes are ones to watch.

BEAUNE

Named after the town that is at the epicentre of the Côtes de Beaune, this AOC covers 420 hectares, the vines planted on low slopes directly to the west of the town and spreading out to the north and south of Beaune's suburbs. The soil here gives the wines of Beaune AOC a unique character. To the north, the wines are fuller and more powerful with a richer tannic structure, and to the south the wines are softer, with an elegance and charm that appears almost soft, yet retains a capacity to age well. The slopes are steep and the escarpment of Comblanchien begins its journey underground, the vines top and bottom slope losing their wind protection, and the soil changes too, becoming heavier, with more clay and pebbles. In some areas the soil changes from red (iron rich) marl, to yellow and then to grey Argovian marl dependent on the emerging subsoil.

HAUTES CÔTE DE BEAUNE

Bourgogne Hautes Côtes de Beaune, Domaine Machard de Gramont (6x75cl) £72.00 per case IB

Produced from south facing vineyards situated just outside the boundary with Pommard, this is a really interesting wine. 3 parcels, the oldest of which are planted with 70 year old vines, are very well positioned and enjoy all day sunshine. The topsoil here is very thin, and the average age of the vines is around 40 years old. Alban adds 4% Pinot Beurot (an ancient Burgundian grape similar to Pinot Gris) to the wine to enhance the aromatics.

Wow! A very rich, forward wine showing a decadent quality of fruit. Intense, layers of mulberry, crème de framboise and balancing, savoury chalky tannins. The oak is integrated, there is a touch of spice and a sweet, long finish.



Drink 2025+

BEAUNE

Beaune Les Epenottes, Domaine Machard de Gramont (6x75cl)

£112.00 per case IB

This finely situated plot of only 0.3ha touches the Pommard 1er Cru Epenots at the southern limit of the appellation. Matured for 1 year in 100% French oak barrels, of which 30% is new. Alban used minimal pump-overs for this wine, just once a day for 3 weeks during a warm ferment.

An incredible concentration, mulled red and black fruits, liquorice, ironstone and Crème de Mûre, bound with spicy notes from the oak and a long, elegant, refined finish. Complex and beguiling in style.



Drink 2026+



BEAUNE 1ER CRU

Situated within the heart of the Beaune AOC lie the 42 Premier Crus, extending to some 270 ha in total, with the vines planted mid-slope and all with an easterly or south easterly aspect, gaining much needed sunlight and warmth to combat the more exposed and less protected vineyards of the commune. The soil here is Argovian marl, paler in colour, and denser in parts, which gives a richer, more muscular structure to the red wines. Drainage is key here, with higher clay content, and the best Premier Cru all lie on slopes that are both steeper and contain more pebbles and thinner soils.

Of all the 42 Premier Cru, the most notable is Clos du Roi (The Royal wine). Named as it was so often favoured by the Kings of France in their day, it sits on a tiny strip of sand and clay deposits, which gives a degree more heat retention and ripening to the Pinot Noir, tasting almost precocious in its youth.

CORTON

The famous hill of Corton lies in the midst of a cluster of villages – Ladoix-Serrigny, Aloxw-Corton, Pernand-Vergelesses and Savigny-Lès-Beaune with the southern end of the Côte de just to the north. The vines are planted between 250 - 330m in altitude and form an amphitheatre that is unique in Burgundy. This icon is appellation received its AOC status in 1937 and is the home to some of the most complex and sensual wines of the Côte d'Or.

Beaune 1er Cru Aux Coucheries, Domaine Machard de Gramont (6x75cl) £141.00 per case IB

A perfectly sited vineyard that adjoins Pommard across the width of a road, with a near perfect south-south-west exposure and steep incline. Produced from 45-70 year old vines, some planted by Alban's grandfather.

Hand-picked and fermented in 100% new oak, sourced from different French forests, with a high proportion of 300 litre demi-muids.



Drink 2026+

Beaune 1er Cru Clos du Roi, Domaine Camus-Bruchon et Fils (6x75cl) £174.00 per case IB

This regal appellation is renowned for its minerality and structure.

Aged in 30% new oak barrels, this is a big, rich wine, with a dose of white pepper on the nose, seductive ripe black fruits but with a tremendous underlying power. There is creaminess to the mouthfeel as well as a touch of spice. A wine of power but also finesse.



Drink 2027+

Beaune 1er Cru Clos du Roi, Domaine Tollot-Beaut (6x75cl) £315.00 per case IB

Blessed with a perfect south-south-easterly exposure, this 1er Cru is situated to the north of Beaune. Owned by the dukes of Burgundy and highly favoured by the kings of France, the wines of Beaune were regularly served at Versailles. In the 15th century, upon the death of Charles Le Téméraire, the last duke of Burgundy, this clos passed into the hands of the royal winemakers and therefore became Beaune Clos du Roi - the plot of the king.

This vineyard was picked on the 5th, so one of the first of the harvest, and it shows in the tauter, more mineral and elegant structure throughout. The soil is gravellier, protected from the west by the slope and woods, so a relatively warmer site. Aged in 40% new oak for 15 months. A deeply opulent style, very forward with incredible richness and the oak and minerality add depth on the long finish. The tannins are firmer and more evident – will age well.



Drink 2027+

CORTON

Corton Grand Cru 'Les Combes', Domaine Tollot-Beaut (6x75cl) £475.00 per case IB

Tollot-Beaut own exactly half (0.75ha) of this 1.50ha Grand Cru that sits on deep red iron rich soils.

Aged in 50% new oak barrels this wine is powerful, regal and expressive, laden with viscous Crème de Mûre. Opulent and deeply complex, the tannins are powerful but also very plush and there is a lovely whiff of freshness that provides perfect balance. A top wine!



Drink 2029+



ALOXE-CORTON

A small village that is the gateway to the Beaune region as you head south from Nuits-Saint-Georges, Aloxe-Corton consists of just 120 hectares of vine, mostly Pinot Noir but also including 8ha of white Chardonnay.

The appellation of Aloxe-Corton includes 14 Premier Crus (the separate commune of Corton contains the Grand Cru's), sandwiched between Pernand-Verglesses and Ladoix, all curved around the mighty hill of Corton itself. The vines of Aloxe face south and east, the better vineyards protected by the mighty limestone bluffs of Corton.

The wines of Aloxe-Corton can sometimes be hard to define, the commune being split into 2 personalities, both of which derive their flavour profile from a combination of location, soil and aspect. To the north, the wines are fleshy, succulent and rounded, to the south the wines are sturdier in nature with a freshness and intensity that ages well.

SAVIGNY-LES-BEAUNE

Sandwiched between Corton and the town of Beaune, lies the pretty agricultural village of Savigny. Poised on fairly exposed flat land, north-east of Beaune, and encompassing around 500 hectares, of which 140 hectares are Premier Cru, situated on the north and southern side of the little river Rhoin. They are the backbone of this charming commune. The wines are softer in nature, with the Premier Crus on the south featuring more clay, sandstone and marl, whilst the vineyards on the north consist of more Oolitic limestone, marl and iron rich soils, making a softer, gentler red wine. Like all things Burgundian, knowledge of the grower is key, and the best growers have vineyards on both sides, separating the crop into individual parcels and fermenting separately, to ensure each climat and slope gains its own individuality and expression.



Guillaume Camus

ALOXE-CORTON

Aloxe-Corton, Domaine Tollot-Beaut (6x75cl)

£225.00 per case IB

Produced from four separate parcels totalling 2ha, all on the southern and western slopes of the daunting Corton Hill. The fruit is de-stemmed and lightly pressed before fermentation. Aged in 25% new oak.

Natalie picked all her Aloxe plots on 8th and 9th of September, as the heat rose in the vineyards near Pernand-Vergelesses. Often this can be a deep, firm, slightly angular wine, but in 2023 the winds came from the warmer westerly direction, which enabled the fruit sugar to rise, and the grapes filled.

It is perfumed, fragrant and wonderfully inviting. Deep and lush offering Crème de Mûre, cherry and raspberry, layered with exotic sweet spice, vanilla and encased in plush tannins. The freshness is very evident – the perfect balance to the sweet ripe fruit.



Drink 2027+

SAVIGNY-LES-BEAUNE

Savigny-lès-Beaune, La Reine Joly, Domaine Camus-Bruchon (6x75cl) £198.00 per case IB

This wine is named after Guillaume's Great, Great Grandmother. Produced from 4 separate parcels – Dessus Les Vermots, Les Goudelettes, Clos des Pointes and Aux Champs des Pruniers. Hand harvested, destemmed, gently crushed and fermented in 30% new oak (500 litre barrels).

Fresh and fragrant this is a delicious, succulent wine oozing ripe blackberry fruits, soft chewy tannins and a lovely freshness too. There is a thick and creamy texture to the palate, almost voluptuous, that makes for a very pleasurable drink. Savigny is a great source of value in Burgundy – you get a lot of bang for your buck!



Drink 2026+

Savigny-Champ-Chevrey 1er Cru, Domaine Tollot-Beaut (6x75cl)

£210.00 per case IB

This is a monopole of the Domaine Tollot-Beaut estate, covering 1ha and was planted in 1954. It produces the most structured wine of the two Savigny-lès-Beaune Premier Cru appellations. It is situated just below the Les Lavières vineyard and benefits from a sunnier exposure. With more clay in its soils, this wine is always laden with ripe red and black cherry, liquorice and espresso characters.

In 2023 Natalie used 33% new oak. Ripe, smoky, jammy with notes of ripe cranberry, pomegranate, kirsch and sweet oak. This is a powerful, almost forcefully decadent Pinot Noir, layered with stewed red fruits, menthol and exotic spices. A long, long finish and very complex.



Drink 2027+

**Savigny-lès-Beaune 1er Cru Les Lavières,
Domaine Camus-Bruchon et Fils (6x75cl)**

£289.00 per case IB

One of the finest 1er Crus of Savigny, Les Lavières is famous for its elegance and finesse, a result of the deep and fine alluvial soils, dense clay with a subsoil of chalk limestone. Guillaume's vines were planted in 1961.

Aged for 12 months in 25% new oak barrels, this is a seductive cherry fruit filled wine with an underlay of blackberry. The tannins are fine and chalky. So opulent – so stylish.



Drink 2026+

**Savigny-lès-Beaune 1er Cru Les Narbantons,
Domaine Camus-Bruchon et Fils (6x75cl)**

£295.00 per case IB

Narbantans is always a good choice in hot vintages, given its north-east exposure and deep clay soils that retain water so well. Aged in 25% new oak barrels, half of which are 228 litre and the other half 500 litre demi-muids. A big and powerful wine, structured and masculine with mulled cherry and cassis fruits, perfectly poised tannins and an intense and long finish.



Drink 2027+

CHOREY-LES-BEAUNE

This commune lies to the right, directly over the main road that cuts between Savigny and Chorey as it heads north from Beaune. Comprising around 270 hectares under vine, it is smaller than Savigny and boasts no Premier Cru, yet it has a wonderful charm and vibrancy that appeals to many Burgundy lovers. Importantly it is also where great value lies.

On the northern edge of the commune, towards Corton, the soil is more alluvial and has broken, well-draining limestone with thinner soils of marl, sand and a dominance of gravel. The finest wines are produced on these warmer, well drained slopes which gives Pinot Noirs of succulence, elegance and mineral-edged intensity. To the south, the vineyards are planted on a denser, more water-retentive clay, which allows for more vigorous vine growth, a higher yield and whose vines sometimes are picked up to a week after the warmer vineyard sites. A week can be a long time in Burgundy!

POMMARD

Pommard sits a few minutes drive south of Beaune, its steeper, well protected slopes are carved with numerous undulations, curves, clefts and dips, all of which gives countless pockets of interest and exasperation to the vigneron, as the Pinot Noir reaches out for maximum warmth and sunlight in every degree of aspect. Add to this the varying soils, from limestone rich marl to dense red clay, pebbles, sand and even ironstone and the possibilities for a grower become endless. Such is Burgundy encapsulated.

Pommard consists of around 350 hectares under vine, with around 120 hectares of Premier Cru. The vineyards are mostly protected by the higher bluffs and forests atop the escarpment, which is cut by the minor Avany Dheune stream, a small stream but important as it has washed down prime alluvial soils over centuries, which add complexity to the wines. Pommard is firm and full in style, broadly shouldered and needing time to age, soften and develop those almost haunting truffle, leather and red fruit characteristics.

CHOREY-LES-BEAUNE

Chorey-lès-Beaune 'Les Beaumonts', Domaine Machard de Gramont (6x75cl) £98.00 per case IB

A succulent and delicious style of Pinot, sourced from 3 plots around the Chorey Village itself, and planted on loam and clay soils with a high density of pebbles and fragmented limestone. Hand-picked in small baskets, de-stemmed, crushed and fermented in tank, then transferred into barrel. 15% is new with a high degree of Hungarian oak that gives a richness to the finish.

Expansive and moreish on the nose, pomegranate, mulled cherry, vanilla and some spice, open, lush and balanced by chalky tannins and a hint of liquorice.



Drink 2025+

Chorey-lès-Beaune, Domaine Tollot-Beaut (6x75cl) £144.00 per case IB

The signature wine of this top domaine – its style is inimitable. Coming from 10 separate plots of vines with an average age of 50 years, planted on clay and stoney soil totalling 2.5ha to the north and south of the village; the wine benefited from 25% new oak for 15 months.

An exotic, forward, fruit-filled nose, exuberant and deeply lush, with deep colours. This is a magnificent Chorey – rich, weighty and showing complex stewed forest fruits, sweet oak exotic spices.



Drink 2026+

POMMARD

Pommard, Domaine Joseph Voillot (6x75cl) £192.00 per case IB

4 plots totalling 1.12ha (Cras, Poisots, Saussilles and Vaumuriens) that lead down from the village along a gentle slope of red soil and clay that neighbours the 1er cru of Clos Blanc, are the source for this big and opulent red wine. The vines are aged 55-75 years old. All hand-picked, sorted and destemmed before ferment in tank and barrel, of which 20% is new.

This is quite a difference from previous vintages, where Pommard can be a little 'chewy'. The 2023 is superbly fruit-forward, lush and decadent, a sweetness and fullness of mulled fruit shining through, yet the weight and structure of the tannins eventually grasp the fruit and give it edge and precision. Very, very good!



Drink 2027+

Pommard 1er Cru Epenots, Domaine Joseph Voillot (6x75cl) £475.00 per case IB

A very small plot, just 0.18ha in size with an average age of vines of 61 years, situated to the right as you enter Pommard from Beaune, lying on vineyards that slope gently up from the road on the right as you leave Beaune, and adjoining Beaune 1er Cru. Aged in 20% new oak barrels for 12.

Pommard is normally dense, muscular and angular – this is a revelation! A dense, richly sweet and powerful Pinot, showing a beguiling, lush quality both in fruit and structure. A palate of mulled black fruits, sweet cherry, cassis, tobacco and a flinty minerality that hints at the limestone and marl soils, opens to a supple and refined structure. There is sinew, but this is wrapped around the core of plush black fruit and sweet oak. Very fine – an age-worthy wine.



Drink 2027+



VOLNAY

Less than a mile south of Pommard and situated high up on the vine covered slopes of the Chaignot hill, lies the pretty hamlet of Volnay, a name evocative of red Burgundy. Its 230 hectares under vine consist of a very high number of Premier Crus – almost half the commune is dedicated to this finer classification.

The topography of Volnay gives it a uniqueness and difference from its near neighbour. The slopes are steeper and generally face south-east, rather than east, as the majority of Pommard's vines do. This sunnier aspect gives much needed richness and a sweeter character generally compared to Pommard, and the tannins are more finely laced, if no less impressive in youth. The soils differ widely here too, with Oolitic limestone at the top of the slope, travelling down through swathes of schist and marl toward thicker beds of scraped white Argovian limestone, and then into clay and gravel. The mesoclimates all favour separation, hence the dominance of Premier Crus all carved into the hillsides, and often identified by the enclosure within small rambling stone walls.



Etienne Chaix

**Volnay Vieilles Vignes,
Domaine Joseph Voillot
(6x75cl) £180.00 per case IB**

In 2023 Etienne made 35 barrels from his scant 1.4ha of 6 plots that lie in front of the 1er cru of Champans, the 'vieilles vignes' average over 56 years old – almost a record, and yet the wine shows tremendous concentration and presence on both nose and in the mouth. No new oak was used, but all spent 10-12 months in used and 15% new barrels.

This is a dark, dense, yet silky wine, with a high degree of ripe red and black fruits, Crème de Mûre, cherry liqueur and some sweet oak. The palate is dense, notably weighty in the mouth and yet has a wonderful freshness on the long finish. Well balanced, lovely energy!



Drink 2026+

**Volnay 1er Cru Fremiets,
Domaine Joseph Voillot
(6x75cl) £324.00 per case IB**

This 1er Cru of just 0.6ha is situated to the eastern extremities of the appellation adjacent to Pommard on a chalk and powdery limestone subsoil. Produced from vines averaging 60-65 years old, planted between 1932 and 1978.

Aged for 12 months in 25% new oak barrels, this scored very highly – very ripe, very forward, very intense – a richly structured and decadent Volnay, showing weight, supple yet tightening tannins, streaks of pureed black fruits, ironstone, spice and oak. The character is suave, generous and supple, yet there is a brooding sense of power within the finish. Concentrated and very long on the finish.



Drink 2027+

**Volnay, Domaine Lafarge
(6x75cl) £282.00 per case IB**

The vines are grown on 6 separate plots, abutting the Premier Crus of Champans, Fremiets and Clos des Ducs, with thin topsoil and a heavy, rocky limestone subsoil. Good south-west and south-south-east exposure aid the vines ripening.

Yields of 43hl/ha, there is no new oak used in the elevation of this wine, it is simply a perfect expression of Pinot Noir and the Volnay appellation itself. Whiffs of sweet strawberry fruits, it is seductive and velvety in texture, pomegranate freshness, super suave ripe tannins and a dose of minerality continues to the finish. Simply outstanding!



Drink 2026+

**Volnay 1er Cru Champans,
Domaine Joseph Voillot
(6x75cl) £324.00 per case IB**

This is always a more brooding and powerful Volnay, showing the muscular quality that comes from the heavy clay and limestone soils that dominate this large 1.07ha holding, planted between 1934 and 1985.

Aged in 20% new oak barrels for 12 months. Again, another high-scoring wine, Etienne definitely was doing something right this year! This is a lovely lush, ripe and dense Pinot, showing elegance, purity and a lovely tension. Ripe red and black fruits, a sense of tighter tannins at first, but these melt somewhat in the mouth and there is a lovely balancing freshness. The wine is elegant, rounded and opulent, less muscular than some vintages, but this just makes it more alluring.



Drink 2028+

MONTHÉLIE

Monthélie is situated between the villages of Meursault and Volnay. The Burgundian author Pierre Poupon describes, “Prettily nestled into the curve of the hillside like the head of Saint John against the shoulder of Jesus, Monthélie resembles a village of Tuscany”.

Granted its AOC in 1937, the vineyards of Monthélie face south and south-east and lie on pebbly Bathonian limestone with an overlay of red clay and marl at an altitude of 230-370m. The red wines are renowned not only for their value but for their velvety texture and crunchy freshness.

CHASSAGNE-MONTRACHET

The village of Chassagne Montrachet lies 1.5km south of Puligny-Montrachet. It consists of around 300ha of vines, split 65/35 Chardonnay to Pinot Noir, with around 120ha of Premier Cru vineyards (mainly, but not always for white wines), as well as part of both le Montrachet and Batard Grand Cru's. However, whereas the village of Puligny-Montrachet sits amongst Bourgogne vines, with the better names on the outskirts, the village of Chassagne-Montrachet is slap-bang in AOC Chassagne vineyards itself.

Geologically, Chassagne is similar to Puligny-Montrachet. They share a common geographical fault line that slices between them, where the Grand Crus sit atop this minor scarp fault, and the soils are similar – brown limestone with the thinnest soils supporting the best wine of the Premier Cru and Grand Cru. Limestone is the bedrock of Chassagne-Montrachet, and names such as Caillerets and Combettes (Quarries) are signs of the importance of the local Nantoux limestone, that is a feature of the subsoil here.

To the south of the appellation, there is a higher concentration of limestone marl and red gravel soils and this where the Pinot Noir performs better. Whilst the red wines of Chassagne-Montrachet are less fashionable, they offer exceptional value, their structure reminiscent of the wines produced in the more illustrious red wine appellations of the Côte de Nuits.

MONTHELIE

Monthélie 'Les Crays', Domaine Prunier-Bonheur (6x75cl)

£132.00 per case IB

This may not be the most renowned of appellations, but it is here where the value can be found! Produced from 45-year-old vines planted on clay limestone soils and facing due west, with a breathtaking view of the Auxey-Duresses valley.

A delicious compote of ripe, concentrated black fruits, the palate is oozing richness, laden with cassis fruits with a muscly core. The tannins are ripe and yielding but give ample support and the finish continues in a vein of richness and happiness!



Drink 2026+

CHASSAGNE-MONTRACHET

**Chassagne-Montrachet Vieilles Vignes rouge,
Domaine Guy Amiot Et Fils (6x75cl)**

£150.00 per case IB

Harvested from 2 hectares of vines from 12 different parcels, whose exposure varies from north-east to south-west, planted with vines that are between 55-75 years of age.

100% destemmed after hand picking, fermented in epoxy tank before finishing ferment in 25% new oak barrels.

I love the red wine from this appellation which is more noted for its white wines. Value for money or what! Compact and rich in strawberry and mulled cherry with a touch of hedgerow, this is classic Pinot Noir. Stony minerality and finely grained tannins add dimension. Delicious!



Drink 2026+



MARANGES

First granted its AOC in 1988, and sharing a smattering of Premier Cru vineyards with its neighbour, Santenay, this well positioned red commune has grown in stature, its reputation arguably higher than its humble 185 hectares predisposes. Within the commune of 3 villages lie around 25 Premier Crus, extending to around 80 hectares in total.

The most southerly of Côte de Beaune appellations, the soils are geologically similar to Santenay with a major difference, as they tend to have more marl and broken limestone contained within their red and grey covering soils. The vineyards tend to be a little lower and face more westerly than Santenay, a factor that gives the reds of Maranges a touch more freshness and elegance.

CHALONNAISE

The climate of this mid to southern region is less sheltered and more affected by prevailing westerly winds on the typically higher situated vineyards. Around 200-350m above sea level is the norm, whereas the finest Côte d'Or vineyards are sited at around 180-240m, with low undulating hills and less fertile, more stony soil giving leaner wines, whose vines struggle to get the required warmth and sunlight to fully ripen.

Vineyard site is crucial here, as is the dominance of heat retaining, well-draining limestone soils. The Chalonnaise is part of the continuous fault line that forms the ridge that runs like a spine down the whole Côte d'Or, wedged between the Saone, where soils washed and scraped by centuries of time have deposited in thick layers on the valley floor, rub against the thinner, scraped Jurassic limestone and Permian soils of the Horst de Mont St Vincent and Blanzay Rift.

This is where, perhaps, a degree of appreciation for Global warming may come into its own. It is a fantastic source for your everyday drinking Pinot Noir, providing unrivalled value for money.

MARANGES

Maranges 1er Cru Clos de la Boutière, Domaine Bachelet-Monnot (6x75cl) £144.00 per case IB

The vineyard contains ancient vines, up to 90 years old on 1 parcel. Vinification sees 20% whole bunch ferment and aging in 25% new oak for one year. Maranges has become more popular in recent years and this wine helps to explain why.

It is rich, ripe and jammy on the palate, soothing and fruit filled. The tannins are chalky and the raspberry freshness is exquisite. A perfectly balanced wine. Sumptuous.



Drink 2027+

CHALONNAISE

Bourgogne Côtes Chalonnaise Pinot Noir, Buissonnier, Cave de Buxy (6x75cl) £46.00 per case IB

Sourced from 40 year old vines across the Chalonnais region, the grapes were 100% de-stemmed after harvest. 25% is aged in both foudres and barrels, with a use of 1-5 year old French oak barrels. The remaining 75% is fermented in stainless steel tank. This is a deliciously ripe, soft succulent red fruit, pureed raspberry and blackberry, some vanilla oak and a touch of spice, balanced by a fresh 'lift' of acidity and long finish. A super every day drinking red Burgundy.



Drink 2025+

Mercurey 1er Cru Les Puillets, Château de Chamilly (6x75cl) £144.00 per case IB

Produced from 50 year old vines, planted on south-east facing vineyards with iron rich soils. Yields of 48hl/ha in 2022 gave Arnould something to smile about. This wine is aged in 20% new oak for 12 months oak with a further 6 months in stainless steel tank.

Amazingly ripe and forward nose, red fruits, sweet cherry and hint of blackcurrant. The palate is lush, poised and elegant, with fresh acidity cutting through and balancing the super-ripe fruit.



Drink 2026+



MÂCONNAIS

This large southern appellation of Burgundy, comprising around 17000 acres bridges the 30km gap between Chalonnaise in the North and Beaujolais in the south. A warmer region, this is where Northern France starts to turn Mediterranean.

The regions countryside is mainly agricultural with grain, orchards and cattle farming sitting alongside separate blocks of vineyards, the rolling hills and valleys more similar to the Cotswolds or Berkshire. There is the continual hazards of spring frosts, lessened slightly by the naturally warmer temperatures that give a softer mouthfeel to the whites and a riper sweeter fruit to the reds. The soil is split into 2 types, limestone, planted mainly with the white Chardonnay with a little Aligoté, and clay/sand planted with Pinot Noir and Gamay.

Comprising over 70 communes, this is an area which has risen in quality in recent years. Half of the 70 communes are allowed to add their own village name, one of which is La Roche Vineuse, where we find Olivier Merlin, one of the true stars of this appellation.

BEAUJOLAIS

Situated toward the north of the Beaujolais region, sandwiched between Chenas to the north and the famous Fleurie to the south, the red wines of Moulin à Vent have often been described as the most Burgundian of the Beaujolais crus.

Situated on slopes of granite, schist and marl soils at a height of around 200m, the vines are planted so as to gain valuable exposure to the sun, ripening the thick-skinned Gamay grapes. The top growers plant on prime south eastern facing slopes of well-drained soil over limestone, gaining protection from the important Mont de Beaujolais hills to the west.

The style of a great Moulin à Vent is a dark colour, rich fruity nose and a dense, well rounded structure with tell-tale acidity, freshness and, in the hands of a great grower, a wine of rich tannins and structure that can age for 10-15 years

MÂCONNAIS

Bourgogne Pinot Noir, Domaine Merlin (6x75cl)

£74.50 per case IB

Theo Merlin uses more whole bunch than his father, Olivier, and here it shows – the ripeness and lush quality of the fruit shines through wonderfully. Delicious black fruits, forward and intense in style, with notes of raspberry that add freshness. The fruit is layered with supple tannins and has a real gloss to it. Theo layers destemmed and whole bunches in the fermentation vats and uses no hand pressing, just very gentle pump overs to extract supple tannins and the richest fruit he can, with the wine seeing 15 days maceration on skins before 1 year in large oak barrels. An incredibly complex and satisfying Pinot Noir.



Drink 2025+

BEAUJOLAIS

Moulin à Vent 'La Rochelle', Domaine Merlin (6x75cl)

£125.00 per case IB

This top, top Beaujolais cru comes from a unique site at the top of the Moulin hill and is planted on a very rare mix of granite, sand and rocks that is, according to Olivier, unique in the world. La Rochelle is one of the outstanding terroirs of Moulin à Vent, the holding was mostly planted in 1937, with a small section dating back to 1955. The wine benefits from the soils, having at its core a rich, dense, smoky, mineral-layered intensity and power, the flesh of the wine is deeply succulent black fruits with layers of chocolate, pepper and mulling spice, spliced by a sweet and savoury raspberry coulis. Amazing!



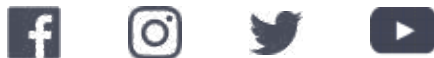
Drink 2027+



Olivier & Corinne Merlin



Follow us @houseoftownend



Wyke Way | Melton West Business Park | Melton | East
Riding of Yorkshire | HU14 3BQ

01482 638899 - cellardoor@houseoftownend.co.uk
www.houseoftownend.com