

DOMAINES

ALBERT  BICHOT

— MAISON FONDÉE EN 1831 —

PRESS REVIEW
YEARS 2020-2019-2018



Photos ©Flore Deronzier

INTERNATIONAL WINE CHALLENGE 2017



ALBERT BICHOT Red Winemaker of the Year 2017



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

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

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

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

Le Monde

January 21st, 2020

The organic spirit of Albéric Bichot

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

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

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

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

“A honeypot for big money”

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



WINE ENTHUSIAST

www.winemag.com

July 2020



Anne Krebiehl MW

2018 WHITES

Premiers Crus and Grands Crus from Côte de Beaune

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



WINE ENTHUSIAST

www.winemag.com

July 2020

2018 WHITES



Anne Krebiehl MW

Côte Chalonnaise and Maconnais

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

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

2018 Montagny 1^{er} Cru: 90

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

2018 Viré-Clessé: 90

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

2018 Pouilly-Fuissé: 90

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

Villages from Côte d'Or

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

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

2018 Meursault: 92

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

2018 Meursault *Domaine du Pavillon*: 92

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

2018 Puligny-Montrachet: 92

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

2018 Chassagne-Montrachet: 92

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





Bichot is Back

By Michael Apstein
Jun 16, 2020

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

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

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

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

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

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

June 16, 2020

The Wines

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

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

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

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

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

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

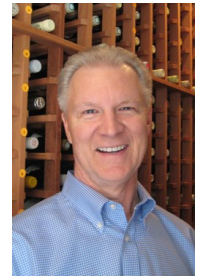
Château Gris, Nuits-St. Georges 1er Cru “Château Gris” 2018: The 1er cru vineyard, Château Gris, takes its name from the 19th century castle the Earl of Lupé-Cholet built on the site after phylloxera destroyed the vines. Instead of the usual multi-colored tiles of Burgundian roofs, it had only slate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

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

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

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





2018 white Burgundies

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

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

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

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

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

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

2018 Meursault *Domaine du Pavillon*: 88

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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





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

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

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

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

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

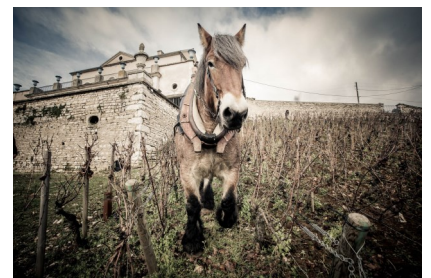
Geographically, Bichot's reach stretches from Moulin-à-Vent in Beaujolais to Chablis. For 20 years, the company has been the largest buyer at the annual Hospices de Beaune auction, and produces organically at all of its own domaines.

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

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

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

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





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

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

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

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

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

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

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

THE WINES

Meursault 1er Cru Les Charmes Domaine du Pavillon 2018

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



Beaune 1er Cru Clos des Mouches Domaine du Pavillon 2016

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



Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru Domaine du Pavillon 2017

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



Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru Domaine du Pavillon 2015

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





Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru Domaine du Pavillon 2014

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



Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru Domaine du Pavillon 2012

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



Mercurey 1er Cru Champs Martin Domaine Adélie 2017

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



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

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



Volnay 1er Cru Les Santenots Domaine du Pavillon 2016

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



Pommard 1er Cru Les Rugiens Domaine du Pavillon 2016

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



Fixin 1er Cru Clos de la Perrière 2016

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



Chambolle-Musigny 1er Cru Les Chabiots 2016

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



Charmes-Chambertin Grand Cru 2017

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



Clos de Vougeot Grand Cru Domaine du Clos Frantin 2016

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



Clos de Vougeot Grand Cru Domaine du Clos Frantin 2015

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



Latricières-Chambertin Grand Cru 2012

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





Roger Voss

Beaujolais Crus 2018

Published on April 1st, 2020

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

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

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

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

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

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

FLEURIE LA MADONE 2018 **91 POINTS**

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

Beaujolais and Beaujolais-Villages 2018

Published on January 1st, 2020

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

2018 Corton Grand Cru “Clos des Maréchaudes” *Domaine du Pavillon*: (90-93)

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





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

2020 - Issue 67

Chablis Grand Cru Les Clos

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

Chassagne-Montrachet Premier Cru Morgeot

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

Meursault Premier Cru Charmes

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

Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru

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



2018 BURGUNDY

Taster : Stephen Brook

Chambolle-Musigny Premier Cru Amoureuses

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

Vosne-Romanée Premier Cru Malconsorts (Clos Frantin)

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



Echézeaux Grand Cru

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

Chambertin Grand Cru (Clos Frantin)

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



Clos de la Roche Grand Cru

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

Pommard Clos des Ursulines

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

Burgundy-Report

January Report / Published on February 2nd, 2020

Domaine Long-Depaquit - 2018

Tasted in Chablis with Cécilia Trimaille, 22 January 2020



Bill NANSON



Cécilia on 2018:

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

The wines...

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

2018 Chablis

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

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

2018 Chablis 1er Les Lys

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

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

2018 Chablis 1er Les Beugnons

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

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

2018 Chablis 1er Vaillons

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

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

2018 Chablis 1er Vaucoupins

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

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



Burgundy-Report

January Report / Published on February 2nd, 2020

2018 Chablis 1er Les Montmains

20% oak élevage. From Forêts

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

2018 Chablis 1er Montée de Tonnerre

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

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

All the grand crus were bottled in December:

2018 Chablis Les Blanchots

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

Whilst not a large aroma, there's certainly a little extra versus the 1ers. A little richer, more layering of flavour, deep, delicious agrume with overt energy until the finish - here there's plenty of life, not to mention length!

2018 Chablis Les Vaudésirs

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

A little more aromatic width, but again some tightness below. Brighter, fresher, more mineral character, supple, easy energy, a touch of tannin in the texture. A very good finale with a little zestiness and textures - I like it a lot!

2018 Chablis La Moutonne

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

A little extra depth to this nose. Super across the palate - mineral, great freshness and clarity - super energy too. There's some richness in the finish but not at the expense of anything, as there's such energy and complexity - here it's great wine. Much potential here!

2018 Chablis Les Clos

1.5 hectares worth from 2 plots.

Just a little more open with a touch of salinity and a depth of energetic minerality. Ooh - that's rather rich - layered, lacking a bit of zip for my liking, yet the finish is really super, it's open, airy, complex and deliciously long...

These last two wines have all barrel élevage in 19 the Preuses moving to larger barrels, perhaps the Bougros may follow:

2018 Chablis Les Preuses

A more open nose, of-course with plenty of oak. Powerful, some richness but the fresh minerality really cuts through that. Clearly much more oak flavour than I would like to taste today - but in 2-3 years this could be grandiose - bravo I think!

2018 Chablis Les Bougros

Here the oak is hardly visible. Bright, fresh, über-mineral - so wide, lovely energy, vibrantly finishing - less volume of finishing flavour but with lovely energy - a more up-front wine with a smaller (volume) finish today but fine length all the same.



Bill NANSON



Burgundy-Report

December Report / Published on January 29th, 2020



Bill NANSON

Albert Bichot - 2018

The wines...

Very good whites. The reds here have an uncommon sophistication for the vintage – nothing opaque or alcoholic. It's a great return I think! "I think it was easier in 2018 than 2019, the lower volume of 2019 further magnifies the differences in maturities and harvesting/elevage choices."

One or two of the entry wines have been bottled, the rest are a mix of barrel and tank samples:

The whites

2018 Macon-Lugny Les Charmes

A pretty sweetness to this nose, slightly muscaté. Mouth-filling a subtle impression of richness, but also a saline mineral impression that brings balance.

2018 Bourgogne Côte d'Or Chardonnay Secret de Famille

Fresh, wide, a little spicy, perhaps reductive, less obviously fruity. This is rather mineral and beautifully shaped – yes a little touch of savoury reduction. Carafe for a really delicious Bourgogne!

2018 Mercurey Les Champs-Michaux, Domaine Adélie

Deeper, some biscuit reduction, but a very fine mineral shape. Full, energetic, complex – what a great mouthful of wine! Delicious pineapple and minerality. Great Mercurey Blanc!

2018 Nuits Saint Georges Les Terrasses Château-Gris

Again a faint whiff of savoury reduction – it's not the corks, these are tank samples. Nice shape and super energy in the mouth – a little more clarity and energy after the Mercurey – more intensity of agrume-styled flavour. Delicious finishing too! Yes!

2018 Meursault, Domaine du Pavillon

This smells a little of the fining, dulling the aroma a little. But there's an energy and open freshness across the palate – that's mouth-watering and delicious. This will be excellent!

2018 Meursault 1er Cru Les Charmes, Domaine du Pavillon

More depth of aroma here, riper citrus fruit but with energy too. Hmm, that's fine – its mouth-filling but very open slightly spiced complexity here. Melting over the palate, a grain of tannin always present. It's a great year for Charmes I think and here is a slightly different interpretation – super wine – probably carafe to get the best from this. As a minimum, excellent!

2018 Beaune 1er Cru Clos des Mouches, Domaine du Pavillon

A touch of cushioning to fresh, slightly mineral, comforting fruit. Super in the mouth – ultra-mineral, mouth-watering and complex. That's really something. Bravo! Touched, by a suggestion of barrel today, but it's obviously great wine!

2018 Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru, Domaine du Pavillon

Hmm, a silky depth of mineral aroma, a suggestion of caramel too. Lots of mouth-filling volume here – silkier wine too – the grain of tannin less visible than for the last 2 but there is still something here. Intense – wide, melting flavour long flavour that's a super Charlemagne.



Burgundy-Report

December 2019 Report / Published on January 29th, 2020



Bill NANSON

The reds

2018 Moulin-à-Vent, Domaine de Rochegrès

Not bottled.

An easy and wide nose with tighter depth. Nice shape in the mouth, clearly gamay, with layers of acid-led flavour. Really deliciously, finishing with a fine blend of clarity and complexity – lovely here.

2018 Moulin-à-Vent Rochegrès, Domaine de Rochegrès

Hmm, a more floral and perfumed aroma here, fine minerality at the base. Beautiful extra volume but clarity too – this is gorgeous in the mouth – a clarion of deliciousness but with proper open structure too – bravo – and again great finishing!

2018 Bourgogne Côte d'Or Pinot Noir Secret de Famille

Hmm, this, to start, seems a little harder than the Rochegrès, but slowly opens with some attractive violet flowers over a more savoury depth. Fine width and shape – there is freshness and a lovely ripe but fresh liqueur fruit in the middle – this is an attractive 18 Bourgogne nothing here out of balance – carafe – it's excellent.

2018 Mercurey 1er Cru Champs Martin, Domaine Adélie

Plenty of colour – still a waft of creamy oak on this nose. Quite full but layered and delicious. This sample has far too much oak for today – but the shape, balance and concentration are excellent...

2018 Pommard Clos des Ursulines, Domaine du Pavillon

Hmm, that's a fine nose – of amplitude, depth and enticing perfume. Fine texture and mouth-filling volume. Deliciously finishing – bravo – top villages Pommard.

2018 Pommard 1er Cru Les Rugiens, Domaine du Pavillon

More freshness – a more vertical (up and down) nose – super, slightly spiced, but the villages is the more inviting today. More open, more structural but the tannin is modest – this has great open shape – architecture – super finishing complexity – mouth-watering all the way. A great finish!

2018 Aloxe-Corton 1er Cru Clos des Maréchaudes, Domaine du Pavillon

A more powerful nose, some floral aspects too – nicely presented. Nice drive and energy but a rather wide presentation too – not so sweet either for an Aloxe in 2018. Fine finishing – delicious.

2018 Corton Grand Cru Clos des Maréchaudes, Domaine du Pavillon

A narrower but deep nose, subtly floral and more obviously complex and inviting. Mouth-filling but in a well-judged way, slowly, slowly developing complexity and a more mouth-watering middle and finishing flavour. Not a bit overdone, some practically grain-free tannin. A great and open finish – great Corton.

2018 Fixin 1er Cru Clos de la Perrière

A waft, indeed a raft of oak – not quite to the level of the Mercurey – but redolent! Very fine shape in the mouth – a little less in all directions after the Corton – of course – but layered, open and really beautifully constructed. This is great Fixin – hopefully, the assemblage will be less oaked – anyway it will last very well.

2018 Morey Saint Denis 1er Cru Les Sorbets

Hmm, that's a fine, open, fresh and complex nose – faintly spiced complexity – a great invitation. Round, supple, a lovely fresh and wide wave of flavour flowing over the palate. Lovely texture too. Wide finishing – classy, delicious wine! Bravo!



Burgundy-Report

December 2019 Report / Published on January 29th, 2020



Bill NANSON

2018 Nuits Saint Georges 1er Cru Chaines Carteaux

Fresh and deep – some creamy oak – but less than the others that are affected. This has cool fruit and drive – a bubbling undercurrent of energy and slowly growing intensity. Excellent!

2018 Nuits Saint Georges 1er Cru Château-Gris

Aromas of nice depth, a little narrower than the ‘Chaines.’ Fuller but open in style – architectural – a little like the Fixin today – but here with more impact. Really a fuller finish – quite some power here in the finish. Very nice.

2018 Chambolle-Musigny 1er Cru Les Chabiots

Plenty of aromatic volume – quite attractive too. Actually this has nice freshness and an airy style despite the obvious volume in the mouth. Truly an elegant and enticing 2018 Chambolle!

2018 Vosne-Romanée, Domaine du Clos Frantin

Hmm – now that’s an attractive perfume! Mouth-filling, not too much. Mobile complex, changing over the palate. Lovely villages, correct, mouth-watering complexity – delicious!

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

Less depth of aroma but much more width and complexity. More zip of freshness and energy – ooh this is a bundle of energy. Dynamic, complex – brilliant finishing – bravo!

2018 Clos de Vougeot Grand Cru, Domaine du Clos Frantin

A fine herb and floral top note – deep too – less width – a vertical high and low nose. Fresh, open, complex, fine energy, proper but not daunting structure. I love my wine like this – so intense and mouth-watering in the finish. Bravo!

2018 Echézeaux Grand Cru, Domaine du Clos Frantin

A little more colour but still clear at the rim. A deep, deep nose but freshly floral above. Fuller, but actually freshly mineral too. Very wide, slow waves of mouth-watering flavour in the finish – a different beast. Super.

2018 Charmes-Chambertin Grand Cru

A nice volume of aroma, and of attractive freshness within. Full, but depth of finely concentrated texture – energy and fine fruit – juicily delicious. Very long. Another Charmes of character in 2018! Excellent.

2018 Clos de la Roche Grand Cru

Plenty of colour but again clear at the rim. An extra freshness – indeed clarity, of complexity – deep, not so wide – hyper-attractive and adding further floral references. This is mouth-watering, mineral, and a touch saline. Easy energy over the palate, fine finishing intensity too – slowly fading here. Lovely wine.

2018 Chambertin, Domaine du Clos Frantin

Hmm – the most perfumed nose of all – super. Supple, deep, mouth-filling wine – always mouth-watering, touched by a little oak, but just an anecdote. Mouth-wateringly long, impressive weight to this finishing flavour too. Great wine!



2018 Côte de Nuits reds**2018 Gevrey-Chambertin "Les Evocelles" : (89-91) TOP VALUE WINE**

A fresh and high-toned nose features notes of essence of red currant, cherry and wafting floral nuances. There is unusually good volume for Evocelles along with solid mid-palate density to the saline-suffused flavors that culminate in an impressively long if slightly chewy finish. Still, this is a very good village. 2028+

2018 Fixin 1er Cru "Clos de la Perrière": (89-92)

Moderate amounts of wood and reduction make for a pungent introduction to the delicious, intense and concentrated medium-bodied flavors that coat the palate with sap that also serves to buffer the balanced and lightly stony finale. This isn't particularly energetic but I like the depth and harmony. 2025+

2018 Nuits St.-Georges 1er Cru "Chaînes Carteaux": (89-92)

Here the expressive nose plays right on the edge of perceptible volatile acidity though I stress that it's very subtle on the moderately high-toned nose of various red berries, pomegranate and lavender scents, all of which is trimmed in soft oak. The racy and solidly intense medium-bodied flavors possess very good detail along with slightly more evident acidity on the stony, serious and mildly rustic finale. 2026+

2018 Nuits St. Georges 1er Cru "Château Gris": (89-92)

A spicy and quite peppery mix is comprised by notes of red and dark currant, soft wood and a floral top note. There is reasonably good volume to the stony and well-detailed middle weight flavors that terminate in a refreshingly saline-inflected finish. This high elevation vineyard is always better in warm vintages and 2018 is exactly that. 2028+

2018 Morey St.-Denis 1er Cru "Les Sorbets": (90-92)

There is a more sophisticated mouthfeel to the middle weight flavors thanks to the relatively fine-grained tannins shaping the markedly saline and refreshing finish. This is almost tender in character and a wine that should be approachable young. 2026+

2018 Chambolle-Musigny 1er Cru "Les Chabiots": (90-92)

A deft application of wood is present on the cool but ripe array that is comprised by notes of essence of plum, red currant and a dollop of various spice elements. There is fine volume to the attractively textured and mouth coating flavors that are at once refined while flashing focused power on the delicious and solidly persistent finish. This needs to develop more depth but it's very Chambollesque. 2026+

2018 Chambolle-Musigny 1er Cru "Les Amoureuses": (90-93)

A markedly spicy nose is both quite pretty and floral in character with just a touch of wood toast to the mostly red currant-scented aromas. The ultra-refined, sleek and lacy middle weight flavors that possess a velvety mouthfeel that contrasts with the firm and youthfully austere finally that is very well balanced. This should reward medium-term patience. 2028+

2018 Vosne-Romanée 1er Cru "Les Malconsorts"***Domaine du Clos Frantin: (90-93)***

(from a large 1.76 ha parcel). A fresh, bright and expressive nose offers up an elegant collection of red cherry, pomegranate, floral and an abundance of spice scents. There is good volume and muscle as well as an attractive underlying tension to the intensely mineral-driven medium weight plus flavors that deliver excellent punch and drive to the lingering if grippy finale. This is presently very firmly structured and while by no means hard, it will need all of 12 to 15-ish years or so for the tannins to fully resolve. 2033+





2018 Côte de Nuits Reds

2018 Echézeaux *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: (90-93)

(from a .99 ha parcel in Champs Traversin). A notably ripe and very spicy nose combines notes of cassis, blue berry, violet and sandalwood. The seductive and velvet-textured middle weight flavors possess both good volume and plenty of sappy dry extract that mostly buffers the firm tannic spine shaping the better balanced if youthfully austere finish. This is not particularly reserved though it will still need at least a few years of patience first. 2030+

2018 Grands-Echézeaux *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: (91-93)

(from a .6 ha parcel). A more restrained nose features equally spicy and more floral-infused aromas that also evidence a trace of volatile acidity. The exceptionally rich and full-bodied flavors possess very good power and muscle while the copious sap coats the palate on the firm, saline, very compact and built-to-age finale. 2033+

2018 Charmes-Chambertin: (90-93)

(from Charmes proper and Mazoyères). A decidedly reserved if not mute nose reflects notes of cassis, plum liqueur, earth and suggestions of the sauvage. The round and nicely voluminous middle weight plus flavors possess an enveloping mouthfeel as well as very fine length on the firm finish. This too should age well over the medium to perhaps even longer-term. 2039+

2018 Chambertin *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: (91-93)

Evident wood and menthol elements frame the mostly cool and reserved dark berry fruit, earth and freshly turned earth aromas. The rich broad-shouldered flavors possess excellent punch and minerality while flashing obvious muscle on the stony, chiseled and powerful finish that is once youthfully austere and linear. Like the Grands Ech, this is going to need considerable time to shed its very firm tannic shell. 2033+

2018 Richebourg *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: (91-94)

This is even more aromatically restrained than the Chambertin at present with its riper aromas of cassis, poached plum, exotic tea and a broad array of floral influences. The sleek, intense and beautifully delineated large-scaled flavors that brim with both minerality and dry extract, all wrapped in a strikingly long, stony and linear finish that is trimmed in just enough wood to merit pointing out. This is also clearly built-to-age and I very much like the complexity. 2035+



January 2020

CÔTE DE BEAUNE & CÔTE DE NUITS REDS

SAVIGNY-LES-BEAUNE LES GRANDS PICOTINS Domaine du Pavillon 2018: 16

POMMARD CLOS DES URSULINES Domaine du Pavillon 2018: 16+

POMMARD 1^{ER} CRU LES RUGIENS Domaine du Pavillon 2018: 16.5

Very juicy appealing palate in which the fruit almost disguises the polished tannins.

VOSNE-ROMANÉE Domaine du Clos Frantin 2018: 16.5

Very juicy with the drive of the village. This seems balanced, without obtrusive tannins. Good pace.

FIXIN 1^{ER} CLOS DE LA PERRIÈRE CRU 2018: 17

Rich nose reminiscent of dunked digestive biscuits. Very sweet palate entry is pretty charming. Lots of energy here. No shy retiring flower! Long on the end.

MOREY-SAINT-DENIS 1^{ER} CRU LES SORBETS 2018: 16.5

Interesting, well-integrated nose. Savoury energy. Well balanced.

VOSNE-ROMANÉE 1^{ER} CRU LES MALCONSORTS Domaine du Clos Frantin 2018: 17

Hint of oak on some quite precise raspberry fruit. Chalky texture. This should come right eventually.

LATRICIÈRES-CHAMBERTIN GRAND CRU 2018: 17

Trace of oak on the nose. Sweet start and some delicate precision. Appetising.

CHARMES-CHAMBERTIN GRAND CRU 2018: 17

Quite an intense nose. Round nose and then crunchy fruited. Good attack. Quite forward.

CLOS DE VOUGEOT GRAND CRU Domaine du Clos Frantin 2018: 17 +

Clove, vanilla, a touch of earth and strawberry. Well-structured palate, with the intensity to carry it off over the medium-to-long term.

ECHÉZEUX GRAND CRU Domaine du Clos Frantin 2018: 17+

Solid concentrated fruit with freshness that complements it. Very lively wine. Lots of structure in evidence at the moment, with masses of energy.

CHAMBERTIN GRAND CRU Domaine du Clos Frantin 2018: 17.5

Intense and concentrated nose. Good balance with near-majestic fruit almost covering the oaky structure. Definitely the star of the tasting.



January 2020

CHABLIS

CHABLIS 1^{ER} CRU LES VAUCOPINS Domaine Long-Depaquit 2018: 17

Very exciting and lively. Very classic Chablis with juiciness and limpidity. Chapeau!

CHABLIS GRAND CRU LES BLANCHOTS Domaine Long-Depaquit 2018: 16.5

Excellent structure and raciness on the palate. Already approachable, though with some chewiness.

CHABLIS GRAND CRU LES CLOS Domaine Long-Depaquit 2018: 17

Lean and clean and fresh. Some green streak. Long and firm. As good as the Vaucopins with a bit more weight.

CHABLIS GRAND CRU MOUTONNE Domaine Long-Depaquit 2018: 17.5

Creamy almond notes, with oyster shell, spice and yellow apple. Dense, chalky and tight, with brisk acidity rather than crisp. Creamy and long, and certainly needs time. Worthy of grand cru.

COTE D'OR WHITES

NUITS-SAINT-GEORGES LES TERRASSES Château-Gris 2018: 16

BEAUNE 1^{ER} CRU CLOS DES MOUCHES Domaine du Pavillon 2018: 16

MEURSAULT 1^{ER} CRU LES CHARMES Domaine du Pavillon 2018: 16.5





Neal Martin

2018 REDS

2018 MOULIN-À-VENT Domaine de Rochegrès

90

It has a pretty, pure red cherry and crushed strawberry bouquet – bright and perky! The palate is medium-bodied with supple tannins, a fine bead of acidity and a gentle but nicely defined finish. Enjoy this well-made Beaujolais over the next five years.



2018 BOURGOGNE CÔTE D'OR PINOT NOIR "SECRET DE FAMILLE"

87

It offers strawberry and raspberry scents, and the palate is balanced and clean, with a welcome touch of sour cherry on the finish. Likely to be good value.

2018 MERCUREY CHAMPS MARTIN 1^{ER} CRU Domaine Adélie

88-90

It has a light, fresh bouquet of raspberry and cranberry fruit, a little earthy and rustic in a positive sense. The palate is medium-bodied with supple tannins and a fine bead of acidity. Quite pastille-like toward the finish, where I find the whole bunch neatly enmeshed. Enjoy this light-hearted, approachable Mercurey over the next five or six years.



2018 SAVIGNY-LÈS-BEAUNE LES GRANDS PICOTINS Domaine du Pavillon

90-92

The gung-ho nose flaunts a bit of brio that I admire, along with plenty of brambly red berry fruit. The palate is well balanced with sappy red fruit, a fine bead of acidity and discreet touches of apricot and blood orange on the finish. This is just superb.



2018 POMMARD LES RUGIENS 1^{ER} CRU Domaine du Pavillon

90-92

It has a more introverted bouquet, while the fruit feels a little darker. The palate is medium-bodied with grippy tannins. Clean and pure with a sensual finish. Good potential.

2018 ALOXE-CORTON CLOS DES MARÉCHAUDES 1^{ER} CRU Domaine du Pavillon

89-91

It has quite an elegant bouquet for this appellation, the whole bunch perhaps putting a bit of restraint on its precocity. The palate is medium-bodied with supple tannins. This is a pliant Aloxé-Corton with a caressing, slightly citrus-fresh finish that delivers satisfying tension. Recommended.



2018 CORTON CLOS DES MARÉCHAUDES GRAND CRU Domaine du Pavillon

92-94

It has a pretty bouquet of brambly red fruit, briar and light tertiary scents that gradually unfold in the glass. The palate is well balanced with nice grip on the entry. This is underlined by a fine bead of acidity that lends wonderful freshness and race on the finish. Superb.

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

90-92

It has a ripe, generous bouquet of macerated red cherries, wild strawberry and quince aromas that don't hold back. The palate is well balanced with gutsy red berry fruit laced with sherbet and orange peel, and a little spice toward the succulent finish. There is a subtle headiness here, but I suspect it will be absolutely delicious after bottling.

2018 GEVREY-CHAMBERTIN PETITE-CHAPELLE 1^{ER} CRU

90-92

It feels a little pinched on the nose. The palate is slightly grainy in texture and there is a fine bead of acidity here. Quite a structured and spicy Petite-Chapelle, with a dash of black pepper on the finish. This certainly improves with aeration.

2018 CHAMBOLLE-MUSIGNY LES AMOUREUSES 1^{ER} CRU

91-93

It has a lovely, very pure and charming bouquet with copious red cherries, crushed strawberry and pressed rose petal aromas, veins of blue fruit emerging with aeration. There is a sensuality that is irresistible. Drink over the next two decades.



Neal Martin

2018 REDS

2018 VOSNE-ROMANÉE LES MALCONSORTS 1^{ER} CRU Domaine du Clos Frantin 92-94

This has a high-class bouquet of pure red cherries, cranberry and wild strawberry scents, hints of rose petal and orange blossom emerging with time. The palate is medium-bodied with crisp red berry fruit and a frame of quite firm tannins that should guarantee the longevity of this Malconsorts. It feels a little aloof on the finish, but it just needs time to soften its edges.



2018 CLOS DE VOUGEOT GRAND CRU Domaine du Clos Frantin 90-92

It offers a mixture of red and black fruit on the nose, which is a little tertiary in style, the whole bunch being a little more conspicuous at the moment. The palate is medium-bodied with supple tannins and fine acidity. A nubile Clos de Vougeot with a rich, dense finish. Give it three to five years in bottle.

2018 CLOS DE LA ROCHE GRAND CRU 91-93

It has an intense red cherry and crushed strawberry bouquet, touches of incense and rose petals emerging with time. I appreciate the precision here. The palate is medium-bodied with supple tannins, very poised and focused, with a sorbet-fresh finish that maybe just needs a little more weight and density. Hopefully that will develop by the time of bottling.



2018 ECHÉZEUX GRAND CRU Domaine du Clos Frantin 91-93

The transparent, generous bouquet is quite floral in style, with pressed rose petals present as much as the red fruit. The medium-bodied palate delivers fine tannins and good acidity. This is a very well balanced and focused Echézeaux with a structured, stony finish.

2018 CHARMES-CHAMBERTIN GRAND CRU 92-94

There is a sense of sumptuousness on the nose of pure dark cherry, cranberry and tangerine. The palate is well balanced with grippy tannins, a fine bead of acidity and satisfying tension and vivacity on the edgy, stony finish. This is an excellent Charmes-Chambertin.

2018 CHAMBERTIN GRAND CRU Domaine du Clos Frantin 94-96

It has a very pure, generous bouquet with layers of red cherries, crushed strawberry and cranberry fruit and well-integrated oak. The palate is medium-bodied with supple tannins. Very lithe and fresh, leading to a delineated finish that ranks alongside many others I have tasted. This is a superb Chambertin that will age with style.



2018 WHITES

2018 MÂCON MILLY-LAMARTINE 87

It has a clean, fresh bouquet of red apples and light apricot scents. The palate is well balanced with orange zest and citrus fruit on the entry, a fine bead of acidity and a welcome touch of sour lemon mixed with almond toward the finish.

2018 MERCUREY LES CHAMPS-MICHAUX Domaine Adélie 89

It has an attractive bouquet of pressed white flowers filtering through the beeswax and light apricot scents. The well-balanced palate displays a fine bead of acidity, good weight and a fresh, white peach and nectarine finish. Fine.

2018 MEURSAULT LES CHARMES 1^{ER} CRU Domaine du Pavillon 91

It has a pleasant bouquet with subtle aromas of praline and walnut. The well-balanced palate offers orange zest and apricot on the entry. A pretty rather than a cerebral wine, with satisfying delineation and length on the finish. It actually improves with aeration and ends up a very commendable Charmes.





Antonio Galloni

January 2020

2018 CHABLIS

The **2018 Chablis** is a very pretty wine. Dried pear, almond and dried flowers give the Chablis lovely aromatic complexity and nuance. Soft, silky and expressive, the 2018 is promising. **(88-90)**

The **2018 Chablis Les Beugnons 1er Cru** is ample and creamy in feel, emerging from the combination of warm soils and steep, south-facing site. Dried pear, crushed flowers, mint and spice notes all flesh out in this super-expressive, open-knit Chablis. There is real character and depth here. **(90-92)**

The **2018 Chablis Les Lys 1er Cru** is bright, precise and beautifully lifted, with lovely citrus, almond, dried herb, saline and white floral character. Medium in body and vibrant, the Lys clearly benefits from the northern exposure of this site and aging in steel. This is an impeccably done wine that shows the more savory style of Chablis. **(90-92)**

The **2018 Chablis Les Vaillons 1er Cru** is fabulous and also the most complete of the three wines from the Vaillons valley. Bright citrus and floral notes confer lift and airiness to this very pretty, gracious Chablis. A wine of total precision and class, the Vaillons is simply terrific. The 10% oak (all neutral) is not especially evident. **(91-93)**

The **2018 Chablis Montmains 1er Cru**, from Les Forêts, is ample and expressive, with an extra kick of raciness from the 20% new oak. Apricot, almond, dried flowers, chamomile and lightly honeyed notes all grace this exquisite, impeccably balanced Chablis from Long-Deaquit. The balance of fruit richness, aromatics and structure here is compelling. **(91-93)**

The **2018 Chablis Montée de Tonnerre 1er Cru** is brisk and vibrant, as wines from this site tend to be. Citrus peel, white flowers, white pepper and chalk give the 2018 striking aromatic presence and brilliance. This finely sculpted, nuanced Chablis has so much to offer. I loved it. **(91-93)**

The **2018 Chablis Les Vaucopins 1er Cru** is bright, precise and full of energy. Floral, savory and mineral notes are pushed forward in this lively, nicely delineated Chablis. The Vaucopins is a bit tight today, but that should not be an issue in time. The 15% new oak adds texture without being especially noticeable. Stylistically, the Vaucopins is more about texture and palate presence than overt fruit. **(90-92)**

The **2018 Chablis Les Blanchots Grand Cru** emerges from the highest and easternmost border of this grand cru, which gives the wine its distinctive airy, weightless feel. Floral and citrus notes are finely sketched in this understated, nuanced Chablis from Long-Deaquit. Time in the glass brings out an attractive tropical quality. **(91-93)**

The **2018 Chablis Les Preuses Grand Cru** is dense and powerful in the glass. It is also one of the few wines that is done entirely in oak, an approach that, in my view, constricts the wine and leaves it feeling austere, which is not at all typical for the year. Even, the Preuses has quite a bit of energy. I can't wait to taste it with a bit more bottle age. **(91-93)**

The **2018 Chablis Bougros Grand Cru** is creamy and silky, with pretty floral notes that add lift. Jasmine, pear, green apple, mint and a touch of new oak all grace this super-expressive, inviting Chablis. Aging in oak adds texture and resonance, without marking the wine excessively. **(92-94)**

The **2018 Chablis Les Vaudésirs Grand Cru** shows the richer, riper side of the year, all of that accented by 25% new oak that adds richness and volume. Apricot, orange peel and tropical fruit are all laced together in this lush, racy Chablis. This is a wine of real power, depth and density but also of energy. **(92-94)**

The **2018 Chablis Les Clos Grand Cru** is very airy, weightless and lifted. The 35% new oak is not especially evident. The 2018 shows real finesse and aromatic intrigue. Citrus, white flowers, chalk, white orchard fruit, white pepper and mint come together in a very pretty and gracious wine with a long, persistent finish. **(92-94)**



Antonio Galloni

January 2020

2017 CHABLIS

The **2017 Chablis** is a silky, perfumed and open-knit wine with lovely depth to play off the lifted floral aromatics. Lemon confit, white flowers, mint and white pepper add brilliance to this racy, polished Chablis. **90**

The **2017 Chablis Les Lys 1er Cru** is powerful, dense and savory with lots of energy. Savory herbs, dried flowers and lemon peel come together in a Chablis that is bright, punchy and full of character. The 2017 is a bit hearty and rough around the edges, but it certainly isn't lacking in depth or intensity. **90**

The **2017 Chablis Les Vaillons 1er Cru** is resonant and super-expressive. Lemon confit, almond, dried herbs, crushed flowers and mint come together in an attractive, nuanced Chablis that will drink well right out of the gate. The finish dries out just a touch. Otherwise, the 2017 is nicely done. **90**

The **2017 Chablis Montmains 1er Cru** is soft, open-knit and expressive, with no hard edges and plenty of immediacy. Bright citrus and floral character adds lift. There is not a ton of complexity here, but the 2017 makes up for that with its creamy, inviting personality. Hints of orange peel and white flowers linger nicely on the close. **90**

The **2017 Chablis Les Vaucopins 1er Cru** is bright, precise and lifted. Floral, citrus and spice notes are nicely delineated. There is good energy and resonance here, but ultimately, the Vaucopins feels a bit compact, especially in the mid-palate. **89**

The **2017 Chablis Les Blanchots Grand Cru** is soft, precise and understated. White orchard fruit, lemon peel, crushed flowers, mint give this delicate, inviting Chablis its classy personality. Overall the 2017 is very pretty and quite supple. It will drink well with minimal cellaring. **91**

The **2017 Chablis Les Vaudésirs Grand Cru** is soft and creamy in feel. Hazelnut, pineapple, dried flowers, orange peel and tropical overtones give the Vaudésirs its distinctly flamboyant personality. **90**

The **2017 Chablis Les Clos Grand Cru** is quite rich and powerful. Tropical fruit, exotic spice and strong oak inflections give the Clos its breadth and sweetness. The 2017 is nicely done. **91**

A heady, powerful wine, the **2017 Chablis Les Preuses Grand Cru** captures the house style at its best. What impresses most is a real sense of explosive energy that gives the wine shape and persistence. Moreover, the Preuses clearly has the stuffing to handle the 100% new oak. With a bit of air the flavors and textures open up nicely. **93**

The **2017 Chablis La Moutonne Monopole Grand Cru** is powerful and explosive in the glass, with tremendous textural resonance and richness that builds into the substantial finish. The Moutonne captures all of the signatures of the house style in its breadth and overall feel. **92**

www.decanter.com

MORGON LES CHARMES 2018

Tasted by Jeannie Cho Lee MW (at NYC, USA, 03 Feb 2020)

Morgon is sourced from a southeast-facing slope on granitic soil that is above 350 metres in altitude giving the wine freshness and lifted characters. The palate is generous, filled with ripe black cherries and cinnamon balanced by light tannins. A delicious, fruity Morgon that one can enjoy now. Drinking window 2020-2025.



GEVREY-CHAMBERTIN LES EVOCELLES 2018

Tasted by Tim Atkin MW (at 2018 En primeur tastings, Burgundy, 20 Oct 2019)

In warmer vintages like 2018, the Brochon side of Gevrey-Chambertin really comes into its own. This racy, floral, 20% new oak-aged example comes from a vineyard that's right next door to the Champeaux Premier Cru and is very much a superior village wine. Sappy, floral and well balanced with appealing focus, freshness and palate depth. Drinking window 2021-2028.



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

Tasted by Tim Atkin MW (at 2018 En primeur tastings, Burgundy, 20 Oct 2019)

Part of "Best value 2018 red Burgundy en primeur to buy"

This is sizeable - and very reliable - cuvée in the Bichot portfolio, sourced from a large parcel of five hectares that covers three different terroirs. Fermented with 10% whole bunches and aged in 20% new wood, it's an aromatic, floral, textured Pinot Noir with appealing freshness and minerality and an undertone of noble reduction. Classy Fixin. Drinking window 2022-2028.



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

Blind tasted by Tim Atkin MW (at 2018 En primeur tastings, Burgundy, 21 Oct 2019)

Château Gris is a special site in Nuits-St-Georges, perched in the hills above the town and producing both a white and red of some distinction. This floral, aromatic, 25% whole bunch-fermented Premier Cru is closer to a Beaune red in style, with sappy minerality, fine tannins and flavours of red cherry, pomegranate and aromatic spices underpinned by acidity. Drinking window 2024-2030.



CLOS DE LA ROCHE GRAND CRU 2018

Blind tasted by Tim Atkin MW (at 2018 En primeur tastings, Burgundy, 21 Oct 2019)

Bichot buy the grapes from a single parcel in the Clos de la Roche to produce this wonderfully stylish expression of the Grand Cru. Aged in 35% new wood, it's intensely floral and refined, with youthful, vivid rose petal and wild strawberry scents and flavours, chalky minerality and the poise and definition you expect from such a great terroir. Drinking window 2024-2032.



CHABLIS Domaine Long-Depaquit 2018

Tasted by Jeannie Cho Lee MW (at NYC, USA, 03 Feb 2020)

Domaine Long-Depaquit is one of six Bichot estates in Burgundy and their biggest vineyard holding with 65ha. Bichot's commitment to Chablis shows in this well-crafted village Chablis that is filled with lemon and grapefruit flavors carried along a lean body. Fresh, light, no oak influence, with attractive flavors of citrus and fresh herbs - friendly but not over-ripe. Perfect to enjoy now with simply prepared fresh shellfish. Drinking window 2020-2024.



PULIGNY-MONTRACHET 2018

Tasted by Jeannie Cho Lee MW (at NYC, USA, 03 Feb 2020)

A very pretty Puligny-Montrachet village white that defies this warm vintage by being linear and elegant, with white flowers and nectarines that dance on your tongue. Flavours are lifted with good depth and mid palate concentration while the body is light and freshness. Aged in oak barrels for 16 months with approximately 25% new oak used. Drinking window 2020-2025.



NUITS-SAINT-GEORGES LES TERRASSES – Château-Gris 2018

Blind tasted by Tim Atkin MW (at 2018 En primeur tastings, Burgundy, 21 Oct 2019)

White wines are rare in the Côte de Nuits, especially of this quality. Grown above the town on terraces, as its name makes clear, this comes from very poor soils and is suitably chiselled, focused and well-balanced. With well-integrated 20% new wood, crunchy citrus and limestone flavours and a long, tangy finish, this is a delightful Chardonnay. Drinking window 2020-2024.



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

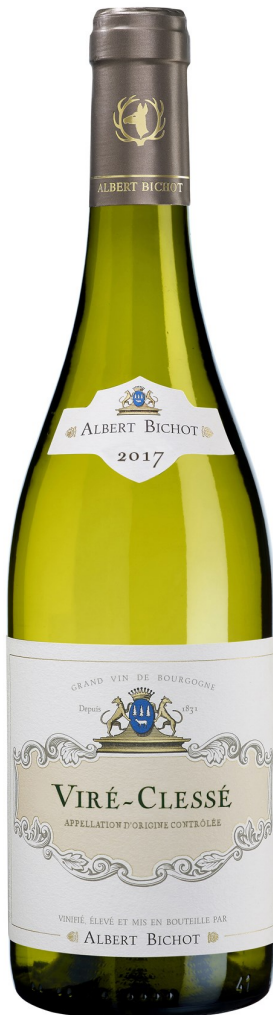
Tasted by Tim Atkin MW (at 2018 En primeur tastings, Burgundy, 20 Oct 2019)

The Clos des Mouches made by Joseph Drouhin may be more famous, but Bichot's parcel of 0.7ha, situated in the highest part of the Premier Cru, is pretty impressive in its own right. Bright, focused and chiselled, it's the sort of white that wouldn't look out of place in Puligny-Montrachet, combining citrus, wet stone and aniseed flavours. Drinking window 2021-2028.



Wine Spectator

December 2019



Top 100 Wines of 2019

The Most Exciting Wines of 2019 Have Been Announced

2019 TOP VALUES

RICH WHITES

ALBERT BICHOT Viré-Clessé 2017

90/100

90 **ALBERT BICHOT Viré-Clessé 2017** | *France* | A lush, creamy texture sets the stage for the peach, apple and honeysuckle flavors in this expressive white, underlined by bright structure and leaving a light hint of bitterness on the finish.—*B.S.*

JASPER MORRIS Inside Burgundy



Jasper Morris MW

I tasted with Christophe Chauvel, a key member of the technical team under head winemaker Alain Serveau, at the Bichot headquarters in Beaune. This year the domaine wines are certified organic. The harvest began with whites, then the earliest reds before returning to complete the white wines and then finishing on the bulk of the reds. These are made similarly across the three vinification sites in Beaune, Pommard and Nuits-St-Georges. The grapes are mostly destemmed, though a few more whole bunches (up to 30%) were employed in 2018, given a short cool maceration then vinified over three weeks with a little bit of punching down in the later stages.

2018: THE VINTAGE REPORT (BEAUJOLAIS) - January 2020

2018, Moulin-à-Vent, Domaine de Rochegrès 88-89

Solid weight of colour, the nose is not quite ready to speak yet, but a huge weight of fruit which is both sensual and meaty at the same time. Some tannins of course and a lovely bit of black pepper. Concentrated, interesting and typical of the appellation.

2018, Rochegrès Moulin-à-Vent, Domaine de Rochegrès 89-91

Even denser and deeper purple than the regular, with a lot more going on the nose, even a touch vegetal as well as dark fruit and pepper. This is in 350 litre barrels which smooths out the fruit in the mouth as well as adding a different level of tannin. A touch more acidity here too, a little more of everything and consequently more backwards.

2018: THE VINTAGE REPORT (COTE DE BEAUNE & COTE CHALONNAISE) - December 2019

2018, Mercurey Les Champs-Michaux, Domaine Adélie 88

Clear colour with some zestful green tints to it. A little flesh, quite stylish, this does feel like white wine terroir up on its plateau. Plenty of clay here but altitude and the rock below change that. This is good.

2018, Meursault, Domaine du Pavillon 89-91

A blend of many plots, mostly from lower down. This is a substantial weighty Meursault, some pear fruit in the mix, good natural acidity, medium plus length. This should develop into a relatively classic style that retains good freshness behind.

2018, Meursault Les Charmes 1er Cru, Domaine du Pavillon 90-92

From the upper part of the vineyard. Pale lemon, quite an oaky nose here. Then a significant weight of fruit, backed by the usual lemony acidity from Bichot, some fresh apples too, while the weight of a typical Charmes continues through to the finish.

2018, Beaune Clos des Mouches 1er Cru, Domaine du Pavillon 90-92

Clear pale colour. The palate impresses with a wealth of just nicely ripe fruit, white and yellow notes together, then good refreshing acidity behind. Some flesh while remaining what the French call digeste.

2018, Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru, Domaine du Pavillon 92-95

From Languettes, next to the three poplars. Light fresh pale colour. Starts with the stones, moves towards the flesh, has both in balance, a slight lime infusion. The intensity is there, very linear in style, good weight at the back.

2018, Pommard Clos des Ursulines, Domaine du Pavillon 90-92

Brisk fresh purple with lots of energy. Really lifted nose, all about the fruit, ripe raspberries but not too dark. This classy fruit continues on the palate where it meets a raft of tannins, but they are certainly ripe enough and the two parts will shake hands and combine in due course. It is very clean pure red fruit which returns at the end.

2018, Pommard Les Rugiens 1er Cru, Domaine du Pavillon 92-94

From the lower part. Glowing fresh purple. The nose is quiet but there is a vast wealth of fruit on the palate, red and black together, followed by the quite massive tannins typical of this location. Just a question of time but all is there in 2018.

2018, Aloxe-Corton Clos des Maréchaudes 1er Cru, Domaine du Pavillon 91-94

Beautiful intense purple. This starts with a sweet ripe red fruit, then more tannins than I expected behind. Pretty weight but a bit more sombre than the Pommards. On the other hand, closer to grand cru in fruit weight. I like the finish, too.

2018, Corton Grand Cru Clos des Maréchaudes, Domaine du Pavillon 92-94

Picked 30th August for the young vines, 5th September for the rest. The colour is purple-black and the fruit seems richer and riper. There is just a tiny bit greater density of fruit but it is more the style and the ripeness of the tannins which make the distinction. Nice acidity behind.

- 2018, Nuits-St-Georges Les Terrasses, Château Gris** 89-91
Vinified in Nuits. Quite a lot of yellow in the colour. All chardonnay, which is often not the case in Nuits. Almost a waxy character here, with good lemon notes in the background. Concentrated flesh through the middle, this has body and personality.
- 2018, Bourgogne Côte d'Or Pinot Noir Secret de Famille** 88
In bottle. Glowing purple with a clear fresh pinot nose. There is an impressive volume of fruit on the palate, intense cherries, indeed this is really concentrated for a generic Bourgogne, with good acid balance, a few tannins still to resolve, then bingo!
- 2018, Vosne Romanée, Domaine du Clos Frantin** 90-93
From two plots: Basses Maizières picked early, on 4th September, and Damaudes high on the slope, picked on 11th September. Huge red purple colour. Some weight of fruit on the nose, and certainly ripe enough. Fresher on the palate, quite a few tannins behind, but a lovely classy feel to the fruit, a cool fresh touch, certainly not too ripe. Very fine aftertaste in fact with fresh cherries and ripe red berry fruit.
- 2018, Fixin Clos de la Perrière 1er Cru** 89-92
Glowing purple with impressive depth. A little sweet raspberry on the nose, and a flood of such fruit behind, along with some drier tannins. Very succulent, raspberry and strawberry mix, attractive acidity, all put together quite well.
- 2018, Morey-St-Denis Les Sorbets 1er Cru** 91-94
Fine fresh crimson-purple, with real elegance to the nose. Lovely red fruit then slightly firmer drier tannins, nicely balanced, ripe fruit. A nice little tension at the back.
- 2018, Nuits-St-Georges Chaines-Carteaux 1er Cru** 92-94
Decent purple colour, a little fresh plum, then more ripe cherries afterwards, stretches very nicely across the palate, a most attractive sweetness of fruit on the second half which triumphs over the tannins. Long and lovely.
- 2018, Nuits-St-Georges Château-Gris 1er Cru** 92-94
Dense purple, definitely showing the plums qualities of Nuits-St-Georges. Pretty and perfumed graceful red fruit, almost some apple and orange zest, far from massive and the tannins are refined. A really stylish, elegant Nuits.
- 2018, Chambolle-Musigny Les Chabiots 1er Cru** 89-92
Slightly paler purple in colour than some in the line-up. Quite a stylish bouquet, maybe some whole bunches in evidence. Pink roses and raspberries on the palate, a touch of tannin behind, certainly ripe but elegant enough.
- 2018, Gevrey-Chambertin Petite Chapelle 1er Cru** 91-94
Brisk glowing purple. Fully ripe fruit here, succulent deep raspberry, as ever quite fine bodied underneath this superficial weight of fruit. Slimline, yet fine and persistent. Very good.
- 2018, Vosne-Romanée Les Malconsorts 1er Cru, Domaine du Clos Frantin** 92-95
There is a massively deep purple colour to this Malconsorts, with bundles of energetic red fruit on the nose. The palate too demonstrates this, some orange zest, otherwise entirely red fruit, no black notes, good acidity and the persistence of a grand cru.
- 2018, Charmes-Chambertin Grand Cru** 93-95
Rich dense purple with an intensity of succulent fruit which speaks more of Charmes than Mazoyères where the vines are actually situated. Ripe rich plums, super sweet fruit on the palate, maximum ripeness, just a little acidity, tannins present but totally subdued, rich long aftertaste.
- 2018, Clos de Vougeot Grand Cru, Domaine du Clos Frantin** 94-96
Firm dense purple with super saturated fruit first on the nose and then the palate. Deep dark cherries and raspberries but with life behind. Of course, the Clos Vougeot structure is there but the fruit is so intense – and not over-ripe – that this works really well. Very promising indeed.
- 2018, Echezeaux Grand Cru, Domaine du Clos Frantin** 93-96
From Champs Traversin. Medium deep purple, the nose is a little bit more refined than some, and this same elegance is carried over on to the palate. There is a good balance between fruit and acidity, with the tannins, fine-grained, waiting discreetly behind. Very stylish pure elegant and fresh finish.
- 2018, Chambertin Grand Cru, Domaine du Clos Frantin** 95-98
Three barrels with plenty of whole bunch to help fill the tank. A wonderful sweet fruit generosity, alpine strawberry and fresh raspberry, this is certainly not too ripe and shows the delicacy and intensity which Chambertin should offer. Lovely balance between just ripe fruit and the structure, partly acidity partly fine boned tannins. Very good length.



Jasper Morris MW

2018: THE VINTAGE REPORT (CHABLIS) - November 2019

2018, Chablis Les Vaillons 1er Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit

90

In bottle. Pale lemon colour. Ripe fruit and some flesh are apparent on the nose. It has a similar tight structure and yellow fruit, but more intense than the straight Chablis and with good length at the back after the slight bitterness. There is good tension but the fruit is a little yellower than for classic Vaillons.

2018, Chablis Les Vaucopins 1er Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit

92

In bottle. Pale lemon. A lovely crackling crunchy saline nose with white fruit notes. This speaks more of its terroir and less of the vintage. This is quite delicious on the palate though opens out to a little more flesh than is typical. Good length.

2018, Chablis Les Blanchots Grand Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit

91-94

Clear pale colour with a light lemon tint. Lightish bouquet, but it is an attractive floral perfume, nonetheless. Rather peachier on the palate, with underlying white fruit, crisp, good weight and length. Nice little touch of bitterness behind.

2018, Chablis Les Clos Grand Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit

91-95

Classiest nose to date, but seems a little under ripe on the palate, with tight lime juice notes. There is some depth of fruit too. Certainly some concentration so this may emerge from here.

2018, Chablis Les Vaudésirs Grand Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit

92-96

This was the first vineyard to be picked and has benefitted from the decision. Pale colour with a noticeably reductive nose. There is an attractive tension of fruit, and the weight you would expect from this cru. Enough concentration of fruit and not too ripe, indeed builds well at the back.

2018, Chablis Moutonne Grand Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit

92-97

Clear fresh pale lemon. This is elegant and classy, picked at the right moment. It shows the weight of ripe fruit, predominantly classy white fruit, some pears, a little citrus tingle, nicely saline behind. A wine with depth and weight, and the structure for quite long ageing. Brilliant finish.





2018 Chablis

2018 Chablis *Domaine Long-Depaquit*: (88)

(100% stainless). The nose is quite fresh and good Chablis typicity suffuses the citrus, pear and tidal pool whiffs. The succulent, delicious and round medium weight flavors terminate in a bitter lemon-inflected and slightly warm finish that offers good depth and persistence. 2021+

2018 Chablis 1^{er} Cru Les Lys *Domaine Long-Depaquit* : (88-91)

(from a 2 ha holding; all stainless). A cool, pure, airy and more elegant nose combines notes of white flower, pear, green fruit and just enough classic Chablis typicity to be interesting. The round and fleshy middle weight flavors possess a chalky texture before terminating in a saline and refreshing finale that is delicate but punchy. 2023+

2018 Chablis 1^{er} Cru Les Beugnons *Domaine Long-Depaquit* : (89-91)

(from a 2.3 ha parcel). Here the nose is discreet to the point of being almost mute as it only grudgingly reveals whiffs of white flowers, citrus and algae. There is more volume and richness to the bigger and more powerful if less refined flavors that are impressively saline-inflected on the complex and solidly long finale. 2024+

2018 Chablis 1^{er} Cru Les Vaillons *Domaine Long-Depaquit* : (89-92)

(from a holding of 4.3 ha that is 90% from Epinottes with the balance from Séchet; 10% wood). A deft application of wood sets off the more expressive array of citrus pear and oyster shell aromas. Once again there is excellent volume and richness to the punchier and better delineated flavors that possess a lovely texture while exhibiting fine depth and persistence on the markedly dry though not really austere finale. This is quite good. 2024+

2018 Chablis 1^{er} Cru Les Vaucopins *Domaine Long-Depaquit* : (88-91)

(raised in ~15% wood). Here the wood is slightly more apparent as it sets off the cool, fresh and airy if notably ripe aromas of both white and yellow orchard fruit that displays top notes of ocean breeze and oyster shell. The seductively succulent and rounded medium-bodied flavors possess very good mid-palate density where the dry extract imparts a sappy texture to the clean finish. 2022+

2018 Chablis 1^{er} Cru Montmains *Domaine Long-Depaquit* : (89-91)

(from .5 ha parcel in Forêts). This is aromatically similar to the Vaucopins but with a bit more citrus influence. The delicious and relatively powerful medium weight flavors possess excellent punch while exhibiting good minerality on the finale. 2022+

2018 Chablis 1^{er} Cru Montée de Tonnerre *Domaine Long-Depaquit* : (90-92)

(100% from Côte de Bréchain). Discreet wood influence surrounds the floral, petrol, iodine and white flower aromas. The wood is also present on the refined and energetic though definitely opulent flavors that also terminate in a bone dry finish that offers a bit better depth and persistence. 2024+

2018 Chablis Grand Cru Les Blanchots *Domaine Long-Depaquit* : (89-92)

(from a 1.5 ha parcel of 40+ year old vines; ~25% wood). Relatively restrained wood influence easily allows the conspicuously floral-suffused nose that grudgingly reveals additional notes of sea breeze, white peach and a whiff of lychee. The very generously proportioned medium-bodied flavors possess a succulent, even lush, mouth feel where the sappy dry extract coats the palate on the bitter lemon-inflected finale. 2025+

2018 Chablis Grand Cru Les Vaudésirs *Domaine Long-Depaquit* : (89-91)

(from a holding of 2.6 ha; ~25% new wood). More evident wood stops short of fighting with the mildly exotic nose of spicy apricot, white peach and just enough Chablis typicity to be convincing. There is better intensity and punch to the relatively delicate middle weight flavors that possess reasonably good depth. 2025+

2018 Chablis Grand Cru Les Clos *Domaine Long-Depaquit* : (91-93)

(from a 1.5 ha parcel; ~35% new wood). A generous dollop of wood overshadows the citrus, floral, mineral reduction, pear and iodine-suffused aromas today. The wood can also be found on the palate as well though the good news is that there is sufficient mid-palate density to the medium weight flavors appears to be up to the challenge of absorbing it. The mouth feel is caressing but powerful while the finish is both much better balanced and persistent. 2026+

**2017 Chablis *Domaine Long Depaquit: 89***

(100% stainless). Pretty and fresh notes of mineral reduction, oyster shell and citrus lead to delicious, nicely rich and textured middle weight flavors that are clean, dry and youthfully austere if refreshing with better than average complexity for its level. 2022+

2017 Chablis 1^{er} Cru Les Lys *Domaine Long Depaquit: 91*

(from a 2 ha holding). Here too there is ample mineral reduction to the more restrained aromas quinine, petrol, floral and soft citrus elements. There is better volume and refinement to the delicious and liting medium weight flavors that exude a subtle stoniness on the sappy, very dry, balanced and saline-inflected finish. This is very Les Lys in character which is to say delicate yet focused and punchy. 2023+

2017 Chablis 1^{er} Cru Les Beugnons *Domaine Long Depaquit: 91*

(from a 2.3 ha parcel). There is even better Chablis typicity to the super-fresh aromas of sea breeze, iodine and various white-fleshed fruit scents. There is a bit more volume and richness if not the same refinement to the medium weight flavors that offer slightly better punch to the sneaky long and seductively textured finale. A qualitative choice though the two wines are texturally quite different. 2024+

2017 Chablis 1^{er} Cru Les Vaillons *Domaine Long Depaquit: 89*

(from a holding of 4.3 ha that is 90% from Epinottes with the balance from Séchet; 10% wood). Here too there is plenty of mineral reduction character suffusing the pear, apple and ocean breeze-scented nose. The exceptionally rich and relatively full-bodied flavors brim with copious amounts of dry extract that drenches the palate on the saline and intensely bitter lemon finish. 2023+

2017 Chablis 1^{er} Cru Montmains *Domaine Long Depaquit: 92*

(from .5 ha parcel in Forêts). A distinctly cool nose features airy aromas of essence of pear, shellfish and tidal pool is also trimmed in though wood to notice. The mouth feel of the nicely intense medium-bodied flavors is punchy but refined with ample minerality adding a touch of lift to the clean, dry and complex finish that deliver the best length in the range to this point. This mildly warm but attractively citrus-inflected effort should drink relatively well young yet should also reward 4 to 7 years of bottle age. 2025+

2017 Chablis 1^{er} Cru Montée de Tonnerre *Domaine Long Depaquit: 92*

(100% from Côte de Bréchain). The wood treatment doesn't mask the notably floral aromas of pear, apple and quinine scents. The markedly rich and concentrated flavors coat the palate with sappy dry extract while exuding both minerality and salinity on the surprisingly powerful finish that delivers deceptively good length. Note that while this is classy, it needs some time to develop better depth. 2027+

2017 Chablis Grand Cru Les Blanchots *Domaine Long Depaquit: 93*

(from a 1.5 ha parcel of 40+ year old vines; ~25% wood). Here too the wood treatment is well short of invisible though once again it does not overshadow the intensely floral aromas of mostly white-fleshed fruit and oyster shell. There is both good volume and concentration to the punchy mineral-driven medium weight flavors that deliver excellent length on the overtly saline, bone dry finish. Patience recommended. 2027+

2017 Chablis Grand Cru Les Clos *Domaine Long Depaquit: 94*

(from a 1.5 ha parcel; ~35% new wood). The wood regimen is more completely integrated and more easily allows the aromas of sea breeze, shellfish, petrol and mineral reduction to be appreciated. There is excellent intensity and muscle to the succulent, powerful and markedly rich big-bodied flavors that are supported by a firm acid spine on the clean, dry and focused finale that is almost chewy. This robust effort will need at least a few years but should be lovely in time. 2029+

2017 Chablis Grand Cru Les Vaudésirs *Domaine Long Depaquit: 93*

(from a holding of 2.6 ha; ~25% new wood; to my knowledge this is the only domaine that uses Les Vaudésirs in the plural). Like the Les Clos the wood treatment surrounding the moderately exotic if agreeably fresh aromas of pear, apple and quinine is more completely integrated though once again hardly invisible. The exceptionally rich and opulent flavors possess so much dry extract that the mouth feel is almost unctuous though the supporting acidity is sufficiently firm to keep the balance on the finale. Note that this is a grand cru that should drink reasonably well young but age well too. 2027+



November 15 & 30 / December 31, 2019

93 ALBERT BICHOT Grands Echézeaux Grand Cru Domaine du Clos Frantin 2017

This red is intense yet also very graceful, lending a combination of elegance and power. The firm structure keeps this defined, as the cherry, strawberry, floral and oak spice flavors evolve on the palate. Long and mouthwatering. Best from 2022 through 2037. *(Issue: Nov 30, 2019)*

93 ALBERT BICHOT Echezeaux Grand Cru Domaine du Clos Frantin 2017

A rich, round style, with ample cherry, strawberry, mineral and spice flavors. The texture is silky, backed by dense, pointed tannins. All the elements come together on the lingering aftertaste. Classy. Best from 2023 through 2040. *(Issue: Nov 30, 2019)*

93 ALBERT BICHOT Gevrey-Chambertin 2017

A rich swath of black cherry, rose and oak spice aromas and flavors marks this opulent red. Backed by vibrant acidity and well-integrated tannins, this ends in a cascade of fruit and spice. Very silky and harmonious. Best from 2021 through 2038. *(Issue: Nov 15, 2019)*

93 ALBERT BICHOT Latricières-Chambertin Grand Cru 2017

Racy and pure, featuring cherry, currant, strawberry and tobacco notes tightly bound to a robust structure. The oak treatment comes through on the finish, where a spicy element emerges. Delivers fine balance and length, with characteristic Gevrey muscle. Best from 2022 through 2040. *(Issue: Nov 15, 2019)*

92 ALBERT BICHOT Clos de Vougeot Grand Cru Domaine du Clos Frantin 2017

Cool aromas of ripe cherry, strawberry, graphite and spice are the highlights of this supple yet concentrated red. Well-structured, with a solid spine of tannins underneath. Best from 2021 through 2035. *(Issue: Nov 15, 2019)*

92 ALBERT BICHOT Gevrey-Chambertin Les Murots Domaine du Clos Frantin 2017

Aromas of cherry, spice and sweet sawdust lead to pure flavors of cherry and currant in this tightly wound red. Silky and balanced, but needs short-term aging to absorb the oak. Fine length. Best from 2021 through 2035. *(Issue: Nov 30, 2019)*

92 ALBERT BICHOT Gevrey-Chambertin 1^{er} Cru Lavaux-Saint-Jacques 2017

Broad and warm, featuring a mouthful of plum, black cherry and oak spice flavors, with a hint of tobacco. Solidly built and balanced, but could use a year or two to fully integrate the oak. *(Issue: Nov 15, 2019)*

92 ALBERT BICHOT Chambolle-Musigny 1^{er} Cru Les Chabiots 2017

Elegant and silky, boasting violet, black currant and black cherry flavors, shaded by stone and spice accents. Vibrant and balanced, with fine length. Approachable now. Drink now through 2032. *(Issue: Nov 15, 2019)*

91 ALBERT BICHOT Morey-Saint-Denis 1^{er} Cru Les Sorbets 2017

Well-constituted, with black cherry and blackberry flavors and touches of violet, earth and sweet spices. This red offers a broad profile. Balanced and long, showing moderate density on the finish. Drink now through 2030. *(Issue: Nov 15, 2019)*

90 ALBERT BICHOT Vosne-Romanée Domaine du Clos Frantin 2017

This red shows a touch of gaminess, with woody elements to the cherry and currant flavors. Firmly structured, elegant and balanced. Fruit and spice notes linger on the fresh finish, revealing an emerging mineral hint. Best from 2021 through 2033. *(Issue: Nov 15, 2019)*

90 ALBERT BICHOT Fixin 2017

Though rich and laced with black cherry and black currant fruit, this red is also earthy, muscular and dense, offering tannins and vibrant acidity. Will need short-term aging to reach equilibrium. Shows fine concentration and length. Best from 2022 through 2033. *(Issue: Dec 31, 2019)*

90 ALBERT BICHOT Bourgogne Hautes-Côtes de Nuits Les Dames Huguettes 2017

Bright strawberry and cherry fruit highlights this sleek, elegant red. Floral and spice notes add interest as this winds down on the firm, mouthwatering finish. Drink now through 2024. *(Issue: Nov 30, 2019)*

October 31 / November 15, 2019

VINTAGE 2017

COTE DE BEAUNE reds

93 ALBERT BICHOT Pommard 1^{er} Cru Les Rugiens

Domaine du Pavillon 2017

An oaky style, offering vanilla aromas and flavors, with intense black cherry, black currant and earth notes underneath. Dense tannins line the finish, which will need time to integrate. Best from 2022 through 2040. (*Issue: Oct 31, 2019*)

92 ALBERT BICHOT Corton Grand Cru Clos des Maréchaudes

Domaine du Pavillon 2017

This medium-weight version is smooth and lush, with cherry, plum, spice and earth aromas and flavors. Broad in profile, with well-integrated tannins and a long, spice-filled aftertaste. Best from 2021 through 2036. (*Issue: Oct 31, 2019*)

91 ALBERT BICHOT Volnay Les Santenots 1^{er} Cru

Domaine du Pavillon 2017

A rich, black cherry- and blackberry-flavored red, with a base of refined tannins for support. Hints of earth and graphite add depth as this plays out on the finish. Drink now through 2028. (*Issue: web only 2019*)

91 ALBERT BICHOT Pommard Clos des Ursulines

Domaine du Pavillon 2017

Round and juicy, this red rides the line between cherry fruit and austerity. As this builds on the palate, the tannins exert influence. All the elements come together on the lingering, spicy aftertaste. Best from 2021 through 2033 (*Issue: Oct 31, 2019*)

90 ALBERT BICHOT Aoxe-Corton 1^{er} Cru Clos des Maréchaudes

Domaine du Pavillon 2017

Sweet oak aromas lead off, followed by cherry and berry flavors. Chunky and on the austere side, but offering enough sweet fruit and length for balance. Features a lingering, spicy finish. Best from 2021 through 2032. (*Issue: Nov 15, 2019*)

90 ALBERT BICHOT Santenay Les Charmes 2017

Solid, revealing cherry, raspberry, mineral and spice flavors. This builds, gaining intensity and a vibrant personality as it evolves through the finish. Exhibits fine balance, grip and length. Drink now through 2028. (*Issue: Nov 15, 2019*)

90 ALBERT BICHOT Savigny-Les-Beaune 2017

An elegant, floral-, strawberry- and cherry-scented red, this shows excellent balance and poise as it navigates from start to finish. The firm structure is integrated. Finishes with light touches of spice and stone. Best from 2021 through 2032. (*Issue: Nov 15, 2019*)

89 ALBERT BICHOT Beaune Clos de l'Ermitage 2017

A dense matrix of tannins underscores cherry, plum, vanilla and licorice flavors in this tightly wound red. Supple and lingering, showing balance overall. Best from 2021 through 2030. (*Issue: web only 2019*)

89 ALBERT BICHOT Beaune Les Epenottes Domaine du Pavillon 2017

A sleek, strawberry- and cherry-laced red, supple and driven by bracing acidity. Balanced on the racy side, this keeps going through the long finish. Oak spice and chalk accents add detail. Best from 2021 through 2028. (*Issue: web only 2019*)



August 31 / September 30, 2019

95 ALBERT BICHOT Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru Domaine du Pavillon 2017

A lean, sinewy white, featuring peach, pear, mineral and pastry flavors, bound up on the dense, tensile structure. Well-marked by the toasty oak now, yet saturated with flavors that come back in waves on the finish. Best from 2021 through 2032. *(Issue: Aug 31, 2019)*



93 ALBERT BICHOT Beaune 1^{er} Cru Clos des Mouches Domaine du Pavillon 2017

A rich style, this white features lemon, peach and spice flavors, all backed by bright acidity. Balanced, leaving a chalky, even tannic impression on the long finish. Best from 2021 through 2029. *(Issue: Aug 31, 2019)*



92 ALBERT BICHOT Chassagne-Montrachet 1^{er} Cru Morgeot 2017

This balanced version shows intensity to the lemon, honey and white peach flavors, gently framed by toasty oak. Fades gracefully, with echoes of honey and pastry nuances. Drink now through 2024. *(Issue: Aug 31, 2019)*

92 ALBERT BICHOT Meursault 1^{er} Cru Les Charmes Domaine du Pavillon 2017

Lilac and butterscotch aromas lead off, featuring lime, hazelnut and spice flavors. This firms up as it cruises to a long finish, with a lingering, pastry-filled aftertaste. Drink now through 2024. *(Issue: Aug 31, 2019)*



92 ALBERT BICHOT Puligny-Montrachet 1^{er} Cru Les Perrières 2017

This is sumptuous, featuring peach and melon fruit wrapped in appealing toasty oak. This harmonious white starts out on the soft side, gaining structure as the long aftertaste extends. Drink now through 2023. *(Issue: Aug 31, 2019)*

91 ALBERT BICHOT Meursault Domaine du Pavillon 2017

Creamy in texture, offering honey-tinged peach, apple and lemon curd flavors, shaded by vanilla and butterscotch details. Concentrated and backed by lively spice and acidity. Fine length. Drink now through 2023. *(Issue: Aug 31, 2019)*



90 ALBERT BICHOT Nuits-Saint-Georges Les Terrasses – Château-Gris 2017

The lemon, apple and mineral flavors are marked by vanilla and toast accents in this sleek white. Vibrant, leaving a mouthwatering impression. Drink now through 2024. *(Web only 2019)*

90 ALBERT BICHOT Bourgogne Côte d'Or Chardonnay Secret de Famille 2017

A lovely texture sets the pace for the peach, apple and lemon cake flavors in this charming white. Fresh and harmonious, with a touch of citrus peel on the finish. Drink now. *(Issue: Sep 30, 2019)*

December 31, 2019

88 ALBERT BICHOT Bourgogne Vieilles Vignes de Pinot Noir 2017

Featuring cherry and stone flavors, this red offers a fleshy feel initially, giving way to a moderately firm structure on the leafy finish. Balanced but needs a few months to pull together. Drink now through 2024. *(Issue: Dec 31, 2019)*

November 30 and 15, 2019

90 ALBERT BICHOT Moulin à Vent Domaine de Rochevrès 2017

Integrated tannins support the focused profile of ripe raspberry and cherry puree notes, with licorice and violet accents. Spice and mineral details chime in on the finish. Drink now through 2023. *(Issue: Nov 15, 2019)*

89 ALBERT BICHOT Morgon Les Charmes 2017

Open-knit, with a supple profile, offering crushed raspberry and cherry notes, flanked by tea, spice and tangy elements. Floral and herbal details chime in on the finish. Drink now through 2023. *(Issue: Nov 30, 2019)*

89 ALBERT BICHOT Saint-Amour Les Champlettes 2017

Glazed cherry and raspberry notes are flanked by licorice, floral and mineral elements in this glossy, light-bodied red, with spice hints on the lightly tannic finish. Drink now through 2022. *(Issue: Nov 30, 2019)*

88 ALBERT BICHOT Fleurie La Madone 2017

A charming, light-bodied red, with ripe raspberry and black cherry flavors, cast with licorice drop and floral details. Tea and mineral notes accent the lightly tannic finish. Drink now through 2021. *(Issue: Nov 15, 2019)*

September 30 and August 31, 2019

90 ALBERT BICHOT Pouilly-Fuissé 2017

Peach, anise, floral and lemon aromas and flavors are the hallmarks of this creamy white. Firmly structured and moderately long, with a sense of elegance and refinement. Drink now through 2023. *(Issue: Aug 31, 2019)*

90 ALBERT BICHOT Saint-Véran 2017

This shows good cut to the peach, apple and citrus peel flavors, with an underlying salinity. Leaves a tangy and satisfying taste on the lingering finish. Fine balance. Drink now through 2023. *(Issue: Sep 30, 2019 - Smart buys)*

90 ALBERT BICHOT Viré-Clessé 2017

A lush, creamy texture sets the stage for the peach, apple and honeysuckle flavors in this expressive white, underlined by bright structure. Drink now through 2023. *(Issue: Aug 31, 2019)*

89 ALBERT BICHOT Mâcon-Lugny Les Charmes 2017

A ripe style, sporting apricot, peach and orange peel flavors. Fine cut defines the finish as a saline element emerges. Drink now. *(Issue: Sep 30, 2019)*

89 ALBERT BICHOT Mâcon-Villages 2017

A round, fruity version, boasting peach, apple and floral aromas and flavors up front, with a fresh citrus note on the finish. Shows fine balance and texture. Drink now. *(Issue: Aug 31, 2019)*

August 31, 2019

93 ALBERT BICHOT Chablis Grand Cru Moutonne Domaine Long-Depaquit 2017

There is a viscosity here beyond the richness, along with saturated flavors of peach, ripe apple, lemon and mineral. Balanced, with steely acidity offset by a touch of oak that rounds out the edges. Drink now through 2024.

92 ALBERT BICHOT Chablis Grand Cru Les Preuses Domaine Long-Depaquit 2017

A rich, complex style, with notes of sweet spices and butter wrapped around a core of peach, apple and lemon flavors. A latent mineral element lurks in the background. Drink now through 2024.

91 ALBERT BICHOT Chablis Grand Cru Les Clos Domaine Long-Depaquit 2017

Lush in texture and packed with juicy peach, apple and pastry flavors, this white is charming. Shows good cut underneath and a vein of mineral that should emerge with short-term aging. Drink now through 2024.

91 ALBERT BICHOT Chablis Grand Cru Les Vaudésirs Domaine Long-Depaquit 2017

Floral and talcum powder aromas are accented by new oak, while the peach, apple and lemon cake flavors are buoyed by lively acidity. Fine length. Drink now through 2023.

92 ALBERT BICHOT Chablis 1^{er} Cru Les Vaillons Domaine Long-Depaquit 2017

This white leans toward the minerally side, with iodine, chalk, lemon and apple aromas and flavors. Steely and intense, offering a long, stony aftertaste. Drink now through 2024.

91 ALBERT BICHOT Chablis 1^{er} Cru Les Vaucopins Domaine Long-Depaquit 2017

This is lean and tight, with lemon, apple and light earth and stone flavors. Not flashy, but persists on the long finish. Drink now through 2024.

90 ALBERT BICHOT Chablis 1^{er} Cru Les Lys Domaine Long-Depaquit 2017

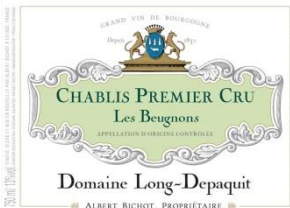
This white delivers an appealing mix of peach, apple, citrus and stone flavors, all well-balanced and expressive. Lingers nicely on the finish. Drink now through 2023.



Published on August 15, 2019

CHABLIS 2018: A TALE OF VINTAGE VERSUS TERROIR

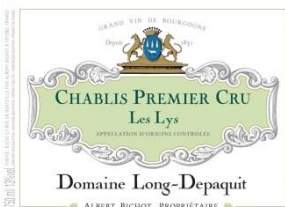
ALBERT BICHOT CHABLIS 1^{ER} CRU LES BEUGNONS DOMAINE LONG-DEPAQUIT 2018



Score
91-92

Beautiful dried meadow flowers and flinty nuances, too. There's a very fresh and attractively succulent, ripe palate here with bright lemon pastry to close. Drink over the next five years.

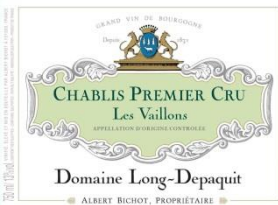
ALBERT BICHOT CHABLIS 1^{ER} CRU LES LYS DOMAINE LONG-DEPAQUIT 2018



Score
91-92

This has a very vivid array of melon and peaches on offer with a super fresh, lemon and green mango-flavored palate that delivers some savory cashews and almond bread at the finish. Very focused. Drink on release or hold.

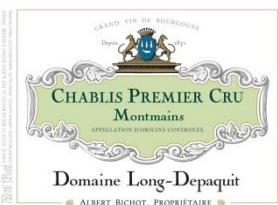
ALBERT BICHOT CHABLIS 1^{ER} CRU LES VAILLONS DOMAINE LONG-DEPAQUIT 2018



Score
92-93

This has such fleshy and attractively ripe peach and lemon aromas with a palate that's so precisely carved into shape, offering smooth-honed, rich, acid-cut lemons and white peaches. Some light hazelnut bread to close. Drink on release or hold.

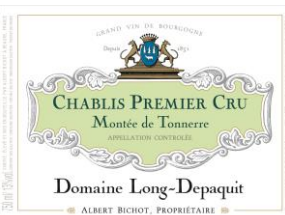
ALBERT BICHOT CHABLIS 1^{ER} CRU MONTMAINS DOMAINE LONG-DEPAQUIT 2018



Score
92-93

Such pristine aromas of lemons, quite essence-like, with background flintiness. The palate has a very sleek and succulent feel with very concentrated grapefruit and lemon biscuit to close. Drink over the next six to eight years.

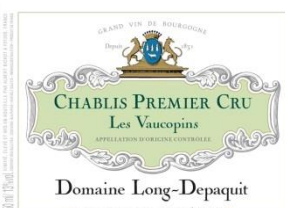
ALBERT BICHOT CHABLIS 1^{ER} CRU MONTÉE DE TONNERRE DOMAINE LONG-DEPAQUIT 2018



Score
93-94

A very attractive nose with aromas of wet chalk and lemons, as well as spiced pastry. The palate has a very attractive depth of lemon-cream flavor and a super smooth resolve. Refined, powerful and attractive Chablis here. Drink over the next six years.

ALBERT BICHOT CHABLIS 1^{ER} CRU LES VAUCOPINS DOMAINE LONG-DEPAQUIT 2018



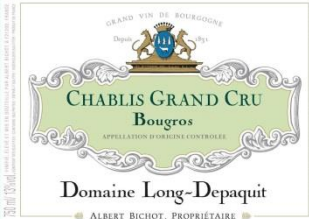
Score
92-93

The grilled-lemon and spiced peach-pastry aromas are super fresh. The palate has a very sleek and attractively fleshy core of peaches and lemons with a smoothly delivered palate that offers so much flavor. Drink over the next five years.

Published on August 15, 2019

CHABLIS 2018: A TALE OF VINTAGE VERSUS TERROIR

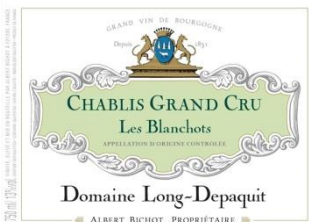
ALBERT BICHOT CHABLIS GRAND CRU LES BOUGROS DOMAINE LONG-DEPAQUIT 2018



Score
92-93

Such an impressive cru with superior integration of aroma, flavor and texture. The nose offers lemon pastry and oyster shell with wet stones. The palate has spiced-biscuit, lemon and white-peach flavors that hold long and succulent. Drink over the next seven years.

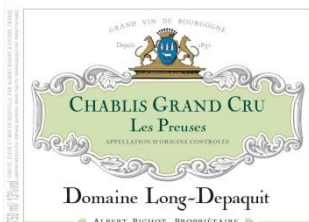
ALBERT BICHOT CHABLIS GRAND CRU LES BLANCHOTS DOMAINE LONG-DEPAQUIT 2018



Score
93-94

Super fragrant and attractively ripe peach aromas with a very lively and pure attitude. The palate offers such attractive and succulent ripe peaches and a sleeve of lemon, piercing right through to the long, fresh finish. Drink over the next five years.

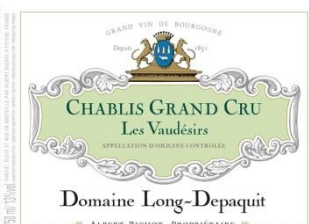
ALBERT BICHOT CHABLIS GRAND CRU LES PREUSES DOMAINE LONG-DEPAQUIT 2018



Score
93-94

This is a very succulent Chablis with intense, crushed wet stones and a swathe of spiced lemon biscuit, as well as a strong lemon-peel note on the nose. The palate has a very supple and intense, lime and lemon core with such great depth and drive. Impressive wine. Drink over the next six to eight years.

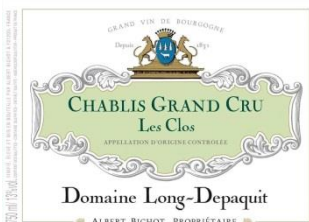
ALBERT BICHOT CHABLIS GRAND CRU LES VAUDÉSIRS DOMAINE LONG-DEPAQUIT 2018



Score
93-94

Some attractively toasty oak makes an appearance here, while the fruit is in the yellow-grapefruit, lemon and peach-custard zone. The palate has a very rich feel with so much flavor. The depth really is convincing, driving so long on the finish. Drink over the next eight years.

ALBERT BICHOT CHABLIS GRAND CRU LES CLOS DOMAINE LONG-DEPAQUIT 2018



Score
94-95

This has very attractive grapefruit and gently flinty, stony notes with oyster shell, lemon juice and a backdrop of gently toasty oak spice. The palate offers some very composed, succulent and intensely concentrated citrus fruit that just holds and holds and holds. Spectacular length and purity here. Drink over the next decade.

2019 Decanter® WORLD WINE AWARDS

May 2019



PLATINIUM MEDAL

**Chablis Blanchots Grand Cru
2017**
Domaine Long-Depaquit



GOLD MEDAL

**Beaune 1^{er} Cru Clos des Mouches
2017**
Domaine du Pavillon



GOLD MEDAL

**Meursault 1^{er} Cru Les Charmes
2017**
Domaine du Pavillon



ISSUE 63 2019 / ANNE KREBIEHL MW PAINTS FIVE PINOT NOIR VIGNETTES
2017 BURGUNDY / 2015 BARBARESCO / DUGAT AND DUGAT-PY / PRIETO PICUDO

2019 - Issue 63

Clos de la Roche Grand Cru

NB | A consistently outstanding cuvée here, with a perfectly judged 25% whole-bunch and 50% new oak (as for most of the grands crus here this year). A luminous mid-ruby. Great complexity and depth on the nose, a lovely light whiff of white pepper from the stems. Very graceful on the palate, despite the depth and intensity, at once mineral and succulent, a really sublime texture, more cashmere than silk, so densely but finely layered, thanks to abundant but beautifully managed tannins; perfectly seamless, thrillingly long. A brilliant rendition of this still generally underrated cru. | 96



Domaine du Clos Frantin Clos de Vougeot Grand Cru

NB | Pale to mid-ruby. An arrestingly expressive, graceful but intense wild-rose scent. Finely layered tannins, with authentic depth, richness, and structure, but nothing at all dry or forbidding. An excellent translation of this very variable site, one to win over those who might normally shun it. | 95



Domaine du Clos Frantin Chambertin Grand Cru

NB | Medium-deep, luminous ruby. Naturally reserved, but you sense the depth underneath, fathomless and well-formed, with gentle floral and mineral lift. Richly silky, still to fan out, of course, but great balance, elegance, freshness, and focus, with the proper scale and tension for the cru. | 95



Domaine du Clos Frantin Echézeaux Grand Cru

SB | Very ripe and intense raspberry-coulis nose, violet aromas adding charm. The attack is fresh, this is concentrated and pure, with fine tannins. There's intensity and lift, and a long, spicy finish. | 93



2017 BURGUNDY

Côte de Nuits

Domaine du Clos Frantin Vosne-Romanée

NB | A highly successful blend of two very different, distant, but complementary village *lieux-dits*: Damaudes for complexity and Maizières for structure. Pale ruby. *Aérien* on the nose, with elegant ripe red fruit. Lovely ripeness on the palate, too, with brilliantly matched freshness of fruit and succulence of fine tannin, and excellent length for the level. Even from Burgundy's grandest village, this is seductive, *hors classe* Vosne-Romanée. | 92



Fixin Premier Cru Clos de la Perrière

AK | The sheen of oak frames ripe, fresh red cherry on the nose. The palate is vivid with juicy, dense, fruit evoking both red and black cherry. Fine tannins brush gently on the tongue while freshness corrals the fruit. Totally hedonistic, but with a brain. | 92



Morey-St-Denis Premier Cru Les Sorbets

AK | Juiciest, purest, ripest red cherry dances across the nose. The palate is equally full-fruited, easy, pleasant, berry-ish and cherry-ish. Stops short of plumpness thanks to bright freshness and a lovely web of fine tannin. All about pleasure. | 92



Gevrey-Chambertin Premier Cru Lavaux-St-Jacques

AK | A heady whiff of red cherry sets the tone. The palate presents a picture of restrained juiciness, of ripe fruit framed by freshness and a gentle tannic grip. There is lovely depth of fruit, great symmetry and balance. So moreish and so elegant. | 93+



Chambolle-Musigny Premier Cru Les Chabiots

AK | A touch of heady cherry and a hint of darker florals make for a seductive nose. The palate has juicy intensity but also a darker aspect of density, control, firmness. A brooding Chambolle, charming but serious, with fine grip and vivid freshness. | 93



Domaine du Clos Frantin Vosne-Romanée Premier Cru Malconsorts

SB | A perfumed nose, floral and charming. Fresh limpid, and elegant on the palate, with fine-grained tannins and good underlying tannins. It's not that demonstrative but it's finely balanced and long. | 93



Tasters : **AK** Anne Krebiehl MW | **NB** Neil Beckett | **SB** Stephen Brook



ISSUE 63 2019 / ANNE KREBIEHL MW PAINTS FIVE PINOT NOIR VIGNETTES
2017 BURGUNDY / 2015 BARBARESCO / DUGAT AND DUGAT-PY / PRIETO PICUDO

2019 - Issue 63

Côte de Beaune reds

Domaine du Pavillon Pommard Clos des Ursulines (Monopole)

NB | The vines here, now with an average age of 30 years, are entering their prime, and it shows. A beautiful color: intense, luminous mid-ruby. And a beautiful nose, too: enigmatic but friendly, fine, subtle, gently earthy, lightly roseate, more ripe raspberry fruit emerging in the glass. Compact, poised, taut but not tight, with comforting fruit sweetness and very fine tannins, then a lingering, refreshing finish. Needs time but will be a delicious expression of this *hors classe* village wine. | 91

Domaine du Pavillon Pommard Premier Cru Les Rugiens

AK | Lovely, pure and taut dark cherry promises freshness on the nose. The palate then opens with uncommon freshness that accentuated the inherent juiciness even more. This is easy and open, but it comes with an honest, Pommard grip. | 92

Domaine du Pavillon Corton Grand Cru Clos des Maréchaudes (Monopole)

NB | The Aloxe-Corton Premier Cru Clos des Maréchaudes is exceptionally elegant and fine this vintage, but the grand cru is finer still. Luminous mid-ruby. An exotic light whiff of white pepper and spice from the whole-bunch (but not normally more than 20% this year) and the 50% new oak. Impressive structure, seductive suavity, harmonious, layered, and seamless, but the focus and freshness to match the grand cru richness. | 93



2017 BURGUNDY

Chablis

DOMAINE LONG-DEPAQUIT

Chablis Grand Cru La Moutonne

SB | Rich lime nose, still reticent. Broad and creamy, concentrated, plump, this has moderate acidity but a lot of white pepper and spice on the fine finish. | 92



Côte de Beaune & Côte de Nuits whites

Bourgogne Côte d'Or Chardonnay Secret de Famille

NB | A blend from Meursault, Puligny, St-Aubin, and St-Romain, 60% fermented and matured in oak, of which only 5-10% was new. More classic than 2015 or 2016, and the best Secret I can remember. An attractive nose, some sweetness from the wood, but real elegance, finesse, race, and tension on the palate, while remaining harmonious and supple, and finishing with a graceful flourish. | 89



Château Gris Nuits-St-Georges Les Terrasses (Monopole)

NB | An intriguing wine, from bush vines due to the contours of the slope. A lightly honeyed scent, but restrained. Very supple and seductive in texture, but not too *doux*, thanks to good definition and tension and light phenolic rub. Again, the best I recall. | 90



Domaine du Pavillon Meursault Premier Cru Charmes

NB | Lemon-gold. A stylish nose, restrained and subtle. A lovely silken texture, *gourmand*, opulent, but real intensity of classy, ripe fruit (largely from Charmes-Dessus rather than Dessous) and enough acidity to balance and preserve freshness. | 91

Domaine du Pavillon Corton-Charlemagne Cru

NB | Lemon-gold. A little more evident oak-spice (all barrel-fermented, 30-40% new), but the character of the cru (two parcels in Languelles, harvested three days apart) is reinforced by a reductive stoniness. A molten, unctuous texture, still some phenolic rub from the wood, and it should acquire more precision and tension with time. | 92



Tasters : AK Anne Krebiehl MW | NB Neil Beckett | SB Stephen Brook



Roger Voss

March 1st, 2019

Beaujolais Crus 2017 & 2016

MOULIN-À-VENT *Domaine de Rochegrès* 2017

93 POINTS

Acidity and richness give this wine an opulent character. Ripe blackberry fruit are shot with acidity, still young and exuberant. The wine needs to soften and fill out to reveal its true intensity.



FLEURIE *La Madone* 2017

90 POINTS

This wine comes from Fleurie's most famous vineyard, which descends the hill from the La Madone chapel. Rich and concentrated, it has structure that balances well with the juicy black fruits.

MORGON *Les Charmes* 2017

90 POINTS

A richly structured wine from one of Morgon's best vineyards. It is ripe, fleshy with black-cherry fruits and the firm texture that will allow this rich wine to age.



ROCHEGRÈS MOULIN-À-VENT *Domaine de Rochegrès* 2016

94 POINTS

From a 12-acre parcel, this wine is ripe, with layers of wood, spice and black fruits. Opulent and generous, it has great potential. The concentration and richness indicate a wine to age for a few more years.



Vintage Preview: Burgundy 2017

By Tim Atkin MW

www.decanter.com

December 2018

February 2019



CHABLIS GRAND CRU MOUTONNE *Domaine Depaquit* 2017

96

Chablis so-called 'eighth grand cru' is sourced 95% from Vaudésirs, 5% from Preuses. Rich and powerful, leesy, textured, it's complete, with aromatic oak, stone fruit sweetness and racing underlying acidity. Drink 2021-2028.

Published on decanter.com and in the December issue

CHASSAGNE-MONTRACHET 1^{ER} CRU MORGEOT 2017

94

Bichot's Morgeot comes from a single supplier on the Santenay side of this large premier cru. It's a classic Morgeot that's very well judged in warmer 2017, with bready, honeyed concentration, stylish oak integration and a tangy, refreshing aftertaste. Drinking window 2020-2025.

Published on decanter.com

BOURGOGNE CÔTE D'OR CHARDONNAY SECRET DE FAMILLE 2017

TOP VALUE 90

This large and always enjoyable cuvée marries fruit from Meursault, Puligny-Montrachet and St-Romain, and these fine origins show in the quality of the wine. It's very lightly wooded, with 70% of the total fermented in stainless steel. Balanced, spicy and mineral-edged. Drinking window 2019-2022.

Published on decanter.com and in the February issue

POMMARD 1^{ER} CRU LES RUGIENS *Domaine du Pavillon* 2017

94

Impressive winemaking has given a classic interpretation of this outstanding premier cru. Serious and deep, with 50% new oak and 30% whole clusters, it's sappy, firm and ageworthy but shows nothing in the way of rusticity. Drink 2023-2030.

Published in the February issue

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

93

Clos des Maréchaudes is an excellent monopole holding in the lower part of the hill of Corton. It's quite a warm site but the richer soils preserved precious water in 2017 and have produced a wine that's fresh, balanced and detailed, with adroitly integrated 40% new wood and underlying grip and backbone. Drinking window 2021-2027.

Published on decanter.com

FIXIN 1^{ER} CRU CLOS DE LA PERRIÈRE 2017

93

Produced with purchased grapes, rather than bought-in must or wine, this is an exceptional Fixin from the highest premier cru site in the appellation. It's focused and refined, with racy natural acidity, one-third whole clusters and stylish oak. There's a hint of good reduction and a core of crunchy cranberry and red cherry fruit. Drinking window 2021-2025.

Published on decanter.com and in the February issue.

GEVREY-CHAMBERTIN LES EVOCELLES 2017

93

Gevrey pour le nom, Brochon pour le bon', the old-timers used to say, and this superb village wine from the latter village shows that they had a point. Sourced from high on the slope at the northern end of the appellation, this is a typically bright, sappy red with some grip and spices from one-third whole-bunch fermentation, complemented by 35% new wood. Drinking window 2021-2027.

Published on decanter.com

2017 BURGUNDY: A NUANCED, TERROIR-DRIVEN VINTAGE

COTE DE NUITS WINES

BOURGOGNE CÔTE D'OR PINOT NOIR SECRET DE FAMILLE 2017 90

A prototypical Burgundian pinot that has good ripeness and the lively personality of this vintage. Some sous bois and good cherry aromas. The palate is rather silky, the tannins building gently at the long finish.

GEVREY-CHAMBERTIN 2017 90

Quite a charming wine for this appellation with plenty of raspberries and a hint of lemon. Nice warmth on the mid-palate and a rather long, supple finish. Made from bought in grapes.

VOSNE-ROMANÉE Domaine du Clos Frantin 2017 91

A suave and silky Vosne-Romanée that has some lovely floral notes, good depth and a silky finish. Lively acidity. Can be drunk from release.

FIXIN 1^{ER} CRU CLOS DE LA PERRIÈRE 2017 90

If you can't afford high-end Gevrey-Chambertin, this is a good, moderately priced solution with plenty of black fruit and some vanilla. The tannins are ripe enough to provide nice warmth, without making it hard.

NUITS-SAINT-GEORGES 1ER CRU CHÂTEAU-GRIS 2017 90

A rather charming and fragrant Nuits-Saint-Georges with nice raspberry character. The firm tannins of this appellation only show at the finish, but kept nicely in check by delicate sweetness.

NUITS-SAINT-GEORGES 1ER CRU CHÂÎNES CARTEAUX 2017 91

Lovely sous-bois character matches beautifully the fine aromas of cherries and forest berries. There's very attractive sweetness on the palate that almost masks the tannins, which still manage to support the rather generous palate very nicely. Long, earthy but clean finish.

MOREY-SAINT-DENIS 1ER CRU LES SORBETS 2017 93

A very elegant, mid-weight Morey-Saint-Denis that has the fragrance (forest flowers and berries) and finesse of this appellation, combined with restrained power that propels the long, polished finish.

CHAMBOLLE-MUSIGNY 1ER CRU LES CHABIOTS 2017 92

Great nose of raspberries with just a whiff of caramel and toasty oak. A graceful wine that wraps itself gently around you and caresses you. Long finish with delicate sweetness, which makes it drinkable on release.

VOSNE-ROMANÉE 1ER CRU LES MALCONSORTS Domaine du Clos Frantin 2017 94

A fragrant and complex Vosne-Romanée with deep black-cherry and floral notes on the nose. Then comes the rich and very elegant palate, the tannins almost completely masked by the fruit, until you reach the very powerful yet polished finish.

CLOS DE VOUGEOT GRAND CRU Domaine du Clos Frantin 2017 95

A dramatic wine with full aromas of blackberries and wild herbs. The considerable depth creeps up on you slowly. With aeration, it develops a hint of chocolate that nicely underlines the long, polished finish.

LATRICIÈRES-CHAMBERTIN GRAND CRU 2017 94

Very complex and deep nose of super ripe forest berries and sous bois with fine vanilla oak. The palate is concentrated and elegant, in spite of the serious tannins and crisp acidity. Long and polished finish.

ECHÉZEAUX GRAND CRU Domaine du Clos Frantin 2017 96

A deep and really complex Echezeaux with a ton of forest berries, very polished tannins and wonderful sweetness that grows at the back of the palate. Very long and complex finish with a lot of herbal and mineral complexity. Very long finish. This will be delicious from release, but has a great future ahead of it.

NUITS-SAINT-GEORGES LES TERRASSES CHÂTEAU-GRIS 2017 92

A distinctive Côte de Nuits white (quite a rarity) that combines melon and lemon with delicate, toasty oak. On the palate there's a touch of creaminess from lees contact and stirring. But the mineral freshness is the dominant element through the long finish, giving it a very food-friendly personality.

2017 BURGUNDY: A NUANCED, TERROIR-DRIVEN VINTAGE

COTE CHALONNAISE and COTE DE BEAUNE WINES

MERCUREY 1^{ER} CRU LES CHAMPS-MARTIN Domaine Adélie 2017 **90**

This would be a great introduction to the red wines of Burgundy. It has attractive black-cherry and sous-bois aromas, turning ripe on the palate with healthy dry tannins and lively acidity that make it very food-friendly. Good length.

SANTENAY 1^{ER} CRU CLOS ROUSSEAU 2017 **90**

Brimming with redcurrants – there's something animal, too – this is warm and generous, but has a core of firm tannins beneath the richness. The firm finish suggests this has a good future ahead of it.

SAVIGNY-LÈS-BEAUNE 2017 **90**

Fragrant and bright sour cherries on the nose, then a sleek and racy palate with refreshing acidity. Very crisp finish.

BEAUNE CLOS DE L'ÉRMITAGE 2017 **91**

Very attractive red cherries and delicate spice on the nose. Medium-bodied with elegant dry tannins, the finish long and mineral.

POMMARD CLOS DES URSULINES Domaine du Clos Frantin 2017 **91**

Fragrant black cherries and a touch of earth pour from the glass. This manages to combine the firmness for which Pommard is famous with some of the silkiness that neighboring Volnay is known for. Good concentration, but it needs some time for the tannins to resolve.

POMMARD 1ER CRU LES RUGIENS Domaine du Pavillon 2017 **93**

A sophisticated Pommard with plenty of black cherries, forest berries and flowers and a nice touch of spice. Concentrated and remarkably silky for this appellation. Long, generous and polished finish.

ALOXE-CORTON 1ER CRU CLOS DES MARÉCHAUDES Domaine du Pavillon 2017 **91**

Wonderful black-raspberry aromas leap out of the glass of this cool and silky Aloxé-Corton. The healthy tannin structure only shows slightly in the finish, making this a very appealing red Burgundy to drink young.

CORTON GRAND CRU CLOS DES MARÉCHAUDES Domaine du Pavillon 2017 **93**

The 2017 from the other part of this vineyard (with a 1er Cru designation) is so charming, but this is a brooding giant with lots of black-fruit aromas, including forest berries. Firm structure and a lot of power at the long, fresh finish.

BOURGOGNE CÔTE D'OR CHARDONNAY SECRET DE FAMILLE 2017 **90**

Attractive aromas of dried and caramelized pears, plus a kiss of vanilla oak, making this ripe and generous Bourgogne blanc easy to enjoy. The finish has nice freshness that pulls you back for more.

MONTAGNY 1ER CRU 2017 **91**

If you like your chardonnay with some oak, but you also want elegant, food-friendly balance, then you should really like this. Good concentration on the mid-palate and a rather long finish, where the chalky character and oak are nicely interwoven. Made from bought-in juice and vinified 100 per cent in barrel.

MEURSAULT 2017 **91**

Plenty of oak here, but the wine has the ripeness and substance to carry it. Attractive candied-citrus character and enough acidity to keep the long finish clean. Made from bought in juice and grapes.

CHASSAGNE-MONTRACHET 2017 **92**

A prototypical Chassagne-Montrachet that is ripe and rather juicy (ripe pears and aromatic apples) at the front, but then turns elegant with a very long, clean and complex, chalky finish. Made from bought in juice and grapes.

BEAUNE 1ER CRU CLOS DES MOUCHES Domaine du Pavillon 2017 **93**

If you like bold dry whites, then try this. Quite a tannic white Burgundy, but with richness that has a very positive impact on the wine. Plenty of citrus, plus some hazelnut and chalky character. Some real drive at the finish that promises a long life.

MEURSAULT 1ER CRU LES CHARMES Domaine du Pavillon 2017 **94**

The fine nose of hazelnuts, candied citrus, toast and vanilla leads you into this concentrated and highly structured Meursault, which is uncompromisingly mineral. Very straight, long finish.

CORTON-CHARLEMAGNE GRAND CRU Domaine du Pavillon 2017 **96**

A very classic Corton-Charlemagne that's very powerful, but very cool and fresh with a super mineral personality. Concentrated but finely etched palate with great acidity that drives the very long, stony finish.

Published on February 12th, 2019

2017 BURGUNDY: A NUANCED, TERROIR-DRIVEN VINTAGE

CHABLIS WINES

CHABLIS Domaine Long-Depaquit 2017 90

An attractive, regular Chablis that has bright dried-pear and apple-ring character, quite generous body, but enough lemon-peel freshness to carry it. Some chalky minerals at the finish.

CHABLIS 1ER CRU LES VAILLONS Domaine Long-Depaquit 2017 92

I love the effusive mineral and herbal freshness of this elegant 1er Cru Chablis, which also has attractive succulence on the mid palate and a long, chalky finish that screams out for seafood.

CHABLIS 1ER CRU LES VAUCOPINS Domaine Long-Depaquit 2017 93

Quite a generous style of Chablis with ripe-pear character. But, with some time and air, this also reveals some earthy depths and the long, mineral finish shows great promise for the future.

CHABLIS GRAND CRU LES CLOS Domaine Long-Depaquit 2017 94

The nose of this classic, medium-bodied Chablis is extremely subtle with plenty of oyster shell, dried lemon peel and iodine. Concentrated and elegant, but with lovely succulence on the mid palate, then a long and pristine mineral finish.

CHABLIS GRAND CRU MOUTONNE Domaine Long-Depaquit 2017 95

Very ripe yet poised, this has a stunning nose of Asian pears, mini bananas, lemon zest and oyster shell. The concentration and impeccable balance on the palate puts this in the same league as top Grand Crus from the Côte d'Or. Long finish with a hint of toast and vanilla from the oak aging.

MACONNAIS WINES

VIRÉ-CLESSÉ 2017 88

Melted butter and hazelnuts dominate the nose, but on the palate there's also plenty of dried pears and candied lemons. The moderate acidity and creamy finish make this easy drinking. Made from bought-in juice.

SAINT-VÉРАН 2017 90

An impressive wine for this appellation with a nice combination of hazelnuts and white fruit, plus a refreshing touch of citrus. This is ripe, generous and elegant. Crisp and clean, long finish. Made from bought-in juice.

POUILLY-FUISSÉ 2017 90

A mid-weight Mâconnais white with nice, fresh and candied lemon and lemon flower on the nose. Quite full and juicy on the palate with ripe Asian pears. Made from bought-in juice.

2017 BEAUJOLAIS: COMFORTABLE IN THE CELLAR, DELIGHTFUL IN THE GLASS

Published on February 18th, 2019

MORGON LES CHARMES 2017 89

Ripe cassis, black cherries and a hint of chocolate on the nose. Then a solid palate with some warm tannins that give this a Burgundian personality. Quite impressive. Drink or hold.

JULIÉNAS ROCHE GRANIT 2017 89

An attractively juicy and light-footed Julié纳斯 that's brimming with red-berry aromas and lifted by lively acidity. Drink now.

BROUILLY ROSE ROSE 2017 90

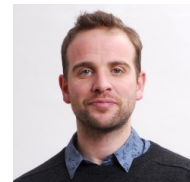
Ripe black cherries and quite a generous body here, but with enough acidity to easily carry it. This is quite a full wine for a Beaujolais with some powdery tannins at the finish. Drink or hold.

FLEURIE LA MADONE 2017 90

The lovely nose of violets leads you into this succulent and very lively Beaujolais that has good depth and very nice harmony at the clean finish. A great picnic wine! Drink now.

MOULIN-À-VENT Domaine de Rocheigrès 2017 91

A highly structured Moulin-à-Vent with a ton of black cherries and blackberries, plus a hint of smoke. Rich and tannic, but with the typical, fresh acidity of Beaujolais that packs quite a punch. Drink on release.



January 2019

CÔTE DE NUITS REDS

- 16.5+** **BOURGOGNE CÔTE D'OR PINOT NOIR SECRET DE FAMILLE 2017**
 Juicy redcurrant and cranberry fruit with great openness of fragrance, yet tension of structure – lovely acidic zing, then rather full body for Bourgogne. Finishes with charming earthy tones. A great advert for how ambitious Bourgogne can be .
- 16.5** **VOSNE-ROMANÉE Domaine du Clos Frantin 2017**
 Rather straightforward aromatic range. Full body, rich red fruit, piquant spice. A ballerina with clogs on.
- 16.5+** **FIXIN CLOS DE LA PERRIÈRE PREMIER CRU 2017**
 Roasted-coffee aromas. Lovely juicy red fruit matches it well on the palate, and there's mouthwatering, moreish structure driven by bright acid and fine tannins. Moderate length with a touch of violet scent.
- 16.5** **GEVREY-CHAMBERTIN LAVAUX SAINT-JACQUES PREMIER CRU 2017**
 Thick texture on the palate, though the tannins are already rounded. Heavy-going, though the flavours are well-formed and the style its true to its appellation.
- 17+** **MOREY-SAINT-DENIS LES SORBETS PREMIER CRU 2017**
 Baked cranberry and raspberry fruit – lovely definition and generosity. Smooth chalky texture and a sleek, subtle length that lingers with a floral aftertaste. Over-performs for its appellation.
- 17.5** **NUITS-SAINT-GEORGES CHAÎNES CARTEAUX PREMIER CRU 2017**
 Lovely smoky oak combined with freshly baked cherry fruit and loads of floral perfume on the palate too. Very much the prettier style of Pinot, and immediately satisfying as a result. Loads of flavour and complexity to get absorbed by.
- 17** **CHAMBOLLE-MUSIGNY LES CHABIOTS PREMIER CRU 2017**
 Dainty, delicate style of fruit with pushy oak spice, but nicely balanced flavours on the finish. Succulent and easy to enjoy, with all the tannin and acid in harmony. A good example of Chambolle's gentleness.
- 17.5** **CHAMBOLLE-MUSIGNY LES AMOUREUSES PREMIER CRU 2017**
 Rich black fruit on the nose, much more forceful and foursquare than their Chabiots, and you can see why this site has a grand cru reputation. Long, perfumed, layered, nuanced and with wonderfully powerful primary fruit. A star performer.
- 17+** **CLOS DE LA ROCHE GRAND CRU 2017**
 Heavy black-cherry fruit, fine tannic texture and great persistence. Punchy and fulsome with everything in proportion, and plenty of intensity.
- 18** **CHARMES-CHAMBERTIN GRAND CRU 2017**
 Wonderfully layered fruit flavours, from cherry to redcurrant to rhubarb, and shimmering with acidic zest. Extra-long finish reveals the potential here. A powerhouse, yet with fine detail too.
- 17.5+** **LATRICIÈRES-CHAMBERTIN GRAND CRU 2017**
 Black cherry compote, fine tannic fuzz and deep, rich, layered fruit on the finish. Precious little other flavour can escape at present, but time will surely coax it out.
- 18.5** **CHAMBERTIN GRAND CRU DOMAINE DU CLOS FRANTIN 2017**
 Awesome fruit definition, wonderful tension between vivid acidity and finely balanced tannins, and impeccable clarity of flavour. Has the *je ne sais quoi* of grand cru. A treasure.
- 18+** **ECHZEVAUX GRAND CRU Domaine du Clos Frantin 2017**
 Dark, dense black fruit on the palate, very fine tannins that require no ageing to weather them. This is out-of-the-box-ready in structure and primary fruit purity, although the complexity will be years in the making.
- 17.5+** **GRANDS-ECHZEVAUX GRAND CRU Domaine du Clos Frantin 2017**
 A touch of medicinal character on the nose with some light herbal aromas adds complexity to the heavy-set black fruit. Velvety texture, with finely ground tannin on the finish.
- 17.5+** **BONNES MARES GRAND CRU 2017**
 Rich, firm and substantial. Gives nothing away. Cocooned in dark fruit, with just a hint of spice on the finish. Polished and fragrant, but with a long way to go in terms of development.
- 18.5** **RICHEBOURG GRAND CRU Domaine du Clos Frantin 2017**
 Very special – loaded with floral qualities, and wonderful, freshly picked red fruit flavours. There's a peppery spice on the palate with superb persistence and clarity. The jewel in the Bichot crown, and justifiably so.



BEAUJOLAIS, CÔTE CHALONNAISE AND CÔTE DE BEAUNE REDS

- 16.5+** **MOULIN-À-VENT Domaine de Rochegrès 2017**
 Gamay loud and clear, resonant with crunchy black fruit and a touch of floral scent. Great equilibrium between high acid and pure fruit on the palate, with fine-grained tannins giving respectable background texture.
- 16.5** **MERCUREY CHAMPS-MARTIN PREMIER CRU Domaine Adélie 2017**
 Cherry candy, attractive stemmy herbaceous note on the palate and deliciously bitter juniper notes on the finish. There's an afterthought of oak on the finish, adding sweet vanilla elements. Very soft tannins, well suited to early consumption.
- 16.5** **POMMARD CLOS DES URSULINES Domaine du Pavillon 2017**
 Clove spice is the first note, then robust cherry and raspberry fruit. Dry, fine tannic weight on the palate gives the requisite Pommard power.
- 16.5+** **POMMARD PREMIER CRU LES RUGIENS Domaine du Pavillon 2017**
 Compact, understated nose with dense black fruit and a touch of sous-bois on the finish. Very much the hard end of the Pinot spectrum, with high acid and firm tannin making this less approachable than most 2017s at this early stage. Feels like there's quite a lot of warmth to finish.
- 16.5++** **CORTON CLOS DES MARÉCHAUDES GRAND CRU Domaine du Pavillon 2017**
 Dark, compressed fruit on the palate. Highly strung – everything is in balance, but still in pupal form.

COTE CHALONNAISE AND COTE D'OR WHITES

- 16.5** **MERCUREY LES CHAMPS MICHAUX Domaine Adélie 2017**
 Baked apple with a creamy dairy character giving substance and complexity. Impressive length for an overlooked appellation, and has much of the flintiness that people value from haughtier origins.
- 17.5** **NUITS-SAINT-GEORGES LES TERRASSES Château-Gris 2017**
 Ripe, expressive stone fruit with a toffee and caramel character on the palate. Deliciously savoury, crisp finish. Very sophisticated, combining the ripeness of modern Chardonnay with the traditional tension of Burgundy.
- 17** **MEURSAULT CLOS DE MAGNY Domaine du Pavillon 2017**
 Dairy, apple and flint on the nose and palate, with bright acidity and an attractive mealy note to finish.
- 17** **MEURSAULT LES CHARMES PREMIER CRU Domaine du Pavillon 2017**
 Fleshy, full and ripe-fruited. Powerful and quite warm on the finish, which seems to over-proof the structure. But there is plenty of flavour too.
- 17** **BEAUNE CLOS DES MOUCHES PREMIER CRU Domaine du Pavillon 2017**
 Toasted nuts, bitter grapefruit and tangy citrus. Mealy and lengthy on the palate with a lovely salinity on the length.
- 17.5** **CHASSAGNE-MONTRACHET MORGEOT PREMIER CRU 2017**
 Lovely caramelised fruit on the nose and palate – rich, layered, creamy – but with great zip on the finish to keep everything fresh. Attractive stony notes on the finish – this has a lot going for it.
- 17.5** **CHASSAGNE-MONTRACHET VIDE BOURSE PREMIER CRU 2017**
 There is fresh apple fruit too, then long, layered dried fruits on the finish. Sophisticated creamy oak. Something of an outlier, but there is great charm here too.
- 17** **PULIGNY-MONTRACHET LES PERRIÈRES PREMIER CRU 2017**
 Precise, crisp, bright and elegant with delicate apple fruit and a long finish that has delicate toasted spices and a lovely creamy style.



CHABLIS

- 16.5** **CHABLIS LES LYS PREMIER CRU Domaine Long-Depaquit 2017**
 Strong peanut scent on the nose, followed by ripe apple and a touch of lemon curd. Smooth, soft, relatively low-acid style, and plenty of fruit concentration on the finish.
- 17.5** **CHABLIS LES VAILLONS PREMIER CRU Domaine Long-Depaquit 2017**
 Flinty and precise on the palate with baked apple, soft acid, quite full body and a touch of dried hay on the finish. Lovely intensity and length here, going beyond even the normal premier cru boundaries.
- 16.5** **CHABLIS LES VAUCOPINS PREMIER CRU Domaine Long-Depaquit 2017**
 Leesy, creamy nose. Green apple-skin fruit. Classic, standard Chablis with smooth structure and medium body.
- 17.5** **CHABLIS LES BLANCHOTS GRAND CRU Domaine Long-Depaquit 2017**
 Stewed apple, creamy and hoppy on the palate, with the body and weight that could be Côte d'Or. There is nuance too – an oyster-shell note with a long, flinty finish.
- 17.5+** **CHABLIS LES CLOS GRAND CRU Domaine Long-Depaquit 2017**
 Rich, thick palate with some stone fruit and pineapple on the fruit. The most tropical style of Chablis, yet retaining the savoury style and the nervy acidity. Compelling depths.
- 18** **CHABLIS LES VAUDÉSIRS GRAND CRU Domaine Long-Depaquit 2017**
 Cooked-dairy notes with superb layers of fruit and a blue-cheese character that adds both salinity and sweetness. Absolutely transcendent. Perhaps just a shade lower in acidity than you might like for very long-term ageing.
- 17.5+** **CHABLIS MOUTONNE GRAND CRU Domaine Long-Depaquit 2017**
 Almond, baked apple, cinnamon, and fig. Smooth, lengthy, complex and satisfying. Perhaps not quite as magic as their Vaudésirs, but makes up for it with finer acidic frame.





Jasper Morris MW

2017: The Vintage Report

WHITES WINES

- 2017, Mâcon-Lugny Les Charmes** **89**
Fullish pale yellow. This certainly has a touch of the muscatty chardonnay often found in the area and it is rather lovely, plump, sunny, energetic. Easy to love for gulping wine.
- 2017, Chablis Les Vaillons 1er Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit** **90**
Pale lemon in colour. The nose at the moment is a bit leesy though this should calm down in time. Somewhat yellow fruit, fills the mouth though, quite ripe, minerals behind. Very good length.
- 2017, Chablis Les Vaucopins 1er Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit** **92**
Paler colour, clean and chiselled. More wood here and slightly younger, shows at the finish as it fattens out. Still the classic steely white fruit. Quite an impressive weight.
- 2017, Chablis Les Clos Grand Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit** **93**
Full primrose, bright. The nose has tension. There is a mouth-filling generosity of fruit, again with some yellow notes, but classy nonetheless and a sweetly ripe seamless finish, kept fresh by the pure limestone feel.
- 2017, Chablis Les Vaudésirs Grand Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit** **92**
Pale lemon colour, there is a waxy weight to the nose. Huge grip on the palate, excellent tension, ripened later after the frost, a full bodied but not denatured style of Chablis.
- 2017, Chablis Moutonne Grand Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit** **95**
Tiny yield not much more than 10hl/ha. Fine fresh colour with light green hints. This does have a very fine chiseled nose and a slight bitterness at the back, with a very concentrated fruit in between that stays classical, on the bench of limestone. Lovely aftertaste, there will be not much Moutonne on the market this year, but one to search out.
- 2017, Beaune Clos des Mouches 1er Cru, Domaine du Pavillon** **90**
Pale gold colour, no green. Vibrant nose with lots of energy, a little touch of oak, good concentration throughout, tension at the back, a good example.
- 2017, Meursault, Domaine du Pavillon** **90**
Fullish yellow. I needed to shake the glass to get rid of a slightly over-ripe component. Generous fruit throughout and some slightly more saline notes appear to redress the balance. Solid and satisfying.
- 2017, Meursault Les Charmes 1er Cru, Domaine du Pavillon** **94**
A slightly fuller yellow but still fresh and even a green tint. Plenty of energy on the nose and really good on the palate too. Needs a moment for the oak to finish integrating but the energy of the fruit is spectacular. Lovely drive energy and length.
- 2017, Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru, Domaine du Pavillon** **93**
Fullish yellow with a touch of green. Slightly bacon fat richness, this certainly got ripe. Huge intensity on the palate, pears, fresh peaches, a bit of grapefruit too, good minerals behind.

January 2019

RED WINES

- 2017, Bourgogne Côte d'Or Pinot Noir Secret de Famille 86**
The fruit comes mainly from the Côte de Nuits including Les Bons Bâtons below Chambolle, Maladière (Nuits) and below Marsannay. Attractive dense purple colour with a firm concentrated pinot nose. There is a significant volume of dense fruit here, more than most in 2017.
- 2017, Pommard Clos des Ursulines, Domaine du Pavillon 89**
Very pretty pure purple. The nose has a certain elegance, very pretty fruit too across the palate, the tannins are nicely tamed and the acidity is just what is needed. Good persistence.
- 2017, Pommard Les Rugiens 1er Cru, Domaine du Pavillon 91**
Very dense purple, the nose is backward, more fruit than structure but hiding the detail. Firm tannins emerge at the back, for sure but there is good density of fruit for the vintage. Is it the whole bunch component (30%) which livens up the finish.
- 2017, Corton Clos des Maréchaudes Grand Cru, Domaine du Pavillon 90**
A brighter deeper purple, with intense youthful fruit. The intensity of dark raspberry fruit is quite impressive, there is enough to cover the oak and the tannins, the fruit emerging still fully intact, dense and on the cusp of red and black at the finish.
- 2017, Morey-St-Denis Les Sorbets 1er Cru 91**
Rich dense purple and there is some weight of fruit on the nose. This has very good tension on the palate, with medium depth of dark red fruit, on the cusp between black and red. Fair tannins behind. A sound wine with signs of becoming interesting with a little more time.
- 2017, Nuits-St-Georges Château-Gris 1er Cru, Albert Bichot 91**
Dense rich purple with quite a heavy oak laden nose. The weight of fruit on the palate is pretty impressive, some plums too, good acid tannin balance.
- 2017, Chambolle-Musigny Les Chabiots 1er Cru 91**
Dense red purple, bright red fruit on the nose, medium plus concentration. Sweetly ripe on the palate, but very much red fruit, not immensely intense as the oak begins to take over towards the back, but the tannins are light and fine. A lighter style of Chambolle.
- 2017, Chambolle-Musigny Les Amoureuses 1er Cru 94**
Lovely rich purple and the nose is sumptuous too, absolutely doing what Amoureuses should. There is a fine silky texture, all the red fruits together, just ripe enough, and with all the hoped for succulence and superb length.
- 2017, Vosne-Romanée, Domaine du Clos Frantin 91**
Clear bright colour, the nose is not in the fore-front of great Vosne-Romanée but the palate really shows everything a Vosne should have with fair density. Medium to long finish, attractive tannin/acid balance.
- 2017, Vosne-Romanée Les Malconsorts 1er Cru, Domaine du Clos Frantin 93**
Dense purple colour, the nose is much stricter than the Amoureuses but just as tense. If anything there is greater concentration here but the wine is shaped differently, with a firmer stricter structure at the back, through the fruit flows over the tannins. There is just enough acidity.
- 2017, Clos de la Roche Grand Cru 94**
Dense red purple. The nose is discreet, but the quality of the fruit is superb on the palate, quite vibrant while respecting the raw silk and blue fruit style of the appellation. Very good fruit acid balance. Excellent aftertaste both in fruit quality and persistence.
- 2017, Clos de Vougeot Grand Cru, Domaine du Clos Frantin 93**
Lively dark purple. This wine has very considerable energy on the palate and a lively acidity I think it will develop into a Clos de Vougeot of character. The fruit is absolutely on the cusp of red and black and shows good intensity.
- 2017, Echezeaux Grand Cru, Domaine du Clos Frantin 93**
Good solid mid purple, with some signs of liveliness on the nose. This is a full-bodied Echezeaux but in a good way. Rich lively red fruit, some detail, good freshness, a fresh limestone feel, this will work well.
- 2017, Grands-Echezeaux Grand Cru, Domaine du Clos Frantin 94**
Richer denser purple and a more solid fruit concentration. Flesh and fine lifted dark red fruit, excellent energy but also more flesh, some menthol, very good long finish completely in harmony with its structure.



Neal Martin

2017 Red Burgundies

MOULIN-À-VENT Domaine de Rochegrès (87-89)

The 2017 Moulin-à-Vent has a perfumed red cherry and boysenberry bouquet. The palate is sweet and candied, displaying light tannin. Fine.

ALOXE-CORTON CLOS DES MARÉCHAUTES 1^{ER} CRU Domaine du Pavillon (90-92)

The 2017 Aloxé-Corton Clos des Maréchautes 1er Cru offers blueberry and raspberry preserve on a seductive nose. The palate is medium-bodied with supple tannin, a fine bead of acidity, neatly integrated oak and fine poise on the finish. This comes recommended.

NUITS SAINT-GEORGES CHÂÎNES CARTEAUX 1^{ER} CRU (89-91)

The 2017 Nuits Saint-Georges Chaînes Carteaux 1er Cru has a ripe, generous bouquet of red cherries, crushed strawberry and vanilla. The palate is well balanced, with ripe tannin, a fine bead of acidity, nice weight and admirable tension on the finish. Fine.

NUITS-SAINT-GEORGES CHÂTEAU-GRIS 1^{ER} CRU (90-92)

The 2017 Nuits Saint-Georges Château-Gris 1er Cru offers darker fruit than the Chaînes Carteaux, featuring blackberry and touches of raspberry; the oak is nicely integrated. The palate is well balanced with sappy black fruit and quite saline in the mouth, displaying fine delineation toward the finish. Promising.

CHAMBOLLE-MUSIGNY LES CHABIOTS 1^{ER} CRU (92-94)

The 2017 Chambolle-Musigny Les Chabiots 1er Cru has a wonderful, expressive red cherry and crushed strawberry nose with beguiling floral aromas. The medium-bodied palate offers supple tannin, finely pitched acidity and a long, poised, silky-smooth finish. A great Chambolle from winemaker Alain Serveau.

CHAMBOLLE-MUSIGNY LES AMOUREUSES 1^{ER} CRU (90-92)

The 2017 Chambolle-Musigny Les Amoureuses 1er Cru has quite an intense bouquet of copious red cherries, raspberry preserve and orange blossom aromas. The elegant palate is medium-bodied with fine tannin, tart red fruit and a slight citrus element toward the finish.

VOSNE-ROMANÉE LES MALCONSORTS 1^{ER} CRU Domaine du Clos Frantin (90-92)

The 2017 Vosne-Romanée Les Malconsorts 1er Cru has a clean, pure bouquet of black cherries, blueberry and a touch of vanilla. The palate is medium-bodied with supple tannin, fine weight in the mouth and a touch of sour cherry that enlivens the detailed finish.





Neal Martin

January 2019

2017 Red Burgundies

CLOS DE LA ROCHE GRAND CRU

(90-92)

The 2017 Clos de la Roche Grand Cru has a detailed, nicely focused bouquet of dark cherries, crushed strawberries and light floral notes. The rounded, velvety-smooth palate is medium-bodied with supple tannin and a polished, orange-peel-tinged finish that lingers nicely in the mouth. Fine.

CHARMES-CHAMBERTIN GRAND CRU

(91-93)

The 2017 Charmes-Chambertin Grand Cru has an attractively feisty, potent nose of kirsch, wild strawberry, orange blossom and light white pepper scents. The palate is medium-bodied with supple, rounded tannin. There is weight and girth to this Charmes-Chambertin but also fine acidity and tension on the finish. Excellent.

LATRICIÈRES-CHAMBERTIN GRAND CRU

(91-93)

The 2017 Latricières-Chambertin Grand Cru is endowed with impressive intensity on a nose of blackberry, raspberry and scorched earth scents, becoming more floral with aeration. The palate is medium-bodied with supple tannin, pure red cherry and crushed strawberry fruit and a caressing, sensual finish. Maybe one of the earlier-drinking Latricières, but well-crafted and enjoyable.

CLOS DE VOUGEOT GRAND CRU Domaine du Clos Frantin

(92-94)

The 2017 Clos de Vougeot Grand Cru has a wonderful, expressive bouquet of copious red cherries, raspberry preserve and *sous-bois* aromas, one of the most delineated from Bichot this year. The palate is fresh and vibrant on the entry, displaying a fine bead of acidity and filigreed tannin on the poised but persistent finish. One of the best from Bichot this year.

ECHÉZEAUX GRAND CRU Domaine du Clos Frantin

(90-92)

The 2017 Echézeaux Grand Cru has tight bouquet at first, a mixture of red and black fruit joined by hints of seaweed and mudflats that emerge with time. The palate is medium-bodied with sappy red fruit and a fine bead of acidity. There is a pleasant saline aftertaste.

GRANDS-ECHÉZEAUX GRAND CRU Domaine du Clos Frantin

(92-94)

The 2017 Grands-Echézeaux Grand Cru is much more exuberant and precise than the Echézeaux, offering vibrant red cherry, mineral and rose petal aromas. The palate is medium-bodied with sappy red fruit, fine grip and a precise, iodine-tinged finish that lingers long in the mouth.

RICHEBOURG GRAND CRU Domaine du Clos Frantin

(92-94)

The 2017 Richebourg Grand Cru offers precocious red cherries, orange blossom and tobacco, almost Romanée-Saint-Vivant in style. The palate is well balanced with fine structure. I like the firmness and backbone, and the grip on the finish. Certainly a wine of good breeding.



2017 Côte de Nuits Reds**2017 Fixin 1^{er} Cru "Clos de la Perrière": (89-91)**

Relatively strong wood influence in the form of toast and menthol fights somewhat with the aromas of dark cherry, earth and humus. I like the sense of energy as well as the minerality on the precise and intense middle weight flavors that culminate in a balanced and focused if youthfully austere finish. This will need a few years to unwind. 2024+

2017 Morey-Saint-Denis 1^{er} Cru "Les Sorbets": (89-92)

A much more subtle but not invisible dollop of oak easily allows the fresh and layered mix of various red berry fruit that displays floral and soft spice top notes. The beautifully textured, sleek and lightly mineral-inflected flavors possess better depth and a more persistence as well. This balanced effort should be approachable young but offer mid-term cellaring as well. 2025+

2017 Nuits-Saint-Georges 1^{er} Cru "Chaînes-Carteaux": (89-92)

Here too there is enough wood present to remark upon with evident earth and sauvage nuances on the ripe plum and red cherry scents to remind you that this is a classic Nuits. The round and seductive flavors flash good minerality on the sappy medium weight flavors that possess an attractive texture. 2025+

2017 Nuits-Saint-Georges 1^{er} Cru "Château-Gris": (89-91)

A cool, pure and airy nose grudgingly offers up a restrained array of essence of red and dark currant that is trimmed in just enough wood to notice. There is very fine delineation and excellent verve to the lighter weight mineral-inflected flavors that deliver good if not special depth and persistence on the linear and compact finale. While this could be approached young it should reward up to a decade of cellar time. 2025+

2017 Chambolle-Musigny 1^{er} Cru "Les Chabiots": (90-92)

There is a lovely sense of freshness and verve to the focused, intense and well-defined medium-bodied flavors that exhibit good minerality on the youthfully austere, refined and sneaky long finish. Like several wines in the range this needs to add depth but the underlying material is sufficient to allow that to happen and my predicted range implicitly assumes it will. 2029+

2017 Chambolle-Musigny 1^{er} Cru "Les Amoureuses": (90-93)

A restrained, spicy, airy and cool nose features relatively high-toned aromas of red cherry, raspberry, violets and rose petal. The delicious and admirably pure middle weight flavors display excellent delineation on the refined, mildly tangy and moderately austere but persistent finish. 2032+

2017 Gevrey-Chambertin 1^{er} Cru "Lavaux-Saint-Jacques": (90-93)

The restrained nose possesses a marked floral character that adds a bit of elegance to the overtly spicy and sauvage-inflected nose of earth, black cherry liqueur and forest floor scents. There is a lovely sense of underlying tension to the racy, intense and stony broad-shouldered flavors where the overtly mineral-inflected finale is also distinctly backward, austere and very firmly structured. 2032+

2017 Vosne-Romanée 1^{er} Cru "Les Malconsorts" *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: (91-93)

An overtly floral nose features notes of plum, violet, lavender and an impressive array of spice and tea nuances. The muscular and powerful yet reasonably refined broad-shouldered flavors exhibit evident minerality on the beautifully persistent and indisputably built-to-age finale. As do all competent examples of Malconsorts, this will require extended cellaring to resolve the very firm structure. 2032+

2017 Echézeaux Grand Cru *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: (90-93)

Reduction and wood mask everything except a wisp of spice. By contrast there is fine freshness and excellent underlying tension present on the powerful and precise medium-bodied flavors that culminate in a lengthy, austere and backward finish as the supporting tannins are prominent. 2029+

2017 Clos de Vougeot Grand Cru *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: (91-94)

An attractively layered and fresh nose merges aromas of red and dark berries with those of earth, leather and a whiff of spice. There is excellent verve to the equally fresh large-scaled flavors that also possess solid mid-palate density before terminating in a youthfully austere and sneaky long finish that is very firmly structured. Even so, the supporting tannins are finer than usual and overall, this is more refined than it typically is. 2035+

2017 Chambertin Grand Cru *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: (91-93)

A background whiff of wood can be found on the openly floral-scented nose that offers up notes of plum liqueur, earth and a hint of forest floor. There is very good concentration to the velvet-textured and stony big-bodied flavors that coat the palate with dry extract which also helps to buffer the notably firm tannic spine on the austere, focused and driving finish. 2034+





The 9th Gamay International Competition organized by Inter Beaujolais (Beaujolais Wines' Federation) and Armonia (International Competitions Organizer) took place on January 12th in Lyon.

This competition is opened to producers from all around the world whose wines are made with Gamay grapes (85% at least).

It aims at promoting the best Gamays of the world to decision makers and consumers by enhancing the Gamay's image, grape diversity and strengths.

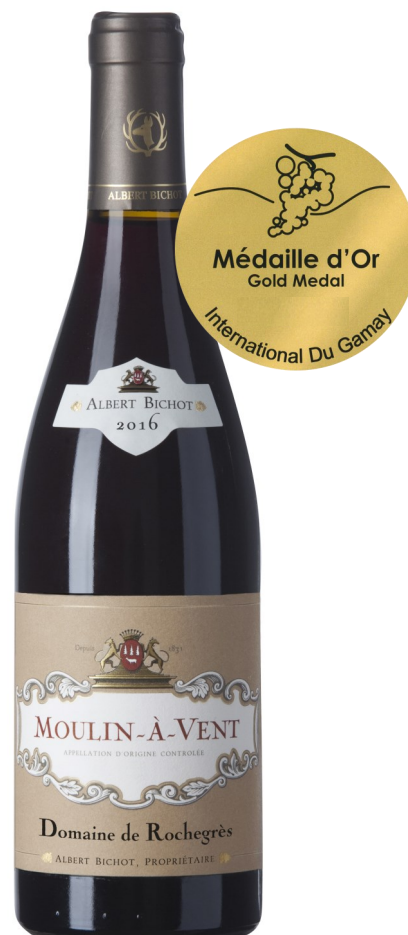
The jury composed of 160 tasters (experts and professionals of the wine sector) tasted 755 and selected the best Gamays of the world by awarding 220 medals (91 gold medals and 129 silver medals).

www.concoursgamay.com

2 GOLD MEDALS FOR ALBERT BICHOT

ROCHEGRES Moulin-à-Vent *Domaine de Rochegrès* 2016

MOULIN-A-VENT *Domaine de Rochegrès* 2016



WINE ENTHUSIAST

December 2018



Roger Voss

#62

Top 100
Cellar Selections
2018



95
POINTS

Albert Bichot 2015 Les Sorbets Premier Cru (Morey- Saint-Denis)

Cellar Selection

95

POINTS

Cellar Selection

This generous wine is still young with its firm tannins, although also rich with black fruits and concentration. It is juicy, ripe with blackberry flavors and packed with spice and a dry core. The vineyard, at mid-slope like all premier crus, is named after the rowan trees that were found around the edge. This is a wine with a great future; drink from 2025.



CHABLIS

92 ALBERT BICHOT Chablis Grand Cru Moutonne Domaine Long-Depaquit 2016

A steely version, with a bracing structure honing the apple, lemon, green plum and mineral flavors. Just a bit tightly wound on the finish at this stage, yet persistent. Drink now through 2025. *(Issue Dec 15, 2018)*

92 ALBERT BICHOT Chablis Grand Cru Les Clos Domaine Long-Depaquit 2016

An elegant, vibrant white, featuring charming aromas and flavors of floral, apple, honey and pastry. Delivers structure, with a mineral element on the long finish. Drink now through 2025. *(Issue Dec 15, 2018)*

91 ALBERT BICHOT Chablis 1^{er} Cru Les Vaucopins Domaine Long-Depaquit 2016

An opulent style, this white also has bright acidity for balance. This allows the peach, apple, lemon cake and fresh herb flavors to reveal themselves. Juicy and brisk on the finish. Drink now through 2023. *(Issue Dec 15, 2018)*

90 ALBERT BICHOT Chablis 1^{er} Cru Les Vaillons Domaine Long-Depaquit 2016

There is an element of richness here, along with peach, melon and citrus flavors. Juicy, lingering with a chalky feel on the finish. Drink now through 2024. *(Issue Dec 15, 2018)*

90 ALBERT BICHOT Chablis Domaine Long-Depaquit 2016

This combines a racy structure with enough flesh for balance, showcasing lemon, apple and mineral notes. Features long, vibrant length. Drink now through 2023. *(Issue Dec 15, 2018)*

90 ALBERT BICHOT Chablis 2016

This is lush, featuring ample flavors of white peach and lemon verbena, with a hint of stone. Balanced, leaving a piquant citrus note on the finish. Drink now through 2023. *(Issue Dec 15, 2018)*



CREMANTS

90 ALBERT BICHOT Crémant de Bourgogne Brut Réserve NV

A bright, mouthwatering sparkler, featuring a lacy mousse carrying the lively mix of nectarine, lime blossom and blood orange zest flavors, with hints of smoke and biscuit. Drink now. *(Issue Nov 30, 2018)*

87 ALBERT BICHOT Crémant de Bourgogne Brut Rosé NV

A well-knit sparkling rosé, folding the creamy bead and lightly juicy acidity into flavors of strawberries and cream, mandarin orange peel, spice and spring blossom. Subtle finish. Drink now. *(Issue Nov 15, 2018)*



92 ALBERT BICHOT Moulin-A-Vent Domaine du Rochegrès 2016

A fresh but powerful red, featuring a generous and focused profile offering cherry tart, toast and wild berry notes. Harmonious, with details of spice box, mineral and smoke emerging on the moderately tannic finish. Drink now through 2025. *(Issue Nov 15, 2018)*

90 ALBERT BICHOT Fleurie La Madone 2016

An elegant red, featuring a balanced arrangement of cherry, strawberry and white peach fruit woven together with licorice, floral and white pepper details. Light, integrated tannins hug the delicate herb and mineral notes on the finish. Drink now through 2023. *(Issue Oct 31, 2018)*

90 ALBERT BICHOT Bourgogne-Hautes-Côtes de Nuits Les Dames Huguettes 2016

Bright, with wild berry and cherry flavors and a hint of sweet smoke, this red is vivid and tense. Shows fine balance, finishing on a tangy note. Drink now through 2022. *(Issue Nov 30, 2018)*

89 ALBERT BICHOT Bourgogne Pinot Noir Secret de Famille 2016

A vibrant red, boasting cherry, currant and raspberry fruit. Earth and chalky elements add depth as this winds down on the finish. Graceful and harmonious. Drink now through 2021. *(Web only - 2018)*

88 ALBERT BICHOT Bourgogne Vieilles Vignes de Pinot Noir 2016

A delicate red, exuding tart cherry, strawberry, earth and wet stone flavors. Fresh and balanced, with a lingering mineral finish. Drink now through 2022. *(Issue Nov 30, 2018)*

88 ALBERT BICHOT Côteaux Bourguignons 2016

A refreshing, light-bodied red, with subtle tannins supporting the wild cherry and currant notes. Savory undertones of mineral and dried herb detail the tangy finish. Drink now through 2021. *(Issue Nov 15, 2018)*

89 ALBERT BICHOT Viré-Clessé 2016

This delivers apple, herb and stony notes set against a bracing structure. Intense in a lean, sinewy way, with a chalky finish. Drink now through 2024. *(Issue Dec 15, 2018)*

88 ALBERT BICHOT Saint-Véran 2016

The apple, lemon and wet stone flavors are guided by a structure that verges on steely. Starts out broad, narrowing to a concise, spice-tinged finish. Drink now through 2024. *(Issue Dec 15, 2018)*

87 ALBERT BICHOT Mâcon-Lugny Les Charmes 2016

A refreshing style, boasting floral, peach, melon and light spice notes, allied to a brisk structure and lingering with an echo of baking spices. Drink now. *(Issue Dec 15, 2018)*

86 ALBERT BICHOT Mâcon-Villages 2016

Stitched with peach, apple and light vanilla flavors, this white offers bright acidity and a juicy finish. Drink now. *(Issue Dec 15, 2018)*

86 ALBERT BICHOT Bourgogne Aligoté 2016

Fresh and lively, with lemony acidity underlying the apple, almond and straw flavors. Drink now. *(Web only - 2018)*



94 ALBERT BICHOT Corton Clos des Maréchaudes Domaine du Pavillon 2016

Graced with black cherry, blackberry, spice and earth flavors, this red is exuberant and intense. A healthy dose of oak adds to the structure and spicy character. Finishes long and is built to age. Best from 2023 through 2043. *(Issue Nov 30, 2018)*

93 ALBERT BICHOT Santenay 1^{er} Cru Clos Rousseau 2016 - HIGHLY RECOMMENDED

Pure aromas and flavors of black cherry, black currant, spice, earth and mineral adorn this silky, intense red. Harmonious and approachable now for the exuberant fruit and vibrant frame, yet should develop. Drink now through 2028. *(Issue Nov 15, 2018)*

92 ALBERT BICHOT Beaune Les Epenottes Domaine du Pavillon 2016

The purity of the cherry, black currant and floral aromas and flavors is the hallmark of this supple red. Offers a bass note of spicy oak and a pleasantly chewy texture. Drink now through 2033. *(Issue Nov 15, 2018)*

91 ALBERT BICHOT Volnay 1^{er} Cru Les Santenots Domaine du Pavillon 2016

Ripe and succulent, offering raspberry, strawberry, wild cherry and floral aromas and flavors. A firm line of acidity and tannins lends support and the flavors linger with accents of mineral and earth. Best from 2021 through 2035. *(Issue Nov 15, 2018)*

91 ALBERT BICHOT Meursault Red Domaine du Pavillon 2016

Earth, black cherry and iron aromas and flavors highlight this solid, muscular red. Shows weight and power, with a vein of spice lingering on the aftertaste. Best from 2020 through 2033. *(Web only - 2018)*

90 ALBERT BICHOT Pommard Clos des Ursulines Domaine du Pavillon 2016

A strapping young red, full of black cherry and blackberry fruit, iron and earth flavors. Shows plenty of grip to the dense tannins and a flourish of new oak on the spicy finish. Best from 2021 through 2035. *(Web only - 2018)*

90 ALBERT BICHOT Beaune Clos de l'Ermitage 2016

This red delivers ample cherry, wild berry, earth and spice notes. Finishes even more firmly, yet stays long. Best from 2021 through 2035. *(Issue Nov 15, 2018)*

92 ALBERT BICHOT Meursault 1^{er} Cru Les Charmes Domaine du Pavillon 2016

Shows fine intensity, along with a creamy texture and bright, focused flavors of citrus blossom, apple, lemon, clove and vanilla, ending in a tangy note. Drink now through 2028. *(Issue Nov 30, 2018)*

91 ALBERT BICHOT Meursault Domaine du Pavillon 2016

Offers a supple texture, with ripe, rich apple, peach, honey and lemon flavors. Round and open in texture, with a lingering finish of pastry and spice notes. Drink now through 2023 *(Web only - 2018)*

91 ALBERT BICHOT Meursault 2016

Peach, honey, butterscotch and lemon flavors are the hallmarks of this tangy white. Veers into the mineral realm while winding down on the lingering aftertaste. Drink now through 2028. *(Issue Nov 30, 2018)*

90 ALBERT BICHOT Chassagne-Montrachet 2016

Butterscotch, light coffee, hazelnut and peach flavors highlight this accessible white. Verges on creamy, showing balance and fine length. Drink now through 2023. *(Issue Nov 30, 2018)*

90 ALBERT BICHOT Mercurey 1^{er} Cru Champs Martin Domaine Adélie 2016

Round, exuding cherry, strawberry and spice flavors, this red is also firmly structured. Dusty tannins grace the finish, which is long and succulent. Best from 2020 through 2028. *(Issue Oct 31, 2018)*



96 ALBERT BICHOT Latricières-Chambertin Grand Cru 2016

The black cherry and blackberry fruit is wrapped in seductive, smoky oak. Though dense and muscular, this is also close to seamless, even at this early stage. The finish is energetic and vibrant, with a long, minerally aftertaste. Best from 2023 through 2043. *(Issue Oct 31, 2018)*

94 ALBERT BICHOT Echézeaux Grand Cru Domaine du Clos Frantin 2016

This red exudes rose, sandalwood, salty licorice and berry aromas and flavors. Tightly wound and dense with tannins, though this starts out with a silky texture. Compact finish. Best from 2021 through 2036. *(Issue Nov 15, 2018)*

94 ALBERT BICHOT Clos de la Roche Grand Cru 2016

Though shy on cherry, currant and raspberry flavors, this red is intense and framed by spicy oak. Builds to a long, mineral- and spice-infused finish, where dusty tannins reign. The best is yet to come. Best from 2022 through 2043. *(Issue Nov 30, 2018)*

93 ALBERT BICHOT Clos de Vougeot Grand Cru Domaine du Clos Frantin 2016

A beam of cherry anchors this intense red. Though concentrated, this stays agile, with cinnamon, vanilla, currant and licorice flavors. Compact and underlined by dusty tannins, this comes back to the cherry element on the finish. Best from 2023 through 2042. *(Web only - 2018)*

93 ALBERT BICHOT Chambolle-Musigny 1^{er} Cru Les Chabiots 2016

Pretty berry, rose, sandalwood and vanilla notes grace this silky, delicate red. Beautifully balanced and almost seamless in texture, making this approachable now. Should age well. Drink now through 2035. *(Issue Nov 30, 2018)*

92 ALBERT BICHOT Vosne-Romanée 1^{er} Cru Les Malconsorts Domaine du Clos Frantin 2016

Smoky, with fine depth to the cherry, floral, spice and mineral flavors. The vibrant structure keeps this focused and long, while the fine overall balance and supportive tannins will allow this to develop. Best from 2021 through 2035. *(Issue Oct 31, 2018)*

92 ALBERT BICHOT Morey-Saint-Denis 1^{er} Cru Les Sorbets 2016

The fleshy texture wraps around a core of pure, ripe cherry in this silky red. The vibrant acidity imparts focus and drive on the long, earth- and spice-tinged aftertaste. Shows fine balance. Best from 2020 through 2036. *(Issue Nov 30, 2018)*

92 ALBERT BICHOT Nuits-Saint-Georges 1^{er} Cru Château-Gris 2016

This has some lift to the blueberry, black currant and violet flavors due to the vibrant structure. Accents of sweet oak chime in as this builds to a long, spicy aftertaste. Best from 2020 through 2033. *(Issue Nov 30, 2018)*

92 ALBERT BICHOT Gevrey-Chambertin Les Evocelles 2016

Candied cherry and spice flavors are backed by a steely structure in this linear red. Builds to a long finish, with intense fruit, spice and mineral accents emerging. Best from 2022 through 2035. *(Issue Oct 31, 2018)*

91 ALBERT BICHOT Fixin 1^{er} Cru Clos de la Perrière 2016

This leans a little toward the vegetal side, showing leafy, tobacco elements, along with black cherry, earth and iron flavors. Vanilla and sweet oak notes add depth as this cruises to a long finish. Best from 2020 through 2030. *(Issue Nov 30, 2018)*

91 ALBERT BICHOT Gevrey-Chambertin 2016

This has some texture to the burly tannins framing black cherry, earth and tobacco flavors. Lively acidity keeps this moving through the muscular finish, where an element of oak spice emerges. Best from 2021 through 2036. *(Issue Nov 30, 2018)*

90 ALBERT BICHOT Fixin 2016

Reticent in fruit expression, this red nonetheless reveals black cherry, iron and tar flavors. Solid and chunky, with dusty tannins for support. Drink now through 2023. *(Issue Nov 30, 2018)*



Neal Martin

November 2018

2015 REDS

Tasted blind at the annual Burgfest tasting

2015 CLOS DE LA ROCHE GRAND CRU

97

The 2015 Clos de la Roche Grand Cru has a tightly coiled bouquet of high-toned red fruit, raspberry, red currant, pressed violets and iris, and later a hint of baking powder. The palate is medium-bodied with supple tannin, coming across as fresh and lively but very linear and strict at the moment - more like a Clos Saint-Denis in style. But there is a nobility about this wine, and it is certainly persistent. This is one of several wines that shot way past my estimation from barrel. Bravo.

2015 VOSNE-ROMANÉE 1^{ER} CRU LES MALCONSORTS Domaine du Clos Frantin

96

The 2015 1er Cru seems to have been born to embarrass my rather tepid reaction to this wine from barrel. Wow! This has me smitten. It offers a very floral, seductive bouquet with pressed violet petals liberally scattered over the black cherry and wild strawberry fruit, and just a hint of vanilla in the background. The palate is medium-bodied with fine-grained tannin. This is very cohesive, harmonious and silky-smooth in texture, with a light touch of blood orange and brown spices that impart complexity on the finish. Excellent.

2015 CLOS DE VOUGEOT GRAND CRU Domaine du Clos Frantin

94

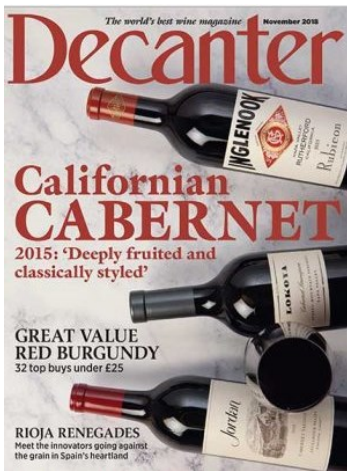
The 2015 Clos de Vougeot Grand Cru has a perfumed, peppermint-tinged bouquet, turning more to cough drop scents with aeration. The palate is medium-bodied, offering supple tannin, good balance, smooth texture, well-judged acidity and a silky, sensual, almost flirtatious finish.

2015 POMMARD 1^{ER} CRU LES RUGIENS Domaine du Pavillon

92

The 2015 Pommard Les Rugiens 1er Cru did not impress out of barrel, but it sure makes amends in bottle. It has a very fruit-forward, almost Volnay-like bouquet of plush red cherry and strawberry fruit, quite glossy. The palate is well balanced with a sorbet-fresh entry, and quite minerally, with a lovely grainy texture. There is disarming purity toward the long finish, which is where the Pommard character almost belatedly shows through. Superb.





November 2018

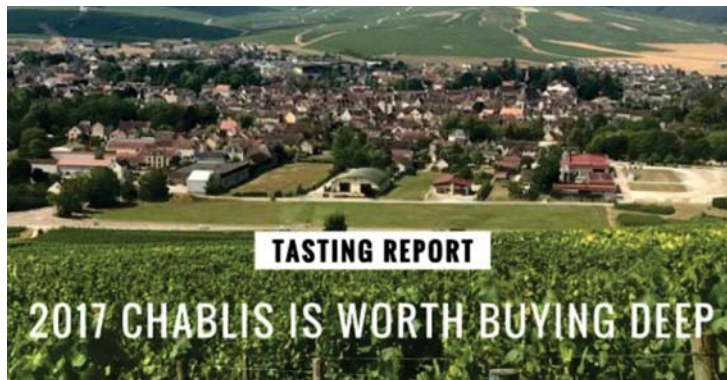
VALUE RED BURGUNDY By Tim Atkin MW

Bourgogne Pinot Noir Secret de Famille 2016

92

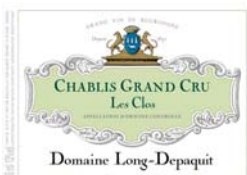
Scented, lily-perfumed Pinot that's appealingly light and ethereal on the nose and palate. It's the fruit purity that impresses here, highlighting the transparency of red Burgundy at its most appealing. The vanilla spice is just a whisper in the background, adding a layer of complexity. Drink 2018-2023.





GRANDS CRUS 2017

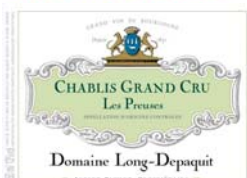
ALBERT BICHOT CHABLIS GRAND CRU LES CLOS DOMAINE LONG-DEPAQUIT 2017



Score
94-95

A sun-drenched array of fruits from citrus to peaches and then tropical fruits. This has beautiful stony aromas too. The palate has a very restrained core of lemons and white peaches. Long and fleshy. Really impressive. Grapefruit to close. Barrel sample.

ALBERT BICHOT CHABLIS GRAND CRU LES PREUSES DOMAINE LONG-DEPAQUIT 2017



Score
94-95

More floral and restrained with lemons and lime citrus with grilled hazelnuts and papaya. The palate's smooth, contained and very sleek. Purity is a feature, as is balance and length. Barrel sample. Needs time. Drink or hold.

ALBERT BICHOT CHABLIS GRAND CRU LA MOUTONNE MONOPOLE DOMAINE LONG-DEPAQUIT 2017



Score
93-94

Fresh and fleshy peaches and lime citrus with grilled hazelnuts. A flinty, stony presence. This has thrilling mineral drive on the palate. Flavors of lime and green mangoes. Flinty and fresh. Barrel sample. Needs time. Drink from 2020.

ALBERT BICHOT CHABLIS GRAND CRU LES BOUGROS DOMAINE LONG-DEPAQUIT 2017



Score
93-94

Spicy lemon curd and grilled peaches with hazelnuts and stony minerals. The palate has a swathe of smooth fleshy peaches and lemons. A deep, expansive palate with concentrated and precise fresh fruit. A standout. Barrel sample.

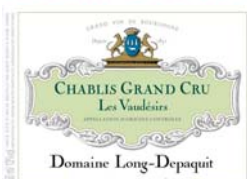
ALBERT BICHOT CHABLIS GRAND CRU BLANCHOTS DOMAINE LONG-DEPAQUIT 2017



Score
93-94

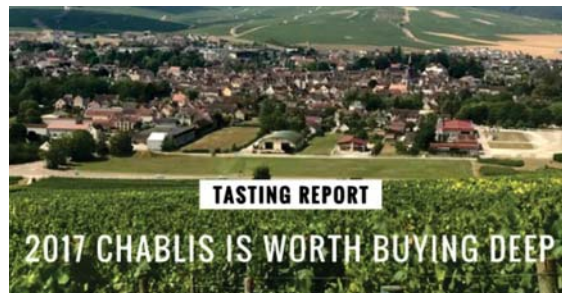
This is stunning for the power and precision it offers. Flinty and gently reductive grilled peaches and lime citrus on the nose. The palate has a very assertive piercing core of fresh lime, white peaches and green mangoes. Acidity delivers sorbet-like texture. Brilliant! Barrel sample. Drink or hold.

ALBERT BICHOT CHABLIS GRAND CRU LES VAUDÉSIRS DOMAINE LONG-DEPAQUIT 2017



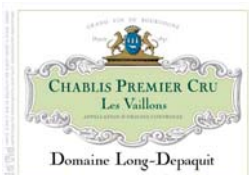
Score
91-92

Spicy oak brings nougat-like complexity to the nose here. Plenty of grilled nuts, honey and fresh white and yellow peaches. The palate's succulent and smoothly fruited with a wealth of fleshy and gently toasty flavors. Long, supple, and beautifully balanced. Barrel sample. Drink now or hold.



PREMIERS CRUS & CHABLIS 2017

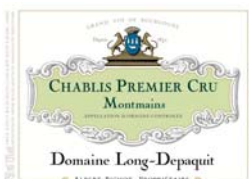
ALBERT BICHOT CHABLIS 1ER CRU LES VAILLONS DOMAINE LONG-DEPAQUIT 2017



Score
92-93

A twist of reductive flinty aromas across grapefruit, yellow peaches, lime pith and acacia flowers. The palate's taut and powerful with muscular grapefruit flesh and a long, stony acid structure. Barrel sample. Drink now or hold.

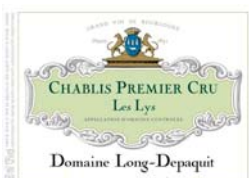
ALBERT BICHOT CHABLIS 1ER CRU MONTMAINS DOMAINE LONG-DEPAQUIT 2017



Score
92-93

Very fresh aromas of lime curd and green mangoes. Nice stony minerals, too. The palate has a very succulent core of tangy peaches and mangoes. Strong acid push and nice fleshy appeal. Barrel sample. Drink or hold.

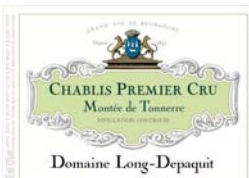
ALBERT BICHOT CHABLIS 1ER CRU LES LYS DOMAINE LONG-DEPAQUIT 2017



Score
91-92

Sweetly fragrant melon and peach aromas with a super minerally reductive edge. Deeply penetrating stony mineral palate where acidity is a real feature. Sheer and precise. Barrel sample. Try in 2020.

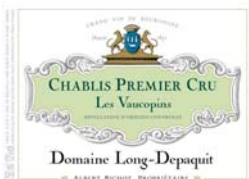
ALBERT BICHOT CHABLIS 1ER CRU MONTÉE DE TONNERRE DOMAINE LONG-DEPAQUIT 2017



Score
91-92

More assertive oak influence here. This has a very succulent white peaches and nectarines on the palate. Good power and weight. The oak needs to settle. Toasted hazelnuts to close. Barrel sample. Drink or hold.

ALBERT BICHOT CHABLIS 1ER CRU LES VAUCOPINS DOMAINE LONG-DEPAQUIT 2017



Score
90-91

Bright melon and pared-back lime and lemons with abundant stony mineral notes. The palate's crisp and fresh with restrained fruits and lots of mineral tang at the finish. Barrel sample. Drink on release or hold.

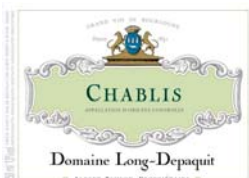
ALBERT BICHOT CHABLIS 1ER CRU LES BEUGNONS DOMAINE LONG-DEPAQUIT 2017



Score
90-91

Some quite attractive ripe peaches and apricots with a core of fresh lime citrus on the palate. This has attractive succulent fleshy appeal. Barrel sample. Drink on release.

ALBERT BICHOT CHABLIS DOMAINE LONG-DEPAQUIT 2017



Score
88

Straightforward aromas of melon and lemon-lime citrus here. The palate has a smooth, crisp and tangy mouthfeel. Fresh. An early-drinking style.

GRANDS CRUS, PREMIERS CRUS, CHABLIS 2016

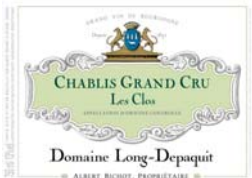
ALBERT BICHOT CHABLIS GRAND CRU LA MOUTONNE MONOPOLE DOMAINE LONG-DEPAQUIT 2016



Score
95

Very energetic, concentrated and powerful flavors of lime and peaches. A wealth of mouthwatering acidity. Superb depth, purity and a long, stony mineral core. Holds long. Try from 2020.

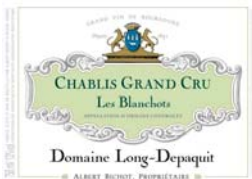
ALBERT BICHOT CHABLIS GRAND CRU LES CLOS DOMAINE LONG-DEPAQUIT 2016



Score
94

Some attractive ripe stone fruit notes, as well as flinty and stony elements. There's a green thread, too. Really complex. The palate has smoothly built layers of ripe fruits and a very succulent, long and powerful finish. Quite exceptional. Drink or hold.

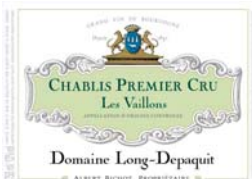
ALBERT BICHOT CHABLIS GRAND CRU BLANCHOTS DOMAINE LONG-DEPAQUIT 2016



Score
93

The oak is dialed-in deeper here. There's a punchy acid core with a wealth of citrus and green peaches, as well as mangoes. The palate's superb. Really intense and long. Drink or hold.

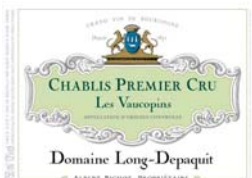
ALBERT BICHOT CHABLIS 1ER CRU LES VAILLONS DOMAINE LONG-DEPAQUIT 2016



Score
92

Impressive stony and flinty notes across some fresh, exotic stone fruits and tropical nuances. The palate has a terrific sense of finesse, as well as concentration and exotic fruits. Utterly delicious. Drink now.

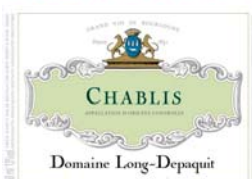
ALBERT BICHOT CHABLIS 1ER CRU LES VAUCOPINS DOMAINE LONG-DEPAQUIT 2016



Score
92

An attractive reductive edge with green peaches and papaya. A smooth array of lime and peaches on the palate. Fine mineral edge, too. Drink now or hold.

ALBERT BICHOT CHABLIS DOMAINE LONG-DEPAQUIT 2016



Score
88

Attractive aromas of pears, apples and blossoms with hints of pastry, all leading to a palate that has a smooth and even mouthfeel with fresh flavors. Drink now.



Neal Martin

August 2018

2016 CHABLIS

2016 CHABLIS PREMIER CRU MONTMAINS Domaine Long-Depaquit

90/100

The 2016 Chablis Montmains 1er Cru has a light but well defined bouquet with scents of red apple, nettle and light flinty notes that gain more intensity with aeration. The palate is well balanced with green apple, Cornice pear and veins of candied orange peel matched by a keen line of acidity, hints of brown spice emerging towards the finish. Very fine. Tasted blind at the BIVB Chablis tasting.

2016 CHABLIS GRAND CRU LES BLANCHOTS Domaine Long-Depaquit

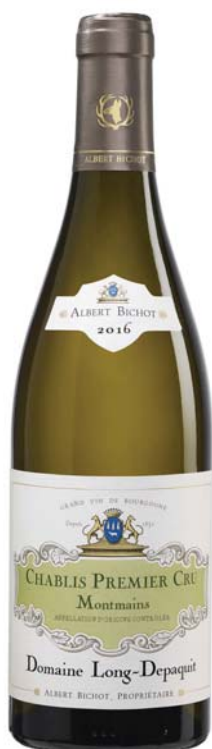
92/100

The 2016 Chablis Blanchot Grand Cru sees maturation in 75% stainless steel and the remainder in oak barrels. Like many of its peers, carries a slight reduction on the nose although it is not excessive and blows away with aeration to reveal attractive white peach, jasmine and cool granite aromas. The palate is well balanced with a fine bead of acidity, demonstrating more tension than other Blanchots in this vintage. I appreciate the salinity that comes through on the finish and beckons the next sip. Tasted blind at the BIVB Chablis tasting.

2016 CHABLIS GRAND CRU LES VAUDÉSIRS Domaine Long-Depaquit

92/100

The 2016 Chablis Vaudésir Grand Cru has a clean and precise bouquet with just a subtle reduction that works well. The palate is well balanced with a fine line of acidity, taut and linear with a lip-smacking salinity delivered on the finish. Very fine. Tasted blind at the BIVB Chablis tasting



INTERNATIONAL WINE CHALLENGE 2018



Awards Dinner in London on July 10th, 2018

After receiving

- a Gold Medal,
 - the Red Burgundy Trophy,
 - the French Red Trophy,
 - the International Pinot Noir Trophy,
- the **MAZIS-CHAMBERTIN GRAND CRU Cuvée Madeleine Collignon Hospices de Beaune 2016** from Albert Bichot was awarded
- **Champion Red, ie Best Red Wine of the World.**

Tasting note from the judges: «*Rich, sensual nose of raspberry and wild strawberries with an earthy kick. Velvety texture, supple tannins offer a fine structure of which cream and dark fruits drip. Terrific finish.*»

INTERNATIONAL WINE CHALLENGE 2018

6 GOLD MEDALS
6 SILVER MEDALS
7 TROPHIES



May, 2018

INTERNATIONAL PINOT NOIR TROPHY

for

Mazis-Chambertin Grand Cru
Cuvée Madeleine Collignon
Hospices de Beaune 2016

FRENCH RED TROPHY

RED BURGUNDY TROPHY

MAZIS-CHAMBERTIN TROPHY

GOLD MEDAL

98 points



Rich, sensual nose of raspberry and wild strawberries with an earthy kick. Velvety texture, supple tannins offer a fine structure of which cream and dark fruits drip. Terrific finish.



CHARMES-CHAMBERTIN GRAND CRU 2016
GOLD MEDAL AND CHARMES-CHAMBERTIN TROPHY
96 points

Youthful, smoky, compact cherries showing bramble, mint and wild strawberry notes. Subtle reduction, chalky minerality and a savoury, refreshing finish.



MOREY-SAINT-DENIS 1ER CRU LES SORBETS 2016
GOLD MEDAL AND MOREY-SAINT-DENIS TROPHY
96 points

Lovely tart red fruit of red currants and cranberry with a wonderful texture and harmony on a slender, sinuous body. Overtone of raspberry liqueur with an edge of coffee. Dreamy and delicious; will benefit from bottle age.



NUITS-SAINT-GEORGES 1ER CRU CHÂTEAU-GRIS 2016
GOLD MEDAL AND NUITS-SAINT-GEORGES TROPHY
95 points

Dark and brooding style of powerful precision. Hints of morello cherry and fruits of the forest. Finest tannins crunch pleasantly against a back drop of subtle spice. Long, supple and fresh finish.



CLOS DE LA ROCHE GRAND CRU 2016
GOLD MEDAL
95 points

Nose very tight with astringent, slightly green fruit tannins. Very youthful and tight like a coiled spring. Needs at least five years but will be great.



MEURSAULT 1ER CRU LES CHARMES - DOMAINE DU PAVILLON 2016
GOLD MEDAL
95 points

Cream, honey and nut aromas. Palate, lemon curd and brioche; restrained, lemony acidity, rounded, textured.



INTERNATIONAL WINE CHALLENGE 2018

6 GOLD MEDALS
6 SILVER MEDALS
7 TROPHIES



FIXIN 1ER CRU CLOS DE LA PERRIÈRE 2016

SILVER MEDAL

94 points

Gorgeous, wild strawberry perfume with hints of cedar, spice and violets. Palate is remarkably intense for a Fixin, with a succulent long, balanced after taste. Superb.



VOSNE-ROMANÉE - DOMAINE DU CLOS FRANTIN 2016

SILVER MEDAL

92 points

Youthful cherry and sous bois aromas; quite open and fleshy but firmly structured. Will reward ageing.



BOURGOGNE PINOT NOIR SECRET DE FAMILLE 2016

SILVER MEDAL

90 points

Plush red cherry fruit. Still youthful with highish acidity and spicy black pepper notes.



CORTON-CHARLEMAGNE GRAND CRU CUVÉE FRANÇOIS DE SALINS - HOSPICES DE BEAUNE 2016

SILVER MEDAL

93 points

Lemon curd and pithy with rich nutty complexity. Citrus and toasted notes heady top note.



CHABLIS 1ER CRU LES VAUCOPINS - DOMAINE LONG-DEPAQUIT 2016

SILVER MEDAL

93 points

Minerality plus lovely creamy almonds and lemons on nose. Very powerful palate with complex savoury and creamy mid palate.



SANTENAY (white) 2016

SILVER MEDAL

92 points

Bright generous and juicy citrus fruit with lime flecks, balanced and long. Touch of toffee and nuts.

Wine Spectator Insider

Marvin R. Shanken *Editor and Publisher*

A Members-Only, Weekly Publication

May 9th, 2018

94 points

ALBERT BICHOT

Vosne-Romanée Les Malconsorts Domaine du Clos Frantin 2015

A lithe, tense version, whose taut profile is woven with cherry, strawberry and spice flavors. Firms up on the lingering finish, where the saturated fruit suggests fine potential for the future. Best from 2021 through 2034.—*B.S.*



92 points

ALBERT BICHOT

Fixin 2015

A smooth, polished style, offering black cherry, black currant, earth and mineral aromas and flavors. Dense and vibrant, with a lingering aftertaste of black fruit and mineral. Excellent length. Best from 2021 through 2033.—*B.S.*



Josh RAYNOLDS

March 2018

BEAUJOLAIS CRUS 2016

Tasting date/ October 2017

Albert Bichot, Rochegrès Moulin-à-Vent 2016, Domaine de Rochegrès

Drinking window: 2021 - 2027

Vivid ruby. A complex bouquet displays fresh dark berry and potpourri aromas, along with hints of candied licorice and vanilla. Smooth and spicy on the palate, offering sweet boysenberry, cherry and floral pastille flavors that are underscored by a smoky mineral element. Subtle tannins build slowly on the long, focused finish, which shows impressive tension and leaves behind juicy blue fruit and allspice notes.

92 pts



91 pts



Albert Bichot, Moulin-à-Vent 2016, Domaine de Rochegrès

Drinking window: 2021 - 2027

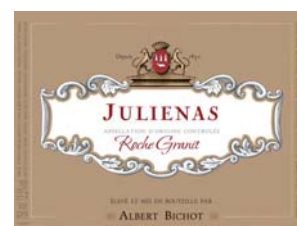
Bright magenta. Fragrant red berry and floral pastille aromas show very good clarity, and a spicy nuance adds complexity and lift. Juicy and pliant in the mouth, offering nicely concentrated blackberry and bitter cherry and raspberry flavors and a touch of spicecake. Dusty tannins build slowly on the long, smooth finish, where the red fruit and spice notes return.

Albert Bichot, Juliéna Roche Granit 2016

Drinking window: 2021 - 2027

Brilliant red. A highly perfumed bouquet evokes fresh red/blue fruits, exotic spices and potpourri, along with a zesty mineral nuance that builds in the glass. Sweet, pure and penetrating on the palate, offering concentrated yet lithe raspberry and boysenberry flavors that put on weight with air. The mineral nuance comes back strong on a long, incisive finish that's given shape by smooth, even tannins.

91 pts



91 pts



Albert Bichot, Fleurie La Madone 2016

Drinking window: 2020 - 2026

Deep red. Ripe red/blue fruits, candied flowers and a hint of five-spice powder on the deeply perfumed nose. In a plush, open-knit style, offering sweet boysenberry and raspberry flavors that tighten up slowly on the back half. Finishes with strong intensity, sharp focus and supple tannins that sneak in late.

WINE ENTHUSIAST

www.winemag.com

Published on March, 1st, 2018



Roger Voss

2016 BEAUJOLAIS

MOULIN-A-VENT Domaine de Rochegrès

92

Grown at an estate owned by this Beaune-based producer, this wine is dense and full of black fruits and firm tannins. It is toasty, spicy and ripe, beautifully structured and balanced, and ready to age further. Drink from 2019.



FLEURIE LA MADONE

90

This Beaune-based négociant has made this wine in a Burgundian style, with oak fermentation and aging in vats for up to nine months. The result is a rich wine that will age. Its tannins, spice and rich structure speak to the wood flavors. The fruit balances that, giving richness and concentration. Drink the wine from 2019.

BEAUJOLAIS CHÂTEAU DE JARNIOUX

86

This wine is packed with ripe fruit with a texture giving just the right amount of tannin. The wine has weight, the result of the clay soil in which the vines grow. Tank aging has preserved the cherry flavors and crisp acidity. Drink now.



Published on February 22nd, 2018

**ALBERT BICHOT ROCHEGRÈS MOULIN-À-VENT
DOMAINE DE ROCHEGRÈS 2016**

Score
90-91

Darker colors here. The higher manganese soil delivers a structured wine that has good depth and sapidity with a wealth of raspberries and black cherries. Drink now or hold for another five to six years.



**ALBERT BICHOT MOULIN-À-VENT
DOMAINE DE ROCHEGRÈS 2016**

Score
89-90

Intense wild strawberries and raspberries with a pastry-like edge, all leading to a light, fluid and elegant palate with plenty of raspberry flavors. There is also a crunchy acid and tannin interplay. Drink now.

Published on February 15th, 2018

2016 Reds

2016 Bourgogne Pinot Noir "Secret de Famille": 87-88

Intense wild strawberries and raspberries with a pastry-like edge, all leading to a light, fluid and elegant palate with plenty of raspberry flavors. There is also a crunchy acid and tannin interplay. Drink now

2016 Mercurey Premier Cru "Les Champs-Martin" Domaine Adélie: 88-89

Bright, ripe red and blue fruits with a forest, brambly edge that leads to a palate with a sturdy, punchy core of tannins. The acidity is a feature here. Drink or hold for five to six years.

2016 Pommard "Clos des Ursulines" Domaine du Pavillon: 90-91

Located in the south of Pommard on heavier clay soils. This has an earthy nose with dark cherries, orange zest and spicy oak influence. The palate has a quite tart and grainy feel. Tannins are sturdy, carrying rich cherries. Give this some time. Try from 2020.

2016 Corton Grand Cru "Clos des Maréchaudes" Domaine du Pavillon: 92-93

Quite minerally with flinty, stony accents, as well as bright cherries, raspberries, wild forest notes and hints of pastry. The palate has a very fine texture and a firm, long shape. Really fresh cherries here. Good depth and salient acidity, too. Try from 2022.

2016 Gevrey-Chambertin "Les Murots" Domaine du Clos Frantin: 90-91

Below the village. This parcel offers brambly red fruits and leafy elements, all leading to quite a plush, full and round palate with some neat, firm tannins. Drink or hold.

2016 Fixin Premier Cru "Clos de la Perrière": 90-91

A bright nose with cassis and darker cherries as well as chalky notes. The palate has a lithe, light and succulent feel with elegance and approachability. Purchased grapes. Drink now.

2016 Nuits-Saint-Georges Premier Cru "Château-Gris": 91-92

Otherwise there is good punch and delineation to the racy mineral-driven middle weight flavors that display a touch of salinity on the lingering finish. This is really quite good. 2023+

2016 Vosne-Romanée Premier Cru "Les Malconsorts" Domaine du Clos Frantin: 94-95

Beautiful crushed roses with an array of fresh raspberries and red cherries, as well as light mocha and oak spices in the background. The palate has excellent tannin maturity and depth. A bold, explosive finish. This is exceptional. This elegant vintage has delivered a wine with real clarity and detail. But still needs some time. Try from 2024.

2016 Clos de la Roche Grand Cru: 92-93

Aromas of pomegranate and red cherries. Has a floral edge and earthy notes, too. The palate has deep, ripe and full tannins, delivering a long, sturdy red-cherry core. Bright, acid-focused finish. Purchased grapes. Try from 2022.

2016 Clos-de-Vougeot Grand Cru Domaine du Clos Frantin: 93-94

Two parcels, one-third from the top and the balance from the lower section of the vineyard. This has very expressive ripe cherries, making it a very sapid, fresh and powerful wine. Attractive depth and expansion through the finish. Try from 2022.



2015 Reds

2015 Pommard "Clos des Ursulines" Domaine du Pavillon: 90

The southerly clay soils have delivered a wine that carries freshness and some plush tannins, which results in a polished, balanced and chiseled expression. Good weight. Succulent red cherries and plums to close. Drink or hold.

2015 Fixin Premier Cru "Clos de la Perrière": 91

A fine impression with bright red cherries and a silky palate. Gently toasty oak sits nicely alongside wild cherries. Really fresh and elegant. Drink now.

2015 Nuits-Saint-Georges Premier Cru "Château-Gris": 91

Attractive roses and floral elements in a seductive mode. This has a gently earthy thread, too. The palate is very silky and succulent, where the fine tannins hold a long, focused cherry-plum finish. Drink or hold.

Published on February 15th, 2018

2016 Whites

2016 Chablis Domaine Long-Depaquit: **88**

Some neat chalky elements to the nose with an array of melon, peaches and citrus notes. It delivers a supple and even palate. Fresh finish and good length. Drink now.

2016 Chablis Premier Cru "Les Vaillons" Domaine Long-Depaquit: **92**

This offers some swanky reductive grapefruit and toasty oak on the nose. A palate that has punchy acidity and plenty of fruit weight. Great depth and drive here. Acidity is salient. Really fresh. Drink or hold.

2016 Chablis Grand Cru "Les Clos" Domaine Long-Depaquit: **94**

Attractive aromas of pears, apples and blossoms with hints of pastry, all leading to a palate that has a smooth and even mouthfeel with fresh flavors. Drink now.

2016 Mâcon-Lugny "Les Charmes": **87**

Tropical melon-scented fruits that are laced with sweet, flowery notes, all leading to a bright, smooth and open palate. Flavors of melon, mangoes and papayas. Good buy. Drink now.

2016 Viré-Clessé: **88**

A slight chalky edge to the nose with ripe, tropical melon, papayas and apple blossoms. The palate has an impressive, fresh, cool-fruit presence, as well as a twist of stony, savory notes at the finish. Good buy. Drink now.

2016 Saint-Véran: **88**

Some orange blossoms and cantaloupes with sweet-perfumed accents, all leading to a palate with a light, fresh and slightly crunchy edge. Finishes with a biscuity twist. Good buy. Drink now.

2016 Bourgogne Chardonnay "Secret de Famille": **90**

An array of sources in the Côte de Beaune. This has a very impressive sense of smoothness and depth on the palate, delivering peach pastries and some gentle, nutty notes to close. Good value. Drink now.

2016 Santenay: **91**

Some flinty and almost chalky notes with green peaches and citrus fruits, leading to a palate with a very composed, gently taut feel. A mealy finish. Purchased grapes. Drink now.

2016 Beaune Premier Cru "Clos des Mouches" Domaine du Pavillon: **93**

This offers some swanky reductive grapefruit and toasty oak on the nose. A palate that has punchy acidity and plenty of fruit weight. Great depth and drive here. Acidity is salient. Really fresh. Drink or hold.

2016 Meursault Premier Cru "Les Charmes" Domaine du Pavillon: **92**

Some neat chalky elements to the nose with an array of melon, peaches and citrus notes. It delivers a supple and even palate. Fresh finish and good length. Drink now.

2016 Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru Domaine du Pavillon: **95**

This has a flinty appeal with aromas of white peaches and lightly spiced peach custard. Very impressive power, which really explodes on the palate with powerful white peaches, grilled hazelnuts and citrus hints. A little honey to close. Very long and seamless. Superb wine. Drink or hold.



2015 Whites

2015 Santenay: **90**

Very nicely delivered white peaches and lemons. A slightly creamy palate that has fresh but nutty flavors. Shows a very impressive sense of depth and completeness. Drink now.

2015 Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru Domaine du Pavillon: **94**

The white and yellow peaches have a lightly spicy thread as well as a lightly grilled character, making it very attractive and slightly exotic. The palate has a very punchy and deep-set feel. Pithy and lots of phenolic weight here. A long mineral finish. Terrific. Drink now.

WINE ENTHUSIAST

www.winemag.com

Published on February 1st, 2018



Roger Voss

2015 REDS

2015 MOREY-SAINT-DENIS 1^{ER} CRU "LES SORBETS"

95 pts

Cellar Selection

This generous wine is still young with its firm tannins, although also rich with black fruits and concentration. It is juicy, ripe with blackberry flavors and packed with spice and a dry core. The vineyard, at mid-slope like all premier crus, is named after the rowan trees that were found around the edge. This is a wine with a great future; drink from 2025.



2015 CHAMBOLLE-MUSIGNY 1^{ER} CRU "LES CHABIOTS"

93 pts

Ripe and full bodied, this wine is also succulent and juicy. Red fruits show strongly in the concentrated texture and the richness. An impressive wine to age, it will not be ready to drink before 2023.



2015 NUITS-SAINT-GEORGES 1^{ER} CRU "CHÂTEAU-GRIS"

93 pts

Juicy, firmly structured and with great fruit, this wine will need aging. With black cherries and juicy red currants, it is both ripe and crisp. Drink this wine, with its excellent potential, from 2024.

2015 FIXIN 1^{ER} CRU "CLOS DE LA PERRIÈRE"

90 pts

This is a structured, firm wine with a dry core of tannins, which bodes well for the future as the rich fruit comes slowly through the structure. It has weight and juicy potential. The wine comes from a walled vineyard wholly owned by the producer. Drink from 2021.

Inside Burgundy

Jasper Morris MW

www.insideburgundy.com



January 2018

2016 RED BURGUNDIES

BOURGOGNE PINOT NOIR SECRET DE FAMILLE 2016

87

From vines below Nuits, Morey, Chambolle and Marsannay. Delicious mid purple, bright fruit with presence but not over heavy, elegance on the palate, a bit of weight, some fresh acidity, overall a nice balance for a Bourgogne.

POMMARD CLOS DES URSULINES Domaine du Pavillon 2016

91

Alberic Bichot's house overlooks this 4 ha monopole. They feel that the character of this wine has a touch of Volnay to it, despite the predominance of clay over limestone. Noble rich colour, the nose needs time to escape from the reduction, which firms up the back of the palate too along with the Pommard tannins, but there is a really attractive mouthful of fruit through the middle.

POMMARD LES RUGIENS PREMIER CRU Domaine du Pavillon 2016

92-94

Rich noble purple, very dense nose but in a good way, not clumsy at all. There is a really impressive heart to this. Good weight on the palate, not over tannic, minerals show through and there is excellent acid balance. Complete and fresh. Fruit is red with some darker notes. Fine indeed for Pommard

ALOXE-CORTON CLOS DES MARÉCHAUDES PREMIER CRU Domaine du Pavillon 2016

92

Darkish colour, the nose has some more sensitive aspects and some which are fiercer, the tannins show a tiny bit at the back but the fruit surround nicely, avoids the rustic quality or lack of which you get with so many vineyards in Aloxé. Red fruit, almost a touch of velvet.

CORTON CLOS DES MARÉCHAUDES GRAND CRU Domaine du Pavillon 2016

93

Made in exactly the same way as the Aloxé-Corton version, but this comes out with a deeper purple colour and a greater succulence of fruit, which covers the tannins more, allowing the acidity to provide the structure.

MOREY-SAINT-DENIS LES SORBETS PREMIER CRU 2016

90

Lovely, even mid purple, very suave fruit across the palate, elegant and savoury at the same time and with a lively finish. Seamless, understated and certainly fine.

CHAMBOLLE-MUSIGNY LES CHABIOTS PREMIER CRU 2016

91

Medium deep colour, slightly weaker rim, hard to find the nose at first. Quite fine boned, a delicate Chambolle with good persistence but lesser presence at the front. I like the quality of the fruit though, with some fresh cherries at the back.

VOSNE-ROMANÉE Domaine du Clos Frantin 2016

90

From Basses Mazières and Damaudes. Medium deep purple, the oak speaks a little louder than the fruit at the moment. One can see Vosne character, plus some freshness from Damaudes and the weight from Mazières which comes up behind. Good length certainly, more fruit than tannin.

VOSNE-ROMANÉE LES MALCONSORTS PREMIER CRU Domaine du Clos Frantin 2016

94

Significantly rich deep purple. A wonderful richness of flavour sweeps across the palate. It is still held in check a bit by the wood. A solid, rich, firm wine at the finish, with impressive density.

CLOS DE LA ROCHE GRAND CRU 2016

92-94

Not their own vineyard but they do the harvesting. Dense imperial purple, a slightly firm nose, proper concentration of fruit, on the cusp of red and black but with good acidity to keep the freshness. Good weight behind, impressive, while still being discreet.

CHARMES-CHAMBERTIN GRAND CRU 2016

91-93

Another bright mid purple, the nose again is not explosive. On the palate the voluptuous side begins to come out, acidity is present, some tannins too. All red fruit not black, just enough to cover the bone structure.

CLOS DE VOUGEOT GRAND CRU Domaine du Clos Frantin 2016

93-95

Fine bright full purple, a feeling of sumptuous fruit not quite ready to deliver. Always a backward wine here, apparently. Luscious fruit right across the palate, properly ripe, just a touch of refreshing acidity at the back, tannins present but in the right place. No frost which helped. Classy stuff.

ECHZEVAUX GRAND CRU Domaine du Clos Frantin 2016

92-94

From Champs Traversins. Escaped the frost. Excellent rich noble purple, a little trace of reduction but very promising. Some sand in the soil. High class fruit here with a little touch of velvet, then almost a chocolate note at the back but without falling into obvious over-ripeness. Lower acidity and tannins.



CÔTE DE NUITS REDS

**RICHEBOURG GRAND CRU
Domaine du Clos Frantin 2016**

Exquisite raspberry and cranberry fruit, wonderful floral accompaniment and a lovely meaty aroma too. Gleeefully complex and open-knit. Powdery tannin, vivid acid, long and graceful on the finish. Superb, elegant, extensive.

18.5⁺

**SECOND BEST WINE
in the TOP 5 of the 2016 red Burgundies
(more than 550 tasted)**



17

FIXIN CLOS DE LA PERRIÈRE PREMIER CRU 2016

Lovely upfront primary red fruit here, more fragrant and immediate than many of the Bichot 2016s. Good persistence and balance on the palate too, and enough tannic grain to give shape without being intrusive.

17⁺

GEVREY-CHAMBERTIN LAVAUX SAINT-JACQUES PREMIER CRU 2016

Fragrant, impressive lift on the palate with violet and black cherry flavours, and a lovely twist of cinnamon too. Firm palate, but by no means aggressive. Full body and long, concentrated finish.

17⁺

MOREY-SAINT-DENIS LES SORBETS PREMIER CRU 2016

Jasmine and violet on the nose, crunchy tannin and refreshingly brisk acid on the finish. Lovely stewed character to the fruit, without any loss of freshness. Layered, elegant, refined.

17,5

NUITS-SAINT-GEORGES CHAÎNES CARTEAUX PREMIER CRU 2016

Plentiful vanilla oak on the nose and palate, with crunchy cranberry fruit and excellent perfume on the long finish. The fragrance really lingers – this is Pinot singing from the top branches!

17

NUITS-SAINT-GEORGES CHÂTEAU-GRIS PREMIER CRU 2016

Sweet oak, sweet red fruit and succulent, soft tannin. Accessible and enjoyable thanks to the youthful fruit and open floral perfume. Grainy mouthfeel but not at all astringent – in fact, the finish is fluid and mouthwatering.

17,5

CHAMBOLLE-MUSIGNY LES CHABIOTS PREMIER CRU 2016

Black cherry, fine tannic grip, refreshing acid. Intense dark fruit that has the power to last. Dark smoky finish with gorgeously refreshing crispness. Well defined and luxurious and has all the elegance of Chambolle.

17,5⁺

CHAMBOLLE-MUSIGNY LES AMOUREUSES PREMIER CRU 2016

More subtle than their Chabiots on the nose, and there's a piquant spiciness to the palate which seems unusual but not unpleasant. Fine tannic paste on the palate – very much ready to drink in that regard. Vivid acid too, and the finish has grandeur and dogged persistence.

17,5

VOSNE-ROMANÉE Domaine du Clos Frantin 2016

Subtle confectioned fruit on the nose, fully loaded palate with weight and fragrance and persistence. Dry and relatively light in body, but there is great core flavour that persists on the finish, and a touch of soy character to give complexity.

17⁺

VOSNE-ROMANÉE LES MALCONSORTS PREMIER CRU Domaine du Clos Frantin 2016

Black cherry, dry tannin, firm and fragrant and juicy. Still in its first flush, with impressive purity of fruit.

17

CLOS DE LA ROCHE GRAND CRU 2016

Smells sweeter and riper than the Charmes-Chambertin with more black fruit. More savoury on the palate too and the oak showing a little more at the moment. Firm, compact and so fresh.

CÔTE DE NUITS REDS

17,5

CHARMES-CHAMBERTIN GRAND CRU 2016

Much more impressive fruit power than their Clos-de-la-Roche, giving all the grandeur and purity befitting grand cru. Tight, potent, layered and succulent.

18

LATRICIÈRES-CHAMBERTIN GRAND CRU 2016

Wonderfully perfumed nose that has both cranberry and wild raspberry fruit plus violets and spices. Very promising lift on the finish with a long, gradual fade out. Not at all showy, this revels in its savoury restraint and softly spoken intensity.

17,5

CLOS DE VOUGEOT GRAND CRU Domaine du Clos Frantin 2016

Jasmine and violet on the nose, crunchy tannin and refreshingly brisk acid on the finish. Lovely stewed character to the fruit, without any loss of freshness. Layered, elegant, refined.

18

ECHÉZEAUX GRAND CRU Domaine du Clos Frantin 2016

Fragrant and smoky on the nose and palate. Chewy texture, compressed fruit. Very much in its infancy. Tight, restrained and compact. Unquestionable purity of fruit, which has a charming bitter stemminess to finish.

17,5+

GRANDS-ECHÉZEAUX GRAND CRU Domaine du Clos Frantin 2016

Delicious violet perfume on the palate following a fairly understated nose. Tart finish with very strong tannin matched by punchy acidity. Seems extreme in every dimension, and perhaps in need of time to settle and knit.

18+

BONNES MARES GRAND CRU 2016

Sweet vanilla oak, crunchy acidity, firm tannin and beautifully pure Morello cherry fruit. Very primary and raw at this stage, but this has all the makings of greatness with maturity. Big, bold, brilliant.



OTHER REDS

16,5

BOURGOGNE PINOT NOIR SECRET DE FAMILLE 2016

Blackcurrant, full body, firm tannin – this is serious and savoury and with higher ambitions than most Bourgogne. Layered and substantial in terms of body and length.

16+

MERCUREY CHAMPS-MARTIN PREMIER CRU Domaine Adélie 2016

Sweet oak spice that is forthright and dominant on the palate. Furry tannin, bitter cranberry fruit and a very savoury finish.

16,5+

CORTON CLOS DES MARÉCHAUDES GRAND CRU Domaine du Pavillon 2016

After a shy nose, there is ripe and generous fruit on the palate. Finely powdered tannin giving a gummy, tacky chew on the finish. Has all the proportions of a grand cru.

16,5+

ROCHEGRÈS MOULIN-À-VENT Domaine de Rochegrès 2016

Impressive fruit clarity and richness. Lovely silky texture and smoothness with lovely bitter herbs on the finish.



CÔTE D'OR WHITES

- 16** **BOURGOGNE CHARDONNAY SECRET DE FAMILLE 2016**
Closed nose but the palate opens up to deliver fresh apple fruit with a slight toffee character on the finish. Punchy acidic refreshment on the length.
- 16.5** **MERCUREY LES CHAMPS MICHAUX Domaine Adélie 2016**
Plump and rich and spicy on the nose and palate – such richness and eloquence for an oft-overlooked appellation. Good spicy finish with layers of fresh citrus fruit keeping the length going.
- 17+** **NUITS-SAINT-GEORGES LES TERRASSES Château Gris 2016**
White flowers, generous apple and lemon fruit with floury texture and lovely generous body outlined with precise acid. Such precision and elegance! Sits between Chablis and Meursault in terms of style. Nutty elements on the finish.
- 17** **MEURSAULT CLOS DE MAGNY Domaine du Pavillon 2016**
Has the sort of stone-fruit richness that might be more like Viognier than Chardonnay on the nose. The palate is more classic, with precise acid, spicy oak and a long, lifted fragrance to finish. Chewy texture – very Meursault in volume terms.
- 17.5** **MEURSAULT LES CHARMES PREMIER CRU Domaine du Pavillon 2016**
Peachy, rich and generous with excellent fruit definition that is more typical Chardonnay than their Clos de Magny. Lovely flinty note on the palate too – serious, ageworthy, intense and savoury. Gastronomic and expansive on the finish.
- 18** **BEAUNE CLOS DES MOUCHES PREMIER CRU Domaine du Pavillon 2016**
Excellent mineral aromas – flint, wet stone, smoke – deliciously reductive but with full body and generous fruit too. An absolute belter! The quality of flavours is just impeccable.
- 17.5** **CHASSAGNE-MONTRACHET MORGEOT PREMIER CRU 2016**
Buttery, crisp, tangy and vivid on the palate. Chalky texture, long finish, fragrant and delicate with a lovely salty aftertaste.
- 17,5+** **CORTON-CHARLEMAGNE GRAND CRU Domaine du Pavillon 2016**
Gorgeous green apple fruit with smoky mineral overtones and chewy, glossy texture. Superb intensity and length. Has all the richness and power of grand cru with simply divine clarity and richness. Complexity will come.

CHABLIS

- 17** **CHABLIS LES LYS PREMIER CRU Domaine Long-Depaquit 2016**
Yoghurt, lemon, quite a lot of cheese and dairy on the palate. Wonderfully fresh fruit with savoury sensibilities on the finish and good, long persistence.
- 17+** **CHABLIS LES VAILLONS PREMIER CRU Domaine Long-Depaquit 2016**
Baked apple fruit – richer than their Les Lys, but still with restraint and crispness on the finish. Full body, thick mouthfeel, lovely long finish. The quality of fruit gives this a strong sense of future greatness.
- 17** **CHABLIS MONTMAINS PREMIER CRU Domaine Long-Depaquit 2016**
Grapefruit, lemon juice, green apple – great delineation between these flavours. Precise and crisp on the palate. A great contrast to their fleshier Vaillons, and perhaps more typically Chablis as a result.
- 17** **CHABLIS LES VAUCOPINS PREMIER CRU Domaine Long-Depaquit 2016**
White currant and rich apple fruit with soft acid and a long dairy character on the finish. Fragrant and lifted and lengthy.
- 17.5** **CHABLIS LES BLANCHOTS GRAND CRU Domaine Long-Depaquit 2016**
Cooked apples, rose petals, cream and spice. Rich, elegant, long and powerful. Such finesse! No excess oak or heaviness.
- 17.5+** **CHABLIS LES CLOS GRAND CRU Domaine Long-Depaquit 2016**
Powerful green-apple fruit with chewy texture and great intensity on the length. Incredibly young but incredibly powerful, with more tension and promise than their Blanchots. Exceptionally long, intense finish.
- 17,5++** **CHABLIS LES VAUDÉSIRS GRAND CRU Domaine Long-Depaquit 2016**
Thick and rich on the palate with a touch of chalky minerality on the palate. Authentic Chablis flavours with lovely green-apple fruit on the mid palate. A touch of lemon-lime fruit on the finish. Rich, long, full.
- 17,5+** **CHABLIS MOUTONNE GRAND CRU Domaine Long-Depaquit 2016**
Lots of dairy character on the nose, with a strong salty element that conjures blue cheese. Tangy apple and citrus fruit. Slender and precise on the palate with no excess weight but plentiful flavour.



RED WINES

CÔTE DE NUITS

- 92 FIXIN PC CLOS DE LA PERRIÈRE
- 95 GEVREY-CHAMBERTIN PC LAVAUX-SAINT-JACQUES
- 94 MOREY-SAINT-DENIS PC LES SORBETS
- 93 NUITS-SAINT-GEORGES PC CHAÎNES CARTEAUX
- 94 NUITS-SAINT-GEORGES PC CHÂTEAU GRIS
- 94 CHAMBOLLE-MUSIGNY PC LES SENTIERS
- 93 CHAMBOLLE-MUSIGNY PC LES CHABIOTS
- 96 CHAMBOLLE-MUSIGNY PC LES AMOUREUSES
- 92 VOSNE-ROMANÉE, Domaine du Clos Frantin
- 94 VOSNE-ROMANÉE PC LES MALCONSORTS, Domaine du Clos Frantin
- 96 CLOS DE LA ROCHE GC
- 95 CHARMES-CHAMBERTIN GC
- 93 CLOS DE VOUGEOT GC, Domaine du Clos Frantin
- 96 ECHEZEAUX GC, Domaine du Clos Frantin
- 96 GRANDS-ECHEZEAUX GC, Domaine du Clos Frantin



CÔTE DE BEAUNE

- 91 POMMARD CLOS DES URSULINES, Domaine du Pavillon
- 93 POMMARD PC LES RUGIENS, Domaine du Pavillon
- 93 VOLNAY PC LES SANTENOTS, Domaine du Pavillon
- 93 ALOXE-CORTON PC CLOS DES MARÉCHAUDES, Domaine du Pavillon
- 95 CORTON GC CLOS DES MARÉCHAUDES, Domaine du Pavillon



BOURGOGNE, CÔTE CHALONNAISE, MÂCONNAIS

- 90 BOURGOGNE PINOT NOIR SECRET DE FAMILLE
- 91 MERCUREY PC CHAMPS MARTIN, Domaine Adélie



January 2018

WHITE WINES

CHABLIS

- 92 CHABLIS PC LES BEUGNONS, Domaine Long-Depaquit
- 92 CHABLIS PC LES LYS, Domaine Long-Depaquit
- 94 CHABLIS PC LES VAILLONS, Domaine Long-Depaquit
- 93 CHABLIS PC MONTMAINS, Domaine Long-Depaquit
- 93 CHABLIS PC LES VAUCOPINS, Domaine Long-Depaquit
- 95 CHABLIS PC MONTÉE DE TONNERRE, Domaine Long-Depaquit
- 93 CHABLIS GC BOUGROS, Domaine Long-Depaquit
- 94 CHABLIS GC LES BLANCHOTS, Domaine Long-Depaquit
- 94 CHABLIS GC LES CLOS, Domaine Long-Depaquit
- 94 CHABLIS GC LES PREUSES, Domaine Long-Depaquit
- 96 CHABLIS GC LES VAUDÉSIRS, Domaine Long-Depaquit
- 95 CHABLIS GC LA MOUTONNE, Domaine Long-Depaquit



CÔTE DE NUITS AND CÔTE DE BEAUNE

- 94 NUITS-SAINT-GEORGES LES TERRASSES, Château-Gris
- 93 MEURSAULT, Domaine du Pavillon
- 94 MEURSAULT PC LES CHARMES, Domaine du Pavillon
- 94 BEAUNE PC CLOS DES MOUCHES, Domaine du Pavillon
- 94 CHASSAGNE-MONTRACHET PC MORGEOT
- 96 CORTON-CHARLEMAGNE GC, Domaine du Pavillon



BOURGOGNE, CÔTE CHALONNAISE, MÂCONNAIS

- 89 BOURGOGNE CHARDONNAY SECRET DE FAMILLE
- 90 MERCUREY LES CHAMPS-MICHAUX, Domaine Adélie
- 87 MÂCON-LUGNY LES CHARMES



2016 Côte de Nuits Reds

Albéric Bichot was succinctly enthusiastic about his 2016s, noting that “the wines have turned out to be a really pleasant surprise from the standpoint of their quality. The fly in the soup though is that outside of a few communes that mostly escaped the frost, quantities are depressingly low and in a few cases, we made none at all. This is for example what happened with the Chambertin in our Clos Frantin portfolio. Still, the good news is that the quality is excellent.” I found the quality of the Bichot 2016s to be basically in-line with the general quality of the vintage though there are several excellent wines that are well worth your attention.

2016 Bourgogne Pinot Noir Secret de Famille: (86-88)

(entirely from the Côte de Nuits). A restrained and agreeably fresh nose consists mostly of various red berry aromas along with touches of earth and oak. The delicious, vibrant and saline-inflected flavors possess a caressing mouthfeel while offering fine length on the lingering finish where a hint of bitter cherry pit surfaces. This should drink well shortly after release but repay a few years of cellaring too. 2019+

2016 Vosne-Romanée *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: (88-91)

(the blend is mostly from Damaudes with a small proportion of Hautes Maizières). A pretty, fresh and layered nose reflects notes of red currant, lavender, violet and subtle spice notes. There is a really lovely and highly seductive texture to the satiny flavors that culminate in a firm and mildly robust but not really rustic finish. This is worth checking out. 2023+

2016 Fixin “Clos de la Perrière”: (90-92) TOP VALUE WINE

Discreet aromas of pretty and very fresh earthy red currant, cherry and lavender can be found on the layered nose. There is excellent delineation and punch to the utterly delicious flavors that are not particularly dense but the precision and minerality of the finish makes this quite attractive nonetheless. In a word, lovely. 2024+

2016 Morey-Saint-Denis “Les Sorbets”: (89-92)

A reserved mix is composed by notes of earth, red cherry, raspberry and a hint of wood toast. There is a polished mouthfeel to the supple and refined medium-bodied flavors that offer a bit more volume if not quite the same level of complexity though more should develop with a few years of bottle age. 2023+

2016 Nuits-Saint-Georges “Chaînes Carteaux”: (90-92)

There is more volume still to the energetic and tautly muscular medium weight flavors that terminate in a firm, dusty and youthfully austere finish that flashes slightly better complexity. Note however that this will demand at least a few years of patience. 2026+

2016 Nuits-Saint-Georges “Château Gris”: (89-92)

A perfumed, elegant and airy nose offers up notes of essence of red cherry and a pretty array of floral and spice elements. The lacy and intense lighter weight flavors brim with minerality before culminating in a clean, dry-in-the-best sense and linear finish. This is lovely and should age well if desired. 2023+

2016 Gevrey-Chambertin “Lavaux-Saint-Jacques”: (91-93) SWEET SPOT WINE

This is also perfumed and exceptionally pretty with its broad ranging nose of both red and dark berry fruit, the *savage*, floral and soft wisps of earth and spice. There is excellent mid-palate fat and volume that imparts a succulent mouthfeel to the powerful and muscular flavors where the minerality really comes up on the moderately austere, firmly structured finish. This is built-to-age and will need it. 2028+

2016 Chambolle-Musigny “Les Sentiers”: (91-93) SWEET SPOT WINE

A layered and cool blend features notes of red cherry, dark raspberry, spice and lavender nuances. There is slightly less minerality but an equally lovely mouthfeel to the tautly muscular flavors that exhibit excellent intensity to the dusty, youthfully austere and built-to-age finish. A classic Sentiers. 2026+

2016 Chambolle-Musigny “Les Chabiots”: (90-92)

A wonderfully pure and expressive nose offers up notes of essence of red currant, violet, spice and a hint of tea. The sleek, intense and lightly mineral-inflected middle weight flavors that are denser than usual, delivering sneaky good length. This is lovely and very Chambolle in character. 2026+





2016 Côte de Nuits Reds

2016 Chambolle-Musigny "Les Amoureuses": (91-94) **SWEET SPOT WINE**

A slightly more deeply pitched nose reveals a wide range of spice and floral elements along with notes of plum, dark currant and a whiff of wood. The sophisticated, intense and impressively concentrated medium-bodied flavors also brim with minerality that adds a touch of lift to the sappy, complex and strikingly persistent finish. This caressing effort is really quite lovely and I particularly like the balance. 2028+

2016 Charmes-Chambertin: (91-94)

(from Charmes proper). The gamy essence of black cherry liqueur, earth and humus aromas precedes the caressing, mouth coating and punchy big-bodied flavors that retain fine delineation on the powerful and overtly saline finish that flashes a touch of youthful austerity. I very much like the sense of energy and particularly how refreshing this is but make no mistake, this is built-to-age and is going to need at least 6 to 8 years first. 2028+

2016 Clos de la Roche: (92-95)

(from Genavrières). A highly complex and much earthier and *sauvage*-inflected nose offers up notes of cassis and blue pinot fruit that is nuanced by hints of smoke and spice. There is outstanding richness to the powerful, concentrated and overtly muscular broad-shouldered flavors that possess strikingly impressive persistence on the austere, backward and very firmly structured finish. This brooding but most promising effort is quite compact at present and will need plenty of time to flesh out. 2033+



2016 Vosne-Romanée "Les Malconsorts" *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: (92-94) **SWEET SPOT WINE**

(from a whopping 1.75 ha parcel). A relatively deeply pitched nose offers plenty of both floral and spice elements along with notes of plum, dark cherry and a touch of Asian-style tea. As is usually the case there is excellent volume and a taut muscularity to the sappy broad-shouldered flavors that flash superb depth and persistence. Note well though that this classic example is definitely built-to-age and is going to need at least most of a decade to be approachable. Recommended. 2031+

2016 Clos-de-Vougeot *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: (91-94)

(from a .72 ha parcel). By contrast there is first-rate freshness and verve to the precise, intense and muscular yet caressing big-bodied flavors that are supported by a driving, powerful and very serious finish that is, not surprisingly, youthfully austere. Like the Malconsorts, this is not fashioned to be approached in its youth. 2031+

2016 Echézeaux *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: (91-93)

(from a .99 ha parcel in Champs Traversin). An exuberantly spicy nose offers up notes of red and black raspberry, anise, tea and plenty of floral elements, all of which is trimmed in just enough wood to notice. The medium-bodied flavors are round and very rich if less imposing or precise, all wrapped in a solidly persistent finish where a touch of salinity arises. In contrast to the Malconsorts and the Clos de Vougeot, this could reasonably be enjoyed young. 2028+



2016 Grands-Echézeaux *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: (92-95)

(from a .4 ha parcel). Like several wines in the range here the nose is intensely floral in character that adds a sense of elegance to the discreetly spicy black berry fruit and hoisin-suffused aromas. There is a subtle salinity to the beautifully well-detailed and energetic big-bodied flavors that possess superb depth of material and outstanding complexity before terminating in a persistent, mouth coating and very firmly structured finish. This is old school in style and a wine that is going to need plenty of bottle age before the supporting tannins are resolved. 2036+

2016 Richebourg *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: (92-95)

Aromas of red currant, rose petal, lavender, violet and Asian-style tea precede the succulent and refined flavors that are notably stony while exhibiting excellent persistence on the bright and balanced but very firm and serious finale. This is finer and classier than the Grands Ech but not necessarily more complex, at least not today. 2036+

Burghound.com 2016 Vintage Selections:

The "Top Value Wines" are those that are generally available in the market place at a price point of no more than approximately \$75 US; prices do of course vary from one country to another and even within those countries, they can vary widely, especially now with the fluctuation of many currencies. The "Sweet Spot Wines" section addresses the wide gulf between the under \$75 Top Value wines and the generally over \$200 "Don't Miss Wines"; note that I have tried to layer these selections to portray a representative range between the two price points.



December 2017 - January 2018

**AFFORDABLE
BURGUNDY**
We taste and rate 87
Côte de Beaune reds

Albert Bichot

SAVIGNY-LES-BEAUNE 2015

89/100

Still backward on the nose but there is depth and richness here: black cherry fruit allied with a powerful oak structure. Long and precise.



DOMAINES
ALBERT  BICHOT

— MAISON FONDÉE EN 1831 —

6 Boulevard Jacques Copeau - 21200 Beaune - France

Tel +33 (0) 380 24 37 37 - Fax +33 (0) 380 24 37 38

Email : bourgogne@albert-bichot.com

www.albert-bichot.com