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# Burgundy 2022 En Primeur Offer



"I cannot remember a Burgundy vintage that elicited so much joy from barrel..." -Neal Martin , Jan '24

# BURGUNDY 2022 EN PRIMEUR

"The 2022 vintage is proof that Burgundy hasn't lost its capacity to surprise...2022 is another very strong Burgundy vintage, offering excellence in both colors and in a wide variety of styles, foregrounding the fascinating nuances of site that render this region so interesting. "William Kelley, Wine Advocate, Jan '24

Burgundy is back with a bang with the 2022 vintage: A fresh, attractive, and relatively plentiful year, excellent for both reds and whites. Our offers from this vintage are now out and available to purchase en primeur. In November, we made our annual cask-tasting visit to the Côte d'Or, to taste the '22s from barrel. Here's what we learnt on that visit.

#### How was the weather in 2022?

After a mild, dry winter, the first green shoots emerged in April, just in time to meet a burst of cold air from the north, bringing threat of frost from 3-11 April. Happily, at this stage in their development, the buds are covered in fine cotton-like hairs, protecting them from the worst of the frosts.

Spring-like weather arrived in mid-April, resulting in rapid vegetative growth and the first flowers just a month later. Flowering was two weeks earlier than usual. Budburst was followed by exceptionally warm weather. Rain came at just the right time before fruit set and the berries developed in hot, sunny weather. Thunderstorms from 21-25 June, brought more much-needed water, although a few hailstorms did cause damage in some areas.

After such a propitious start, an excellent harvest seemed likely, but a series of heatwaves and no rain threatened to change the course of the vintage. In contrast to 2021, there was no threat of mildew or any other maladies of the vine, but the lack of water became increasingly critical. In mid-August, chardonnay vines in areas went into physiological shutdown, closing up the stomata in their leaves to conserve water. The berries shrivelled to a very small size. Vines in shallow or sandy soils suffered the worst. Acidity levels were a concern, but it became clear after the vintage that the total acidity in each berry had been preserved as the water content fell, resulting in a final pH not too far off an average year. Rain came in late August, rehydrating the vines and setting the scene for an excellent harvest.

Picking for the Chardonnay vines on the Côte de Beaune started from 20 August, with the rest of the region following on behind. The last grapes were gathered on the Côte de Nuits, the Hautes Côtes, and in the Chablis region during the third week in September, an unusually long, slow harvest. Some areas ripened at a different rate to others, but this was also due to human decisions. The grapes were in excellent health and we are hopeful of a great year for both reds and whites.

## Everyone was extremely happy!

It may seem a trite observation, but it made a tremendous difference to be greeted by beaming smiles and generous arrays of cask samples. The contrast with last year was enormous when even the most charming winemakers were exceedingly downcast about the tiny '21 vintage (despite its quality). We were often able to taste just two or three wines at domaines where we might sometimes be offered a dozen. This year we were once again privileged to taste some stupendous arrays of premiers and grands crus. As well as providing us with more buying options (and hence choices available for you), this also gave us more insight into the vintage as a whole.

## 'Fresh' and 'pretty' are the bywords for 2022

The 2022 vintage is not homogeneous, some growers who picked too late will have made overripe wines. However, this was not the case with any of the domaines we deal with. Without exception, we tasted wines with preternatural freshness, given the heat in 2022. The perception of freshness is made up of a number of elements, not least ripeness levels, but acidity is a key factor.

As wine merchants, we are obsessed with asking winemakers "what's the pH"... a relatively simple marker of acidity that we can understand. Our conversations reminded us that this is rather simplistic. The kind of acidity is equally important (malic, tartaric, citric, or lactic). The '22s have a similar pH to the '20s but are much fresher, with acidity more similar to the 2016s. Lots of wines also had beautiful salinity (a taste perception linked to succinic acid).

## Burgundy is (still) all about people and place

One definition of what makes a wine 'fine' is the intention behind it...a wine made to be more than just a pleasant alcoholic beverage; that expresses something about the place it comes from, the person who made it, or something exceptional in the techniques used. Burgundy is still an exemplar in this regard.

With the winemakers all smiles and ready to chat, we were reminded of how important intrinsic winemaker personality and vineyard sites are in Burgundy. The ability of these wines to express the place they come from and the character of the person who made them is astounding. Some appreciation of this can turn burgundy from being merely a delicious drink into the most beguiling pastime.

If this doesn't float your boat, then quite a lot of the content in our offers will have little meaning for you. In that case, we are very happy to recommend a selection of reds and white to suit your pocket, please just let us know. However, we hope that examples like that of Domaine de Suremain in Monthelie will interest you.

When we asked Gwendoline de Suremain what had changed in 2022, she replied, gleefully, "me!". This is her first vintage as winemaker, taking over from her father, Eric, a guru of biodynamics. The wines are still made in the same traditional manner in an ancient basket press and wooden vats that would look entirely at home in fifteenth-century Burgundy; but they have undergone a revolution. Myriad small and not-so-small decisions in the vineyard and winery have accumulated to make huge differences and the wines have a new balance and energy to them.

## The vines are adapting...but can they continue to do so?

Despite the challenges, we may well look back on recent years as a Golden Age for Côte d'Or burgundy from small domaines. Several high profile winemakers have made dire predictions along the lines that "it will be impossible to grow Pinot Noir here in 50 years". 2018, 2019, 2020 and 2022 have all defied expectations to produce great wines from exceptionally hot vintages. There is no doubt that plant adaptation has made this possible, especially in 2022. We were becoming complacent about this, until Benoît Eschard at Domaine Jeannin-Naltet in Mercurey pointed out that there may well be a tipping point, when the vines simply can't handle the heat and low rainfall. Hopefully we will have many more vintages like the ones mentioned above, but this shouldn't be taken for granted.

# Tell me again, how did the wines taste?

Whites and reds are both excellent. Both will be drinking young, but have plenty of ability to age. Think of a cross between the concentration and perfect ripeness of fruit of 2020 and the more energetic acidity of 2016. The whites tend to show citrus and

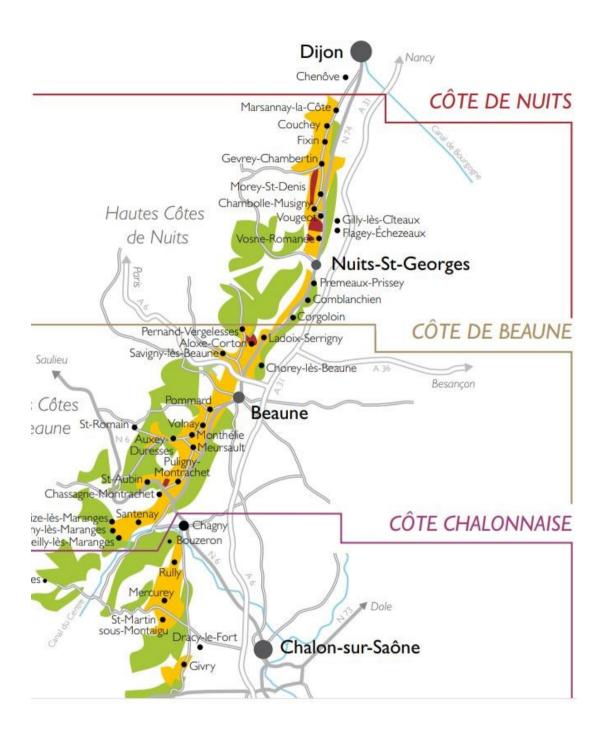
green fruits and many have a wonderful salty character that adds to the impression of freshness. The reds have particularly fine, ripe and elegant tannins and a generous core of fruit that is held in balance by the fresh acidity. The wines are almost exactly mid-way between the more concentrated style of recent hot vintages and the more classic style of years like 2021, 2016 and 2014. They should delight lovers of both styles.

You can see a full list of the wines below, or read the individual release offers here.

#### Offered en primeur.

## Wines expected by autumn 2024.

Stock currently lying ex-cellars in France, wines due to land in the UK by late 2024. Prices are shown in bond (IB) per 6 or 12 bts (unless stated otherwise). Onward delivery within the UK not included. Stock and orders are subject to confirmation.



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# **Chablis**



# Domaine Jean Collet & Fils, Chablis

Domaine Collet in Chablis has become an exciting producer to watch since Romain Collet took over a few years ago. When we visited last month we were once again delighted by the wines, and hold them in higher regard with each new vintage. Allocations of the premiers and grands crus are limited.

Romain vinifies each wine differently, according to the potential he sees in the vineyard, so this is an excellent opportunity to add a selection of crus to your cellar, to enjoy their differences when the time comes to drink them. At the risk of oversimplifying, the wines vinified in 'eggs' or larger wooden foudres ('Montmains', 'Les Forêts' and 'Vaillons') emphasise the linear, flinty-mineral style which Chablis is famous for, while the wines aged in barrique have a more Burgundian structure.

Despite their differences, Romain's wines all have a distinct style that sums up classic Chablis, balancing minerality with fruit concentration. One secret to his success seems to be adaptability. He commented that he now harvests a month earlier than was the norm in his grandfather's time. This readiness to adapt to the climate, along with his family's amazing vineyard holdings across the appellation, is producing some outstanding wines.

Premier and grand cru Chablis from very good domaines like this one offer amazing value for money when compared with similar crus on the Côte d'Or, so do take advantage of these limited stocks while they are available.

## About the domaine

The Collet family have quietly been producing Chablis since 1792, but in the last few years, the domaine has begun to gain attention, under Romain Collet, who is rapidly making his way into the top-tier of winemakers in the region.

Domaine Jean Collet & Fils has not been widely imported into the UK, so we were delighted to have obtained allocations beginning with the 2020 vintage.

Romain combines great winemaking and knowledge of his family's vineyards with an easy charm and dynamism. He has converted much of the estate to organic viticulture and uses a

mixture of stainless steel, older wooden barrels and other inert vessels in which to mature the wines, varying the élevage for each cuvée to suit the terroir.

# JEAN COLLET ET FILS: The wines

#### 2022 Chablis, 'Montmains' 1er cru, Domaine Jean Collet & Fils

From five parcels on Montmains, 100% fermented and aged in stainless steel. Romain commented that there was lots of millerandage (also known as 'hen and chickens') in 2022; with the grapes in each bunch of varying sizes. Careful handpicking and selection turned this into a virtue, bring varying degrees of ripeness into the cuvée. The Montmains has a beautiful nose of ozone and seaside minerality, as well as crushed oyster shell. Broad on the palate, this is nevertheless ultra-classic in style. RKL

£120 per case of 6 | Very limited availability

#### 2022 Chablis, 'Les Forêts' 1er cru, Domaine Jean Collet & Fils

Les Forêts is on the Montmains slopes and forms a natural amphitheatre, making it warmer than Montmains. The vineyard was replanted in 2008 by Romain's father and has been organic since day 1. This was aged in 90% concrete eggs and 10% oak. Saline and steely on the palate with lots of energy, it is nevertheless rounder than the Montmains, with more texture. RKL

£130 per case of 6 | Limited availability

#### 2022 Chablis 'Vaillons' 1er cru, Domaine Jean Collet & Fils

The 10 ha Vaillons 1er cru is the largest in the appellation. Collet's vines here have been organic since 2008. Fermented 90% in stainless steel, then aged one third in large old wooden foudre, one third in used oak barrels and one third in tank. Romain pointed out that with the size of Vaillons, maturity can vary, hence he vinifies different plots individually. The 2022 Vaillons has it all.intensity, richness, minerality and saline notes, with a soft floral mid-palate and a hint of smoke. Very long. Romain says he prefers his 1er cru at around 4-5 years, so drink this from 2026, if you can wait. RKL

£130 per case of 6 | Very limited availability

#### 2022 Chablis 'Montee de Tonnérre' 1er cru, Domaine Jean Collet & Fils

Here Romain has two plots and says one gives minerality, the other, richness. 100% fermented in oak barrels, 5% of it new. Closed on the nose but with a harmonious, intense impression. Builds slowly on the mid-palate, expanding to show impressive breadth. Lime fruit, minerality and salinity on the very long finish. RKL

£140 per case of 6 | Very limited availability

#### 2022 Chablis 'Valmur' grand cru, Domaine Jean Collet & Fils

Valmur is high up on the slopes and despite the excellent ripeness, the altitude gives a cool expression to the fruit, even in warmer years. The terroir consists of a complex mixture of Portlandian scree and Kimmeridgian limestone. Fermented and aged in 100% oak barrels, from 1-3 years old. This has very rich fruit aromas, including grapefruit and even guava, but still has a focused line of acidity. Excellent intensity on nose and palate, impossible to mistake this for anything other than a grand cru. This needs 8-10 years to show its full potential (though it will be delicious after around 4!). RKL

£260 per case of 6 | Very limited availability

# **Côte de Nuits**

# Domaine Rossignol-Trapet, Gevrey-Chambertin



Our cask-tasting visit to Rossignol-Trapet each November is akin to a pilgrimage, so enamoured are we of the wines. This year, following a more abundant harvest in 2022, we were privileged to be treated by Nicolas Rossignol to an extensive tasting of his various cuvées, including a dizzying array of grands crus wines. We are very pleased to be able to offer very limited quantities of Latricieres-Chambertin, Chapelle-Chambertin, and Chambertin itself.

For many years, tasting these from cask was an esoteric exercise and a real test for our palates, with much of the flavour and aroma locked up by the grands crus' powerful tannins. Recent vintages like 2019 and '20 were much more concentrated and open, but the '22s were a return to the ethereal style of old, although still with more immediacy.

Nicolas told us that he began harvesting on 8th September. The summer was memorable for the severe flood that hit Gevrey on the 20th June, when rain clouds burst over the Combe de Lavaux at the top of the slopes. A torrent of water exploded drains across the town and brought large quantities of soil down from the vineyards, engulfing a number of underground cellars. The flood was followed by mildew which threatened the whole appellation. The community responded by joining together to hire helicopters to spray the vines.

Dramatic June weather aside, it was generally a hot, sunny summer, with excellent moisture levels allowing the vines to cope with the heat. As at other domaines, we were surprised then to find the wines were full of elegance and minerality, perfectly ripe but always with the most beautiful balance, a word that comes up over and again in our notes.

Nicolas said he used the same amount of whole-bunch fermentation as in 2020 (65% for the Gevrey wines). Apart from no pigeage, there were few changes, so the difference in style is predominantly due to vintage. Nicolas compared his 2022 to 2016 (a vintage we loved) but it seemed to us that the '22s struck a happy balance between the concentration and ripeness of '20 and the fine structure and acidity of '16.

To our minds, these wines vie with those from the coterie of top domaines that command far higher prices.

# About the domaine

Tasting at this domaine always feels like tasting the essence of Burgundy as a wine region. We are in awe of the purity and classicism of the wines. Brothers Nicolas and David Rossignol both

exude gentle, thoughtful charm and are always understated, despite their obvious winemaking genius.

They have run the domaine in Gevrey since 1990, but their father originally came from Volnay and they still have vineyard holdings in Beaune. Even in warmer vintages, the wines convey freshness and balancing acidity, often showing red as well as black fruit aromas.

The brothers were amongst the pioneers of biodynamics and their 13-hectare domaine has been certified biodynamic since 2005. Their wines have the characteristic energy that we experience so often at biodynamic estates. Each year, tasting their amazing line-up of grands crus is a highlight of our tastings in Burgundy.

## ROSSIGNOL-TRAPET: The wines

#### 2022 Gevrey Chambertin Vieilles Vignes, Domaine Rossignol-Trapet

Recently bottled. From eight different parcels of vines totalling five hectares, with 45-85 year old vines, mostly on gravelly soils. Dark but still delicate black fruits, cassis and kirsch aromas on the nose, extremely pure and layered, even some hints of cacao. Amazing finesse and elegance to the tannins, a beautifully structured wine. If you could only drink one red burgundy from Gevrey, this would be a candidate. Suspect this will drink well soon after bottling. RKL

£260 per case of 6 | £290 per case of 3 magnums | Limited availability

#### 2022 Gevrey-Chambertin 'Petite Chapelle' 1er Cru, Domaine Rossignol-Trapet

This premier crus is situated just below the grand cru Clos de Bèze and has a deep layer of clay, producing wines with breadth and depth. Rossignol-Trapet's 2022 has a liveliness and energy that makes it dance on the palate. Ethereal. RKL

£600 per case of 6 | Very limited availability

#### 2022 Gevrey-Chambertin 'Clos Prieur' 1er Cru, Domaine Rossignol-Trapet

The Clos Prieur vineyard was once owned by the Prieuré de Cluny. The terroir is clay-limestone with lots of small pebbles, with good drainage tending to produce small, concentrated berries. Barrel sample. More cacao aromas and more richness on the palate compared to the village wine; cassis, cherry, perhaps more red fruits than black. The silky tannic structure is what really distinguishes this ultra-classic Gevrey, with great length to the long, silky finish. RKL

£600 per case of 6 | Very limited availability

#### 2022 Latricieres-Chambertin grand cru, Domaine Rossignol-Trapet

The domaines holdings in Latricieres are made up of two parcels, planted in the 1930s and 1950s. This grand cru often produces wines with lots of fine, aromatic complexity. Barrel sample. The 2022 is sweet-scented with red and black fruits and coffee aromas. Powerful but fine tannins, with expansive fruit on the mid-palate, numerous layers of flavour, although the complexity is nascent for the time being. The finish shows lots of minerality. An absolute winemaking masterclass, this challenges any notions that burgundy like this is expensive, tasting it is such an awesome experience. RKL

£1,150 per case of 6 | On allocation

#### 2022 Chapelle-Chambertin grand cru, Domaine Rossignol-Trapet

Chapelle-Chambertin has relatively warm, shallow soils and often produces wines with an opulent character. Oak discernible on the nose (Nicolas uses 40% new for his top wines), with layered, complex tannic structure that unfolds on the palate. Lots of crushed rock and graphite notes. Red and black fruits, subdued for now, with lively acidity, but clearly this has a concentrated core waiting to express itself. The epitomy of grand cru burgundy, as defined by its complex, layered structure, fruit purity, minerality and great length. RKL

£1,150 per case of 6 | On allocation

#### 2022 Chambertin grand cru, Domaine Rossignol-Trapet

"The 2022 Chambertin Grand Cru is blessed with a well-defined bouquet with delineated, quite effervescent red fruit that leaps from the glass. The medium-bodied palate is cohesive with sapid red fruit, good body and density and a dash of white pepper towards the finish. This is easily the best of the Domaine's 2022s, predictable as that reads, but that's the way it is. Excellent. 95-97 points." Neal Martin, Vinous.com

£1,820 per case of 6 | £2050 per case of 3 magnums | On allocation



# Domaine Tortochot, Gevrey-Chambertin

We are very pleased to offer Domaine Tortochot's 2022 burgundies en primeur. Last year we decided not to offer their 2021 vintage, finding it a little 'old school' in style; so when we visited this year we were delighted once again to taste beautifully composed, elegant reds with glorious fruit concentration and finely delineated terroirs.

Burgundy expert Jasper Morris MW describes 2022 as a 'Modern Classic' for red and highlights the consistency, at all levels. A perfect year, then, for a domaine like Tortochot, which excels in the breadth of its offering, encompassing Village, Premier and Grand Cru cuvées. Even better, this was a relatively plentiful year...according to Mme Tortochot, her first full crop since 1996!

Our old favourite, the Gevrey-Chambertin 'Les Corvées' was a great success in this vintage, but for the first time we also offer the Gevrey Vieilles Vignes, which will take a little longer to open up, but had some additional depth on the palate. These two wines should make up the core of your burgundy cellar and will give pleasure for many years to come.

Among the premiers crus, the 2022 Morey St Denis 'Aux Charmes' was dense and dark on the nose and palate, with supple, velvet tannins. If you have not yet branched out into Morey, this will convert you, with its seductive, big, glossy fruit core and general charm. The 2022 Gevrey 'Lavaux St Jacques' (adjacent to the famous Clos St-Jaques 1er Cru and considered deserving of grand cru status) wowed us with its minerality and energy.

As for the grands crus, our notes are full of graphs showing flavour profiles versus time...a sure sign of how excitable we get when tasting wines of this quality! Prices have risen in recent years, but these are still among the best-value grands crus that we know of.

# About the domaine

Neil Martin has described Tortochot as 'a name to keep an eye on' and, more recently, as 'one to put back on your list'. Formerly this was a respected, if unexciting name in Gevrey, established in the 1800s; but since the mid-'90s, there has been an impressive evolution, brought about by Chantal Tortochot. Returning after a career in the US to take over the family domaine in 1996, Chantal studied oenology at Dijon University and, with the assistance of consultant Sylvain Pataille, she set about converting the 12 hectares of vines to organic viticulture, certifying the whole vineyard by 2013. She also stopped selling her Gevrey fruit to negociant Joseph Drouhin, instead choosing to bottle her own wines.

Chantal's knowledge of the geology of Gevrey is impressive. On one of our visits, from the garden of her beautiful house on the edge of the village, with the slopes laid out before us, she talked to us in great detail through each site and its terroir. With vines in some of the key climats of Gevrey, including Clos de Vougeot, Mazis and Charmes-Chambertin, and Le Chambertin itself, it is a wonder that the domaine has not received more attention sooner.

When we first tasted here around six years ago, Chantal was making tentative experiments with whole bunch fermentation; from ten per cent in the 2016 vintage, rising to around twenty-five per cent by 2019. For winemakers of her generation, whole bunch fermentation was once a thing of the past, thought to produce wines with green aromas and harsh tannins; so her openness to change is impressive. Embracing the return of this technique as a response to the warmer summers has kept the wines fresh and energetic. Less and less new oak has been used in the elevage, producing wines that are very expressive of their terroir, combining the best of modern and traditional styles.

## TORTOCHOT: The wines

#### 2022 Gevrey-Chambertin 'Les Corvées', Domaine Tortochot

'Les Corvées' is an 0.86 ha lieu-dit vineyard is at the end of the 'combe' (valley) formed by the slopes of Gevrey, with 50-year-old vines. Beautifully balanced body and a texture provided by the very elegant tannins we have seen elsewhere, coupled with impressive length. A return to form for Les Corvées! Will drink soon after landing but also has ageing potential. RKL

£230 per case of 6

#### 2022 Gevrey-Chambertin 'Vieilles Vignes', Domaine Tortochot

The fruit is more open on the nose here than in Les Corvées, with great density on the palate, leading to supple tannins and a more mineral character. It's hard to choose between the two, Les Corvées showing mineral elegance and refinement on the palate, versus the slightly more four-square character of the Vieilles Vignes. This will need a little longer to come round for drinking, but should prove to be a crowd-pleaser. RKL

£348 per case of 6

#### 2022 Morey-St-Denis 'Aux Charmes' 1er Cru, Domaine Tortochot

From a 0.23 ha parcel in the small 'Aux Charmes' premier cru, which neighbours the Clos de la Roche grand cru. Dark cherry fruit, earth and herbal notes, a dense, meaty character on the nose, with more plum and dark cherry fruit and some chocolate on the palate, all wrapped up in the most velvety tannins. RKL

£360 per case of 6 | Limited availability

#### 2022 Gevrey-Chambertin 'Lavaux St-Jacques' 1er Cru, Domaine Tortochot

"The 2022 Gevrey-Chambertin Lavaux Saint-Jacques 1er Cru has a perfumed bouquet, floral like the Vieilles Vignes, with scents of redcurrant, cranberry and sous-bois. However, there is much better delineation here, whilst the palate is cohesive and delineated. Taut and sapid towards the finish, this finely-made Lavaux Saint-Jacques should offer a decade's worth of drinking fulfillment. 90-92 points" Neal Martin, Vinous.com

£395 per case of 6 | Very limited availability

#### 2022 Charmes-Chambertin Grand Cru, Domaine Tortochot

Complex, delicate and refined aromas of strawberry, cherry, herbs, flowers and chocolate on the nose. The palate is full of energy, with fresh acidity and has tremendous, supple tannins, leading to a long, linear 'pheasant's tail' of a finish. RKL

£365 per case of 3 | Very limited availability

#### 2022 Clos de Vougeot grand cru, Domaine Tortochot

Tortochot own just seven rows of 80-year-old vines in Clos de Vougeot, running from the road to around two thirds of the way up the Clos. Beautifully open for a Clos de Vougeot, though still the least accessible compared to the other grands crus here. Intense cherry fruit and gravelly crushed rock flavour and texture on the palate, allied to firm tannins that shout its terroir. Another pheasant tail of a finish, long and linear. RKL

£410 per case of 3 | On allocation

#### 2022 Mazis-Chambertin Grand Cru, Domaine Tortochot

This has more power than the Charmes Chambertin, though slightly more closed at present, suggesting great things to come when the firm tannins begin to mellow. Dark fruit, coffee, earth and apparent minerality. Will repay medium-term cellaring. RKL

"The 2022 Mazis-Chambertin Grand Cru looks extremely promising. Backward yet enticing on the nose, it is laden with tertiary red fruit and quite loamy, but the terroir floods through here. The palate is well-balanced with an almost citric spine of acidity, counterbalancing the density and power of this Mazis. Tangible mineralité on the finish, this is an excellent Mazis-Chambertin from Tortochot. 94-96 points" Neal Martin, Vinous.com

£560 per case of three | On allocation

#### 2022 Chambertin grand cru, Domaine Tortochot

Aged in 100% new wood, from Tonnellerie Rousseau, the best barrel-maker in Burgundy. Very evocative on the nose and palate, showing an intricate lacework pattern of fruit and floral aromas, including raspberry, dark cherry, cassis, mineral notes and rose petal. Fans out across the palate before settling into an extremely long, mineral finish. RKL

£675 per case of 3 | On allocation



# Domaine Hudelot-Baillet, Chambolle-Musigny

The new 2022 vintage from Hudelot-Baillet is released with some excellent scores and notes from Neal Martin. We offer the wines here, with the premiers crus on allocation. For us, Dominique Le Guen's Chambolle-Musignys deliver fabulous Côte de Nuits intensity and power, at amazingly affordable prices, so we recommend taking advantage of them.

This year, Dominique was joined at our tasting by his son, Tanguy, who works in the vines. You can get a sense of what they thought about the 2022 vintage from their smiles in the photo above. We were smiling just as much by the time we had tasted.

Tanguy gave us lots of insight into how much of the success here is down to vineyard management, with yields a particular focus. He suggested that in 2022, the less successful growers had made too much wine, to make up for the small 2021 harvest. There was no such approach at Hudelot-Baillet, with green harvesting and pruning to limit the yields. Their old vines (up to 70 years, in the case of the 2022 Chambolle Musigny Vieilles Vignes, for instance) produced yields varying from 25-35 hl/ha.

Tanguy also mentioned the importance of organic viticulture to their success. His grandfather stopped using herbicides some time ago, resulting in the vines pushing their roots down into the soil, avoiding competition for water with weeds and cover crops. These deep roots were able to access potassium lower down in the soils, and potassium lowers the pH of the finished wine. Despite the hot weather, the domaine has produced wines with elegance, balance, fine acidity and moderate alcohols, often at around just 13-13.5% abv.

We love the entire range, but we must single out the 2022 Hautes-Côtes de Nuits for special

mention. Harvest on these high, cooler slopes began 15 days later than in Chambolle itself, allowing additional time for the tannins to ripen, making them exceptionally ripe and supple on the palate. This is a very complete red burgundy and it's brilliant value at just £220 per dozen in bond.

## About the domaine

This small 8-hectare domaine is based in the centre of Chambolle-Musigny and has excellent holdings in the premiers crus of 'Les Charmes' and 'Les Borniques', as well as a tiny parcel in the Bonnes Mares Grand Cru. Hâutes Côtes de Nuits is also a strength, with the vines lying on the hills above Chambolle itself. This reputation of the domaine is largely due to the efforts of Dominique Le Guen, who began working here in 1998, after a career in the French airforce, when his father-in-law was reaching retirement. At that stage, Dominique, a Breton by birth, had no winemaking experience. His first solus vintage was in 2002. The domaine was almost moribund when he took it on, but his meticulous, hardworking approach has made it "one to watch".

Dominique's winemaking approach includes destemming and cool maceration for the red wines, with punching down, remontage and delestage, to extract the supple tannins from the skins rather than the pips. The wines are aged in between a third and a half new oak.

We have a loyal following for Hudelot-Baillet and some stocks have already been allocated to buyers in previous years. For the premiers crus, we request balanced orders (1:1 with the village, 1:2 with the Bourgogne or Hautes Côtes).

## **HUDELOT-BAILLET: The wines**

#### 2022 Bourgogne Pinot Noir, Domaine Hudelot-Baillet

"The 2022 Bourgogne Rouge has a light, slightly earthy bouquet with raspberry and briar scents, well-knit and focused. The palate is medium-bodied with fine tannins. It's juicy, yet there is structure and commendable precision on the finish. One of the best Bourgogne Rouge that I tasted. 89 points" Neal Martin, Vinous.com

£195 per case of 12

#### 2022 Bourgogne Hautes-Côtes de Nuits, Domaine Hudelot-Baillet

"The 2022 Bourgogne Rouge Hautes-Côtes de Nuits, picked around ten days later than other cuvées, had been bottled just before my visit. Well-defined on the nose, the fruit is slightly darker than the Bourgogne Rouge. The palate is medium-bodied with a sapid entry and fine tannins. It's juicy with a touch of spice toward the finish. 90 points" Neal Martin, Vinous.com

£220 per case of 12

#### 2022 Chambolle-Musigny Vieilles Vignes, Domaine Hudelot-Baillet

"The 2022 Chambolle-Musigny Vieilles Vignes comes from six parcels from around the appellation. There is a touch of reduction on the nose, dark berry fruit mixed with iris flower and a touch of pencil box. A little introspective at the moment. The palate is medium-bodied with a candied entry, quite sweet with a lot of sucrosity. Maybe that detracts from its complexity towards the finish, which tapers when you want it to fan out. It's not bad, but it needs to gain some flesh in the coming months. 89-91 points" Neal Martin, Vinous.com

£280 per case of 6 | Limited availability

#### 2022 Chambolle-Musigny 'Les Charmes' 1er cru, Domaine Hudelot-Baillet

"The 2022 Chambolle-Musigny Les Charmes 1er Cru comes from two barrels and is aged in 25% new oak. This is much more complex and nuanced on the nose than the Vieilles Vignes: very focused with ebullient red fruit laced with violet. The palate is medium-bodied with good density on the entry. It's quite structured for a Chambolle with some firm tannins on the finish, but sufficient fruit keeps it balanced and poised. 91-93 points" Neal Martin, Vinous.com

£395 per case of 6 | On allocation

#### 2022 Chambolle-Musigny 'Les Cras' 1er cru, Domaine Hudelot-Baillet

"The 2022 Chambolle-Musigny Les Cras 1er Cru is more transparent and mineral-driven than the Charmes, the limestone soils flooding through the aromatics, defining them. The palate is medium-bodied with crunchy red fruit and gentle grip. It's quite energetic with a tensile finish. Once this fills out during the remainder of its barrel maturation, this will be a great Chambolle. 93-95 points" Neal Martin, Vinous.com

£420 per case of 6 | SOLD OUT

#### 2022 Chambolle-Musigny 'Les Borniques' 1er cru, Domaine Hudelot-Baillet

"The 2022 Chambolle-Musigny Les Borniques ler Cru, one of the "up and coming" Premiers of Chambolle, has a minerally, open nose-more black than red fruit, touches of incense emerging with time. The palate is medium-bodied with pliant tannins. It's more understated and less minerally than Les Charmes, with a succulent blueberry and cassis-tinged finish. Perhaps the most seductive of their 2022s this vintage. 91-93 points" Neal Martin, Vinous.com

£630 per case of 6 | SOLD OUT

# Côte de Beaune



# Maison Louis Jadot, Beaune

If you were unfamiliar with Jadot, you could be forgiven for wondering why we follow this larger producer, with around 141 hectares of vines. This scale is put into context when you consider that most of these vineyards are premier or grand cru, and that they make well-over a hundred different wines. Winemaking under Frederic Barnier is very uniform across each wine, so that the differences in the glass come almost exclusively from terroir. Much as we enjoy the expression of personality from small domaines, rarely do we taste wines which are as representative, in such a pure fashion, of the various climats of Burgundy.

The precision and purity in Jadot's wines are beautiful to experience and for us, they capture the essence of the Côte d'Or's greatness. It's an amazing experience to taste the different terroirs side-by-side, and with more wines than ever now available in cases of three bottles, we recommend adding as many different cuvées to your cellar as possible.

# LOUIS JADOT: Red wines

#### 2022 Beaune 'Theurons' 1er cru, Domaine Gagey, Louis Jadot

"An attractive fresh mid purple. I am not finding much on the nose at first, just a nutty note mixed in with the fruit perhaps. The Theurons is well balanced on the palate, a medium density of fruit, rather more structure behind. Drink from 2028-2034. Tasted: October 2023. 89-91 points." Jasper Morris MW, insideburgundy.com

£210 per case of 6

#### 2022 Beaune 'Clos des Ursules' 1er cru, Domaine Gagey, Louis Jadot

"Fresh purple of medium depth. Much the liveliest bouquet with its concentration of raspberries, very complete and absolutely delicious. The finish continues gorgeously, this will make a beautiful bottle with a little patience. This Clos des Ursules shows the classic peacock's fantail of aromatics. Drink from 2030-2038. Tasted: October 2023. 93-95 points." Jasper Morris MW, insideburgundy.com

£355 per case of 6

#### 2022 Nuits-St-Georges 'Les Boudots' 1er cru, Domaine Gagey, Louis Jadot

"The 2022 Nuits Saint-Georges Les Boudots ler Cru conveys a sense of Pinoté on the very endearing nose • one of the most "transparent" amongst Jadot•s wines in the Cöte de Nuits. The palate is medium-bodied with fleshy red fruit and gentle grip. It's a voluminous Les Boudots with raspberry, white pepper and bay leaf towards the finish, leaving the tongue tingling. Classy. 91-93 points." Neal Martin, Vinous, Jan '24

£235 per case of 3

#### 2022 Chambolle-Musigny 'Les Fuées' 1er cru, Louis Jadot

"Frédéric Barnier notes that Fuées does not suffer in the dry years whereas the clay in Baudes can block the water supply. A clear pure crimson purple. The nose has charm and elegance with fruit on the palate better balanced than Baudes. It is not a hugely demonstrative wine, but there is a coherent elegance throughout. Drink from 2030-2037. 92-95 points" Jasper Morris MW, insideburgundy.com £285 per case of 3

#### 2022 Gevrey-Chambertin 'Clos St Jacques' 1er cru, Louis Jadot

"The 2022 Gevrey Chambertin Clos Saint-Jacques ler Cru absolutely delivers on the nose from the very first sniff: complex mineral-driven red berry fruit, exquisitely defined, takes it up another level from the Lavaux Saint-Jacques. The palate is beautifully balanced with finely chiseled tannins. Poised yet powerful, it fans effortlessly toward the immensely detailed and beguiling finish. Jadot has stepped up a gear in terms of its Clos Saint-Jacques in recent vintages (for example, the 2019), and this will give the likes of Rousseau and Clair a run for their money. 95-97 points." Neal Martin, Vinous, Jan '24

£510 per case of 3

#### 2022 Corton Pougets grand cru, Domaine des Hértitiers Jadot

"The 2022 Corton-Pougets Grand Cru has a tightly wound bouquet with dark plum, raspberry coulis, incense and light sous-bois scents. It takes quite a few swirls of the glass to get the aromas going. The palate is medium-bodied with a structured, assertive opening. The tannins are slightly chalky, lending this Corton-Pougets edginess/nerve. Fine mineralité towards the finish yet tightly wound and almost curmudgeonly in its nascent state, this Grand Cru will demand long-term aging. 93-95 points." Neal Martin, Vinous, Jan '24

£560 per case of 6

#### 2022 Clos de Vougeots grand cru, Domaine Louis Jadot

"Glowing fresh crimson colour. The nose shows fresh fruit without detail as yet. I am impressed by the weight and energy of this very promising Clos Vougeot There is plenty up front, muscular, but enough behind too. A heautiful finish as pure class peeps throughout. Very happy with this! Drink from 2032-2040. 95-98 points" Jasper Morris MW, insideburgundy.com

£855 per case of 6

#### 2022 Charmes-Chambertin grand cru, Louis Jadot

The Charmes-Chambertin vineyard is situated on the east facing slope between Mazoyères Chambertin Grand Cru, Latricières Chambertin and Chambertin Grand Cru. Wines from this grand cru are often very fragrant when young, with soft tannins...you might say they are 'charming'; but this has nothing to do with the origin of the name. Charmes is derived from Chaume, meaning 'subtle' or thatch indicating the former presence of a field of grain. Much of the vineyard is also orientated very slightly to North East, meaning the vines gain a little less sun. In a hot year, it tends to produce fresher wines. RKL

£695 per case of 3

#### 2022 Clos St Denis grand cru, Louis Jadot

"The 2022 Clos Saint-Denis Grand Cru contains 30% stems this year, which is translated onto the nose distinct from Jadot's other reds: cracked black pepper and damp earth infuse the red fruit and lend the complexity underlying their inclusion. The palate is medium bodied with fine grip and much more depth than the previous vintage, with a slightly powdery/chalky finish. There's plenty of energy and tension from start to finish; this should age in consummate style. **94-96 points**." Neal Martin, Vinous, Jan '24

£910 per case of 3

#### 2022 Chambertin Clos de Bèze grand cru, Louis Jadot

A fine crimson colour. The bouquet is immediately appealing showing a distinction not yet apparent in the Chapelle-Chambertin, though that will come. This is the more structured of the two, possibly even a little bit stern, but with a wealth of high-class fruit behind where the refinement begins to show. Drink from 2032-2040+. 96-98 points" Jasper Morris MW, insideburgundy.com

£1,180 per case of 3

#### 2022 Bonnes Mares grand cru, Louis Jadot

"The 2022 Bonnes-Mares Grand Cru is well-defined on the nose, with a mélange of red and blueberry fruit, crushed violet and light iris flower scents. This is going to be very seductive. The palate is medium-bodied with pliant tannins and layers of mineral-rich red fruit counterbalanced by a perfectly judged line of acidity. It discretely fans out on the finish and feels tender despite the power here. Superb. 95-97 points." Neal Martin, Vinous, Jan '24

£1,180 per case of 3

#### 2022 Musigny grand cru, Domaine Louis Jadot

'The 2022 Musigny Grand Cru does not hold back with a multi-layered nose of wild strawberry, raspberry, forest floor, pain d'épice and a light ash-like scent. Very absorbing and beautifully defined. The palate is medium-bodied with finely chiseled tannins. Impressive depth and grip, as you would expect from a Musigny, with a touch of white pepper and orange rind towards the finish. Very long. It will require 8 to 10 years in bottle, but it's certainly worth the wait. 95-97 points." Neal Martin, Vinous, Jan '24

£2,310 per case of 3

# LOUIS JADOT: White wines

#### 2022 Pernand-Vergelesses 'Clos de la Croix de Pierre', Domaine Gagey, Louis Jadot

"Full lemon yellow. A very attractive bouquet with a little bit of flesh behind. Not too full on the palate with crunchy limestone minerals filling the mouth. Nicely balanced with the oak, and a clean medium to long finish. Drink from 2027-2032. 89-92 points" Jasper Morris MW, insideburgundy.com

£170 per case of 6

#### 2022 Chassagne-Montrachet 'Morgeot' 1er cru, Domaine Louis Jadot

"A blend of Abbaye de Morgeot and Francemont. Medium deep yellow. The nose is a little biscuity and a little backward. Then there is surprising weight, largely yellow plum fruit, very good fruit/acid integration, and fair length. This wine does indeed show the power of the Morgeot terroir. Drink from 2030-2038. 92-95 points" Jasper Morris MW, insideburgundy.com

£215 per case of 3

#### 2022 Chassagne-Montrachet 'En Caillerets' 1er cru, Domaine Louis Jadot

"The 2022 Chassagne•Montrachet Caillerets ler Cru has a very endearing bouquet, the best of Jadot's Chassagne cuvées, yellow plum and custard cremes, orange pith and a touch of blackcurrant leaf. The palate is certainly the most elegant and refined, crisp and detailed,

with a harmonious, peachy finish dragging you back for another sip. Excellent. **92-94 points**." Jasper Morris MW, insideburgundy.com

£230 per case of 3

#### 2022 Puligny-Montrachet 'Les Referts' 1er cru, Domaine Louis Jadot

"Les Referts is adjacent to the commune of Meursault to the north, and directly below the named vineyards of Les Combettes and Clos de la Garenne. The clay and chalk soil, which is very stony, drains well and warms through easily. The Puligny-Montrachet 1er Cru Les Referts has a pale golden colour which is quite bright. The soils give to this wine a very fine structure and mineral character, with fruit, honey and fern aromas. On the palate, the acidity is perfectly balanced and the wine has a good length." Maison Louis Jadot

£215 per case of 3

#### 2022 Puligny-Montrachet 'La Garenne' 1er cru, Domaine Louis Jadot

"The 2022 Puligny-Montrachet La Garenne ler Cru is showing a little more oak than other cuvées, though it marries well with the fruit, touches of menthol percolating through with time, quite lively and precocious. The palate is well-balanced and quite intense on the entry, with orange rind and subtle peachy notes. It builds nicely in the glass and fans out with a sense of brio on the finish. This will be difficult to resist when young. 90-92 points." Neal Martin, Vinous.com, Jan '24

£215 per case of 3

#### 2022 Puligny-Montrachet 'Les Folatières' 1er cru, Louis Jadot

"Mid lemon yellow, with a concentrated bouquet that has less immediate charm than the Clos de la Garenne. However, there is significant weight on the palate, some yellow plums, while the acidity has an attractive mineral touch. My conclusion is that this Folatières is just very backward. Everything is there to make a great wine, and In the end the more exciting wine of two excellent Pulignys. Drink from 2032-2040. 5 Star Wine. 94-96 points" Jasper Morris MW, insideburgundy.com

£295 per case of 3

#### 2022 Meursault 'Les Charmes' 1er cru, Domaine Gagey, Louis Jadot

"The 2022 Meursault Les Charmes ler Cru has a well-defined and elegant bouquet: yellow plum, quince and touches of crushed stone. The palate is taut, fresh, and well-defined, with a subtle reduction at play. The acidity is well-judged and nicely poised, yet it delivers the intensity and depth one expects from this Premier Cru. It is very promising and a worthy follow-up to the excellent 2021. 92-94 points." Neal Martin, Vinous.com, Jan '24

£230 per case of 3

#### 2022 Corton-Charlemagne, grand cru, Domaine des Héritiers Jadot

"Recently stirred so cloudy. Affects the bouquet too, so that is hard to judge. Unquestioned weight, plenty of energy, the lees with the wood shows more at the finish. No reason why this should not be an excellent wine. Another sample was produced, representing the component raised in foudre only, 10 barrels worth, so one third of the whole, has a clear pale lemon and lime colour. The fruit is clearly ripe but with no signs of exotic fruit. This fills the palate beautifully, a little citrus, enough white fruit flesh and then a long stony finish. Absolutely what it should be, and in 2022 something more. Drink from 2032-2040+. Tasted: October 2023. 94-97 points." Jasper Morris MW, insideburgundy.com

£655 per case of 3



# Domaine Joseph Voillot, Volnay

One of our favourite domaines, in the heart of the village of Volnay. Winemaker Etienne Chaix has clearly come into his own since taking over from his uncle, the legendary Jean-Pierre Charlot. Etienne has trodden a careful path, sticking to traditional techniques but bringing his own interpretation.

Jasper Morris MW describes 2022 as a 'modern classic' vintage, i.e. a solar year with lots of ripeness and concentration, but with more balance and elegance than any of the recent hot vintages that preceded it. This sums up Etienne's wines perfectly.

This is the first year we have been successful in getting an allocation of Voillot's superb Bourgogne Rouge, which is made in very small quantities. Over the years we have managed to enjoy a few bottles for ourselves and we are delighted to be able to share it with you, it's such a pure, elegant expression of Pinot Noir.

We feel that Volnays and Pommards are overlooked by burgundy buyers in the UK, who often turn toward the Côte de Nuits for the dark fruit and powerful structure of its wines. If this describes you, you are missing out on a quintessentially Burgundian experience...the intense purity and velvet tannins of Volnay and the more powerful, earthier structure of Pommard. The 2022s will be a great introduction, expressive of their terroirs, but with more than usual fruit concentration.

# About the domaine

Domaine Joseph Voillot is a favourite domaine of ours, producing understated, elegant wines, which are classical in the best sense. Recently-retired Jean-Pierre Charlot is a winemaker's winemaker, widely respected and a mentor to many starry names in the region. He is equally respected by several of the most influential critics...and yet the domaine remains (just) below the radar, in-part due to its size and the small amount of wine produced.

We first visited here in the late 1990s to taste the '96 vintage. Jean-Pierre had recently taken over from his father-in-law, Joseph Voillot. He is a gruff but genial bear of man, a rugby fanatic whose stoutness and no-nonsense approach always seems at odds with his elegant, ethereal wines. For many years, he lectured at the Lycée Viticole in Beaune and many of the current generation were taught by him. Since 2016 he has been training his nephew, Etienne Chaix, to take over and in recent vintages, Etienne seems to have really found his stride (although Jean-

Village; the church and Le Cellier Volnaysien, one of the most traditional Burgundian restaurants on the Côte d'Or. The domaine's 9 hectares of vines are mostly in Volnay and in neighbouring Pommard and are notably old, with even the village Volnay boasting an average vine age of 50 years. These old vines tend to give low yields, even in the best years. Voillot also own vines in Meursault and Beaune.

After total destemming (no whole bunch fermentation is used here) the harvest is put into vats to macerate for between 14 and 18 days on average. White grapes are pressed whole. After moderate pressing, alcoholic fermentation occurs in vats, with wild yeasts particular to each parcel, retaining the identity of each terroir. Daily pigeage and remontage is practised at the start of the fermentation. Between 10 and 15% new barrels are used each year.

# JOSEPH VOILLOT: The wines

#### 2022 Bourgogne Pinot Noir, Vieilles Vignes, Domaine Joseph Voillot

Pure, perfumed Pinot Noir fruit, focusing on intense strawberry and raspberry aromas, some violet or peony flowers and spice. The palate shows the same fruit character but there is a fine tannic structure too and great balance, courtesy of the acidity. RKL

£220 per case of 12

#### 2022 Volnay Vieilles Vignes, Domaine Joseph Voillot

A big step up in fruit concentration from the Bourgogne Pinot Noir, with masses of raspberry and strawberry and notes of chalky soil. The fruit on the palate has a definite 'wow' factor, as do the silky tannins. Etienne describes 2022 as being somewhere between the 2019 and '20 vintages, but this feels like it has additional finesse, perhaps following all the work he has been doing in the vineyard, or because he has refined the use of pneumatic pressing in recent years (which he introduced). Either way, this is an exceptional and compelling Volnay. RKL

£200 per case of 6

#### 2022 Volnay 'Les Champans' 1er cru, Domaine Joseph Voillot

Darker fruits here, with cherry, blackberry and raspberry aromas. The tannins have the classic chalky character of Champans, but the wine is all 'on its fruit' for the time being. This will be almost impossible to resist drinking right after bottling, but it really needs around five years from harvest for the full complexity of the terroir to develop. RKL

£340 per case of 6

#### 2022 Pommard Vieilles Vignes, Domaine Joseph Voillot

Fleshier than the Volnay, a bit awkward at the moment, the earthy tannins need some time to evolve, but will be stunning around four to five years from the vintage. Exceptionally powerful on the palate. Etienne says two of the four plots of vines that contribute to this wine are above the line of premier cru vineyards. These plots did not reach full ripeness, the reason for those awkward tannins, but also for the freshness and energy in the overall blend. RKL

£220 per case of 6

#### 2022 Pommard 'Les Epenots' 1er cru, Domaine Joseph Voillot

Etienne describes the terroir in Les Epenots as clay with small rocks, producing (in his words) 'massive wines'. This has lots of power on the palate, with tannins matched by the intense dark blackberry and raspherry fruit. The ripeness levels and precision of the fruit are impressive. This wine always gives an impression of elegance, with dark earthiness and spice. RKL

£460 per case of 6

#### 2022 Pommard 'Les Rugiens' 1er cru, Domaine Joseph Voillot

Intense raspberry and blackberry fruit on the nose, but overall more red fruit character than black. Fresh acidity on the palate, cranberry, cherry and earth. Powerful tannins, broad and expansive on the mid-palate, then a lovely fine, long crushed rock minerality on the finish. RKL

£460 per case of 6

#### 2022 Beaune 'Les Coucherias' 1er cru, Domaine Joseph Voillot

This is a great bargain among Voillot's wines. Beaune wines are even more overlooked in the UK than Volnay and Pommard. This has a fine backbone of acidity and chalky tannins that will see it develop in bottle over many years. Fine, elegant red fruits, some deep earthy notes, dense and intense on the palate, but the finish is long, linear and focused. RKL

£270 per case of 6



# Château de Monthelie, Monthelie

The 2022s from Gwendoline de Suremain at Château de Monthelie are some of the most exciting wines we have tasted in a long time and we are delighted to offer them to you today, en primeur.

We were enchanted when we visited Château de Monthelie for the first time two years ago, but this year we saw a step-change at the domaine. Gwendoline has now taken over the winemaking from her father Eric, having worked at the domaine since 2019. The transformation is astonishing. Under Eric, we thought the wines were extraordinary...but they were rather unique, and so distinctive as to need lots of explanation to customers, with high alcohol levels, and texture taking precedence over the precise fruit aromas of more modern winemaking.

Gwendoline was full of smiles and radiating happiness this year, clearly delighted at being able to express her own ideas and style. Asking her "What is different about the winemaking this year?", her answer was..."*ME!*". Little else has changed...grapes are still pressed in the ancient wooden coquillard press, which would look at home in the Clos de Vougeot in the fifteenth century; and fermentation of the reds is still mostly in old, large wooden vats.

The differences were mainly in picking dates, the length and speed of fermentation, "awareness of extraction and tannin and alcohol" and "more attention to cold stabilisation for the white wines". All this can be summed up as human influence...the myriad of small decisions that accumulate to make the difference between good domaines and great ones.

# About the domaine

Château de Monthelie is in the heart of the eponymous village of Monthelie, which sits between Volnay and Meursault. The château was built in 1746 and Eric's family have made wine here since the 1930s. Eric took over from his grandfather in 1978 and converted the domaine to biodynamic viticulture in 1996, making him a pioneer of this approach. He is still one of its most authentic practitioners and cuts a distinctive dash in his year-round uniform of shorts and a straw hat. On our visit it was evident that this is a family domaine, with Eric's wife Dominique and daughter Gwendoline equally active in the business. She trained in oenology in Bordeaux and completed a Masters in wine business before returning to the family business in 2019. From the 2022 vintage, Gwendoline has taken over in the cellar .

## **CHATEAU DE MONTHELIE: The wines**

#### 2022 Rully Blanc 'Le Cloux' 1er Cru, Château de Monthelie

This is the first vintage of Le Cloux for the domaine, as previously they sold the grapes. The vines were planted in the 1980s, so babies relative to Pillot! Fresh and intense on the nose, green and orchard fruits, mineral aromas. Rounded on the palate with intense oystershell minerality. Gwendoline says they try not to filter this wine, to maintain the intensity and balance of flavour. This is a complete stepchange in precision and energy from the wines we tasted here previously. RKL

£165 per case of 6

#### 2022 Rully Blanc 'Pillot' 1er Cru, Château de Monthelie

From ungrafted, 100 year-old vines! These have been propagated by massal selection, so the original genetic material is remarkably intact. Couple this with the traditional techniques used at the domaine and this wine gives a window into how white burgundy could have tasted a century ago. The answer is: Amazing! This is fresh, energetic and precise, with intense aromas of nuts, marzipan, minerality. The acidity is beautiful and there is wonderful texture on the palate. We were in awe of previous vintages made under Eric, but this new style under Gwendoline is so much fresher and more contemporary, without losing an ounce of the traditional burgundian character that imbues this domaine. RKL

£195 per case of 6 | Very limited availability

#### 2022 Monthelie, Château de Monthelie

The vines for the domaine's village wine are from the 'Romagniens' lieu-dit (for some reason, not shown on the label), the only Monthelie vines owned by the domaine that are on the Auxey-Duresses side of the village, rather than the Volnay side. Planted in 1972. Fresh, pretty red fruits, lots of concentration and a volume on the palate, despite the acidity which gives the wine a taut character. Excellent midweight red burgundy with texture and complexity on the palate. RKL

£160 per case of 6

#### 2022 Monthelie 'Sur La Velle' 1er Cru, Château de Monthelie

Fleshier than the Volnay, a bit awkward at the moment, the earthy tannins need some time to evolve, but will be stunning around four to five years from the vintage. Exceptionally powerful on the palate. Etienne says two of the four plots of vines that contribute to this wine are above the line of premier cru vineyards. These plots did not reach full ripeness, the reason for those awkward tannins, but also for the freshness and energy in the overall blend. RKL

#### £210 per case of 6 | Very limited availability



# Domaine Jean Pascal, Puligny-Montrachet

The 2022 vintage from Domaine Jean Pascal in Puligny-Montrachet is exceptional. Following a generous harvest, we have the full range of cuvées to offer and Alexandra Pascal has even reduced her prices slightly! Our own stocks of these wines rarely hang around in our cellars long enough to reach drinking maturity, so we recommend securing your preferred wines now and giving them a year or two of bottle age to enjoy them at their peak.

Alexandra was all smiles this year, proudly showing off her new purpose-built, wine barrel-shaped tasting room. She and her husband Yann have recently managed to buy out various family members to take full ownership of the domaine (the ownership of most small estates in the Côte d'Or is divided among numerous family shareholders, due to the Napoleonic succession laws). Alexandra's son is studying oenology in Bordeaux, due to be followed by a stage in New Zealand before returning to the domaine, so the future looks secure in more ways than one.

The line-up of wines we tasted here showed crazy levels of fruit purity and fine delineation, saline and mineral notes, as well as a rounded texture on the palate, quite different from other vintages we can recall tasting. The overall effect is a sublime range of wines that offer value at every level.

## About the domaine

The white burgundies from Domaine Jean Pascal in Puligny-Montrachet have become a benchmark for us of what the region can offer, with their amazing fruit purity and a chiselled ("cisele"), focused character, even in the recent run of warmer vintages.

The domaine is just 500 metres from Puligny's village square, home to Domaine Leflaive and Hôtel Le Montrachet, but compared with these starry names it could not be more down to earth, a 'paysanne' domaine (in relative terms). Nevertheless, Pascal's Bourgogne Chardonnay and Puligny's are a staple of Le Montrachet's list...quite a recommendation.

The domaine was started by Joseph Pascal in the early 1900s when he arrived in the village and began working in the vineyards for Domaine Leflaive. Gradually, he acquired his own vines. In the 1950s, with low demand for fine white burgundy, the family also started a vine nursery ("pépinière") which now produces half a million vine rootstocks each year. Now run by Jean's grandson Yann and his wife Alexandra, the domaine's 15 hectares of vineyards are spread over four villages (Puligny-Montrachet, Meursault, Volnay and Auxey-Duresses). Alexandra is currently serving as the mayor of Puligny and is at the heart of life in the village.

Perhaps being so firmly rooted in viticulture and in the village gives the Pascals their skill at making wines with such brilliant fruit character. Some domaines may produce wines with more layered complexity (at many times the price) but few surpass them when it comes to purity.

# JEAN PASCAL: The wines

#### 2022 Bourgogne Cote d'Or Chardonnay, Jean Pascal

From two plots of vines averaging twenty years of age, totalling around two hectares. The terroir is clay-limestone. The wine is fermented in barriques, followed by ageing for 11 months in oak, 10% of it new. Intense citrus fruit on the nose, with excellent elevated acidity on the palate to balance more very ripe citrus on the palate, which has a rounded shape and a mealy texture. Baby Puligny-Montrachet! RKL

£195 per case of 12

#### 2022 Auxey-Duresses Blanc, Jean Pascal

From just under two hectares of vines in Auxey, averaging 30 years of age, on clay-limestone. The Auxey goes through the same wine-making process as the Bourgogne Côte d'Or, so the additional weight and concentration here is all down to terroir. Saline, mineral and full of energy, with a sweet-sour character to the fruit. Auxey is adjacent to Meursault and there is some of that village's richness here. Alexandra commented that Auxey is usually the last area they harvest (being a slightly cooler area) and this has probably helped the 2022 reach this full, intense expression. Beautiful salinity on the long finish. RKL

£280 per case of 12

#### 2022 Puligny-Montrachet 'Les Enseigneres', Jean Pascal

The domaine's holdings in the 'Enseigneres' lieu dit extend to just over half a hectare of vines, averaging fifty years of age. The winemaking is as for the Bourgogne Cote d'Or, with a touch more new oak. Aromas of white flowers, nuts, and marzipan. Mineral and saline on the palate, with a savoury character and excellent structure. RKL

£265 per case of 6

#### 2022 Puligny-Montrachet 'Les Folatières' 1er cru, Jean Pascal

Intense minerality on the nose, with a vivacious palate, showing citrus fruits, lots of salinity and crushed rock on the finish, which is very long. The energy of this wine is what stands out above all else. An excellent vintage, from one of the top sites in Puligny, from a producer at the top of their game. RKL

£395 per case of 6 | Limited availability



# Domaine Michelot, Meursault

Domaine Michelot in Meursault is a cornerstone of our burgundy offering, so we are delighted to be able to offer a wide range of cuvées from the 2022 vintage, including their most sought-after premiers crus, with some excellent scores from Jasper Morris MW.

As at other domaines, Nicolas Mestre and his father Jean-Francois were all smiles, with a decent-sized harvest in the barrel cellar and another (2023) close behind it. At no other domaine was the contrast with the 2020 vintage more apparent. Despite the heat in both 2020 and '22, the character of this latest vintage was completely different, majoring in freshness and salinity. Nicolas' endless experiments with fermenting and ageing in ceramic eggs and glass demi-johns have paid off, allowing him to make energetic wines that express their terroir even in such warm years.

Usually, we receive just a few cases of the excellent Bourgogne Côte d'Or Blanc and squirrel it away for loyal followers; but we are delighted to have some to offer more widely this year. You should jump at this 'baby Meursault' while it is available!

For value at a different level, the 2022 Santenay 'Les Gravières' 1er Cru would put many Meursaults from lesser producers to shame, and is unmistakably a premier cru in terms of intensity and length on the palate.

As to the Meursault wines themselves, the Village, the Clos St Felix, Les Grands Charrons, Charmes, Genevrières and Perrières offer a dizzying tour of the various terroirs of this famous appellation. There are only successes in 2022, and no bad choices. The tasting notes for each wine below (and your pocket!) are your best guide.

These wines repay some time in the cellar, so if you hanker after the unique character of aged white burgundy, we suggest laying down the lieux-dits and premier cru wines for five to seven years for optimal enjoyment.

## About the domaine

One of the most respected domaines in Meursault, Michelot make beautifully saline, mineral white wines in a modern, terroir-driven style. Jean-François Mestre and his son Nicolas run the domaine, but we first visited here over twenty years ago, to taste with Nicolas' grandfather, Bernard Michelot. It was the diminutive but charming Bernard who made the domaine so popular in the 1970s and 80s, producing wines in the rich, buttery style which became popular at the time, with plenty of new oak influence. He was also one of the first producers to bottle his various lieux-dits as separate cuvées.

We were lucky enough to taste with Bernard in the late '90s, opening bottles going back to the 1950s with him. Winemaking, now under Nicolas, is more modern: less new oak, less bâtonage, and more focus on retaining fruit purity and terroir. Taut but delicious when young, their Meursaults age effortlessly. The domaine currently has 23 hectares, with one of the largest holdings in Meursault itself. Parcels of vines for the village wine are spread across the appellation, one reason why this is a benchmark for the appellation.

Michelot's Meursaults are enjoyed by Burgundy-lovers around the world but remain slightly below the critics' radar. One Burgundy insider tells us that Jean-François Coche-Dury (possibly Meursault's greatest winemaker) says that Michelot is hugely underrated; their wines can be had for a tenth of the price of equivalents from Coche-Dury, i.e. the price of a bottle of Coche Bourgogne almost buys you a case of Michelot Meursault!

The Meursault *lieux-dits* 'Clos St Felix' and 'Les Grands Charrons' are a notch up from the village wine in price, but with more than enough added richness and saline, mineral freshness to justify this. The Santenay Blanc 'Les Gravières' premier cru borders Chassagne and has more weight and seriousness to it than many a Meursault. Four Meursault premiers crus are bottled, 'Les Poruzots, 'Les Perrières', 'Les Charmes' and 'Les Genevrières'. 'Les Genevrières' is named after the juniper trees which used to grow here. This premier cru produces some of the richest and most structured Meursaults from the appellation, with excellent ageing potential. The soil is clay/limestone with a subsoil of pebbles, volcanic rock and white limestone. Michelot have two parcels in the middle of the slope, at 250-275 metres above sea level. Known as "Genevrières Dessus", these higher parts of the cru produce superior wines to those from the lower slopes.

# MICHELOT: The wines

#### 2022 Bourgogne Côte d'Or Blanc, Domaine Michelot

From various parcels of vines around Meursault. Fermented and aged for 1 year in 500l oak barrels, with no new oak. Intense and rich citrus fruit on the nose, smoky, struck-match reductive aromas. The palate is concentrated with a lovely texture, not from glycerin (which often adds a textural quality), but from something more complex. It has some of the richness associated with Meursault wines, but also fresh and with lots of energy. Outstanding Bourgogne Chardonnay, if only there were more of it. RKL

£110 per case of 6 | Limited availability

#### 2022 Santenay Blanc 'Les Gravières' 1er cru, Domaine Michelot

Previous solar vintages of this wine have had an almost tropical character to the fruit. In this vintage, the premier cru status of Gravières shows itself more in the delicacy and finesse to the fruit, which is layered and very precise. Intense saline and iodine notes on the finish. RKL

£230 per case of 6 | Limited availability

#### 2022 Meursault, Domaine Michelot

"Pale colour with a touch of sulphur on the nose, certainly more tension. Starts well and then builds, with predominantly fresh apple notes, the fruit covering the wood and becoming more complex than expected further back on the palate. Drink from 2026-2031. 89-92 points." Jasper Morris MW, Inside Burgundy

£255 per case of 6

#### 2022 Meursault 'Clos Saint Félix', Domaine Michelot

"Pale in colour, perhaps a lemon tint. Reductive on the nose which is hiding the fruit. I can pick up greater intensity compared to Sous la Velle, but the reduction hides it a little. Oyster shells at the finish, unexpectedly. Drink from 2027-2033. 89-92 points." Jasper Morris MW, Inside Burgundy

£295 per case of 6

#### 2022 Meursault 'Les Grands Charrons', Domaine Michelot

"Mid lemon yellow. The bouquet is more generous in fruit with a light floral note as well. Immediately explosive fruit but well poised on the palate, a light touch of mineral bitterness to finish, and medium plus length., even slightly saline at the finish. Plenty to build on here. Drink from 2027-2034. 90-92 points." Jasper Morris MW, Inside Burgundy

£320 per case of 6 | Limited availability

#### 2022 Meursault 'Les Charmes' 1er cru, Domaine Michelot

"Pale colour with a most promising nose, the ample side of Charmes but held in balance, showing the precision of this excellent white wine vintage. This starts well then accelerates with class across the whole of the palate. Not too fleshy, this comes across as quite a refined Meursault Charmes. Drink from 2029-2037. 92-94 points." Jasper Morris MW, Inside Burgundy

£475 per case of 6 | Very limited availability

#### 2022 Meursault 'Les Genevrières' 1er cru, Domaine Michelot

"Pale lemon in colour. At first sniff the Genevrières is more generous than the Charmes, or at least slightly riper. Herbs and honeysuckle, but with the stones in the background. Sort of like Vaillons in Chablis, this also gives a drier finish on lemon scented stones. An interesting contrast to the Charmes. Lovely aftertaste. My first sniff was misleading. Drink from 2029-2037. 92-95 points." Jasper Morris MW, Inside Burgundy

£495 per case of 6 | Very limited availability

#### 2022 Meursault 'Les Perrières' 1er cru, Domaine Michelot

"Pale lemon yellow. The bouquet is the weightiest of the 1ers crus but what about finesse? At first the classier qualities are hidden behind or beneath the muscle, but there is plenty more to develop underneath, refreshing acidity backs up the energetic fresh pear fruit. More backward than the Genevrières, possibly not quite as detailed at this stage, but with a fine long finish and promise for the future. Drink from 2030-2038. 93-95 points." Jasper Morris MW, Inside Burgundy

£600 per case of 6 | On allocation



# Domaine Bachey-Legros, Santenay

Domaine Bachey-Legros in Santenay is one of the best-value producers we know of in the region. It seems impossible that domaines like this can still be found; youthful, dynamic, and still 'undiscovered' by wine writers. You can read more below about how brothers Samuel and Lénaïc Legros are transforming their family domaine, producing whites in a luscious style and reds that rival the Côtes de Nuits for concentration and tannic structure, all at very affordable prices.

At every domaine we visited last week, we found happy, smiling winemakers; a transformation from last year when they were showing the minuscule 2021 vintage. Sam was no exception and was clearly delighted to show us his 2022s. This was possibly the best vintage we have tasted to date.

The reds in particular showed an intensity and structure that we used to think could only come from villages like Nuits-St-George or Vosne Romanée. Not surprising, when you consider Bachey -Legros are blessed with the oldest vines in the whole appellation (some dating back to 1914). As for the white wines, we tasted these having come directly from Meursault, and once again the 1er Cru wines reminded us of that village.

Bachey-Legros' prices were very reasonable last year and the same is true again for this new vintage. 2022 is a superb year for both whites and reds, easy to drink when young but with long -term ageing potential; so these should be staples on your dining table.

# About the domaine

Amongst the blue-chip domaines of the famous Côte d'Or villages, **Bachey-Legros** is an outlier, both geographically and for the charming, slightly buccaneering energy of brothers **Samuel** and **Lénaïc Legros**. Neighbouring **Chassagne-Montrachet** and at the southern end of the limestone ridge which forms the **Côte de Beaune**, **Santenay** is a gem of a town, with an "off the beaten track" air to it.

The slopes behind the village are beautifully situated, with numerous fine terroirs. Very helpfully, these fall into distinct sub-zones, with more oolitic limestone in the soils neighbouring Chassagne giving more powerful wines, versus more limestone-marl soils to the south, giving more finesse.

The Legros brothers have 18 hectares here, inherited from their grandfather who, by 1993 had almost ceased wine production, contracting out many of his vines to other growers. It was Sam and Lénaïc's mother, Christiane, then living and working as a psychologist in **Dijon**, who returned to the family domaine to begin re-building it, gradually taking back control of vineyards

as those leasing contracts expired. Maybe this is why it feels as if this domaine has come from nowhere, and remains relatively undiscovered. Today, the domaine (if not the wines) still has the feeling of a work in progress, with the unrestored stone buildings pressed into service at what is clearly a growing business.

# **BACHEY-LEGROS: White wines**

#### 2022 Santenay Blanc 'Sous La Roche', Domaine Bachey-Legros

The 'Sous La Roche' lieu-dit is a small vineyard, less than half a hectare, quite high up on the slopes above the village of Santenay. The grapes are passed through a gentle pneumatic press at low pressure soon after harvesting. Alcoholic fermentation takes place at very low temperatures, in barrel, with particular emphasis on lees management, which contributes roundness and complexity of aroma. The wine spends 12 to 15 months in cask, 20-25% new, with regular bâtonnage until malolactic starts.

Delightful freshness and citrus fruit on the nose, quite intense, really nice energy, glycerine texture, full-on attack, then gradually diminishes the on mid-palate, reasserting itself on the finish. Very good balancing acidity keeping the whole impression fresh, with a bit of salinity on the finish. RKL

£260 per case of 12

#### 2022 Santenay Blanc 'Clos des Gravières' 1er cCru, Domaine Bachey-Legros

Each time we taste this it evokes comparisons with Meursault. From younger vines in the northern part of Santenay, at a lower elevation, hence riper in style than Sous La Roche. This is mostly a young vine cuvée but from complex soils. Soft and plush on the palate, halanced by salinity, immediately noticeable, and lots of citrus fruit. More layered and complex, with a note of iodine on the finish. The salty-iodine character note and fresh acidity are a counterpoint to the ripeness. RKL

£310 per case of 12

# 2022 Chassagne-Montrachet 'Morgeot' Les Petits Clos Vieilles Vignes 1er Cru, Domaine Bachey-Legros

Beautiful citrus aromas, candied-lemon rind, acacia honey and oak, with energy provided by reductive struck-match aromas on the nose. The wine explodes on the mid-palate but shows a restrained steeliness, salinity and excellent acidity. Sam says this plot is on deep red soils, composed of clay and limestone; deep soil for 1er cru, hence the power and depth. RKL

£295 per case of 6

## BACHEY-LEGROS: Red wines

#### 2022 Santenay Rouge 'Clos des Hâtes' Vieilles Vignes, Domaine Bachey-Legros

From vines planted in 1935. A great all-round village-level red burgundy with some good weight to it. Really nice intensity on the nose, beautifully 'composed'; raspberry, black cherry, myrtle and thyme. Lovely balance to the palate, deep and spicy, fine tannins giving a soft texture. Perfect ripeness levels. Very straight and pure.

£220 per case of 12

#### 2022 Santenay Rouge 'Clos Rousseau' Vieilles Vignes 1er cru, Domaine Bachey-Legros

Dark, powerful and intense core; dark earthy black cherry and cassis. A brilliant attack, expands, then puckers up the mouth with its tannins, firm but refined, evolving and eventually fading elegantly. Very good length. Not focused or expansive, just long! Very impressive, a reminder of just how good Bachey-Legros' top sites can be. In previous vintages we have commented on the similarity with wines from Vosne-Romanee and the comparison holds true for 2022! RKL

£295 per case of 12

#### 2022 Santenay Rouge 'Clos Rousseau Les Fourneaux' 1er cru, Domaine Bachey-Legros

"Les Fourneaux" is a lieu-dit within the Clos Rousseau Premier Cru, one of the Santenay's best sites. Most of the vineyard was planted in 1914! The 2022 is even more intense than the 'straight' Clos Rousseau. Intense dark fruits on the nose, lifted, fresh, floral and perfumed. The palate also has more salinity (Sam confirms this is more pronounced here than in Clos Rousseau). The tannins are rounder and finer than Clos Rousseau and the wine has an inky, powerful depth. Lots of concentration, but ultimately this is about refinement, structure, and complexity. RKL

£320 per case of 12



Domaine P&L Borgeot

# Domaine Borgeot, Remigny

Visiting Laurent and Pascal Borgeot to taste their 2022s was a reminder of just how extraordinarily skilled the winemakers are at some of these small family domaines. They produce red and white burgundy equal to bottles from other growers that sell for two or three times the price. We are delighted to share our notes on this new vintage with you.

We met a slightly jaded Laurent on the day after the Hospice de Beaune auction, when everyone goes out and celebrates. Luckily, the wines spoke for themselves! A theme this year, as at other domaines, was the use of slightly more new oak, due to the need to lay in new barrels for sizeable 2022 and 2023 vintages, particularly after the tiny 2021 harvest.

Happily, the fruit concentration in the '22s is more than able to balance this slight increase in oak influence. The whites showed wonderful ripeness, balance and elegance, and the reds were power-packed with fruit and supple tannins, yet still balanced.

The domaine's single-vineyard 'Clos Carbonade' is a staple white burgundy for us and this is one of the best tastings from barrel we can remember.

The Chassagnes Vieilles Vignes and 'Clos St Jean' 1er Cru stood out for their power and concentration, without any compromise to their balance and elegance. The Clos St Jean in particular will be long-lived and has great potential for development.

# About the domaine

Pascal and Laurent Borgeot are among the hardest working winemakers we know in Burgundy. Each year, their reds stand out for their value and for their sturdy, structured style.

This is a no-frills domaine, located in the little-known village of Remigny, in between Santenay and Chassagne. With no appellation of its own, Remigny has an off the beaten track air, which adds to its authenticity. Pascal and Laurent have the robust character of farmers, with Laurent, in particular, focused on the land and the vines. Established in 1903, the brothers are the fourth generation of the family to run the domaine, although they have expanded it greatly since they took over in 1985. They now have 23 hectares of vines, with holdings in Bouzeron, Santenay, Chassagne-Montrachet and Puligny-Montrachet. Pascal's daughter Julia is now increasingly involved in the winemaking. The Borgeot's are very well-respected by many of their more famous neighbours, some of whom have sent their children to work with them as stagiaires.

A form of lutte raisonnée is practised in the vineyards, with only organic fertilisers used. The wines are fermented in a combination of temperature-controlled, stainless-steel vats and oak barrels to give complexity while retaining the primary fruit aromas. Laurent uses up to 25% new oak in the village and premier cru-level white wines.

Santenay Rouge is a speciality and the wines from this village are our first port of call for good value but serious Côte-d'Or burgundy. At the southern end of the Côte de Beaune, Santenay is benefiting from climate change and Borgeot's reds have a ripeness and a concentration in recent vintages which remind us of the Côte de Nuits, whilst remaining true to their terroir. The Bourgogne Blanc 'Clos de la Carbonade' is from a walled vineyard in Bouzeron, a monopole for the domaine. This is brilliant value, a 'house' white burgundy for many of customers (and for us too!). The Bourgogne Rouge has bright fruit, but also offers firm tannins and structure which make it a textbook example of red burgundy. The Chassagne Vieilles Vignes and 1er Cru Clos St Jean are also outstanding value

## P&L BORGEOT: White wines

#### 2022 Bourgogne Blanc 'Clos de la Carbonade', Domaine P&L Borgeot

From a walled vineyard in Bouzeron, owned entirely by the Borgeots, hence this is a monopole for the domaine. 20% new oak this year, due to the need to lay in more barrels for the larger '22 vintage. The fruit from Clos Carbonade is able to balance the oak, with aromas of ozone-freshness, pear and strawberry (yes, a red fruit aroma). A lovely creamy texture to the palate. RKL

£175 per case of 12

#### 2022 Chassagne-Montrachet Vieilles Vignes, Domaine P&L Borgeot

The Borgeots have excellent holdings in Chassagne, with Chardonnay vines up to 60 years old, producing low yields of very concentrated fruit. The elevage is in up to 25% new oak. Intense green apple and some citrus on the nose, struck-match aromas, taut on the palate, flavours of perfectly red ripe-skinned apple and pear, lemon pith texture, hints of woodsmoke and crushed rock on the finish. RKL

£295 per case of 6

#### 2022 Chassagne-Montrachet 'Clos St Jean' 1er cru, Domaine P&L Borgeot

The Clos St Jean premier cru is known best-known for pinot noir, but the Borgeots are unusual in having an excellent holdings of 60-year old chardonnay vines here. The Clos has Benedictine origins dating back a thousand years and faces east, protecting it from some of the hottest temperatures in summer. This cru often distinguishes itself by its delicacy, but this year there is lots of power and concentration too. More layered flavours and expansive than the Vieilles Vignes, with a saline character and a sweet-sour contrast between the ripeness of the fruit and the fresh acidity. RKL

£360 per case of 6

## P&L BORGEOT: Red wines

#### 2022 Bourgogne Pinot Noir, Domaine P&L Borgeot

15% new oak this year. Smoky, dark cherry aromas, a complete 'wow' on the nose. Then a big, succulent core of dark and red fruit on the palate. Despite being on the fruit, this is in perfect balance. Excellent. RKL

£175 per case of 12

#### 2022 Santenay Rouges Vieilles Vignes, Domaine P&L Borgeot

20% new oak this year. Raspberry, black tea and some graphite on the nose. Powerful tannins, even more so than usual, but then there is a really deep core of juicy red fruits, like a punnet of raspberries, to balance the structure and assure us that this will turn out beautifully with around 2 - 3 years in bottle. One of the best-value red burgundies to be had. RKL

£115 per case of 6

# Côte Chalonnaise & Maconnais



# Domaine Jeannin-Naltet, Mercurey

With each new vintage Benoît Eschard's wines from Domaine Jeannin-Naltet are more and more impressive, so we are delighted to offer his abundant and excellent 2022s, including some cuvées that are new to our list. At the helm at his family domaine for ten years, Benoît is rightly but quietly confident in the quality he is producing here.

A few years ago, he replanted some Mercurey plots with Chardonnay, to produce additional Mercurey Blanc. The 2022 Mercurey Blanc was delicious, with a nutty, savoury character, quite distinct from our other white burgundy offerings and we think you will love it. The Aligoté was a classic example of this variety, not overly ambitious but majoring on fresh citrus and mint on the nose and palate, with wonderful ripeness to the fruit.

The Bourgogne Pinot Noir and Mercurey Vieilles Vignes are also new additions this year and at just £150 and £225 per dozen in bond respectively, they challenge the notion that great Pinot Noir from this region has to be expensive.

The three single-vineyard wines more than justify the modest step up in price, with Les Grands Voyens once again a great allrounder, offering the concentration and dark fruit character and fine tannins we normally associate with villages like Morey-St-Denis or Chambolle-Musigny.

# About the domaine

Domaine Jeannin-Naltet in Mercurey was a new find for us in 2018. A small, family-owned domaine, it has been undergoing a transformation since Benoît Eschard took over from his uncle, seven years ago. Nearly 8 of Benoît's 9 hectares are premier cru and he has been working hard to emphasize freshness and minerality in his 1er Cru 'Clos des Grand Voyens' (a monopole, owned solely by the domaine) and 1er cru Les Naugues.

The 'Clos des Grand Voyens' is on a mixture of clay and limestone and shows both chalky-limestone character and a softer, more broad-shouldered style. 'Les Naugues' undoubtedly has more concentration, but more limestone in the terroir gives a tauter structure, which will take a little longer to come round for drinking.

# **JEANNIN-NALTET: White wines**

#### 2022 Bourgogne Aligoté, Domaine Jeannin-Naltet

Fresh aromas of garden mint and citrus on the nose, lovely and ripe but with balancing acidity on the palate, classic but high quality alignée at a great price. RKL

£130 per case of 12

#### 2022 Mercurey Blanc, Domaine Jeannin-Naltet

Intense aromas of hazelnut and citrus fruit on the nose with a backdrop of toast and spice from the oak. Has a lovely savoury quality on the palate, beautifully balanced and with a persistent finish. Benoit pointed out that, following the small harvest in 2021, he needed to buy in more new oak barrels than usual for the larger 2022 vintage. The Merucrey Village has benefited from this, with the oak giving impressive structure. RKL

£240 per case of 12

# JEANNIN-NALTET: Red wines

#### 2022 Bourgogne Pinot Noir, Domaine Jeannin-Naltet

Lovely dark cherry and delicate wood smoke on the nose, as well as some earth and spice. The tannins are quite supple but this definitely has structure to balance the 'medium plus' fruit intensity on the palate. Lovely sweet core to the fruit, but balanced to right through to the finish, an excellent expression of Pinot Noir from around Mercurey.

£150 per case of 12

#### 2022 Mercurey Vieilles Vignes, Domaine Jeannin-Naltet

Red fruit character on the nose, predominantly raspberry, and some cherry, elegant and beautifully balanced. The tannins are very fine for a village wine and there is a tautness to this from the character of the tannin and acidity that balances the perfect ripeness of the fruit. Benoît emphasised the picking date as being the key to this balance, with just a day either side making all the difference. Hard to imagine a better-value example of Pinot Noir from 'greater Bourgogne'. RKL

£225 per case of 12

#### 2022 Mercurey 'Clos L'Eveque' 1er Cru, Domaine Jeannin-Naltet

Dark cassis and earth on the nose, with some violet or peony and grenadine. The palate is even darker, with a succulent core of fruit wrapped up in refined tannins. Benoit notes that this fine character to the tannins is a characteristic of Clos L'Eveque. RKL **£270 per case of 12** 

#### 2022 Mercurey 'Clos des Grands Voyens' 1er Cru, Domaine Jeannin-Naltet

A beautiful walled vineyard site (in the centre of the photo below, just in front of the woods). All 5 ha are owned by Jeannin-Naltet, making this a 'monopole'. Planted at a very high density, 10,000 vines per hectare. 25% new oak. Red fruits on the nose, cherry, raspberry; strawberry; more structured, with more tannins than Clos L'Eveque; a very satisfying, full palate but with plenty of tannin. Savoury, dry finish, quite different to previous years. Benoit has just been awarded 2 stars in the 'Guide de Verre' for this wine, one of only five such awards in the entire Côte Chalonnaise. RKL

£280 per case of 12

#### 2022 Mercurey 'Les Naugues' 1er Cru, Domaine Jeannin-Naltet

Les Naugues (pronounced, rather disconcertingly, with a hard 'g') is a 1 ha south-facing site, with 46-year-old vines, on limestone-marl. The aspect means that the grapes here ripen early. Aged 100% in oak barrels, of which 30% are new. This is a combination of the weight of Grand V oyens with the fine tannins of L'Eveque, powerful but silky at the same time. This site always makes wines needing longer ageing and this is still true in this vintage...give it around 6 years from bottling. RKL

£295 per case of 12



# Domaine J.A. Ferret, Pouilly-Fuissé

The 2022 vintage from benchmark Pouilly-Fuissé producer, Domaine J.A. Ferret, marks a turning point, with a new winemaker, Clément Robinet, and new cuvée names reflecting the elevation of several wines to premier cru-status.

Ferret pioneered single-vineyard wines in this region and, for us, the diversity of cuvées and their expression of their terroirs is what makes this estate a must-buy in 2022. We have not yet tasted the newly-named 'Autour de la Roche', formerly known as 'Sous Vergisson'; or the 'Clos St Jeanne' 1er Cru, formerly called 'Le Clos'. But based on our tasting of 'Clos de Prouges' and 'Tournant de Pouilly', the Ferret wines have once again managed the trick of being rich and intense, whilst at the same time conveying balance and elegance. As we have often said, this richness makes the wines excellent value compared to Meursault and Chassagne.

## About the domaine

Domaine J.A. Ferret is in the heart of Fuissé itself, with the Ferret family making wine in the village since the 1760s and owning the domaine since 1840. After the Second World War Madame Jeanne Ferret took the decision to bottle the wines at the domaine, rather than selling them to negociants, a bold move at the time. She ran the Ferret for over half a century, well into her eighties, and was joined by her daughter Colette in the 1990s. In 2008 the family sold the estate to Maison Louis Jadot, but it continues to be run as a separate entity. New investment and a brilliant new winemaker signal the intention to raise the game, both at Ferret and for the appellation as a whole.

Audrey Braccini has been the start winemaker here for the last few years, making wines with the kind of mineral complexity usually found in the Côte d'Or, but with an added dimension of Maconnais sunshine lending richness to the wines. She has just left to make wine with her husband at the legendary Clos Rougeard in the Loire and from 2022 Clément Robinet has taken over, with an equally impressive background, coming from Heritiers Comte Lafon.

Ferret's 18 hectares of vines are spread across many of the best sites in the village. When we first visited, Audrey pointed out to us that Pouilly-Fuissé has more diversity of terroirs than any other appellation in Burgundy, but this is not reflected in the way that most of the production is bottled and labelled. There is a long tradition at Ferret of recognising the importance of specific sites and Madame Ferret's even created her own unofficial classifications of 'Tetes de Cru' and 'Hors Cru Classe' which corresponded (in her eyes) to premier and grand cru. From the fresh, mineral style of "Les Perrieres" and "Tournant de Pouilly" (on limestone soils) to the richness of "Clos des Prouges", the wines exhibit their terroirs beautifully.

After many years of lobbying the authorities and after many complex soil studies, the INAO has authorised a premier cru classification in Pouilly-Fuissés, to appear on labels from the 2020 vintage, with a number of Ferret's crus included. Pouilly-Fuissés first grand cru may take a little longer...but, if and when it does come, it may well be one of Ferret's.

# J.A. FERRET: The wines

#### 2022 Pouilly-Fuissé 'Autour de la Roche', Domaine J.A. Ferret

'Autour de la Roche', formerly known as 'Sous Vergisson' is a blend of grapes grown in the best terroirs located around the Vergisson outcrop...The average age of the vines that go into cuvee is around 40 years. As is typical in Fuissé, the geology is diverse, with some stony soils but, in the main, soils derived from Triassic sandstones and clay, as well as shallower soils based on hard limestones with marine fossils. This vintage was entirely vinified in stained steel. Bottled middle of january 2022. With a delicate nose of white fruits and a tender but lively mouth, it is the right reflection of Vergisson terroir." J.A. Ferret 91-93 points" Allen Meadows' Burghound

#### £170 per case of 6

#### 2022 Pouilly-Fuissé 'Clos de Prouges' 1er Cru, Domaine J.A. Ferret

"Slightly riper yet still fresh aromas offer up notes of exotic tea, spice, pear liqueur and slightly more prominent wood. As is usually the case, there is better volume to the more energetic medium weight flavors that exude evident minerality on the balanced, long and delicious finale. This could use better depth but the potential to develop it certainly appears to be present. 2028+. 90-93 points." Allen Meadows, Burghound

£245 per case of 6 | Limited availability

#### 2022 Pouilly-Fuissé 'Le Clos de Jeanne' 1er Cru, Domaine J.A. Ferret

"Le Clos de Jeanne is a gently sloping single parcel that faces east. It is located between the house of Domaine Ferret and the village church. This parcel, the smallest among those that produce the Têtes de Cru and Hors Classe cuvées, covers 0.69 hectares right next to the domaine's buildings. Since 2020 vintage, and the 1ers Cru arrival in our appellation, this wine, situated in the heart of 1er Cru "Les Perrières", change his name in honor of Jeanne Ferret's mind. The plot is still the same. Half the vines just reached 35 years old, while the rest just turn their 50th birthday. These deep sandy loams are derived from sedimentary clays and don't contain any stony material. The bedrock features seams of limestone and marl-limestone. Fermentations and ageing take place in casks of which 25% of cask new, 75% of cask from 1 to 3 wines for 10 months. Then the ageing ends in stainless steel tank always with all their lees for another 9 months. Bottling at the end of March 2023." J.A. Ferret

£245 per case of 6 | Limited availability

#### 2022 Pouilly-Fuissé 'Tournant de Pouilly' 1er Cru, Domaine J.A. Ferret

"...the Tournant de Pouilly is a vineyard of one hectare in area, split between two parcels, planted on a gentle slope that faces north-east. This historic vineyard is a part of 1er Cru "Les Reisses". Planted by Jean-Alfred Ferret in 1995, 1963 and 1964, the vines from this parcel are, on average, a little bit older than 60 years old, one of the oldest vineyards owned by the Domaine.

This deep clay loam soil contains lots of limestone, but little in the way of stones. It is derived from the pale loams of the Dogger. Fermentations and ageing take place in casks: 25% of new cask, 75% of cask from 1 to 3 wines for 10 months. The ageing continued in stainless steel tanks, always with all their lees for another 9 months. Bottled just like the Ménétrières, at the very last days of March 2022. Always a bit austere and shy at first glance, it is undoubtedly the most "chic" of the selections with its chalky touch and its fresh and persistent finish." J.A. Ferret

£345 per case of 6 | Limited availability



# Château des Jacques, Moulin-à-Vent

We have been singing the praises of Château des Jacques' Moulin-à-Vents for a few vintages now and this exceptionally sunny vintage has produced remarkably balanced wines with freshness and restraint, and not a hint of the heat that characterised the year. Crushed-rock mineral notes associated with granite terroirs are intensified by the effect of the manganese, which reduces the yield and concentrates the fruit in the process.

With their impressive complexity and length on the palate, at just £240 per dozen in bond, these are two fine red burgundies that will equal any occasion. As to which to go for; opinion was split in the office, with Antony appreciating the dark, brambly fruit-intensity and fine tannins of the Carquelin, whilst I preferred the granitic-mineral character of the Rochegrès, with its lifted acidity and firmer tannins.

## About the domaine

Château des Jacques is in the village of Romanèche-Thorins and has a reputation for making long-lived wines that grow more like Pinot Noir as they age. Jadot bought the Château in 1996, starting what is now a widespread trend for Côte de Nuits growers to extend south. Winemaker Cyril Chirouze has been in charge since 2007, bar a stint working in Marsannay, which perhaps contributed to the wines moving ever closer in style to the Côte de Nuits.

# Château des Jacques: The wines

#### 2022 Moulin-à-Vent Clos du Grand Carquelin, Château des Jacques, Louis Jadot

"Just a few steps from the eponymous windmill of Moulin-à-Vent, and separated from the la Roche vineyard by a small road, the Clos du Grand Carquelin faces more towards the south and the soil is made of granitic sands and is deeper (60m) and more clayish. Bright acidity frames the tannins and emphases the crushed rock character on the palate, with crunchy red fruit and nascent complexity evident in the very long finish. RKL

£240 per case of 12

#### 2022 Moulin-à-Vent Clos de Rochegrès, Château des Jacques, Louis Jadot

"The Rochegrès vineyard is 361 metres above sea level and has soils of pink granite, with quartz. Aged for 10 months in a mix of old and new oak. The 2022 is full of red and black fruits with a dark, bramble character, with very refined, ripe tannins and excellent acidity. Impossible not to like. RKL

£240 per case of 12

# **Notes**