

RICHARD KIHLLTD
FINE WINE SHIPPERS & BROKERS – EST 1969

Burgundy 2019

En Primeur Offer

February 2021



The 2019 harvest in full-swing in Gevrey-Chambertin

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Burgundy 2019

En Primeur Offer

During the first lockdown earlier this year, as Europe collectively held its breath, it was very uplifting to follow **vignerons** in **Burgundy** posting pictures on social media about their ongoing work in the vineyard. There is something very reassuring about life amongst the vines continuing as normal. In the current climate, **2019 Burgundy en primeur** may seem to be the definition of a "non-essential", but we hope that there will be pleasure and enjoyment for you in following the release of this latest vintage. Judging by the initial reaction, that certainly seems to be the case. An excellent but very small vintage, the wines from 2019 are selling fast and you will need to be quick to secure your first choices.

The 2019 Growing Season

In one sentence, 2019 in Burgundy was a hot, dry year leading to a small harvest, producing high quality red and white wines with lots of concentration but surprising freshness: a superb vintage.

The year began with very mild weather and with an uneven flowering in June. This in turn resulted in widespread '*millerandage*', or 'hen and chicks' as it is charmingly known in English, with grapes developing in uneven sizes (some large, some small). There was some frost in early April particularly in the **Mâconnais**, but in general this was not a year heavily marked by '*le gel*'.

The rest of the year was close to ideal, but there was almost no rain, with the drought producing exceptionally small, concentrated berries. The cumulative effect of issues at flowering, *millerandage* and low rainfall **reduced the overall crop size by between 30-50%** compared to 2018; an even smaller harvest than in a frost year like 2016.

The Wines

Small yields will mean limited allocations, particularly for the most sought-after wines. Our very first tastings of the 2019s were in Burgundy just after the harvest, whilst they were still fermenting in barrel. Over the autumn we tasted around one hundred cask samples, sent with great generosity by the domaines. Whilst it is still too early to form an overview, we are confident that the much-discussed combination of concentration and freshness is very real.

Acidity levels in the white wines are impressive, but the fresh character here comes as much from picking at the right time, to emphasise orchard and stone fruit aromas rather than sliding towards exotic or tropical notes. This is a remarkably successful vintage, producing concentrated wines which still manage to shout their terroirs from the glass. The reds have real signs of complexity, with long term potential. Based on **grands crus** tasted so far, we cannot remember these ever being so open or impressive at such an early stage of development.

Stock currently lying ex-cellars in France, wines due to land in the UK by late 2021. 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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Côte de Nuits



Chantal Tortochot

Domaine Tortochot, *Gevrey-Chambertin*

Tortochot is a traditional domaine, established in the centre of **Gevrey** in the nineteenth century, but it certainly has not stood still. **Neil Martin** described it as '*a name to keep an eye on*' and more recently as '*one to put back on your list!*'

Chantal Tortochot is quite classical in her approach to winemaking, but she is not afraid to move with the times. On taking over from her father, she qualified as an oenologist and stopped selling her Gevrey fruit to negociant Joseph Drouhin, instead choosing to bottle her own wines. Working with consultant **Sylvain Pataille** (who is on lots of people's 'lists'), she converted the domaine to **organic** viticulture.

In recent vintages she has steadily increased the use of **whole bunches**, from a tentative ten percent in the 2016 vintage, when we first discussed winemaking with her, to around twenty five percent in 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 Chantal's 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. The reds were more open and full of sumptuous dark fruit than any vintage we have tasted here. At the same time, the undertow of **minerality** is evident, even in the brilliant value **Gevrey-Chambertin 'Les Corvees'** lieu-dit.

As we have said previously, Tortochot's **grands crus** are where the greatest value lies, with prices per six bottles less than the village wines of some of the so-called 'blue-chip' domaines of the **Côtes de Nuits**. We suggest snapping them up whilst allocations are available.

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DOMAINE TORTOCHOT

2019 Gevrey-Chambertin ‘Les Corvees, Domaine Tortochot

Fermented in stainless steel. No new oak used in the élevage. Intense and vibrant fruit on the nose, blackberry, damson, redcurrant, and dark cherry, all very immediate. The sense of fullness continues on the palate with juicy black fruits, plenty of ripe tannins present but playing second fiddle to the fruit at the moment. Mineral notes on the finish. A progression in the winemaking style here, less classical and austere but the ripeness is beautifully handled. RKL

£180 per six bottles in bond

2019 Morey St Denis ‘Aux Charmes’ 1er Cru, Domaine Tortochot

Intense black and cherry fruits on the nose again, but the palate is distinct from the Gevrey and true to its terroir, with softer tannins and a rounder, fuller palate. Some spice and a palate-coating texture, with earthy notes resonating on the back of the palate. RKL

£250 per six bottles in bond

2019 Gevrey-Chambertin ‘Lavaux St Jacques’ 1er Cru, Domaine Tortochot

Tortochot, but not as we know it! Previous vintages of Lavaux from cask have been quite closed but this is immediate and full of vibrant dark fruits and gamey aromas. The underlying minerality is obvious and will define this wine in a few years, but for now it is all on the fruit. RKL

£280 per six bottles in bond

2019 Mazis-Chambertin Grand Cru, Domaine Tortochot

The domaine's 0.4 hectares of Mazis are on a subsoil of marl, covered by a thin surface of scree and fine silt, covered by brown, chalky soils. The wine is aged in new oak for 18 months. Not yet tasted. RKL

£720 per six bottles in bond (LIMITED AVAILABILITY)

2019 Clos de Vougeot Grand Cru, Domaine Tortochot

Tortochot's 21.33 ares (approx 0.2 ha) holding here comprises just seven rows of vines, on the lower slopes of the Clos. Traditionally thought of as inferior to the higher parts, the warming climate means ripeness levels are increasing and the location is becoming a positive advantage. Aged 18 months in new oak barrels. Not yet tasted. RKL

£680 per six bottles in bond (LIMITED AVAILABILITY)

2019 Chambertin Grand Cru, Domaine Tortochot

From a plot of just 0.5 hectares which usually produces around seven barrel each year, an impressive holding for this small domaine. Aged 18 months in new oak barrels. Not yet tasted. RKL

£795 per six bottles in bond (LIMITED AVAILABILITY)

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The barrel cellar at Rossignol-Trapet

Domaine Rossignol-Trapet, *Gevrey-Chambertin*

As we said in a thank you note for **Rossignol-Trapet's 2019 vintage** cask samples, "*the tasting could only have been better had it been at the domaine itself*"! This is our favourite domaine in the **Côte de Nuits** and we are always in awe of the purity and classicism of the wines. In 2019, they still had that essence, but with additional generous and in some cases "*ebullient*" fruit (to use **Neal Martin's** phrase).

Brothers **Nicolas** and **David Rossignol** have run the domaine in Gevrey since 1990, but their father originally hailed from **Volnay** and they still have vineyard holdings in **Beaune**. Even in warmer vintages, the wines emphasise freshness and balancing acidity, with the wines often showing red as well as black fruit aromas. The brothers were amongst the pioneers of **biodynamics** (working this way for nearly twenty years) and the wines have the characteristic 'energy' which we experience so often at biodynamic estates.

Each year, tasting their **grand cru** wines is a highlight and 2019 was no exception, despite our tasting in **Aldeburgh** rather than Gevrey! To be crude and talk about ratings for a moment, it is worth noting that Neal Martin scores the **Chapelle-Chambertin 94-96 points**, compared with **91-93 points** for **Armand Rousseau's Charmes-Chambertin**. The **Gevrey-Chambertin Vieilles Vignes** scores **86-88 points**, the exact same score as Rousseau's. Points do neither wine justice, but they do shed light on some of the idiosyncrasies of market prices for the most sought-after burgundies. In short, Rossignol-Trapet's wines are undervalued and you should snap them up.

DOMAINE ROSSIGNOL-TRAPET

2019 Gevrey Chambertin Vieilles Vignes, Domaine Rossignol-Trapet

Smoky, deep and open on the nose, red and blue fruits, raspberry, kirsch, herbal and very intense. A superb start. On the palate, soft tannins very fruit-forward, perhaps without quite the length of earlier vintages, but the tannins will likely develop. A tad less elegant on the finish than in other years but that is easy to forgive when there is so much generosity! RKL

"The 2019 Gevrey-Chambertin Vieilles Vignes comes from vines up to 85 years old. It has a sensual bouquet of brambly red fruit, undergrowth and light truffle aromas. The palate is medium bodied with grainy tannins, moderate acidity and decent length. What is missing is a little tension and precision on the finish compared to other vintages. 2023-2030. 86-88 points." Neal Martin, Vinous.com, Dec 2020

£180 per six bottles in bond

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DOMAINE ROSSIGNOL-TRAPET (cont...)

2019 Gevrey Chambertin 'Clos Prieur' 1er Cru, Domaine Rossignol-Trapet

"Impenetrable on the nose but it still transports you to Burgundy with some mineral aromas and predominantly red fruits. The palate is the opposite, open and intense with some smoky, meaty character. The wine evolves on the palate rather than exploding, with great elegance. RKL

"The 2019 Gevrey-Chambertin Clos Prieur 1er Cru came across more closed than the domaine's other Premier crus, light chalk dust scents permeating the red berry fruit. The palate is medium bodied with a very smooth texture, more compact and denser than expected but displaying a verticality that will appease those who like "cool," understated Pinot Noir rather than opulence. I suspect it will age extremely well. 2023-2040. 91-93 points." Neal Martin, Vinous.com, Dec 2020

£380 per six bottles in bond

2019 Gevrey-Chambertin 'Petite Chapelle' 1er Cru, Domaine Rossignol-Trapet

More open than the Clos Prieur, big bold red fruit on the nose, but with big and bold tannins, earthiness on the palate and a fine-grained texture, lots of complexity and excellent length. The Clos Prieur is easier to grasp at this stage but this may have more complexity in the long run. RKL

"The 2019 Gevrey-Chambertin Petite Chapelle 1er Cru is another cuvée that boasts impressive transparency on the nose of ebullient red berry fruit mixed with graphite and light undergrowth aromas. The palate is well balanced with fine-grained tannins and edgy red berry fruit laced with graphite, segueing toward a persistent finish that leaves residues of allspice and clove. Excellent. 2024-2040. 92-94 points." Neal Martin, Vinous.com, Dec 2020

£380 per six bottles in bond

2019 Latricieres-Chambertin Grand Cru, Domaine Rossignol-Trapet

"...(from vines planted in 1955). Discreet wood frames the very cool, super-fresh, restrained and equally elegant nose of various wild red berries, humus, violet, lilac and a whiff of anise. There is again superb intensity to the chiseled and tautly muscular larger-scaled flavors that seem to be built on a base of pungent minerality while displaying superb length. However, this too needs to develop more depth though given this wine's excellent track record, it should be able to do just that if given adequate time. 2034+. 91-94 points." Allan Meadows, Burghound

£660 per six bottles in bond (LIMITED AVAILABILITY)

2019 Chapelle-Chambertin Grand Cru, Domaine Rossignol-Trapet SOLD OUT

Really delightful on the nose, open and highly perfumed, delicate red fruits and stony mineral notes. Complete panoply Cotes de Nuits aromas here. The palate is open with amazing elegance and power, exceptionally fine tannins. The word delicate keeps coming back with regard to the fruit. The overall impression is broad rather than linear but with lots of energy. The most articulate GC from this domaine I have tasted from barrel. RKL

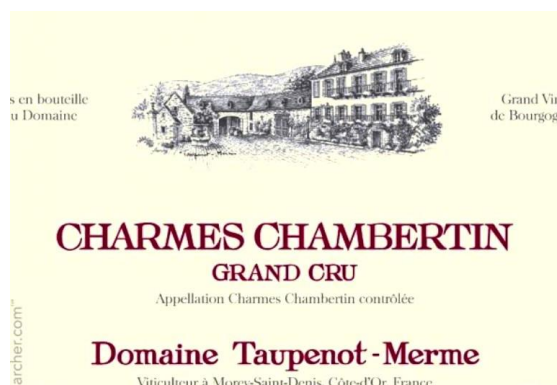
"The 2019 Chapelle-Chambertin Grand Cru offers much more complexity and terroir expression on the nose compared to the Latricières-Chambertin, delivering ebullient red berry fruit, crushed rock and light chestnut aromas. The palate is elegant and refined, the oak beautifully integrated, and the appealing, refined red cherry and wild strawberry finish fans out wonderfully. This is a sophisticated Chapelle-Chambertin that will endear itself to many wine lovers. 2024-2048. 94-96 points." Neal Martin, Vinous.com, Dec 2020

£660 per six bottles in bond (SOLD OUT)

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Domaine Taupenot-Merme, *Morey-Saint-Denis*

We are delighted to be able to offer the wines of **Domaine Taupenot-Merme** en primeur for the first time this year. **Romain Taupenot** and his sister, **Virginie**, have propelled their family domaine into the first division over the last decade. We met Romain in London last year and it was immediately apparent that he is a superb communicator, opening the eyes of the trade in England to the style of **Morey-Saint-Denis**, a wine which is sometimes overshadowed by those from neighbouring **Chambolle-Musigny** and **Gevrey-Chambertin**.

Although based in Morey, the domaine has coveted vineyard holdings in over twenty appellations, including **premiers** and **grands** crus from across those three villages, and a minuscule parcel of the virtual monopole **Clos des Lambrays**. (not offered this year due to volumes).

Romain's focus is on terroir and he likes his wines to express their origins, without too much new oak, extraction or use of whole bunch fermentation. Like Romain, the wines are open and charming. The 2019s have a particular richness and elegance, earning superb scores from Neal Martin, including **92-94 points** for the **Gevrey-Chambertin 'Bel-Air' 1er Cru** which he describes as a "*baby Bèze*"!

DOMAINE TAUPENOT-MERME

2019 Chambolle-Musigny, Domaine Taupenot-Merme

"The 2019 Chambolle-Musigny Village has a transparent bouquet with touches of Earl Grey tea interwoven into the lifted red berry scents. There is fine mineralité and that is transposed onto the palate that is very well balanced. Classic in style with a persistent, grainy textured finish and a peppery aftertaste, dare I say, but say I do, this is one of the best damn Chambolle-Musigny Village wines that you will come across in 2019. 2024-2038. 90-92 points." Neal Martin, *Vinous.com*, Dec 2020

£235 per case of six bottles in bond

2019 Gevrey-Chambertin, Domaine Taupenot-Merme

"The 2019 Gevrey-Chambertin Village does not quite have the expressiveness of the Morey Village on the nose and demands more coaxing, a little broody and sultry at the moment. The palate is medium-bodied with sappy black fruit with touches of sous-bois and white pepper. Lovely balance here and the precision on the finish compensates for the bashful aromatics. It will need 24 months once in bottle and fingers crossed the nose will step up a gear. 2023-2032. 88-90 points." Neal Martin, *Vinous.com*, Dec 2020

£225 per case of 6 bottles in bond

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DOMAINE TAUPENOT-MERME (cont...)

2019 Gevrey-Chambertin 'Bel-Air' 1er Cru, Domaine Taupenot-Merme

"The 2019 Gevrey-Chambertin Bel Air 1er Cru is attractive and fresh on the nose, melted tar and pencil box scents percolating through the red and black fruit, a hint of orange rind with time. The palate is medium-bodied with supple tannins, finely tuned with such pretty red cherry and wild strawberry notes on the tart finish. Taupenot referred to this as his "baby Bèze" - a perfectly apt description. 2024-2048. 92-94 points." Neal Martin, *Vinous.com*, Dec 2020

£495 per case of six bottles in bond

2019 Morey-Saint-Denis 'La Riotte' 1er Cru, Domaine Taupenot-Merme

"The 2019 Morey-Saint-Denis La Riotte 1er Cru is stubborn and austere on the nose at the moment, red berry fruit and damp loam aromas/woodland scents gradually unfurling, hints of cepes. The palate is medium-bodied with sappy red fruit mixed with white pepper and sage. Classic in style, nicely focused, this builds in the mouth and exerts good grip on the finish with impressive length on the aftertaste. Great potential but will benefit from cellaring. 2024-2038. 92-94 points." Neal Martin, *Vinous.com*, Dec 2020

£410 per case of 6 bottles in bond

2019 Corton Rognets Grand Cru, Domaine Taupenot-Merme

"The 2019 Corton-Rognet Grand Cru is quite strict and slightly ferrous on the nose, gradually opening with redcurrant and cranberry fruit, touches of orange blossom and pain d'épices. The palate is medium-bodied with supple tannins, lightly spiced with white pepper and cumin. Modest depth, it feels nicely focused with a persistent saline finish. Very fine. 2024-2048. 92-94 points." Neal Martin, *Vinous.com*, Dec 2020

£675 per case of six bottles in bond (LIMITED AVAILABILITY)

2019 Charmes-Chambertin Grand Cru, Domaine Taupenot-Merme

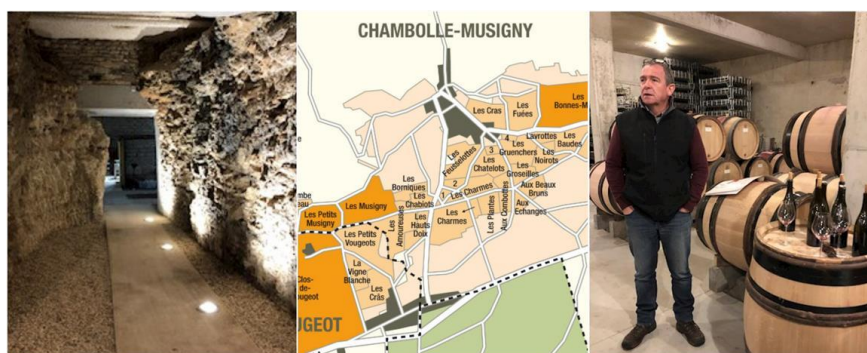
"The 2019 Charmes-Chambertin Grand Cru has a straightforward, focused bouquet with brambly red fruit, briary and tea leaf aromas, though it just lacks the assertiveness and intensity you seek from a Grand Cru. The palate is better with a light spiced opening, good weight and cohesion with black pepper and sea salt infused red fruit. Quite Mazoyères in terms of structure towards the finish, this will benefit from 4-6 years in bottle. 2023 - 2038. 93-95 points." Neal Martin, *Vinous.com*, Dec 2020

£840 per case of 6 bottles in bond (LIMITED AVAILABILITY)

2019 Mazoyères-Chambertin Grand Cru, *Domaine Taupenot-Merme*

"The 2019 Mazoyères-Chambertin Grand Cru has a little more intensity than the Charmes-Chambertin, damp undergrowth, moss, light leafy aromas tincturing the mainly red fruit and developing more and more earthiness with aeration. The palate is medium-bodied with supple tannins and a fine bead of acidity. Taut and fresh with perhaps the most saline finish of all Romain Taupenot's cuvées this year, it is destined to be a wonderful Mazoyères-Chambertin for sure. Best in show chez Taupenot-Merme. 2024 - 2050. 95-97 points." Neal Martin, *Vinous.com*, Dec 2020

£990 per case of 6 bottles in bond (LIMITED AVAILABILITY)



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Dominique Le Guen in his cellar in Chambolle-Musigny

Domaine Hudelot-Baillet, *Chambolle-Musigny*

This is our third year of offering **Domaine Hudelot-Baillet's** wines **en primeur**, having begun with the 2017 vintage. Along the way, we have had the opportunity to watch the earlier vintages develop, confirming our view that winemaker **Dominique Le Guen** is a rising star of **Chambolle-Musigny**. Dominique's muscular, concentrated style of winemaking often requires a few years in bottle to allow the tannins to develop, but the 2019s are silky, elegant and relatively forward.

After a career in the French air force, Dominique took over the winemaking at Domaine Hudelot-Baillet from his father-in-law in 2004 and the wines have gained steadily in stature. He comes across as earnest and practical, determined and focused on detail. His 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.

The **Bourgogne Pinot Noir** and **Hautes Côtes de Nuits** stand out as structured, full-bodied red burgundies, but at just a third to a half of the price of the **village** and **premier cru** wines. With one to two years of cellaring after landing, these are both superb value 'everyday' red burgundies.

The step up to the **Chambolle** wines comes not so much in power but in their extremely fine tannins. "**Les Charmes**" is always a favourite, the most linear and overtly mineral of the three. "**Les Cras**" has a brooding power which only begins to show itself after six or seven years. The "**Borniques**" vineyard neighbours the **Musigny grand cru** and is a little-known name which we suspect may be made more famous by Dominique...a potential investment wine.

DOMAINE HUDELLOT-BAILLET

2019 Bourgogne Pinot Noir, Domaine Hudelot-Baillet

From a small plot of vines in Chambolle. Dark brambly fruits on the nose, cherry jam, well-integrated oak and some heady floral (rose petal) aromas too. Notable intensity and depth for a generic bourgogne. On the palate there is a great density and texture, with already silky tannins. Only the moderate length would mark this out as a bourgogne rather than a higher classification if tasted blind; otherwise, this is a lot of wine for the money. RKL

£165 per case of 12 bottles in bond

DOMAINE HUDELLOT-BAILLET (cont....)

2019 Bourgogne Hautes-Côtes de Nuits, Domaine Hudelot-Baillet

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The first time we tasted his Hautes Côte de Nuits, Dominique commented that growers are increasingly looking at plots at the tops of their slopes. Labelled as 'Hautes Côtes', they often echo the style of the nearby village. The 2019 from cask is a little dominated by oak aromas at present (to be expected) but there is underlying fruit which will assert itself with a couple of years in bottle. The tannins are exceptionally fine, finer than in the last two vintages. Silky and concentrated rather than rustic power this year. RKL

£195 per case of 12 bottles in bond

2019 Chambolle-Musigny Vieilles Vignes, Domaine Hudelot-Baillet

From 60-80 year-old vines. Dark blackcurrant, kirsch and some raspberry aromas, but rather closed on the nose at present. The tannins are extremely fine, a step change from the previous two wines. Also some stony minerality and a long progression on the palate to mark the change up. On a second tasting after some air, the velvety tannins are even more the focal point. RKL

£220 per case of 6 bottles in bond

2019 Chambolle-Musigny 'Les Charmes' 1er cru, Domaine Hudelot-Baillet

30 to 60 year old vines on limestone soils. This is super-refined and simply floats on the palate, unexpected after the steady progression in intensity of the first three wines. Fresh, great delicacy and complexity, a very elegant 1er Cru Chambolle in the making. RKL

£320 per case of 6 bottles in bond

2019 Chambolle-Musigny 'Les Cras' 1er cru, Domaine Hudelot-Baillet

From vines growing in a plot in Dominique's back garden, beneath which his newly excavated cellar lies. Dominique suggests 6-8 years bottle age for Les Cras. Cask sample not tasted. RKL

£340 per case of 6 bottles in bond (LIMITED AVAILABILITY)

2019 Chambolle-Musigny 'Les Borniques' 1er cru, Domaine Hudelot-Baillet

From a plot of old vines in 'Les Borniques', a tiny premier cru which Dominique used to blend into his other wines, as there was barely enough to bottle on its own. Les Borniques is in a brilliant location, bordering the Musigny grand cru. Cask sample not tasted. RKL

£440 per case of 6 bottles in bond (LIMITED AVAILABILITY)

Côte de Beaune

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Jadot's winemaker, Frederic Barnier

Maison Louis Jadot, *Beaune*

Neal Martin's reviews for **Jadot** highlight what a winemaking triumph this was for them. Winemaker **Frederic Barnier** has produced elegant, complex whites and reds with incredibly fine tannins and vibrant, fresh fruit, despite the warmth of the summer. The wines were a joy to taste late last year in London. As we have said previously, no burgundy house is so consistent in delivering benchmark wines which, if you are lucky enough to taste them together, form a liquid atlas of the **Côte d'Or**.

Barnier generally looks for a riper style to the fruit than some domaines and his expertise in judging picking dates shows through in the cask samples. The palate of aromas and flavours in both reds and whites is generous and opulent but balanced by very judicious winemaking and moderate use of oak. The whites are made largely without undergoing malolactic fermentation, adding freshness and energy to balance the opulence. The reds are concentrated, but each with a perfume which invariably delineates its terroir perfectly.

Among the personal highlights of the 2019 tasting for us were the **Beaune** reds and whites. Wines from this appellation can seem a little *too* ethereal or austere (perhaps we are not refined enough!) but the last two vintages have added a depth and richness to the fruit, allowing the structure and minerality to really shine. The **Beaune 1er Cru 'Grèves Le Clos Blanc'** is positively tropical and Meursault-like, while the red '**Clos des Ursules**' (NM 91-93 pts) is fleshed out with lovely, deep fruit, framed by minerality.

For the second vintage running, the **Clos Vougeot (93-95 pts NM)** struck us a much more ripe, generous and approachable grand cru. From the lower slopes of the Clos, which sometimes ripen later, the 2019 has an inky depth of fruit and profound earthy tones.

Amongst the whites, the **Chassagnes premiers crus** really shone, with richness balanced by complex floral aromas and exceptionally pure stone fruits, not at all what you might expect from a hot summer. The flavours in 2019 are generous, even if the size of the harvest was not.

MAISON LOUIS JADOT: Côte de Nuits premier cru reds

2019 Gevrey-Chambertin 'Les Cazetiers' 1er Cru, Louis Jadot

"The 2019 Gevrey-Chambertin Les Cazetiers 1er Cru has an exquisite bouquet of crystalline red berry fruit laced with minerals, wonderfully

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delineated and focused. The palate is smooth and sensual on the entry, and very cohesive, with a perfect line of acidity. Pure and ravishing, armed with a satin-textured finish, this is going to be very difficult to resist once in bottle. Superb. 93-95 points". Neal Martin, *Vinous.com*
£405 per 6 bottles in bond

2019 Gevrey-Chambertin 'Clos St Jacques' 1er Cru, Louis Jadot

This is quite closed on the nose, especially the fruit, but there is an impressive whiff of gun smoke, herbal aromas, and a gamey character suggesting all sorts of complexity. The overall impression is of super-ripe red and black fruits with plenty of freshness, but the potential is there for this to become a Gevrey of real stature in five to seven years. RKL

"... surprisingly reticent at first, offering quite strong earthy aromas and gradually opening with sage, thyme and mint. I feel that compared to the other Clos Saint-Jacques, the aromatics never quite click into fifth gear. The palate is medium-bodied with the best backbone of the four Gevrey Premier Crus tasted from Jadot. Spicy black pepper and clove notes furnish the middle and the finish, which feels sustained and persistent, yet I wonder whether it will have the unadulterated charm of the Les Cazetiers when in bottle. We will find out soon. 2024 - 2042. 92-94 points". Neal Martin, *Vinous.com*, Dec 2020

£715 per 6 bottles in bond

2019 Chambolle-Musigny 'Les Baudes' 1er Cru, Gagey, Louis Jadot

Dark black fruits, deep and intense on the nose, super supple tannins, lots of tensile energy and great concentration on the mid-palate. RKL

"... shakes off a little reduction to reveal more black fruit compared to the Feusselottes, broodier and distinctly marine-influenced...medium-bodied with a touch of licorice on the entry and a long, sweet finish. There is some oak here to be subsumed, but I like the weight and density in the mouth. Give it three or four years in bottle to absorb the wood. 2024 - 2040. 91-93 points." Neal Martin, *Vinous.com*, Dec 2020

"Aromas of raspberries, rose petals, sweet soil tones and warm spices introduce the 2019 Chambolle-Musigny 1er Cru Les Baudes (Domaine Gagey), a medium to full-bodied, fleshy and elegantly muscular wine with a concentrated core of fruit, ripe tannins and a long, sapid finish. This cuvée is another fixture among the portfolio's highlights. 92-94 points." William Kelley, *RobertParker.com*

£405 per 6 bottles in bond

2019 Nuits-St-Georges 'Les Boudots' 1er Cru, Louis Jadot

Ooof! What a great weight on the palate, very dense and with fine, structured tannins. Perhaps more about the attack and mid-palate than the finish, but this will likely flesh out with time. This feels like a very classical Nuits despite the warm year. RKL

"Aromas of cherries, dark chocolate, plums and spices introduce the 2019 Nuits-Saint-Georges 1er Cru Les Boudots (Domaine Gagey), a medium to full-bodied, rich and fleshy wine that's lively and gourmand, with powdery tannins and an enveloping core of fruit. This is another fine success. 91-93 points." William Kelley, *RobertParker.com*

£370 per 6 bottles in bond

MAISON LOUIS JADOT: Côte d'Or grand cru reds

2019 Charmes-Chambertin Grand Cru, Louis Jadot

"The 2019 Charmes-Chambertin Grand Cru, matured in 50% new oak, comes across a little tight and awkward on the nose compared to the other three Grand Crus that I tasted from the appellation; it never quite coheres. The palate is better: quite lactic in the mouth, with a smooth

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texture and espresso and dark chocolate notes that at this early stage mask the terroir expression. Hopefully that will be assimilated with time, but I will remain prudent for now. Two barrels produced. 2023-2033. 89-91 points." Neal Martin, *Vinous.com*, Dec 2020

£950 per 6 bottles in bond (VERY LIMITED AVAILABILITY)

2019 Chambertin 'Clos de Bèze' Grand Cru, Louis Jadot

"The 2019 Chambertin Clos-de-Bèze Grand Cru has a lovely bouquet that is wonderfully delineated and focused, presenting a quite intense mixture of red and black fruit tinged with sous-bois and light black truffle aromas. The palate is medium-bodied with bold tannins and a fine bead of acidity. Smooth in texture, it exhibits dark chocolate and brown spice notes, some new oak just masking the terroir expression and delineation on the finish at the moment. Give this at least 4–5 years in bottle and that will be addressed. Just one double barrel produced (460 liters). 2025 - 2048. 93-95 points." Neal Martin, *Vinous.com*, Dec 2020

£875 per 3 bottles in bond (VERY LIMITED AVAILABILITY)

2019 Clos St-Denis Grand Cru, Louis Jadot

Dense black fruits and velvet textured tannins, a wonderful texture on the palate which combines refinement and power. RKL

"The 2019 Clos Saint-Denis Grand Cru demonstrates a little more amplitude than the Clos de la Roche because of the one-third stem addition. It is exquisitely defined, offering precise black fruit laced with melted tar and graphite notes, and wonderful focus. The palate is medium-bodied with fine tannins framing the judiciously spiced black fruit that segues into a very harmonious, grippy finish. This is one of Jadot's best cuvées this vintage. 2025-2050. 95-97 points." Neal Martin, *Vinous.com*, Dec 2020

£1450 per 6 bottles in bond (VERY LIMITED AVAILABILITY)

2019 Clos Vougeot Grand Cru, Domaine Louis Jadot

Open, supple and with the oak influence playing second fiddle to the black fruits and earth. Very good value, the warmer vintages will really help Jadot's Clos Vougeots to be approachable earlier than the wines of old. RKL

"The 2019 Clos de Vougeot Grand Cru is very tight on the nose and needed more encouragement from the glass to reveal sultry black fruit mixed with melted tar and light sous-bois aromas. The palate is medium-bodied with grainy tannins, quite "solid" in structure, and well defined, revealing a touch of blood orange on the finish. This is a finely crafted Clos de Vougeot that should age well over the next 20–25 years. 2023-2045. 93-95 points." Neal Martin, *Vinous.com*, Dec 2020

£570 per 6 bottles in bond (VERY LIMITED AVAILABILITY)

2019 Bonnes-Mares Grand Cru, Louis Jadot

"The 2019 Bonnes-Mares Grand Cru has a floral bouquet of black and blueberry fruit infused with crushed violet and iris petal. This is completely destemmed, so it does not convey the same amplitude. The palate is medium-bodied, with light Earl Grey and ash notes tincturing the black fruit. Fine structure and focus here. Light on its feet toward the long, sustained finish. This is a superb Bonnes-Mares. 2024-2045. 94-96 points." Neal Martin *Vinous.com*, Dec 2020

£810 per 3 bottles in bond (VERY LIMITED AVAILABILITY)

2019 Musigny Grand Cru, Louis Jadot

"The 2019 Musigny Grand Cru is another cuvée in which Jadot has included 30% whole clusters. It has a fresh, vibrant bouquet of mainly black fruit infused with black pepper, truffle and sous-bois and gaining in intensity with every swirl of the glass. The palate is medium-bodied

LOUIS JADOT (Cont...)

with supple tannins and very well balanced, displaying real finesse and touches of sage and cumin toward a complex finish that in my opinion is enhanced by the stems (incidentally, this is not the first time they have been used, often to increase the volume and improve the pignage). This is a cerebral and captivating Musigny that will drink well for 40–50 years. 2025-2060. 96-98 points." Neal Martin, *Vinous.com*, Dec 2020

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£1950 per 3 bottles in bond (VERY LIMITED AVAILABILITY)

2019 Corton-Pougets Grand Cru, Louis Jadot

"The 2019 Corton-Pougets Grand Cru was ever so slightly reduced on the nose, but opens with time to reveal quite intense black fruit laced with vanilla. The palate is medium-bodied with supple tannins, very good weight and a fine bead of acidity. This conveys the most energy of the three Corton Grand Crus from Jadot that I tasted. Velvety texture on the finish. Lovely. Just one used barrel produced. 2023-2040. 92-94 points." Neal Martin *Vinous.com*, Dec 2020

"The 2019 Corton-Pougets Grand Cru (Domaine des Héritiers Jadot) is excellent, unwinding in the glass with notes of cherries, plums, orange rind, dark chocolate, sweet spices and toasty new oak. Medium to full-bodied, fleshy and layered, it's deep and concentrated, with broad shoulders and rich, powdery structuring tannins. As usual, this is a fine proposition for the medium- to long-haul. 93-95 points." William Kelley, *RobertParker.com*

£390 per 6 bottles in bond (VERY LIMITED AVAILABILITY)

MAISON LOUIS JADOT Côte de Beaune premier cru reds

2019 Beaune 'Clos des Couchereaux' 1er Cru, Louis Jadot

"The 2019 Beaune Clos des Couchereaux 1er Cru definitely has the most floral of Jadot's Beaune Premier Crus; rose petal scents infuse the brambly red fruit, mixed with a light marine scent. The palate is medium-bodied with fine tannins and a keen bead of acidity. This is very elegant and shows impressive poise toward the finish. A delicious Beaune in the making. 2023-2036. 91-93 points." Neal Martin *Vinous.com*, Dec 2020

£180 per 6 bottles in bond

2019 Beaune 'Clos des Ursules' 1er Cru, Louis Jadot

Taut, structured and stony....classic Beaune red, despite the warmth of the vintage! There is a characteristic earthy or meaty note beneath the red fruits which adds great seriousness, as do the mineral (stony!) notes on the palate. RKL

"The 2019 Beaune Clos des Ursules 1er Cru has a fragrant bouquet featuring a mélange of red and black fruit intermingled with orange blossom and iodine aromas. Good intensity. The palate is medium-bodied with a stocky opening, fine structure and symmetry and a fine bead of acidity. There's a dark fruit flourish toward the finish, which leaves behind a subtle marine-themed aftertaste. Excellent. 2023-2038. 91-93 points." Neal Martin *Vinous.com*, Dec 2020

"Always one of the high points of the portfolio, the 2019 Beaune 1er Cru Clos des Ursules (Domaine des Héritiers Jadot) offers up aromas of berries and plums with hints of warm spices and orange rind, framed by a deft touch of new oak. Medium to full-bodied, round and fleshy, with elegantly muscular structuring tannins and lively acids, this will age with grace. 92-94 points." William Kelley, *RobertParker.com*

£280 per 6 bottles in bond

MAISON LOUIS JADOT Côte de Beaune, premier cru whites

2019 Beaune Grèves 'Le Clos' Blanc, 1er Cru, Louis Jadot

Herbal notes and white flowers and almonds on the nose, beautifully balanced, some spices too. Really exceptional depth to the very ripe fruit on the palate, with some honeyed richness...but there is also a lovely chalky minerality too. Exceptionally persistent finish, superb. RKL

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£180 per 6 bottles in bond

2019 Puligny-Montrachet 1er Cru 'La Garenne', Louis Jadot SOLD OUT

Seaside aromas of iodine and flinty minerality on the nose, crushed oyster shell too. Great intensity on the palate, very elegant and saline. RKL
"The 2019 Puligny-Montrachet La Garenne 1er Cru has a delineated bouquet of apple blossom, white peach and light flinty aromas. The palate is well balanced with a suppleness on the entry. Fine flinty notes, and quite spicy toward the end. This is a very well crafted La Garenne with a lovely saline finish. 2023-2036. 91-93 points." Neal Martin Vinous.com, Dec 2020

£320 per 6 bottles in bond SOLD OUT

2019 Puligny-Montrachet 1er Cru 'Les Folatières', Louis Jadot

"The 2019 Puligny-Montrachet 1er Cru Les Folatières (Domaine des Héritiers Jadot), which derives from lieu-dit En la Richarde, exhibits aromas of pear, orange oil, white flowers and toasted bread. Medium to full-bodied, layered and multidimensional, it's satiny and complete, with lively acids and a bright, mineral finish. This is very promising. 92-94 points." William Kelley, RobertParker.com

£350 per 6 bottles in bond (VERY LIMITED AVAILABILITY)

2019 Puligny-Montrachet 1er Cru 'Les Referts', Louis Jadot

"The 2019 Puligny-Montrachet Les Referts 1er Cru has a subtle, nuanced bouquet of apple blossom and wet limestone aromas infused with touches of yellow flowers. The palate is well balanced, displaying a fine bead of acidity, and rounded on the entry, offering light passion fruit and dried mango notes. This segues into a more spicy final third and a fine saline finish. Enjoy over the next 12–15 years. 92-94 points". Neal Martin, Vinous.com

£325 per 6 bottles in bond (VERY LIMITED AVAILABILITY)

2019 Chassagne-Montrachet 'Abbaye de Morgeot' 1er Cru, Louis Jadot

This gives a sense of great density on the nose but then also has impressive tension on the palate. The fruit character is of white stone fruits with lots of delicate floral complexity, but the overall effect is of a very ripe and rich style. RKL

"The 2019 Chassagne-Montrachet Abbaye de Morgeot 1er Cru has a lovely bouquet of orange blossom, freshly sliced pear and light nectarine aromas, plus a hint of praline in the background. The palate is well balanced with a honeyed opening, quite rich in style, and yet there is wonderful tension. Appealing tropical notes of passion fruit and guava on the finish. This will be irresistible once bottled. 2022 - 2033. 91-93 points." Neal Martin Vinous.com, Dec 2020

£325 per 6 bottles in bond

2019 Chassagne-Montrachet 'Morgeot Clos de la Chapelle' 1er Cru, Louis Jadot

Another in a line-up of really impressive Chassagnes (a Chassagne year?), very appealing with lots of elegance and charm rather than brute power of structure. This has a great energy with floral aromas, some honey and expressive minerality, very persistent on the palate. RKL

"The 2019 Chassagne-Montrachet Morgeot Clos de la Chapelle 1er Cru is well-defined on the nose, offering scents of honeysuckle and yellow plum, then lemon thyme and light crushed stone aromas. The palate is well balanced with a fine bead of acidity. Not quite as harmonious as the Abbaye de Morgeot on the finish; this is slightly more attenuated and bitter at the moment. But it has good potential for a Chassagne made in a classic style. 2022-2032. 90-92 points." Neal Martin Vinous.com, Dec 2020

£325 per 6 bottles in bond

MAISON LOUIS JADOT: Côte de Beaune, grand cru whites

2019 Bienvenues-Bâtard-Montrachet Grand Cru, Louis Jadot

"The 2019 Bienvenues-Bâtard-Montrachet Grand Cru has quite a rich, honeyed bouquet that just deprives this of the same terroir expression

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as Jadot's other Grand Crus. The palate is well balanced with a lightly spiced opening, and honeyed in style, offering notes of passion fruit, rhubarb and ginger toward the finish. Very pleasant to drink but it does not quite convey the essence of Bienvenues. 2023-2040. **91-93 points.**" Neal Martin *Vinous.com*, Dec 2020

£885 per 3 bottles in bond (VERY LIMITED AVAILABILITY)

2019 Corton-Charlemagne, Grand Cru, Domaine des Héritiers Jadot

Intense herbal and minty on the nose with lots of savoury aromas, the palate is then quite muted by contrast (at this stage). Feels like a coiled spring with tonnes of energy and some density, will need 3 years or more to unfurl itself. RKL

"The 2019 Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru has a very tempting bouquet of lemon curd, frangipane, almond and light white chocolate scents. It is still a little oaky, but that will integrate with time. The palate is well balanced with a rounded, marmalade-tinged opening, then veers toward a curiously "fishy" second half, almost like a Chenin Blanc in style! Maybe this is just a phase it's going through. Give it 3–5 years in bottle.

*2022 - 2038. **91-93 points.**" Neal Martin, *Vinous.com*, Dec 2020*

*"Aromas of confit citrus, crisp orchard fruit and mint mingle with hints of petrol and toasted bread in an incipiently complex bouquet, introducing the 2019 Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru (Domaine des Héritiers Jadot), a full-bodied, multidimensional and muscular wine built around serious reserves of structuring dry extract and girdled by lively acids. Long and chalky, this is very promising. **93-95+ points**".*

*William Kelley, *RobertParker.com**

£870 per 6 bottles in bond

For orders or



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Tasting with Domaine Voillot, Volnay

Domaine Joseph Voillot, Volnay

Being in the wine trade means never admitting to having a favourite producer, but if truth be told, **Domaine Joseph Voillot** is mine, so we offer Voillot's 2019s with great pleasure.

I first visited here in the late 1990s to taste the '96 vintage. **Jean-Pierre Charlot** had recently taken over from his father-in-law, **Joseph Voillot**. Jean-Pierre is well-loved in the region, a gruff but genial bear of a man whose stoutness and no-nonsense approach always seems at odds with the elegance of his wines. In the last few years he has been training his nephew, **Etienne Chaix**, to take over and in the last couple of vintages Etienne seems to have really found his stride.

The winery and cellar is in the middle of Volnay, a few metres from two great bastions of the 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. The photo above shows almost the entire length of the tiny cellar, with another row of barrels to the right. In 2019, rain and cold weather at flowering limited the size of the crop (as seen across the region). The summer heat and lack of rainfall further reduced the size of the harvest, down about a third on 2018.

They use no whole bunches at Voillot and the winemaking is very traditional, with daily **pigeages** and **remontages** at the start of the fermentation. The style of winemaking here inherently leads to elegant wines, but in 2019 there is also masses of fruit concentration, backed up by fine, ripe tannins which will sustain the wines for a long time.

This was another tasting from miniature cask samples sent by courier which transported us immediately, to the little square in front of the Church and to the cellars at Voillot. It is just remarkable how much identity these wines can convey.

With such a fine, ripe and balanced vintage on offer, there has never been a better time to buy these classic reds from Voillot.

DOMAINE JOSEPH VOILLOT

2019 Volnay Vieilles Vignes, Domaine Joseph Voillot

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The village Volnay is from old vines, averaging 50 years of age. These are spread across several parcels totalling under 2 hectares. Delicate red fruits and floral notes (rose petal) but with more luxurious fruit than we are used to here. This does an amazing tight rope walk between elegance and ripeness, remarkable how it is still so elegant even with all this fruit. RKL

“The 2019 Volnay Village comes from 1.38-hectare over 6 parcels. It has another overly floral bouquet with red cherry and strawberry fruit laced with wilted rose petal. The palate is medium-bodied with brittle tannins, quite cohesive with a gentle grip towards the finish. Fine transparency here, classic, almost old school Volnay that will drink well over the next decade. 88-90 points.” Neal Martin, Vinous.com

£155 per six bottles in bond

2019 Volnay ‘Les Champans’ 1er Cru, Domaine Joseph Voillot

From vines planted in 1934, 1971, 1985. Les Champans is a limestone terroir which imparts a chalky character to the tannins, fresh acidity and an underlying minerality. This is electric on the palate, with lots of freshness but also great depth to the ripe red fruits. Despite the terroir this is the most open and approachable Champans I have tried, and yet there still seems to be lots of complex tannic structure in the background which will develop over 5-7 years. RKL

“The 2019 Volnay Les Champans 1er Cru, matured in 20% new oak, has darker fruit than the Fremiets, touches of blackberry and briary complementing the raspberry and cranberry. The oak here is neatly enmeshed. The palate is medium-bodied with supple tannins, silkier than the Fremiets in texture with a piquant finish. Delightful and so fresh! 92-94 points.” Neal Martin, Vinous.com

£260 per six bottles in bond VERY LIMITED AVAILABILITY

2019 Pommard ‘Les Épenots’ 1er Cru, Domaine Joseph Voillot SOLD OUT

From vines planted in 1961, just 0.17 hectares, in most years just 1 to 3 barrels made. Limestone and marl terroir which always seems to give some of Voillot's most powerful wines. The 2019 is dark and concentrated but it still has fine minerality and lots of layered complexity. Amazing tension and energy for such a warm year, a brilliant Épenots. RKL

“The 2019 Pommard Les Épenots 1er Cru, matured in 50% new oak, has a well defined, quite loamy bouquet that takes a while to unfold in the glass. The palate is medium-bodied, savory in style with some wood and supple tannins waiting to be subsumed towards the finish. Give this 3-4 years in bottle if you can. 90-92 points.” Neal Martin, Vinous.com

£365 per six bottles in bond

2019 Pommard ‘Les Rugiens’ 1er Cru, Domaine Joseph Voillot

From Limestone and marl, just 0.25ha of vines planted in 1959. Rounded and rich, great texture, more indulgent than Les Épenots and with less overt mineral character at this stage, this will be all about silky texture on the palate as the tannins meld. RKL

£375 per case of six bottles VERY LIMITED AVAILABILITY

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Domaine Jean Pascal

Domaine Jean Pascal, *Puligny-Montrachet*

All year we have been enjoying the 2018 vintage white burgundies from **Domaine Jean Pascal** in **Puligny-Montrachet**; first the **Bourgogne Blanc** before moving on to the **Auxey-Duresses** and **Puligny 'Les Enseignères'**.

These wines have become a benchmark for us of what white burgundy should 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 Pulignys 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.

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

The domaine was hit hard by **spring frosts**, especially in **Auxey-Duresses**, resulting in a **60-80% reduction in the harvest**. Quality has benefited, with intense, concentrated fruit producing rich wines which nevertheless have wonderful floral aromatic elegance.

Each year we sell out of the **Bourgogne Chardonnay** within a few months of it landing, so we suggest securing yours now, especially in this small vintage; ditto the Auxey-Duresses, the best 'proper' village white burgundy we know at such an affordable price.

The **Puligny-Montrachet 'Les Enseignères' lieu dit** has just the right level of additional tautness and elegance to make it worth purchasing over the village wine. As for the **Folatières 1er Cru**, perhaps the approachable character of 2019 has made it more apparent than ever what a stunning wine this is. The level of finesse and delicacy took us by surprise, brilliant value at **£260 IB for six bottles** and one of our top picks of all the white burgundies we have tasted so far in 2019.

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These are superb, honest wines which take you right into the heart of one of the **Côte d'Or's** most prized wine villages, without any of the associated elevated prices. We recommend adding them to your cellar while they are available.

DOMAINE JEAN PASCAL

2019 Bourgogne Chardonnay, Domaine Jean Pascal

Expressive and on the nose with white fruits (especially pear). Fresh and rounded on the palate mouth, beautifully balanced between richness and a saline and lemon pith character which gives freshness, another superb Bourgogne Chardonnay from Pascal. RKL

£140 per case of 12 bottles in bond

2019 Auxey-Duresses, Domaine Jean Pascal

Increased concentration over the generic wine, but more refined and precise at the same time too. Nose shows white and exotic fruits, with really focused acidity. White peach and pears on the palate and a background of carefully judged oak. RKL

£220 per case of 12 bottles in bond

2019 Puligny-Montrachet 'Les Enseignères', Domaine Jean Pascal

Les Enseignères is a single-vineyard, a lieu-dit but not a premier cru. Some flinty or matchstick aromas on the nose, either from terroir or perhaps reductive winemaking, wonderfully refined and lots of minerality as well as peach. Plenty of potential for both the minerality and fruit character to develop over the next three years. RKL

£180 per case of 6 bottles in bond

2019 Puligny-Montrachet 'Les Folatières' 1er Cru, Domaine Jean Pascal

Tremendous delicacy and finesse here, and yet at the same time this is undoubtedly more concentrated than any of the wines which precede it. A very clear, textbook progression to 1er cru. White flowers and fruits on the nose and some flinty minerality. This is more approachable than any previous Folatières we have tried from cask. RKL

£260 per case of 6 bottles in bond

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Jean-François Mestre and his son Nicolas at Domaine Michelot

Domaine Michelot, *Meursault*

Michelot is our favourite domaine in **Meursault** and we often sing the praises of their **village** and **lieu-dit wines**, not to mention the vanishingly small quantities of their **bourgognes** which we winkle out of them each year. With all this good value on offer, the focus is taken off the brilliance of their premiers crus, particularly their **Meursault 'Les Genevrières'**.

Meursault does not have a **grand cru**, but if did, Genevrières would surely be a candidate. 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 make beautifully saline, mineral white wines in a modern, terroir-driven style. Genevrières always stands out when we taste their premiers crus from barrel each autumn. Usually the most powerful and concentrated of the crus, it is also often the most reserved, but in **2019** we were delighted to find it floral and open on the nose and almost opulent, with a wonderful spicy length on the palate.

Put this wine in a room with some of the most famous grands crus and it will hold its own very confidently. Prices for the best burgundies have become stratospheric in recent years and it is a mystery why this does not command two or three times the price per case of **£310 for 6**, so we wouldn't hesitate to recommend adding it to your cellar.

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DOMAINE MICHELOT

2019 Santenay Blanc ‘Les Gravières’ 1er Cru, Domaine Michelot

‘Les Gravières’ is adjacent to Chassagne-Montrachet, on clay/limestone soil. Candied fruits and flowers on the nose, highly perfumed, with citrus-kumquat character, toast and nutty aromas. Full and rich on the palate, with a glycerin texture, even more ripe fruit than in 2018 but with more freshness too and plenty of energy, impossible not to like.

£165 per 6 bottles in bond

2019 Meursault ‘Clos Saint Felix’, Domaine Michelot

The Clos Saint Felix is a monopole of Michelot, a walled clos adjacent to the domaine itself, in the heart of the village of Meursault. The Clos dates back to the 1740s, when the house and vineyard were owned by a Monsieur de Saint Felix. The clay and limestone soil over gravel lends a finesse to wines from this lieu-dit, with white flowers and hawthorn aromas. 2019 sample not yet tasted. RKL

£185 per 6 bottles in bond

2019 Meursault ‘Les Grand Charrons’, Domaine Michelot

‘Grands Charrons’ is on a slope with three different subsoils; from yellow clay, to small rocks, to hard limestone. Less overt than the Santenay Blanc (this is positively racy by comparison!), more focused and with lots of mineral notes. Suspect the fruit will flesh out on the palate with some time in bottle. RKL

£190 per 6 bottles in bond

2019 Meursault ‘Les Charmes’ 1er Cru, Domaine Michelot

Reductive aromas on the nose, intense but the fruit is muted for now. Smokey notes, or perhaps matchstick. Great density on the mid-palate with a long, linear finish, the domaine appears to have done everything to avoid an overripe style and have achieved a really fresh, energetic wine. Lots of potential here over 3-7 years. RKL

£290 per 6 bottles in bond

2019 Meursault ‘Les Genevrières’ 1er Cru, Domaine Michelot

More open and aromatic than any vintage of Genevrières I can remember, with white flowers, candied citrus fruits and minerality. Nothing unbalanced or ‘hot’ about the palate at all, with citrus and tropical fruit notes and an extremely long and intense finish of spice. Likely drinking sooner than other vintages, perhaps from 3 years. RKL

£310 per 6 bottles in bond

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FINE WINE SHIPPERS & BROKERS – EST 1969



Domaine Bachey-Legros, *Santenay*

The red and white burgundies from **Domaine Bachey-Legros** in **Santenay** were a huge hit in our **2018** en primeur offers, so much so that our remaining stocks of the **2017s** were also snapped over the summer. This year was our first opportunity to taste **cask samples of the 2019s**, confirming our feeling that brothers **Samuel** and **Lénaïc** make some of the best value burgundies we know.

A winning combination of very **old vines** and a winemaking approach which emphasises richness, produces whites in a luscious style and reds which rival the **Cotes de Nuits** for concentration and tannic structure. Earlier this year, **Tim Atkin MW** described their flagship premier cru site thus:

"Clos Rousseau would be much more famous if it were located in Vosne-Romanée or Gevrey-Chambertin rather than Santenay, such is the quality of the wines from this Premier Cru." Tim Atkin MW, Decanter Jan 2020

The brothers list the vineyard planting dates next to many of their wines, from **1950** for '**Les Charmes**' back to **1914** for **1er Cru Clos Rousseau 'Les Fourneaux'**. Caring for these old vines is clearly a labour of love and they describes themselves as working like 'curators in a botanical museum'. Deep-rooting older vines are very resilient to annual vintage variations, giving consistently brilliant wines each year.

The **Santenay Blanc 'Les Gravières' 1er Cru** was a highlight of our tasting, with mineral aromas and exotic and tropical fruits leaping out of the glass immediately we approached it. Judging by this and by **Michelot's Gravières Blanc**, this is a gem of a terroir and one worth knowing about.

Amongst the reds we tasted, the 2019 Santenay 'Clos Rousseau' Les Fourneaux Vieilles Vignes 1er Cru once again asserted itself the equal of wines from more famous, northerly villages, with a particular resemblance to **Vosne-Romanée**. Brilliant value all of them, we recommend you pounce on these wines whilst they are available.

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DOMAINE BACHEY-LEGROS – red wines

2019 Santenay Rouge ‘Clos des Hâtes’ Vieilles Vignes

From vines planted in 1935. Cask sample not yet tasted. Generally, Clos des Hâtes is more structured and rustic in character when compared with Les Charmes. RKL

£195 per dozen bottles in bond

2019 Santenay Rouge 'Clos Rousseau' 1er Cru, Domaine Bachey-Legros

The 'Clos Rousseau' is the domaine's best terroir, from three parcels of old vines; Les Fourneaux, planted in 1914, Le Grand Clos Rousseau (1980), and Le Petit Clos Rousseau (1955). Cask sample not yet tasted. RKL

£260 per dozen bottles in bond (VERY LIMITED AVAILABILITY)

2019 Santenay Rouge ‘Clos Rousseau Les Fourneaux’ 1er Cru, Domaine Bachey-Legros

Vines planted in 1914. Les Fourneaux is a lieu-dit within the Clos Rousseau Premier Cru, one of the Santenay's best sites. 30% new wood. More intensity on nose and a concentrated palate (compared to Les Charmes) with fine velvet tannins and some limestone influence. Superb length, with the polished tannins reverberating for ages. this has the texture associated with reds from some of the best names in the Cotes de Nuits. RKL

£280 per dozen bottles in bond (VERY LIMITED AVAILABILITY)

DOMAINE BACHEY-LEGROS – white wines

2019 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 2019 shows some new oak influence, with toast aromas and a buttery character, balanced by fresh pear and apple aromas. Ripe guava, honeydew melon and other tropical fruits on the palate with citrus lemon pith keeping it fresh, seductive but still all in good balance. RKL

£195 per dozen bottles in bond

2019 Santenay Blanc 'Clos des Gravières' 1er Cru, Domaine Bachey-Legros

From younger vines in the lower, northern part of Santenay and is mostly a young vine cuvée. The style is similar to Chassagne-Montrachet with lots of richness and texture, presumably influenced by the use of lees stirring and ageing in 30% new wood. The 2019 is stunning on the nose with an immediate impression of minerality and tropical character. This richness is balanced by lees ageing, retaining an overall savoury character, with a backdrop of new oak. Excellent persistence, remarkably consistent with Michelot's Gravières 1er Cru but the winemaking style is subtly different, emphasising richness. RKL

£250 per dozen bottles in bond

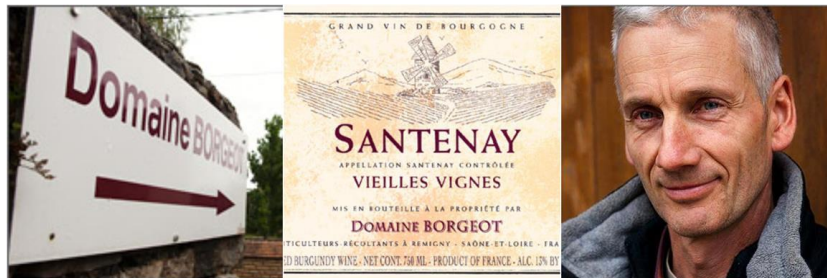
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2019 Chassagne-Montrachet 'Morgeot' Les Petits Clos Vieilles Vignes 1er Cru, Domaine Bachey-Legros

Vines planted 1950. Superb ripeness and minerality on the nose, with white peach and flint aromas, expanding on the palate to show a glycerin texture and oak, completely harmonious and balanced by the fruit character. Despite the ripeness on the palate, the fruit remains on the peach-pear spectrum (rather than tropical). Exceptional value, showing real 1er Cru character at this price level. RKL

£395 per dozen bottles in bond



Domaine P & L Borgeot, Remigny

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 very much 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.

Santenay Rouge is a speciality at the Borgeot's 23 hectare domaine. The wines from this village are our first port of call for excellent value but serious, classic **Côte-d'Or** burgundy, with both **Bachey-Legros** and **Borgeot** impressing us enormously. 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 **Côte de Nuits** reds, whilst remaining true to their terroir.

If you bought from our recent offers from Bachey-Legros, you will know that they specialise in single vineyard wines from ancient vines. Borgeot have their own share of lieu dits and premier cru plots, but for value their humble village **Santenay 'Vieilles Vignes'** is outstanding at just **£19.18 per bottle** on your table, as is the **Bourgogne Pinot Noir**, from vines in Chassagne, just **£14.18** including VAT.

The style at this domaine is more restrained and earthy than at Bachey-Legros, qualities we enjoy, but the generous fruit of **2019 vintage** has made the wines more approachable than ever.

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DOMAINE P&L BERGEOT – red wines

2019 Bourgogne Pinot Noir, Domaine P&L Borgeot

Morello cherries and blackcurrant on the nose with some licquorice aromas, this is a muscular and structured bourgogne from Pascal and Laurent, but there is so much depth of fruit that is almost masks the tannins. Once again this is a benchmark for affordable Cote d'Or Pinot Noir. RKL

£120 per dozen bottles in bond

2019 Santenay Rouges Vieilles Vignes, Domaine P&L Borgeot

Very intense raspberry and red fruit character on the nose, despite the intensity and concentration on the palate (one might have expected more black fruits). The fruit character here in 2019 is perfumed rather than giving any suggestion of heat or over-ripeness. This is 'on the fruit' at the moment but there is a very good structure behind this, with less rustic tannins and a silkier texture than in cooler vintages. RKL

£175 per dozen bottles in bond

DOMAINE P&L BERGEOT – white wines

2019 Bourgogne Blanc ‘Clos de la Carbonnade’, Domaine P&L Borgeot

From two parcel of vines averaging 35-40 years, in Bouzeron. The clos is a monopole, owned by the brothers. Very ripe peach aromas on the nose, with a smoky character from either reductive winemaking or perhaps the terroir. No lack of freshness, even though the wine went through its full malo. RKL

£125 per dozen bottles in bond

2019 Chassagne-Montrachet Vieilles Vignes, Domaine P&L Borgeot

Aged in 20% new oak for 11 months. Consistently the best value Chassagne we taste each year. 2019 Tasting note to follow.

£195 per 6 bottles in bond

2019 Chassagne-Montrachet ‘Clos St Jean’ 1er cru, Domaine P&L Borgeot

The Clos St Jean is at the top of Chassagne, surrounded by old drystone walls. The soil is pebbly and chalky and produces mostly red Chassagne wines, so this superb white is both unusual and superb value. RKL

£220 per 6 bottles in bond (LIMITED AVAILABILITY)

Côte Chalonnaise



Clos des Grand Voyens pictured in the centre of the photo, in front of the woods, to the left of the buildings. Les Nauges is immediately to the left of Grand Voyens.

Domaine Jeannin-Naltet, Mercurey

Domaine Jeannin-Naltet in Mercurey was a new find for us last year. A small, family-owned domaine, it has been undergoing a transformation since **Benoît Eschard** took over from his uncle, seven years ago.

Benoît came into winemaking from engineering, an approach which shows in the meticulous overhaul he has given to his vineyard and winery practices. His uncle had been selling the domaine's wine to negociants. Nearly 8 of Benoît's 9 hectares are **premier cru**, so it was an obvious move to vinify and bottle the wines separately, focusing on terroir.

Tasting from cask always involves a mixture of experience and trust that the bottled wines will fulfil the potential they show in barrel. We were thrilled when we re-tasted **2018s** in bottle a few weeks ago. The serious and somewhat intellectual style we enjoyed so much at the domaine, with lots of **limestone terroir** notes, has really fleshed out with dark, sumptuous black fruit character, which reminds us of **Côte de Nuits** reds. We have no doubt that if these wines came from a Côte de Nuits address, they would command a far higher price.

Recently we tasted cask samples of the **2019s**. It was immediately clear that these were from the same domaine, but the vibrant fruit and silky texture is even more obvious in 2019 and the wines were wonderfully fresh. Benoît points out that the lack of rain before harvest which led to a small vintage also meant that the **tartaric acid** levels in the fruit were not diluted; a useful explanation to the conundrum of how wines from such a hot year can still be so fresh.

The result is wines which are very accessible now, but which have long ageing potential. We recommend buying the '19s en primeur and asking us if we have any of the 2018s left (not much) to drink while you wait (not long).

With mostly **premier cru** vineyards, Benoît has been working hard to emphasize freshness and minerality in his '**Clos des Grand Voyens**' (a **monopole**, owned solely by the domaine) and '**Les Nauges**'. 'Grand Voyens'

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is on a mixture of **clay** and **limestone** and shows both chalky-limestone character and a softer, more broad-shouldered style. Les Nauges 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. Both well **under £20 in bond per bottle**, they are the epitome of great value **burgundy**.

DOMAINE JEANNIN-NALTET, Mercurey

2019 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. 25-30% new oak. Dark fruit character on the nose, even some cassis notes, with lovely purity and intensity. Complexity and depth apparent. Lovely richness in the mouth with dark, almost Cote de Nuits fruit flavours. Ripe tannins and balanced acidity. After the immediacy of the entry it (surprisingly) shows a good level of elegance and finesse on the finish. RKL

£220 per dozen bottles in bond

2019 Mercurey 'Les Nauges' 1er Cru, Domaine Jeannin-Naltet

Very different nose, with added vegetal and almost farmyard notes. Similar if not more richness and intensity. Much more structured than previous with stronger tannic frame. Denser texture. Really good but this will need longer. RKL

£235 per dozen bottles in bond

The Maconnais



Winemaker Audrey Braccini at Ferret, in the heart of Fuissé

Domaine JA Ferret, *Fuissé*

A recent visit to **Domaine J. A. Ferret** in the village of **Fuissé** re-kindled our love of **Pouilly-Fuissé**. The great pleasure in these wines is in their rich, velvety texture, quite distinct from other regions but which is still uniquely Burgundian.

Ferret is a historic domaine and were pioneers in producing single vineyard wines which express the enormous variety of terroirs across Pouilly-Fuissé. Their 2019s are intense and opulent but with fresh citrus acidity and complex, underlying minerality.

This part of **Burgundy** sees warmer summers than the **Côte-d'Or** and the influence of sunshine is evident. Tasting on the same day as us in London, **Jancis Robinson**, remarks that the wines are "reminiscent of the old New World barrel-fermented Chardonnays" (of which she is generally a fan). This is not the kind of overblown, butterscotch and tropical fruit character which used to be found, for instance, in **Napa Chardonnay**. The palette of aromas and flavours is cooler and fresher, very much in the range of green orchard fruits, citrus and white stone fruits like peach, but all with wonderful intensity.

With such ripeness, the skill comes in retaining acidity and freshness. 2019 was particularly challenging for its reduction in yields, but as elsewhere, the lack of rain meant that the total acidity in the grapes was not diluted:

"(2019) gave us very good raw materials though not much of them!...the dehydrating effects of the intense summer heat, yields were only around 35 hl/ha...I was shocked to see that the average bunch weight was between 50 and 52 grams, which is obviously far less than the roughly 100 grams per bunch we typically obtain."

The wines have a delicious citrus energy. Jancis finds a "streak of lime fruit" in "**Les Perrières**", whilst burgundy expert **Allen Meadows** describes the wines as "racy, yet opulent" with discreet and nuanced oak influence. At just over **£36** on your table, the "**Clos des Prouges**" and "**Les Perrières**" are great value when compared to Côte-d'Or wines with similar weight on concentration. "**Les Perrières**" has just been awarded **premier cru** status (although this will not appear on labels until the 2020 vintage).

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Also soon to be rated premier cru, "**Les Ménétrières**" is described by Meadows as "succulent, rich and impressively scaled". We would be hard-pressed to think of many **white** burgundies which can offer such a combination of power and elegance.

DOMAINE JA FERRET

2019 Pouilly-Fuissé 'Clos de Prouges' Tête de Cru, Domaine J.A. Ferret

From a 2-hectare clos in the heart of Fuissé on soft limestone and marl soils. Most of the vines were planted in 1956. Fermented and aged for 10 months in 20% new oak, with a further 8 months in tank. Rich and showing lots of very ripe fruit concentration, as well as new oak and hazelnut aromas. A glycerin texture on the palate, more (well-integrated) new oak, lots of fresh character to the fruit and a delightful saline streak on the finish with excellent length. RKL

*"Very rich and opulent on the nose. Rather like old-fashioned barrel-fermented Chardonnay with a little spiciness. Great stuff so long as you like the style. A little tension on the end and no hurry to drink. 2020 - 2025. **16.5 points.**" Jancis Robinson, jancisrobinson.com Nov 2020*

*"An attractively fresh and bright nose is comprised by a variety of white fleshed fruit, orange peel and a more discreet floral hint. The lush and overtly opulent medium-bodied plus flavors are shaped by citrus-tinged acidity on the clean and dry finale. As is usually the case with this wine, it's a big and powerful though not especially refined PF. **89-92 points.**" Allen Meadows, Burghound, Dec 2020*

£170 per case of 6 bottles in bond

2019 Pouilly-Fuissé 'Les Perrières' Tête de Cru, Domaine J.A. Ferret

Les Perrières is just 1.15 hectares in size, located on the amphitheatre of vines which overlooks Fuissé. Vines planted in 1972-74. 20% new oak. Les Clos on a steep slope, with a dominant limestone subsoil. The Impressive minerality on the nose, less overt fruit than Clos des Prouges at first but the concentration becomes apparent on the palate, reminds me of Meursault from the 90s with its broad-shouldered richness and balancing minerality. RKL

*"A bit more reticent on the nose than the Clos des Prouges. Rich start and then a streak of lime fruit. More finesse than the Prouges but it deserves a bit more time. 2021 – 2026. **16.5 + points.**" Jancis Robinson, jancisrobinson.com Nov 2020*

*"An overtly floral nose features plenty of green apple and citrus components where the latter element is also very much present on the elegant and pure middle weight flavors that exude a bracing salinity on the bone dry and lingering finale where the only nit is a touch of warmth. Lovely. **90-92 points.**" Allen Meadows, Burghound, Dec 2020*

£195 per case of 6 bottles in bond

2019 Pouilly-Fuisse 'Hors Classe Les Ménétrières', Domaine J.A. Ferret

Les Ménétrières is a vineyard of just 0.8 hectares on the edge of Fuissé, with rich "Dogger Bank" limestone marl deposits running through it, producing the richest of the domaine's wines. Cask sample not yet tasted. RKL

*"Discreet though still easily perceptible wood frames the vaguely exotic aromas of white peach, passion fruit and acacia. The succulent, rich and impressively scaled full-bodied flavors coat the palate with dry extract on the very citrusy finish. This is powerful yet elegant. **90-92 points.**" Allen Meadows, Burghound, Dec 2020*

£220 per case of 6 bottles in bond