

RICHARD KIHLL LTD

Fine Wine Shippers & Brokers

— Est 1969 —

Burgundy 2021

En Primeur Offer



BURGUNDY 2021 EN PRIMEUR | A CLASSIC & TERROIR-DRIVEN VINTAGE

"What 2021 delivers, in the right hands of course, is a return to classicism, the produce of weather more often encountered in the 1970s and 1980s but with first-class plant material in the vineyards and infinitely more skill and ambition in the cellar..." Jancis Robinson, The FT

THE WEATHER

The 2021 burgundy vintage will be remembered for fresh, classic, terroir-driven wines, as much as for the terrible frosts which very nearly made this a 'lost' year. Burgundy is accustomed to spring frosts, but in recent years the vine growers have also become used to hot summers, leading to earlier pruning each winter. This can stimulate the vines to flower and fruit earlier, adding an extra few weeks to the ripening season...all-important in vintages like 2018 and '20, when the harvest had already begun in late August. However, it also means that the vines are at a more perilous stage if hard frosts strike early in the growing season.

In normal circumstances, a ground frost would not be too disastrous. Ground frosts are created by katabatic winds, moist air draining down the slopes and touching the freezing soil, condensing and freezing its water content. This has the greatest impact on the lower slopes and flats, where the generic vines are situated for making Bourgogne Rouge and Blanc. However, in 2021, the frost of 6th April described below was an 'air frost' or 'black frost' ('gel noir', so called because it kills vegetation, turning it black), which hung on the upper slopes where the premiers and grands crus sites are found.

Before they begin to unfurl the vine buds can withstand temperatures as low as - 6 °C. Devastatingly, following early pruning and a burst of warm weather in late March, the buds had begun to open. Air temperatures as low as -7 °C meant that not only were the buds themselves destroyed but the secondary buds which nestle beside them in the vine were also destroyed, ruining any chance of a secondary bud break, which is often the saviour of a frost year. The damage was compounded by even colder weather on the 7th April which left many vines covered in ice. As in 2016, the ice acted as a magnifying lens for the morning sun, effectively burning the buds beneath.

Then, in June, hail struck much of the region. July and August were cool and rather wet, hence there was pressure from mildew throughout. Vineyard teams worked throughout this period, spraying the vines and green-harvesting in order to reduce the impact. September began promisingly with dry, warm weather, but in the second week, rain and cold temperatures struck again. Whilst this forced some growers to pick, others waited and were rewarded with warm weather at the end of the month.

After three years of early harvests, 2021 saw a return to more traditional picking dates. According to the BIVB, the harvest began around 18 September but was still completed by early October, as the yields were so reduced. BIVB's President, Francois Labet, was quoted as saying that losses were between 30% and 50%, but much of this focused on the Côte de Beaune, where losses were more like 70%! Red grapes were less affected than whites from the earlier-budding Chardonnay, and Chablis in particular was also very badly affected. This year, instead of tasting 8-12 wines at each domaine, we were often offered just three or four,

in some cases just two. Other domaines showed no '21s at all and produced reserve stocks of their 2020s to taste.

THE WINES

"...the 2021 vintage is shockingly good in the context of an appalling growing season that pushed many to the brink, physically and mentally. In some ways, it defies explanation. But look closely at the season's minutiae; you see valid reasons why many clutched victory from the hands of defeat." Neal Martin, Vinous.com

Tasting the wines from cask at the domaines, we routinely heard figures for yields as low as 10-25 hl/ha (30-40 might more usually be hoped for). It turns out this was also the making of the vintage. When each vine produces such a tiny amount of fruit, the whole root system is focused on providing nutrients to just a few bunches, which can produce great concentration in the grapes. As a taster, you notice this on the palate as flavour concentration, rather than the physiological concentration found in fruit from hotter climates (which elevates alcohols and sugars). The relatively later harvest allowed fruit and mineral character time to develop even further. We noted this immediately at our first tasting of 2021 white wines in London, before going to Burgundy. The whites have a weightless feel, not big or heavy, but hanging on the palate for ages. They are also very representative of their terroirs, particularly the premiers crus.

It took some further tasting in burgundy to determine that we liked the reds as much as the whites. In general, the red wines struck us as beautifully balanced, with a lovely harmony between the tannins, alcohol and acidity. Like the whites, the reds display their terroirs beautifully, so much so that in some instances (tasting Meursault 'Les Genevrières' 1er Cru at Michelot, or Chambolle-Musigny 'Les Charmes' 1er Cru at Hudelot-Baillet, for example) it felt like meeting the terroir for the first time, even though we have tasted many previous vintages.

This pronounced terroir character has been enhanced by a judicious approach to winemaking. Several domaines told us they had held back on techniques like whole bunch fermentation (due to stalks being insufficiently ripe), pigeage and remontage. The use of new oak has also been reined back and we noticed more domaines are beginning to experiment with inert vessels like amphora and ceramic eggs for fermentation and élevage. After the 2018, '19 and '20 vintages, the '21s are less textured on the palate, but more than make up for this with their tension and focus.

THE CASE FOR 2021 BURGUNDY

Worldwide demand for top burgundy is unabated and UK merchants receive a disproportional share of the allocations, mostly for historical reasons. We are also the first market to offer the wines for sale, with the US, for instance, not offering the 2021s until later this summer. It's worth remembering these relative advantages when assessing pricing and availability.

Prices have risen for three main reasons: Firstly, in response to the size of the harvest, with most increases being far smaller than the reductions. If a domaine makes just 30% of its usual production, is it still good value if the price is 20% to 50% higher? In many cases the question will be academic as there will be no wine to be had, giving rise to the second reason for price increases, namely demand. This is less a factor for entry-level wines and more evi-

dent with grands crus and some top premiers crus sites, which are moving steadily upwards, no doubt influenced by the stellar prices commanded by the top dozen or so domaines. A third factor, more relevant for us mere mortals, in the price of materials, from corks, to bottles, to diesel for tractors and electricity in the winery, all of which have risen here as elsewhere across Europe. It was illuminating to hear, from several winemakers, how many of these manufactured materials were made in Ukraine and are now in short supply.

November's Liv-ex Market report points out that, for the first time in a while, the secondary market for burgundy has softened (a little). But the Liv-Ex Burgundy indices are driven by a handful of top domaines, whose village wines even command three of four figure sums per bottle. It seems likely to us that there is still plenty of room for good premiers crus from the best middle-tier producers to command higher prices. Adjusting to Chassagne or Chambolle premiers crus at retail prices of £100-plus per bottle seems a likely scenario to us.

With this in mind, we think it worth looking out for 2021s which release without big price increases (there will be a few). This vintage will be ready to drink quite early, but the wines will cellar for almost as long as the '20s, in some cases, so they will be an asset in your cellar. The generic wines and lesser village wines seem more appealing every year, so there is still great value to be had from names like Bacheys-Legros, Borgeot and Jeannin-Naltet excel in this area. As for the more sought-after premiers and grands crus, these seem likely to become like those rare Penny Blacks, scarce on the market in future years.

"These will be good, sometimes very good wines, and as long as price does not prohibit, I see no reason not to follow them without qualms....The whites in particular, though the reds too, are very clear reflections of their individual sites." Jasper Morris MW, Insideburgundy.com

Our 2021 offers may be missing certain wines, either because little to none has been made, or because they are offered on allocation to buyers of previous vintages. We loved tasting the wines from this vintage and think they will be superb in bottle. Cool in style, they capture some of the best attributes of 'classic' burgundy (which possibly means something different to each of us!) whilst having more modern qualities of precision and purity.

Stock currently lying ex-cellars in France, wines due to land in the UK by late 2023. 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

The Collet family have quietly been producing Chablis since 1792, but in the last few years, the family 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 2019 vintage.

Allocations for the 2021s are extremely limited. The good news is that these new releases receive excellent scores from Jasper Morris MW, with a *potential* 96 points for the Grand Cru 'Le Clos' (on allocation). As we have been saying of late, premier and grand cru Chablis offer amazing value for money when compared with the same appellations on the Côte d'Or, so do take advantage of these!

As Morris comments, the 2021 wines have a surprising fleshiness and volume to them, which is quite different from the ripeness in the previous two vintages. The style in '21 is more restrained, with ample room for minerality and expression of terroir. The premiers crus all promise to be ready to enjoy from 2024, with the grands crus following them just a year or so later.

Romain Collet 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. These attributes have been difficult to come by in recent years (in our experience, in many wines you find one but not the other). We were so pleased to find that the domaine has any wine to sell at all, given the severe reductions in harvest in '21.

DOMAINE JEAN COLLET ET FILS

2021 Chablis, Domaine Jean Collet & Fils

"The sample represents the main blend across 15 ha of vineyards. Pale lemon colour. The bouquet is much more classical than the Petit Chablis. Still a little gas to help the freshness which is there anyway, clean and crisp with some volume off fruit, some apples, and good length. Drink from 2024-2026. Tasted: June 2022. 87-88 points." Jasper Morris MW, Inside Burgundy

£145 per case of 12 (Limited availability)

2021 Chablis, 'Montmains' 1er Cru, Domaine Jean Collet & Fils

"An attractive, stones and lemon nose, clean and fresh, lightly reductive, with fair to good length. Representative of the vineyard, with just a little extra ripe perfume at the finish. Drink from 2024-2027. Tasted: June 2022. 89-91 points." Jasper Morris MW, Inside Burgundy

£120 per case of 6 (Very limited availability)

2021 Chablis, 'Les Forêts' 1er Cru, Domaine Jean Collet & Fils

"Being raised in eggs, not racked since malolactic. The colour has not yet fallen clear. Also on the richer yellow fruit side, with substantial volume on the palate and slightly greater length. Again, the ripe lemon skin approach. Drink from 2024-2027. Tasted: June 2022. 89-92 points." Jasper Morris MW, Inside Burgundy

£130 per case of 6 (Very limited availability)

2021 Chablis 'Vaillons' 1er Cru, Domaine Jean Collet & Fils

"Currently in foudre. Clear lemon yellow. The bouquet is both stylish and typical, stones with lemon zest. Riper and fuller than sometimes, with the disconcerting flesh of this vintage, yet with clarity and enough acidity to finish. Medium length. Drink from 2024-2027. Tasted: June 2022. 90-92 points." Jasper Morris MW, Inside Burgundy

£130 per case of 6 (Very limited availability)

2021 Chablis 'Montee de Tonnérre' 1er Cru, Domaine Jean Collet & Fils

"Sample taken from various barrels, not otherwise yet assembled. There is an oaky element but it works well with this terroir, in complement to the fruit. Quite a wealth on the palate, on the cusp between white and yellow, then a buttery oaky quality to finish – but absolutely not interfering with the fruit. Fine length. This will grow into itself very well. Not new wood. Drink from 2024-2028. Tasted: June 2022. 91-93 points." Jasper Morris MW, Inside Burgundy

£140 per case of 6 (Very limited availability)

2021 Chablis 'Secher' 1er Cru, Domaine Jean Collet & Fils

"Currently on its finings, to bottle in July. A light stony reduction, no that is the 20% new wood speaking, with 50% made in jars. Why the new wood on Séchet? Hard to understand because it has taken over the foreground completely. Salinity at the finish. If the fruit grows in between these two elements it will rate more. Drink from 2024-2027. Tasted: June 2022. 87-90 points." Jasper Morris MW, Inside Burgundy

£140 per case of 6 (Very limited availability)

2021 Chablis 'Valmur' Grand Cru, Domaine Jean Collet & Fils

"Still in barrel, to be racked and assembled at the harvest and bottled next spring. Fresh mid yellow colour. Here the oak shows in the form of coconut. Quite a block of flavour, then lactic notes from the barrel, behind which the fruit reasserts itself. Not yet all in harmony, but I think this will come together, such is the volume of fruit. Drink from 2025-2030. Tasted: June 2022. 91-94 points." Jasper Morris MW, Inside Burgundy

£255 per case of 6 (Very limited availability)

Côte de Nuits



Domaine Rossignol-Trapet, Gevrey-Chambertin

This is our favourite domaine in the Côte de Nuits and we are always in awe of the purity and classicism of the wines. 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.

It was a great pleasure to taste the 2021s here and the wines showed a return to the classicism of earlier vintages. Sadly, stocks are extremely tight and many of our allocations of higher-level wines have already sold to buyers in previous years, hence we offer just two wines, below.

DOMAINE ROSSIGNOL-TRAPET

2021 Gevrey Chambertin Vieilles Vignes, Domaine Rossignol-Trapet

"Tank sample. Mid crimson. Quite a complex nose. Sweet and polished. Still a little edgy but there is lots here, and not a silly price. Long. 16.5+ points." Jancis Robinson, Jancisrobinson.com, Dec '22

£240 per case of 6 (Limited availability)

2021 Gevrey-Chambertin 'Petite Chapelle' 1er Cru, Domaine Rossignol-Trapet

"Mid red, perhaps a touch more depth than Clos Prieur. Quite powerful fruit though a little sturdy, in a fresh raspberry style. Keeps going all the way through, but this is never a demonstrative terroir. Drink from 2026-2032. Tasted: November 2022. 91-93 points."

Jasper Morris MW, Inside Burgundy

£550 per case of 6 (Very limited availability)



Domaine Taupenot-Merme, Morey-St-Denis

We are delighted to be able to offer wines from one of Gevrey-Chambertin's hottest properties again this year. Romain Taupenot and his sister Virginie have propelled Domaine Taupenot-Merme into the first division over the last decade. Romain is a brilliant winemaker and a great communicator. His perspectives on the different terroirs he farms and on the vintage as a whole have become an invaluable part of each new en primeur campaign.

Although based in Morey, this 12-hectare 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. The critic's scores for the 2021s are broadly equal to those for the 2020 vintage and their tasting notes affirm that Romain's wines offer a purity and precision that matches some of the very top domaines in Burgundy.

DOMAINE TAUPENOT-MERME

2021 Chambolle-Musigny, Domaine Taupenot-Merme

"A more elegant if not more complex nose features notes of cool red currant, spice and a pretty floral wisp. The succulent, round and delicious medium weight flavors possess a refined mouthfeel thanks to the fine-grained tannins supporting the youthfully austere, saline, balanced and nicely persistent finale. Lovely and fashioned in an understated style. 89-91 points" Allen Meadows' Burghound

"...a fragrant bouquet, maybe without quite the same pixilation as the Morey-Saint-Denis. The palate is framed by edgy tannins, brambly red fruit, orange zest and a touch of black pepper, vibrant and energetic towards its tense finish. This will offer a lot of pleasure over the next decade. 89-91 points" Neal Martin, Vinous.com

£378 per case of 6 (Very limited availability)

2021 Gevrey-Chambertin, Domaine Taupenot-Merme

"...medium-bodied with a tangy opening, powdery in texture, a dash of white pepper and allspice towards the finish. Fine length. Promising. 88-90 points" Neal Martin, Vinous.com

"More crimson in colour, with a pretty red fruit, fresh strawberry with more precision than the rounder and softer Chambolle. Then a surprising wealth of fruit on the palate, with just the slightest vegetal touch at the finish, which the fruit should defeat. Drink from 2026-2029. Tasted: November 2022. 89-91 points" Jasper Morris MW, insideburgundy.com

"...elegant and cool with its combination of wild red cherry, sauvage and discreet spice whiffs. The precise and almost lilting middleweight flavors possess a lovely sense of tension while displaying fine length on the youthfully austere and balanced finale...89-91 points" Allen Meadows' Burghound

£348 per case of 6 (Very limited availability)

2021 Nuits St Georges 'Les Pruliers' 1er Cru, Domaine Taupenot-Merme

"There is a subtle floral influence on the slightly riper if somber earth-infused aromas of smoked meat and plum. The supple and sleek bigger-bodied flavors possess excellent mid-palate concentration, power and an overt muscularity before ending in an impressively complex, moderately austere and long finish. I particularly like the balance, and this should amply repay a decade plus of cellaring. 91-93 points" Allen Meadows' Burghound

"Fine mid purple. The nose shows an attractive degree of ripeness, dark fruit without being too plummy. Almost floral in a sense but mostly from fresh but ripe deep red fruit. Some white pepper behind, and a long gracious pure red fruit, fresh raspberries. Attractively persistent and quite distinguished. Drink from 2027-2034. 92-94 points" Jasper Morris MW, insideburgundy.com

£630 per case of 6 (Very limited availability)

2021 Gevrey-Chambertin 'Bel-Air' 1er Cru, Domaine Taupenot-Merme

"A cool and very restrained nose features essence of red pinot fruit, raspberry and subtle sauvage hints. There is notably good body and mid-palate concentration to the attractively mineral-infused flavors that possess firm tannins and very fine length on the moderately austere finale...90-92 points" Allen Meadows' Burghound

"A favourite spot for Romain, which he feels has really benefited from global warming (thus far). The colour is a relatively dense red purple, and the bouquet delivers an explosion of ripe fruit, raspberry and strawberry together, with energy. It certainly fills the mouth and while the fruit is fresh at the back, this wine has much less of the peppery aspect. Drink from 2027-2032. 91-94 points" Jasper Morris MW, insideburgundy.com

£732 per case of 6 (Very limited availability)

2021 Morey-Saint-Denis 'La Riotte' 1er Cru, Domaine Taupenot-Merme

"...perfumed with its notes of violet, red and dark berries if perhaps not quite as pretty and airy as the nose of the La Combe d'Orveau. There is fine mid-palate volume to the seductively textured, round and vibrant medium-bodied flavors that possess very good richness before culminating in a dusty, austere and sneaky long finish. This should benefit from a few years of keeping and then be approachable young if desired. 91-93 points" Allen Meadows' Burghound

"...a vivid and lively bouquet with effervescent red fruit laced with minerals. This positively leaps from the glass. The palate is medium bodied with fine tannins, a keen line of acidity, fresh and tensile with a bright, peppery finish with ample salinity to get the saliva flowing. An excellent La Riotte. 92-94 points" Neal Martin, [Vinous.com](http://vinous.com)

£648 per case of 6 (Very limited availability)

2021 Corton Rognets Grand Cru, Domaine Taupenot-Merme

"A deft application of wood sets off very fresh red and blue berry fruit aromas that evidence an intense earthiness. There is very fine intensity to the muscular broad-shouldered flavors that flash excellent power and an almost creamy mid-palate that contrasts markedly with the moderately, austere, beautifully long and mouth coating finish...should age effortlessly. 91-94 points" Allen Meadows' Burghound

"...a pretty, pastille-like red cherry and raspberry scented nose that just needs a little more amplitude. The palate is quite spicy on the entry and here there is much more delineation and finesse than the aromatics imply, very cohesive and well-knit on the finish. Excellent. 92-94 points" Neal Martin, [Vinous.com](http://vinous.com)

£1200 per case of 6 (Very limited availability)

2021 Charmes-Chambertin Grand Cru, Domaine Taupenot-Merme

"Rich, exuberant purple. A cheerful nose, flamboyantly perfumed which is as Charmes should be. I very much like the balance of this, which is all in red fruit, succulent strawberry and raspberry, good acidity, no feeling of excess heat. 14.1% but holds it without difficulty. 93-95 points" Jasper Morris MW, insideburgundy.com

"...medium-bodied with supple tannins, fine acidity, more expressive here in the mouth than on the nose with black pepper, bay leaf and clove towards the finish. Give this a few years in bottle and wait for the aromatics to blossom. 93-95 points" Neal Martin, vinous.com

£1440 per case of 6 (Very limited availability)

2021 Mazoyères-Chambertin Grand Cru, Domaine Taupenot-Merme

"A little more of a purple tint to the crimson colour. Almost a touch of tobacco in the nose, fresh not stale. Behind that, a depth of raspberry fruit, with unusual energy behind, definitely kicks on – now raspberry and strawberry mixed. A clean and persistent finish. Drink from 2028-2036. 93-96 points" Jasper Morris MW, insideburgundy.com

"...nicely detailed, mineral-rich with exquisite red and black fruit, the former more than the latter. The palate is effervescent and vivacious on the opening, with fine definition, Seville orange marmalade and a liberal sprinkling of black pepper and clove towards the satisfyingly long finish. This is a great success and it has the structure to repay cellaring. 95-97 points" Neal Martin, [Vinous.com](http://vinous.com)

£1680 per case of 6 (Very limited availability)



Domaine Drouhin-Laroze, Gevrey-Chambertin

Drouhin-Laroze is a 'blue-chip' domaine in Gevrey-Chambertin, with all the right credentials. We have been building-up our allocations here over the last few years and are regular visitors. With the small harvest in 2021, we offer just three wines this year, but they all capture the classic style of both the Côte-de-Nuits and Gevrey, and at an excellent price.

This is a small but exceptional family business. Over fifty percent of their vineyards are grand cru-rated. Considering the prices the top vineyard land commands in the region, domaines like this may become an anomaly in years to come, as they become targets for luxury brand owners to add to their portfolios. It's well-worth appreciating and collecting their wines while you can!

Happily, for the foreseeable, the family is very much hands-on. Nicolas Drouhin took over wine-making from his father Philippe a few years ago and was promptly named winemaker of the year. Together with his sister Caroline, they produce wines from four premiers crus and six grands cru. Their top wines routinely receive accolades from Neal Martin. They also produce wines under the 'Laroze de Drouhin' label, from fruit bought from friends in the area.

Although the style of the 2021 wines reflected the vintage, it was also very typical of Drouhin-Laroze, with plenty of dark fruit and a polished feel to the tannins. There is nothing rustic here and words like finesse, elegance and refinement crop up in our notes. Yields were as low as 30% of a usual harvest on some plots.

You may remember that we offered a parcel of 2016 Bourgogne Pinot Noir (from the domaine's library stock) earlier this year and the 2021 has lots in common with it, redolent of classic Côte de Nuits in its elegance. The two Gevrey lieux-dits are in a similar style and we were particularly impressed with the 'Dix Climats', as was Jasper Morris MW, awarding it an impressive 90-92 points, although the 'En Champs' will ultimately prove to be the finer wine, with some time in bottle. Both Gevrey's will be perfect to enjoy from around 2 years from landing, and over the following five years.

DOMAINE DROUHIN-LAROZE

2021 Bourgogne Côte d'Or Pinot Noir, Laroze de Drouhin

From vines in Morey and Chambolle. Very old school, classic red fruits, impressive intensity, matched by a classical structure, quite linear and with polished, refined tannins. It may be an entry-level wine, but it conveys the essence of Côte de Nuits elegance. RKL

£210 per case of 12 (Limited availability)

2021 Gevrey-Chambertin Village 'Dix Climats', Domaine Drouhin-Laroze

"15% whole bunch vinification. The colour is noticeably more robust than the preceding wines, as too is the bouquet, backed a little by new oak (30%) but showing a good intensity of robust raspberry fruit on the nose, which carries through across the palate. This has a good balance between fruit and structure. Drink from 2025-2030. 90-92 points." Jasper Morris MW

£240 per case of 6 (Limited availability)

2021 Gevrey-Chambertin Village 'En Champs', Domaine Drouhin-Laroze

"20% whole bunch vinification, 30% new wood. Volumes suffered from the hail. A fine mid purple colour. A little reduction on the nose. Now the pure red fruit starts to come out. A little more delicate than the 10 Climats, though perhaps a little more finesse instead. A good fruit-acid-tannin balance to finish. Drink from 2024-2029. Tasted: December 2022. 89-91 pts." Jasper Morris MW

£295 per case of 6 (Very limited availability)

Domaine Henri Magnien, Gevrey-Chambertin

Charles Magnien took over the family estate from his grandfather Henri and is rapidly making a name for himself. Based in Gevrey, the domaine has six hectares of vines spread across various village plots, most of which are blended, four Premier Crus and an excellent parcel of 0.4 hectares of the beautiful Grand Cru Ruchottes-Chambertin. Some vines are over 100 years old, although the estate's average is around 45-50 years.

The vineyards are moving ever closer to a fully organic approach with many organic treatments already being used. When the harvest is brought in, all the bunches are destemmed apart from just one cuvée. The extraction is very gentle, with little or no pigeage, favouring aromatic expression in the wines rather extraction. You will see from the scores that Jasper Morris awards, these are serious wines, competing with domaines at a far higher price.

2021 Aloxe-Corton 'La Coutière' 1er Cru, Domaine Henri Magnien

"20% whole bunch vinification, 30% new wood. Volumes suffered from the hail. A fine mid purple colour. A little reduction on the nose. Now the pure red fruit starts to come out. A little more delicate than the 10 Climats, though perhaps a little more finesse instead. A good fruit-acid-tannin balance to finish. Drink from 2024-2029. Tasted: December 2022. 89-91 pts." Jasper Morris MW

£330 per case of 6 (Very limited availability)

2021 Gevrey-Chambertin Vieilles Vignes, Domaine Henri Magnien

"40-100+ year old vines coming from the usual eight plots. A slightly darker fruit here, with raspberry and strawberry vying for supremacy. There is noticeably more depth, and suppleness of fruit compared to the regular wine, filling the mouth. There is a light toast from the barrel and a good point of acidity at the back to complete the picture. A fine, balanced and precise Gevrey. Drink from 2026-2030. Tasted: November 2022. 90-92 points." Jasper Morris MW

£330 per case of 6 (Sold out)

2021 Gevrey-Chambertin 'Lavaux-St-Jacques' 1er Cru, Domaine Henri Magnien

"40-100+ year old vines coming from the usual eight plots. A slightly darker fruit here, with raspberry and strawberry vying for supremacy. There is noticeably more depth, and suppleness of fruit compared to the regular wine, filling the mouth. There is a light toast from the barrel and a good point of acidity at the back to complete the picture. A fine, balanced and precise Gevrey. Drink from 2026-2030. Tasted: November 2022. 90-92 points." Jasper Morris MW

£516 per case of 6 (Very limited availability)

2021 Gevrey-Chambertin 'Les Cazetiers' 1er Cru, Domaine Henri Magnien

"A fine glowing fresh crimson purple colour. This is as ever the star of the cellar. It is a wine of perfect poise, with middling intensity, a high class fine ripe red fruit with occasional points of something closer to black, a saline touch which is the Cazetiers minerality expressing itself. Finishes on pure red fruit. A fine, subtle Cazetiers. Drink from 2027-2035. Tasted: November 2022. 92-95 points." Jasper Morris MW

£540 per case of 6 (Sold out)



Domaine Hudelot-Baillet, Chambolle-Musigny

We first met Dominique Le Guen in 2018, after being tipped off that he was a rising star of Chambolle-Musigny. Initially, we found him a bit intimidating; intense, and bursting with energy. He talks ten to the dozen in his heavily-accented Breton-French, always on two subjects: rugby and winemaking. As time goes by, we have realized he is in fact very affable!

This is a *good thing*, as in Burgundy, more than any other wine region, the personality of the winemaker tends to shine through in the wines. In Dominique's case, this expresses itself in equally intense, concentrated but highly enjoyable and likeable Bourgognes, Hautes Côtes-de-Nuits and some stupendously good Chambolle-Musignys.

This year, we also met Dominique's son, Tanguy, who works in the vineyards with him...so there was a great deal of talk about the importance of winter pruning dates to avoid frost damage. We didn't follow all of it...possibly something about two prunings, in January and March, 2-3 weeks later than usual, which delayed the opening of the buds. Whatever they did, it seems to have worked! The harvest was less badly hit by frost than elsewhere, though not untouched, with an average yield of 29hl/ha compared to 39hl/ha in 2019. Availability is nevertheless very limited, as we have had pre-orders from buyers of previous vintages.

Dominique's 2021s were a great pleasure to taste. Less extracted than the 2018, '19 and '20 vintages, this allowed the terroir to show through, something we really enjoyed. The Hautes Côtes-de-Nuits was a particular favourite, as were the Chambolle-Musigny 1er Cru 'Les Charmes' and 'Les Cras'.

Our notes are peppered with words like minerality, crushed rock, balanced, elegant, and classical. In case you think this means the wines lack concentration, they do not! We can't imagine Dominique ever bottling a wine that does not have plenty of depth and body. The 2021s still have the dark core of Côte de Nuits fruit we have come to expect from this domaine, but you will also find all kinds of mineral, soil-influenced complexity and nuance which we think you will love.

DOMAINE HUDELLOT-BAILLET

2021 Bourgogne Pinot Noir, Domaine Hudelot-Baillet

"The 2021 Bourgogne Rouge is quite floral on the nose like the Passetoutgrain, with good definition, raspberry and mulberry scents gaining intensity in the glass. The palate is medium-bodied with sappy red fruit and fine tannins. It puts on weight towards the bright finish. Lovely. 87-89 points" Neal Martin, Vinous.com

£195 per case of 12

2021 Bourgogne Hautes-Côtes de Nuits, Domaine Hudelot-Baillet

"The 2021 Bourgogne Hautes-Côtes de Nuits Rouge has a clean and quite pure bouquet, red plum and blackcurrant, again, quite floral at the moment. The palate is finely balanced with a bright, harmonious entry, very smooth with a touch of spice on the finish. This is rather excellent. 90-92 points" Neal Martin, Vinous.com

£220 per case of 12

2021 Chambolle-Musigny Vieilles Vignes, Domaine Hudelot-Baillet

"The 2021 Chambolle-Musigny Vieilles Vignes, tasted from a one-year-old barrel (there will 20% new in the final blend) has a tightly-knit bouquet with blackberry and raspberry fruit, quite elegant after three or four minutes of aeration. The palate is medium-bodied with a lovely, confit-like entry, very well balanced with a silky texture, hints of raspberry jam and white pepper on the finish. Beautifully defined from start to finish. Excellent. 92-94 points." Neal Martin, Vinous.com

£265 per case of 6 (Limited availability)

2021 Chambolle-Musigny 'Les Charmes' 1er cru, Domaine Hudelot-Baillet

"The 2021 Chambolle-Musigny Les Charmes 1er Cru has an expressive bouquet with black cherries, raspberry confit and light sous-bois aromas, becoming more opulent with aeration. The palate is sweet on the entry, rounded in texture with wild strawberry and raspberry, white pepper and thyme, harmonious on the finish, though not as complex as the Les Cras. 90-92 points" Neal Martin, Vinous.com

£370 per case of 6 (Very limited availability)

2021 Chambolle-Musigny 'Les Cras' 1er cru, Domaine Hudelot-Baillet

"The 2021 Chambolle-Musigny Les Cras 1er Cru has a lively black cherry, cassis and wild strawberry scented bouquet, more floral than the Les Charmes. The palate is generous on the entry with supple tannins, lightly spiced, slightly high-toned on the finish with a long black pepper and thyme tinged aftertaste. Excellent, but it will need some bottle age. 91-93 points" Neal Martin, Vinous.com

£410 per case of 6 (Very limited availability)

2021 Chambolle-Musigny 'Les Borniques' 1er cru, Domaine Hudelot-Baillet

Lovely aromas of fresh herbs, bouquet garni and mint, quite lean, with an austerity on the palate. A racehorse of a wine, linear and focused. Dominique says the exposition of this vineyard gives it its cool character: North-facing, with a little bump that affects the angle of the vines to the sun. The vines are also lateral (to the road) versus the perpendicular arrangement of Le Musigny, again tending to make it cooler. A brilliant wine in the making. RKL

£600 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.

Jadot's 2021 burgundies were the first we tasted from this tiny but excellent harvest and they set the tone for all our subsequent tastings of the vintage. From the first few wines we tried, we were enamoured both of Jadot and of the potential for the year, a view which has not changed after further tastings and time at the domaines.

You will see some prices have risen sharply, but there is still value to be had, with the less well-known appellations offering better quality than ever before. Recent vintages from villages like Marsannay, Pernand-Vergelesses and Savigny-Les Beaune, not to mention the vineyards around Beaune itself, are now surpassing the wines from a decade or two ago from some of the more famous locations. The wines from these less famous villages all performed brilliantly when we tasted the '21s.

Jadot's white wines really shone for us, with remarkable concentration, which we put down to the low yields, accompanied by beautiful balance. The reds have the weight and elegance of wines from vintages of two or three decades ago, but with all the purity and precision of fruit flavours we have come to expect from modern burgundy.

With yields in some cases reduced by 70%, quantities are extremely tight this year and, below, we offer just 23 wines (instead of the usual 40 or more), from Jadot's encyclopaedic selection.

MAISON LOUIS JADOT: Red wines

2021 Beaune 'Boucherottes' 1er Cru, Domaine des Héritiers Jadot

"Cask sample. Pale crimson. Medium-intensity well-knit nose. Very fine and with a really rather beautiful spine of ripe fruit and just the right corset to see it through as it ages. Pure and fine. **17 points.**" JancisRobinson.com (JR), Nov '22"

"The 2021 Beaune 1er Cru Les Boucherottes (Domaine des Héritiers Jadot) is fleshy and generous, offering up aromas of sweet strawberries and plummy fruit, followed by a medium-bodied, supple, round, open-knit palate. **89-91 points.**" WK, Wine Advocate, Jan '23

£210 per case of 6 (Very limited availability)

2021 Beaune 'Theurons' 1er Cru, Domaine Gagey, Louis Jadot

"Cask sample. Pale garnet. Slightly smudgy nose. Still quite cheny with fine tannins and marked but not excessive acidity. Needs time but should be a vigorous pleasurable drink eventually. **17 points.**" JancisRobinson.com (JR), Nov '22

"Notes of sweet raspberries, cherries and rose petals introduce the 2021 Beaune 1er Cru Les Theurons (Domaine Gagey), a medium-bodied, ample and fleshy wine that's delicate and fine-boned this year. **89-91 points.**" WK, Wine Advocate, Jan '23

£210 per case of 6 (Very limited availability)

2021 Beaune 'Clos des Ursules' 1er Cru, Domaine des Héritiers Jadot, Louis Jadot

"Aromas of sweet raspberries, cherries, licorice and spices preface the 2021 Beaune 1er Cru Clos des Ursules (Domaine des Héritiers Jadot), a medium to full-bodied, supple and seamless wine with good concentration and an elegant, complete profile. Along with the Cras, it's Jadot's finest Beaune cuvée this year. **91-93 points.**" WK, Wine Advocate, Jan '23

£330 per case of 6 (Very limited availability)

2021 Volnay 'Clos de la Barre' 1er Cru, Monopole, Louis Jadot

"Monopole. Cask sample. Pale garnet. Friendly and sweet on palate entry with good structure. Dry finish. It's all there to enjoy. Though it will never be a blockbuster ... thank goodness! Decent length. **16.5 points.**" JancisRobinson.com (JR), Nov '22

The 2021 Volnay 1er Cru Clos de la Barre Monopole (Maison Louis Jadot) is a soft, fleshy, medium to full-bodied wine redolent of raspberries, plums, spices and toasty oak. Giving and demonstrative, it will drink well young. **89-91 points.**"

£315 per case of 6 (Sold out)

2021 Marsannay 'Les Longeroies', Domaine Gagey, Louis Jadot

"Cask sample. Pale garnet. Warm, ripe nose. Sweet start and really very pleasing with sufficient acidity on the finish, even if relatively low in tannins. GV for early drinking? **16.5 points.**" JancisRobinson.com (JR), Nov '22

The 2021 Marsannay Les Longeroies (Domaine Louis Jadot) is excellent, reflecting its Clair-Daü patrimony. Offering up aromas of dark berries, spices, rose petals and licorice, it's medium-bodied, with a sweet core of fruit, supple tannins and a long, saline finish. **89-91+ points.**" WK, Wine Advocate, Jan '23

£130 per case of 6 (Very limited availability)

2021 Nuits-St-Georges 'Les Boudots' 1er Cru, Domaine Gagey, Louis Jadot

"Bursting with aromas of cherries, plums and wild berries mingled with hints of licorice and vine smoke, the 2021 Nuits-Saint-Georges 1er Cru Les Boudots (Domaine Gagey) is medium to full-bodied, soft, fleshy and round, with a rich, gourmand profile. **90-92 points.**" WK, Wine Advocate, Jan '23

£430 per case of 6 (Very limited availability)

2021 Chambolle-Musigny 'Les Fuées' 1er Cru, Domaine Gagey, Louis Jadot

"The 2021 Chambolle-Musigny 1er Cru Les Fuées (Domaine Louis Jadot) opens in the glass with aromas of sweet red berries, orange zest, rose petals and spices, followed by a medium to full-bodied, lively, concentrated palate that's taut and structured, concluding with a penetrating, mineral finish. **91-93 points.**" WK, Wine Advocate, Jan '23

£540 per case of 6 (Sold out)

2021 Chambertin Clos de Bèze Grand Cru, Louis Jadot

"Offering up aromas of rich cherries, berries and plums mingled with spices and orange zest, and framed by toasty new oak, the 2021 Chambertin Clos de Bèze Grand Cru (Domaine Louis Jadot) is full-bodied, layered and multidimensional, with a seamless, enveloping profile and melting structuring tannins. 93-95 points." WK, Wine Advocate, Jan '23

£1110 per case of 3 (Sold out)

2021 Bonnes Mares Grand Cru, Domaine Louis Jadot

"Aromas of red cherries, raspberries, raw cocoa, spices, rose petals and licorice preface the 2021 Bonnes-Mares Grand Cru (Domaine Louis Jadot), a medium to full-bodied, elegant and seamless wine that's deep, complex and perfumed. It's another one of the high points of the portfolio. 93-95 points." WK, Wine Advocate, Jan '23

£900 per case of 3 (Sold out)

2021 Musigny Grand Cru, Domaine Louis Jadot

"There are 350 liters of the 2021 Musigny Grand Cru (Domaine Louis Jadot), a medium to full-bodied, fleshy wine evocative of raspberries and plums mingled with orange rind, exotic spices and rose petals. Built around powdery tannins and lively acids, it concludes with a saline, perfumed finish. 92-94+ points." WK, Wine Advocate, Jan '23

£1750 per case of 3 (Sold out)

MAISON LOUIS JADOT: White wines

2021 Savigny-Les-Beaune 'Clos des Guettes' 1er cru, Louis Jadot

"Aromas of raspberries, cherries and sweet...a medium to full-bodied wine with a fleshy, charming attack, built around powdery tannins that assert themselves on the youthfully firm finish. 88-90 points." WK, Wine Advocate, Jan '23

£175 per case of 6 (Very limited availability)

2021 Pernand-Vergelesses 'Clos de la Croix de Pierre', Domaine Gagey, Louis Jadot

"A cuvée that has turned out especially well...medium to full-bodied, satiny and racy white evocative of peach, honeycomb and toasted nuts. Concluding with a saline finish, it's a strong performance in a challenging vintage. 89-91 points." WK, Wine Advocate, Jan '23

£160 per case of 6 (Very limited availability)

2021 Chassagne-Montrachet 'Abbaye de Morgeot' 1er Cru, Domaine Louis Jadot

"Cask sample. Quite rich initially on the nose and then backed up by fine acidity and structure. A very successful wine! Minerally and sineny and very impressively long. 17 points." JancisRobinson.com (JR), Nov '22

"...aromas of pear, freshly baked bread, clear honey and dried white flowers. Medium-bodied, ample and tangy, it was a little disjointed when I tasted it but will likely come together with further élevage. 89-91+ points." WK, Wine Advocate, Jan '23

£395 per case of 6 (Limited availability)

2021 Puligny-Montrachet 'La Garenne' 1er Cru, Domaine Louis Jadot

"Cask sample. Rather sweet and lean. Marked acidity and even slightly pinched. Herbal notes. Needs quite a bit of time. 16++ points." JancisRobinson.com (JR), Nov '22

"A strong effort...aromas of white currant, crisp orchard fruit and peach mingled with hints of beeswax and white flowers. Medium to full-bodied, ample and satiny, with racy acids and a saline finish, it's a lively, impressively complete white. 91-92 points." WK, Wine Advocate, Jan '23

£395 per case of 6 (Very limited availability)

2021 Puligny-Montrachet 'Les Folatières' 1er Cru, Louis Jadot

"From a site that was ravaged by frost, the 2021 Puligny-Montrachet 1er Cru Les Folatières (Domaine des Héritiers Jadot) reveals aromas of pear, orange zest and freshly baked bread, followed by a medium-bodied, taut and tangy palate that's firm and structured. 90-92 points." WK, Wine Advocate, Jan '23

£280 per case of 3 (Very limited availability)

2021 Meursault 'Les Charmes' 1er Cru, Domaine Gagey, Louis Jadot

"Cask sample. Very charming indeed. No shortage of weight or acidity. Dense and sweetly floral. But with some savour. Truly Meursault. Long. With excellent freshness. Quite a bit to chew on. 16.5+ points." JancisRobinson.com (JR), Nov '22

"The 2021 Meursault 1er Cru Charmes (Domaine Louis Jadot) reveals aromas of freshly baked bread, citrus oil, white flowers and mint. Medium to full-bodied, ample and satiny, with racy acids and an open-knit profile, it concludes with a moderately persistent finish. 89-91 points." JancisRobinson.com (JR), Nov '22

£405 per case of 6 (Very limited availability)

2021 Corton-Charlemagne, Grand Cru, Domaine des Héritiers Jadot

"Cask sample. Rather muted on the nose for a Corton-Charlemagne. No more exciting than the Chassagne Abbaye de Morgeot Premier Cru at the moment. Maybe it will grow in the bottle? 16.5+ points." JancisRobinson.com (JR), Nov '22

"Aromas of lime zest, freshly baked bread, pear, white flowers and wet stones preface the 2021 Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru (Domaine des Héritiers Jadot), a full-bodied, ample and satiny wine that's chalky and structured, with notable concentration, racy acids and a long, resonant finish. It's a very strong performance that transcends any of the vintage's limitations. 93-95+ points." WK, Wine Advocate, Jan '23

£585 per case of 3 (Very limited availability)



Domaine Joseph Voillot, Volnay

We first visited here in the late 1990s to taste the '96 vintage. Jean-Pierre Charlot took over from his father-in-law, Joseph Voillot, in the early '90s. He is a genial bear of man, a rugby fanatic whose stoutness and no-nonsense approach always seem 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. From 2016 he began training his nephew, Etienne Chaix, to take over and Etienne now runs the winery, albeit with Jean-Pierre still a presence.

The winery and cellar are 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. Voillot also owns vines in Meursault and Beaune.

In all the years we have known Domaine Voillot in Volnay, we have seen them experience some exceptionally small harvests due to the vagaries of the weather, but none more so than in 2021. Etienne told us his average yield was less than 10 hl/ha! However, he did offer an ironic perspective that no one else we spoke to in Burgundy mentioned: Had it not been for the frost, 2021 would probably have been just a rather rainy year and the wines would not have been as good as they are. In reducing the yields, the frost led to concentrated fruit with particularly elegant aromas and a more classical expression than we have seen here for some years, the

epitome of the Volnay-style.

Neil Martin's **87-88 points** awarded to the **2021 Volnay Vieilles Vignes** may seem modest, but in the currency of Vinous' burgundy scores, this rates it as 'Excellent'. More importantly, his tasting note is as enthusiastic as our own! We found the same sweet fruit, with a sense of volume on the palate, a perfect rendition of Volnay terroir, with the most perfect, elegant tannins and a fine balance.

The **Volnay 1er Cru 'Les Champans'** had an exceptionally fine, chalky palate and lovely acidity. Neil Martin's barrel score of **91-93 points** puts this firmly in the 'Outstanding' category.

Pommard 'Les Rugiens' 1er Cru offered darker, more earthy cherry, strawberry, chocolate and coffee aromas, followed by more chocolate and strawberry notes on the palate, all very finely delineated. The trickiest of Voillot's wines to taste from cask, we think this will improve radically in bottle and could well be the star of the line-up.

DOMAINE JOSEPH VOILLOT

2021 Volnay Vieilles Vignes, Domaine Joseph Voillot

*"The 2021 Volnay Vieilles Vignes is quite deep in colour. It offers dark berries, raspberry coulis and orange blossom on the nose, just a slight underlying reduction. The palate is medium-bodied with smooth tannins. It's tart in style, with black cherries, soy and white pepper, though it just misses a little ripeness on the finish. **87-88 points.**"* Neal Martin, Vinous.com

£210 per case of 6 (Limited availability)

2021 Volnay 1er Cru 'Les Champans', Domaine Joseph Voillot

*"The 2021 Volnay Les Champans 1er Cru has much more brightness and delineation than the Fremiets this year, with red cherries, wild strawberries and just a touch of iodine and sous-bois. This is nicely focused. The palate is medium-bodied with sappy red fruit, fine structure, pliant tannins and a harmonious finish. Not the most complex Champans encountered from this address, yet it has class. **91-93 points.**"* Neal Martin, Vinous.com

£365 per case of 6 (Very limited availability)

2021 Pommard 1er Cru 'Les Rugiens', Domaine Joseph Voillot

*"The 2021 Pommard Les Rugiens 1er Cru has a fiery nose at first, before calming down and delivering attractive raspberry coulis and cranberry scents. There is just a bit of volatility here. The palate is medium-bodied with supple tannins, the fleshiest of the Pommards from the estate, though the Pezerolles has more complexity and personality. **89-91 points.**"* Neal Martin, Vinous.com

£480 per case of 6 (Very limited availability)



Domaine Jean Pascal, Puligny-Montrachet

Domaine Jean Pascal's Bourgogne Blanc, Auxey-Duresses and Puligny-Montrachet 'Les Enseignères' offer some of the best quality-to-price of any of the burgundies we offer en primeur. Quite rightly, the wines all but sell out each year. With the **2021** vintage, you will need to be even quicker than usual.

The **chardonnay** vines of Puligny-Montrachet were among those hit hardest by frost in 2021 and the volumes at Jean Pascal were down by 50% relative to a normal year. When we visited, **Alexandra** was practically in hiding from the stream of longstanding French private clients who call at the domaine each year, scared to have to tell them that there is no wine for them to buy!

The 2021s tasted from cask showed the remarkably steady, consistent hand we have grown to love in previous vintages at this domaine. Whilst the style is distinct from recent vintages, we see no change in the level of quality. In general, the wines are more linear and focused than in **2019** and '**20**, a style completely in keeping with the domaine's terroirs.

The **2021 Bourgogne Côte d'Or** once again has the richness and intensity of a baby Puligny-Montrachet, whilst the Auxey-Duresses is, as usual, the most complete and compact white burgundy one could hope for. The Puligny 'Les Enseignères' will become a textbook exposition of this terroir with some age.

All three wines were in a reductive phase on the day we tasted them, suppressing some of the aromas (normal with cask samples) but the fruit purity and precision were unmistakable. We have no doubt the aromatic intensity will start to shine through after a few months in bottle. In fact, we think these are likely to be at their peak for drinking before the 2020s, so if you have any of the previous vintage in your cellar, we humbly suggest you *need* to order the '21s, to precede them!

DOMAINE JEAN PASCAL

2021 Bourgogne Cote d'Or Chardonnay, Jean Pascal

Bottled last week, hence a little closed on nose, with some flinty mineral aromas, very intense and fresh on palate, with lovely acidity and intense fruit concentration. A baby Puligny-Montrachet! Sadly volumes are down as elsewhere, so it will be scarce this year. RKL

£200 per case of 12 in bond (Limited availability)

2021 Auxey-Duresses Blanc, Jean Pascal

Just as intense and complete as ever, with little or no discernible step down in concentration, vv intense, with the oak influence balanced perfectly to the weight of fruit. Delivers a huge amount for the money. Minerality, complex white flower aromas, energy and richness all delivered here. RKL

£295 per case of 12

2021 Puligny-Montrachet 'Les Enseigneres', Jean Pascal

Saline, classy, intense, although muted on nose for now. Delicate stone fruits, great length, less broad than the village wine, but stands apart for its elegance and fine, intense palate. Smoky-mineral aromas, textbook terroir on display here. RKL

£275 per case of 6



Domaine Michelot, Meursault

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 meet Bernard in the late '90s, and to taste vintages going back to the 1950s with him. Winemaking under his grandson **Nicolas** is now more modern: less new oak, less batonage, 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 wine, very representative of the wines from this village.

The wines have evolved enormously over the last two decades. In all that time, we have never known the harvest to be hit so badly, with less than a quarter of the usual quantity of wine made in 2021.

Jean-François Mestre told us that the air frost, which affected the higher slopes worst, froze the vine wood, killing any secondary buds inside which might have produced a second flowering. According to the domaine's own records, this was history repeating itself, with the frost equalled only by one a hundred years earlier in 1921, which struck at almost exactly the same point in the year, out by just one day!

Michelot's excellent array of plots across Meursault means that, usually, sample after sample is poured as we taste through the cuvées. By contrast, this year, Jean-Francois stood over just five half bottles, handling them like precious artefacts...deservedly so, as the wines are fabulous! The Mestres are great bon viveurs and always talk about their wines in terms of what to eat with them. Jean-Francois commented that even though the 2021s are 'gourmand' wines, it is still a 'slimming vintage'...because there is hardly any of it!

Usually, we receive just a few cases of the excellent **Bourgogne Côte d'Or Blanc** and which we squirrel, but there is even less in the 2021 vintage, so it is offered here first-come, first-served. When we tasted it from cask it was powerful and concentrated (Jasper Morris calls it 'extroverted!') and exceptionally pure, setting the tone for the other wines.

We did not taste **Santenay 'Les Gravières' 1er Cru**, but can offer it with every confidence in this superb domaine. In recent vintages, this premier cru has offered a richness that equals Meursault. **Clos St Felix** was also not available, but we did taste **Les Grands Charrons** as a representative example of the lieux-dits, which had a very fine mineral nose, delicate and poised tangerine fruits and a classy, energetic saline finish.

As for the premiers crus 'Les Charmes' and 'Les Genevrières', these were among the best we have tasted from this domaine, as you will see from our notes below and also Jasper Morris MW's excellent score for 'Les Charmes' (**92-95 points**), which potentially sees it equal some of the top-rated premiers crus in Burgundy. In a normal vintage 18 barrels of 'Les Genevrières' would be, but this vintage yielded under three! The scarcity of Michelot's 2021s is matched by their outstanding quality and we suggest you snap these wines up whilst you can.

DOMAINE MICHELOT

2021 Bourgogne Côte d'Or Blanc, Domaine Michelot

"From below Meursault. Clear pale colour. Rather a pretty extrovert nose, good acidity, lemon and orange notes on the palate. Medium bodied with similar persistence. A good sound wine. Drink from 2023-2025. Tasted: October 2022. 86-87 points" Jasper Morris MW, insideburgundy.com

£220 per case of 12 (Very limited availability)

2021 Santenay Blanc 'Les Gravières' 1er Cru, Domaine Michelot

No tasting note available

£230 per case of 6 (Very limited availability)

2021 Meursault 'Clos Saint Félix', Domaine Michelot

"Another pure pale lemon colour. A racy bouquet more similar to the Puligny than the blended Meursault. More depth of white fruit, less on the apples. A little bit of mango and mandarin. Quite a long finish Drink from 2025-2028. 88-90 points." Jasper Morris MW, Inside Burgundy

£290 per case of 6 (Very limited availability)

2021 Meursault 'Les Charmes' 1er Cru, Domaine Michelot

Usually more floral, but this has a richness (Jean-Francois calls it 'gras'; he expected the wine to be strict and linear but apart from a saline character, this has great length and some richness. Aniseed, fennel and licorice...the most impressive Charmes I have tasted. 2021 is a vintage which is both expressive of terroir, but also atypical. Aniseed, fennel and licorice in lots of the white wines, noticeable here. RKL

"Clear pale colour. The nose is the cleanest and the most classic, with more fruit evident from the start. One younger plot lower down was nearly a full crop. This has a beginning, a middle and an end, not the plumpest Charmes of your life, but much the style of wine which Nicolas wants to make and is capable of. Lots of detail here too, nuanced from its varied elevation. Lovely crunch to it, very good. Drink from 2026-2031. 92-95 points." Jasper Morris MW, Inside Burgundy

£420 per case of 6 (Very limited availability)

2021 Meursault 'Les Genevrières' 1er Cru, Domaine Michelot

18 barrels are made in a normal year, but just 2-3 this year! Beautiful minerality. Aniseed aromas on the nose. Concentrated and with mineral edge. We have compared this vineyard to grand cru quality in the past and that holds true again this year. RKL

£460 per case of 6 (Very limited availability)



Domaine Antoine Jobard, Meursault

Jobard has been a respected name in the village since 1860, but since Antoine took over the 4.8 ha domaine in 2007 this has become one of the most exciting names in Meursault.

Like his neighbours the Mestres, at Michelot, Antoine has moved his domaine in the direction of leaner, more balanced wines, with less new oak influence and more emphasis on minerality and saline freshness.

One way in which Jobard differs in approach from Michelot is his recent decision to blend all of his Meursault lieux-dits into a single village wine, in the pursuit of a definitive expression of the name. We did not visit this year, so offer the wines blind, with every confidence.

DOMAINE ANTOINE JOBARD

2021 Bourgogne Blanc, Domaine Antoine Jobard

"Pale colour with a pretty bouquet of no particular emphasis. Then much more depth than expected, with fresh citrus following on from white stone fruit. Racy finish. Good. Drink from 2024-2026. 86-87 points." Morris MW

£165 per case of 6 (Very limited availability)

2021 Meursault, Domaine Antoine Jobard

"Clear pale lemon yellow. Some bitter apple fruit on the nose. It felt at first as though this blended Meursault was going to be mean and lean but there is really a lot more to it on the palate, still predominantly apple in flavour. Some citrus too at the finish. A lot of potential here. Drink from 2026-2029. Tasted: November 2022. 89-92 points." Jasper Morris MW

£380 per case of 6 (Very limited availability)

2021 St Aubin 1er Cru 'Sur le Sentier du Clou', Domaine Antoine Jobard

"Pale lemon colour, greengage and verbena nose, plenty of intensity here, the return of the lemons, medium bodied, attractively balanced. Good persistence. Drink from 2025-2028. Tasted: November 2022. 89-91 points." Jasper Morris MW

£380 per case of 6 (Very limited availability)

2021 Meursault-Blagny 1er Cru, Domaine Antoine Jobard

"5 barrels in half a hectare, actually a good result for Blagny in 2021, mostly from the more backward older vines. Lemon and lime colour, quite austere, a minor reduction, but a suggestion of good fruit to follow. Tension and density, lemon and plummy notes, ripe green-gage. Fair follow through. Drink from 2026-2030. Tasted: November 2022. 90-92 points." Jasper Morris MW

£680 per case of 6 (Very limited availability)



Domaine Bachey-Legros, Santenay

Among the blue-chip domaines of the more 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). Today, it still has the air of a work in progress, with the unrestored stone buildings pressed into service at what is clearly a growing business.

Like many domaines, Bachey-Legros was badly hit by frost in April 2021, with an overall reduction of 50% on a normal harvest, white wines being hit hardest and some, like Santenay 'Gravieres' producing just 10% of a normal yield! Allocations are limited this year as a result, so if you would like to buy some, en primeur may be your only opportunity to do so.

One of the keys to quality here is vine age. The vines in Clos Rousseau 'Les Fourneaux' 1er Cru were planted in 1914 and even the humble lieu-dit 'Clos des Hâtes' dates back to 1935. Strangely, 'Vieilles Vignes' is an unregulated term on French wine labels and some producers use it for vines as young as 20 years old, a world away from Sam and Lénaïc's 80 and 100 year-old vines. The average at the domaine is 50 years. Even the uninitiated would spot these in a vineyard; small, gnarly stumps of great thickness, which yield around half the crop of more vigorous young vines.

Old vine berries tend to be small, thick-skinned, and highly concentrated. This was apparent in

the 2021s, particularly the reds, which had plenty of smoky, dark fruit, whilst still being true to the balanced, terroir-driven style of the vintage, with great elegance in the 1er Cru-level wines.

We tasted a wide range of the various cuvées here, but not all of the wines allocated to us, hence some are offered without notes, below, with every confidence. Prices show modest rises, but still offer amazing value!

DOMAINE BACHEY-LEGROS: White wines

2021 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, with strong limestone-influence to the soil. 20-25% new oak. RKL

£130 per case of 6 (Sold out)

2021 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 vineyard is planted with 3% of a chardonnay clone which gives a rich style with almost Muscat-like aromas. The finished 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. Balanced citrus and yuzu fruit on the nose, lovely fresh acidity balancing the concentration, some white flowers, tangerines on the palate. Quite different to the tropical notes and glycerine-texture from some recent vintages of Gravières. Good energy. RKL

£160 per case of 6 (Very limited availability)

2021 Chassagne-Montrachet, Domaine Bachey-Legros

Not tasted

£210 per case of 6

2021 Chassagne-Montrachet 'Morgeot' Les Petits Clos Vieilles Vignes 1er Cru, Domaine Bachey-Legros

Vines planted in 1950-51. 'Morgeot' is a very large premier cru and contains several other smaller premiers crus, of which 'Les Petits Clos' is one. Morgeot wines are often blended from parcels across the vineyard, but this is from a single plot of 2 hectares. Facing south-east, the soils here have lots of white clay and limestone. White fruits on the nose, some peach, smoky citrus, more stone fruits and ginger on the palate. Excellent length. As per the previous vintage, there is something instantly likeable about this wine, all of its complex layers are immediately accessible. RKL

£295 per case of 6 (Very limited availability)

2021 Meursault 'Les Grand Charrons', Domaine Bachey-Legros

Not tasted.

£280 per case of 6 (Very limited availability)

DOMAINE BACHEY-LEGROS: Red wines

2021 Santenay Rouge 'Clos des Hâtes' Vieilles Vignes, Domaine Bachey-Legros

From one of the domaine's oldest plots, the vines were planted in 1935, 2 hectares in one parcel, described by Sam as the best of all of the Santenay Villages plots. Smoky black fruit, awesome nose with lovely freshness and a nice edge to the acidity on the palate, the most balanced expression of this wine I have tasted. Lovely deep strawberry and raspberry fruits on the palate, retaining the fresh impression, despite the concentration. RKL

£220 per case of 12 (Very limited availability)

2021 Santenay Rouge 'Clos Rousseau' Vieilles Vignes 1er Cru, Domaine Bachey-Legros

The 'Clos Rousseau' is from three parcels of old vines; Les Fourneaux, planted in 1914, Le Grand Clos Rousseau (1980), and Le Petit Clos Rousseau (1955). Not tasted. RKL

£150 per case of 6 (Very limited availability)

2021 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. Tasted directly from tank, hence the nose is more restrained than the previous wine. Open, ripe, expressive, succulent redcurrant fruit, fine tannins. There is an elegance and perfume to the fruit and an earthiness to the palate which marks this out as a Chassagne rouge. Good potential for cellaring too. RKL

£160 per case of 6 (Very limited availability)

2021 Chassagne-Montrachet 'Les Plantes Momières' 1er Cru, Domaine Bachey-Legros

Vines planted in 1914.

The 2021 Chassagne Rouge is very different to previous, hotter vintages, translucent in colour (very classical in appearance for this appellation). Leaner, more earthy and with beetroot flavours on the palate. RKL

£140 per case of 6 (Very limited availability)



Domaine P&L Borgeot

Domaine Borgeot, Remigny

Laurent and Pascal Borgeot lived up to their reputation of being the hardest-working growers in Burgundy when we visited this year. Laurent managed simultaneously to pour his 2021s for us whilst intermittently nipping outside to unload a lorry full of bottles. There are no frills when visiting this domaine...it's as if they save every ounce of charm to go into the wines themselves. We always come away smiling as a result and this year was no exception.

As elsewhere, the white wine volumes were hardest hit by the frost damage, with just 3 barrels of Chassagne-Montrachet Vieilles Vignes in 2021, compared with 25 barrels in a normal year! The 1er Cru Clos St Jean, even more restricted than usual (and offered on allocation) stands out for value amongst the other 1er Cru whites we will be offering this year. Clos de la Carbonade was also reduced by a third. As we have come to expect, all three wines were superb, but with quantities so reduced, en primeur will likely be your only chance to secure some this year.

The Borgeot's humble Bourgogne Rouge is from 3 parcels of vines in Santenay, also star in its own right. The 2021 is a different rendition of this wine to the recent 2018, '19 and '20 vintages, but no less likeable, with quite a classical, elegant style. The Santenay Vieilles Vignes is a worthwhile step-up, with a distinctive, earthy nose of beetroot, dark fruit, firm, structured tannins and a dark, spicy cherry core.

DOMAINE P&L BORGEOT: White wines

2021 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. Very delicate nose, no new oak, just 1-5 yr old barrels; lovely iodine aroma, really superb, energetic. Flinty-smoky. RKL

£165 per case of 12 (Limited availability)

2021 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 élevage is in up to 25% new oak, which is very much in the background, with the pithy texture and 'cisé' (chiselled) fruit giving this wine its fresh but structured character. In 2021 the new oak has been trimmed to 20%, in 1-5 yo barrels, generally they put some into tank, but not enough was made this year, so everything is in barrel. Fresh aromas of white flowers. Delicate nose, growing in intensity on palate. RKL

£280 per case of 6 (Limited availability)

2021 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. The 2021 is more closed on the nose than the village wine, but shows very fine poised floral aromas. The balance here is impressive, as is the purity of pure fruit. The value offered by this wine is even more apparent in context of the price rises for 1er Cru whites from other domaines. RKL

£340 per case of 6 (Limited availability)

DOMAINE P&L BORGEOT: Red wines

2021 Bourgogne Pinot Noir, Domaine P&L Borgeot

Equally appealing as whites but in a less intense fashion, offering gentle softness; not the dark fruits of 18/19/20, but with lovely balance, finesse and classicism; sweet succulent red fruits (sweeties/strawberry/raspberry) on the finish. A long luscious core. Vv good. RKL

£165 per case of 12

2021 Santenay Rouges Vieilles Vignes, Domaine P&L Borgeot

Earthier on the nose, muted but has that savoury complexity with aromas of beetroot; nothing jarring, firm tannins, structure. The tannins linger on palate, as does the dark, spicy cherry core. Once again, one of the most serious, grown-up red burgundies available for the money. RKL

£220 per case of 12

Côte Chalonnaise



Domaine Jeannin-Naltet, Mercurey

The dense, dark-fruited Mercurey's of Domaine Jeannin-Naltet are the epitome of modern, good-value red burgundy. For around £30 per bottle including taxes, the wines will give you lots to smile about when they arrive later this year!

At the helm at his family domaine for ten years, Benoît Eschard is now rightly but quietly confident in the quality of his wines, which was apparent when he showed us cask samples of the 2021 'Clos des Grand Voyens' and 'Les Nauges'.

He told us that even when the wines were fermenting he was unsure of the result, so he was very happy indeed when he found that they have lovely, classical balance, fine aromatics and elegance. The key for him is approaching each vintage afresh and adapting the winemaking accordingly, an approach which he summed-up with an aphorism which roughly translates: *"If a wine-maker says before the vintage, 'I know how to do it', this is the beginning of the end!"*

50% of the total harvest was lost to frost, but this statistic only tells part of the story, as Benoît's vines are already very low-yielding. Most of his domaine is rated 1er Cru, with the vines on the higher slopes, hit hardest by frost. Happily, as elsewhere, the reduction in quantity did result in concentration in the remaining fruit, which accounts for the success here.

Benoît's 4.9ha monopole vineyard 'Clos des Grands Voyens' is usually the more forward and accessible wine and this was true for the 2021. The 1er Cru 'Les Nauges', Benoît's personal favourite, was more closed, showing the influence of limestone on this site, but the aromas were precise and pure, with lots of promise. Both wines should be approachable quite early and Benoît even suggests drinking the 2021s before the 2020s (although the '21s will also age well).

DOMAINE JEANNIN-NALTET

2021 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. Benoît 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

£270 per case of 12

2021 Mercurey 'Les Naugues' 1er Cru, Domaine Jeannin-Naltet

Les Nauges (pronounce, 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. Quite a precise nose, relatively closed; good purity, with limestone-influenced acidity, chalky tannins, nice and taut, not too much of anything; some smoky character on palate, autumnal notes, good persistence on palate. RKL

£285 per case of 12

The Maconnais



Domaine JA Ferret, Fuissé

Pouilly-Fuissé from Domaine JA Ferret, a historic domaine that pioneered single-vineyard wines in the region. As an illustration of the tiny size of the harvest in '21, we offer just one of their cuvées this year, their Clos des Prouges.

The production of Clos des Prouges in 2021 was just 8 barrels, instead of their usual figure of 24 or 26, a 60% reduction! Even in bumper years, Ferret restrict their yields to 35 hl/ha, but in 2021 they achieved just 10-15 hl/ha. The legal limit for the appellation is 50 hl/ha! Hence, our allocation of this wine represents a sizeable chunk of what is available in the UK.

The good news is that the quality is superb and the wine is simply lovely. As soon as we tasted the first few white burgundies from Ferret and Jadot in London recently, we were in a very happy place, with the wines showing beautiful balance; taut, intense, and strikingly classical, reminding us of the better vintages from the 1980s.

The Clos des Prouges is right at the heart of the village of Fuissé and Ferret is one of the appellation's blue chip domaines. They have made a stonking wine in 2021 which will prove to be very good value compared with similar white wine styles from Meursault and Chassagne, so we recommend nabbing some while you have the chance.

DOMAINE J.A. FERRET

2021 Pouilly-Fuissé 'Clos de Prouges' 1er Cru, Domaine J.A. Ferret

"A cool, airy and elegant nose reflects notes of white fleshed fruit, spice and mineral reduction that are trimmed in more discreet wood influence. The rich and nicely concentrated medium weight flavors also possess a highly attractive mouthfeel that carries over to the very dry finish that is both more complex and a bit more persistent as well. 2027+. 91-93 points" Allen Meadows' Burgbound

£220 per case of 6 (Limited availability)

Notes
