



HOUSE OF TOWNEND

FAMILY WINE MERCHANTS SINCE 1906

**BURGUNDY
2018**

EN PRIMEUR



BURGUNDY 2018

On Sunday 3rd November, I left home before sunrise to start the long trek down to Beaune. As I crossed the Humber Bridge, an eerie mist enveloped the impressive structure and the temperature was low – winter had arrived. After meeting up with my colleague, Neil Goldie, we took the Channel Tunnel crossing. Our annual trip to the Côte d'Or was underway and we were looking forward to forming our own opinions of the 2018 vintage.

In recent years we have experienced many a glum face as we moved from one cellar to another on our annual Burgundy buying trip to taste the new vintage. We tasted some magnificent wines, some of the finest Pinot Noir and Chardonnay that can ever pass your lips, but the weather Gods were playing havoc, resulting in a succession of small vintages. The situation became so desperate in 2016 that a number of small growers were facing financial ruin.

Thankfully the 2017 vintage was plentiful and 2018 even better still. The smiles have returned, although Etienne Grivot (Vosne-Romanée) was quick to point out that the 2019 vintage sees a return to paltry yields – but that is a problem for next year.

There is a more in depth analysis of the vintage further on in this report, with tasting notes for all the wines that we tasted, along with grower and vineyard information. In essence though, 2018 is very much a vintage where the expression of fruit comes to the fore. It shows a beautiful expression of Pinot Noir and Chardonnay, but also allows the individual appellation to show its true character, which is often not the case in hot vintages. Those domaines that enjoy a greater share of old vines have performed particularly well, the deep roots finding nourishment and water during the long hot summer.

Demand for Burgundy seems to be insatiable. It is unlike any other wine producing region. Each domaine may own small holdings in a number of villages, but often they only produce a few barrels of each wine. It is for this reason that it is so difficult to find bottles from the top growers when the wines are ready for drinking. Buying En Primeur is arguably far more important with Burgundy than Bordeaux, where quantities produced are so much higher. We pride ourselves on our strong and lasting relations with some of Burgundy's greatest wine producers, and are delighted to have been selected as Burgundy Specialist of the Year 2019 Runner Up at the 2019 Decanter Awards.

I look forward to seeing you at our Burgundy En Primeur tasting on Monday 10th February in the Cellar Door at our HQ in Melton. It is a great opportunity to taste barrel samples of the wines we have bought, before they are bottled, when they will go into a slumber as they develop over the years to come.

- John Charles Townend



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2018 – THE GROWING SEASON

For the second vintage in succession the Burgundians have been able to enjoy a bountiful vintage. It is a massive relief, especially for growers in the villages of Savigny and Volnay who have suffered terribly in recent years. If it wasn't frost, it was hail, and if it wasn't hail it was even more hail! The five vintages previous to 2017 were very difficult, even though the small yields produced some spectacular wines.

The winter months in the Burgundy region were very wet, enabling the soil to soak in the water and replenish the water table after the previous hot summer. 500mm of rain fell between October and March, the highest in 25 years. There was also an 8-10 day period of sub zero temperatures which cleansed the vineyards. It was a good winter. The rains continued into March but the temperatures were now warm which stimulated early vine development and it wasn't long before they were advanced in the vegetative cycle. The warm weather continued into April but a cold snap at the end of the month slowed down the vine growth.

The flowering started at the end of May in the Côte de Beaune and early June in the Côte de Nuits, aided by the brisk winds which maintained good sanitary conditions. After the 15th June it continued to be hot and dry through the summer months. Unlike previous years there were no hailstorms to damage the abundance of grapes on the vines. Indeed, the top growers carried out a strict green harvest to ensure that volumes were kept under control.

The last summer rains were on August 7th. A blessing of the summer of 2018 were the cool evenings, especially in late August and early September, which helped to preserve the acidities in the grapes. This was also the case in 2017.

Another important feature was the lack of hydric stress in the vineyards, largely due to the abundant rainfall of the previous winter. More and more growers have also changed their canopy management in recent years to protect the grapes from the burning sun.

Crucial to the 2018 growing season was the incredible level of light produced over the summer months. Some 30% higher than usual. Remember it is light not heat that ripens the grapes. The Pinot Noir absorbs the light at a rate of five times more than the Chardonnay grape, hence the incredible maturity and richness of the red wines this vintage. Olivier Lamy commented, "I could taste the light in the grapes this vintage".

Key to the quality of wines produced was when the growers decided to pick. There was no uniformity here, so we needed to select very carefully, probing each grower and assessing every appellation.

Once the harvest started it was a race against time. The picking in the Côte de Beaune usually starts one week later than in the Côte de Nuits, and by the 25th August many Beaune producers were under way. The potential alcohols were rising incredibly fast, at a rate of 1-1.5 degrees in a week. It was important to pick as soon as the phenolic ripeness had been achieved and as fast as possible. One or two days made the difference.



2018 – THE GROWING SEASON

The quality of grapes entering the winery was excellent, in perfect sanitary condition. Fabrice Amiot (Chassagne-Montrachet) said the grapes were “super clean” and only a very mild sorting was required.

A plentiful harvest of ripe and clean grapes. The harvest was barely in the winery and the Bourguignons of the Côte d’Or were clicking their heels!

After a week in the Côte d’Or, where we visited over twenty domaines, we returned to the UK via Chablis to see how our long established growers in the northernmost region of Burgundy had fared.

Here we found a similar story. Following a very wet winter, the soils were moist and well prepared for the growing season ahead. Summer was very dry with very little rain and the sugars were high when the grapes entered the wineries.

In this respect the 2018 vintage was more difficult compared to a more classical Chablis vintage, as it was harder to complete the fermentation. Acidities are lower than usual and so there is no need to wait for the usual screeching acidity to settle down. This is a great time to buy Chablis En Primeur as you can make a great saving and you don’t have to wait long before you can start drinking them.

It is vintages such as 2018 when the 1er Cru vineyards on the left bank come into their own. They face less exposure to the sun and the acidities are better preserved. A little tip – Chablis 1er Cru Côte de Léchet, Domaine Daniel Dampt!



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2018 – THE WINES

So, how do we assess the 2018 vintage? As well as making our own judgements, it is interesting and indeed important to listen to the views of those who lovingly tend their vines, producing the very best fruit they can, regardless of what Mother Nature throws at them.

Fabrice Amiot (Chassagne-Montrachet) was clear in his own mind when he said “the people will go wild for the 2018 vintage. It is so beautiful and immediate. It is just orgasmic!”

Nathalie Tollot (Chorey-Les-Beaune) looked a little perplexed as she observed “I am surprised that the acidity is so good. It is difficult to know how we kept the freshness...” as she likened it to the 1947 vintage. (A little before my time!)

Frédéric Lafarge (Volnay) commented that it was an excellent vintage for biodynamic producers such as himself. “It was an easy vintage, a vintage of great richness, freshness and equilibrium.”

From our tastings, it is evident that 2018 is very much a vintage that expresses the characteristics of the Pinot Noir and Chardonnay grapes, as opposed to terroir. Given it was such a hot vintage you may expect the wines to be rather homogenous. That said, the characteristics of the individual appellation do show through well, particularly at the top domaines. It was a vintage where those who are fortunate to have a large proportion of ‘vieilles vignes’ in their vineyards performed particularly well. The wines are moreish and succulent, offering an immediate pleasure. They are so beautifully balanced, maybe they will never close down in bottle. You will be able to enjoy the white wines with almost immediate effect.

We’ve never had a vintage like this before so we don’t know how they will develop. They have a similar profile to 2005 and more particularly 2009 and 2015 – rich, ripe and opulent, with lower tannin structures to 2017. It is fair to say that there is a touch of the ‘New World’ about the 2018 vintage.

The white wines are rich and exotic, fleshy with soft acidities. Olivier Lamy (Saint-Aubin) has produced sensational wines with a beautiful salinity – they will be highly sought after as usual.

The red wines are deeply coloured, dense with complex aromas of ripe blackberries. Bold, rich and opulent, they are voluptuous with delicious velvety textures and super soft tannins. There is also a surprising freshness and tension which provides great balance.

If it were a popularity contest – step forward 2018!

Stand out appellations? In such a lovely ripe vintage there are some absolutely delicious Bourgogne Chardonnay and Pinot Noirs that will offer super drinking from day one! Further up the scale we were also very impressed with Saint-Aubin, Volnay, Aloxe-Corton and Vosne-Romanée.



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CHABLIS

DOMAINE TESTUT

We have worked closely with Cyril Testut for many years now. Quiet, considered and deeply passionate about his 13ha domaine, he is the proprietor of one of the real jewels of the Chablis region that sits in the top echelons of the Chablis hierarchy.

His Chablis vineyards are perfectly situated - squeezed between the Grand Cru Blanchot and the 1er Cru of Montée de Tonnerre. It is arguably the finest Chablis AC vineyard in the region.

The small parcel of the famous Grand Cru Grenouilles returned to the Testut family only a few years ago. Back in 1970's the vineyards were leased, due to internal family squabbles, and were held by William Fèvre for 30 years. It is now back in the hands of one of Chablis' finest domaines.

We were astonished by the perfect balance of Cyril's wines from the 2018 vintage. Despite the hot conditions, he has produced stunning wines that hold true to the steely, classic style of this region. "Bravo Cyril!"

"You work the same way every year but you get a different personality." – Cyril Testut on the wonders of vintage variation.



Cyril Testut



CHABLIS

DOMAINE TESTUT

Chablis Vieilles Vignes

£105.00 per case IB

Cyril Testut is fortunate with the location of his Chablis vines. They are perfectly positioned between the Grand Cru Blanchot and the Premier Cru Montée de Tonnerre, in deep, highly mineral soils.

Historically, this wine was sold under the Chablis 1er Cru Côte de Brechain appellation. Tight and lean, the depth of fruit is very impressive and balanced by a delicious crispness. This is an outstanding Chablis.

Drink 2020+

Chablis 1er Cru Montée de Tonnerre

£154.00 per case IB

The finest 1er Cru in Chablis. The vines of this 1 ha vineyard plot are over 60 years old - all hand harvested and fermented purely in tank and then aged in tank for a further 16 months.

A very ripe and intense bouquet, there are delicious aromas of apple, grapefruit and citrus fruits. The palate is classic, steely in structure with a broad and profound wet stone minerality.

Drink 2020+

Chablis Grand Cru Les Grenouilles (case x 6)

£162.00 per case IB

A small plot of only 0.31 ha planted with 53 year old vines. 80% was fermented in steel tank with the remaining 20% in 600 litre oak barrels. This is reminiscent of the 2006 vintage, which is still drinking well, if you can find it!

The bouquet oozes richness, pounding your nostrils with weighty aromas of ripe apples, honey and a dash of underlying oak. The palate is complex and rich, with overtones of honeycomb and butter, balanced by a quenching mineral acidity. The finish lingers.... and lingers....



CHABLIS

Drink 2021+

DOMAINE DES MARRONNIERS

Laurent and Marie-Noëlle Ternynck acquired this lovely domaine from Bernard Legland in 2013. They have invested well and strive for perfection each vintage by expressing the traditional soils of Chablis.

The only change in winemaking is the move to using wild yeasts during the fermentation process, thereby elevating the terroir character of Chablis in the wine. This is a super little domaine that produces wines of great typicity.

Chablis

£98.00 per case IB
(5+ cases) £95.00 per case IB

Produced from 10 different parcels from vines of between 25-30 years old. A more open style than we are used to seeing from this super domaine, with rich, concentrated stony fruits perfectly offset by a beautiful minerality and oyster shell freshness.

Drink 2020+

Chablis 1er Cru Montmains

£138.00 per case IB

Produced from South East facing vineyards, this is an impressive, well constructed wine. It is always one of our favourite 1er Cru Chablis that always benefits from a little ageing. Tight and taut with a delightful crispness, there is plenty of rich and creamy fruits with a touch of almond on the finish.



CHABLIS

Drink 2021+

DOMAINE DANIEL DAMPT

Situated in the village of Milly, this superb 35ha domaine is run by Daniel Dampt and his sons, Vincent and Sebastien. They produce a very classic style of Chablis, whilst seducing a stunning fruit intensity that makes the wine so drinkable, even when young.

13ha of the domaine are of 1er Cru status and our favourite is the Côte de Léchet. The vines are grown on very steep limestone hills, averaging 35 years old and produce extremely low yields, yielding highly concentrated juice.

Vincent was feeling very relaxed when we met him, content with not only the quality that he had produced but also the volume. There have been a few tough years in Chablis of late. He likens 2018 to both 2006 and 2009 given the low acidities, however he sees more texture in this vintage which will aid development.

Chablis

£102.00 per case IB
(5+ Cases) £99.00 per case IB

Produced from two parcels. 70% of the blend is from a plot of 60 year old vines situated just below the 1er Cru Les Lys, in Milly, a stone's throw south of the village of Chablis.

Vincent told us that in years gone by, this wine was sold under the now defunct 1er Cru La Vieille Voye. A ripe, creamy yet subtle style with an appealing freshness and minerality that complements the immediate tropical fruits. Drink!!

Drink 2020+

Chablis 1er Cru Côte de Léchet

£149.00 per case IB

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

Floral and concentrated aromas, the palate is tight and minerally but possesses an outstanding depth of ripe concentrated fruits. The length of finish is something to behold. This is a stunning 1er Cru.

Drink 2020+



DOMAINE OLIVIER MERLIN

Situated just north of the village of Fuissé, in La Roche Vineuse, Olivier Merlin is undoubtedly one of the finest producers in Southern Burgundy. We had to visit Olivier for five years before he finally relented and gave us an allocation of his wines. Sadly he stopped producing his Mâcon La Roche Vineuse Rouge after the 2014 vintage as the old Gamay grapes were barely producing any more.

Sons Theo and Paul have now joined their parents in the family business, ensuring that the domaine will continue on to the next generation.

Merlin's wines are characterised by a stunning purity and impeccable balance, demonstrating his exceptional winemaking talents. They are frequently taken for Côte d'Or wines when tasted blind.

Olivier advised us of the very long harvest this vintage, as the ripening process had been a little varied and he wanted to pick plot by plot only when phenolic ripeness had been achieved. As with 2017, Merlin has excelled this vintage producing a range of stunning wines that offer superb immediate drinking.

WHITE

Mâcon La Roche Vineuse

£95.00 per case IB

A small proportion (15%) is fermented in old oak cuves to give the wine a 'lift' with the majority fermented in stainless steel. Beautiful, ripe and creamy this is such an opulent and stylish wine. There is a hint of wet stone minerality to give balance and the finish is deliciously long. Is there a better Burgundy house wine?

Drink 2020+

Mâcon La Roche Vineuse Vieilles Vignes

£125.00 per case IB

Produced from 3ha of vineyards split into four separate parcels planted in 1922, 1932, 1949 and 1951 that average over 60 years of age. 100% barrel fermented, 10% of which is new, and aged for a further one year in barrel.

What an exotic and tropical bouquet! The palate is multi-layered with rich and creamy ripe apple fruits, fresh melon, notes of almond and spice, with a beautiful minerality and a dash of lime acidity. This is so Côte d'Or in style.

Drink 2020+



MÂCONNAIS

DOMAINE OLIVIER MERLIN

RED

Bourgogne Pinot Noir

£110.00 per case IB

Fermented in oak foudres with 20% whole cluster and 80% destemmed. This is soooo aromatic! Why drink New Zealand Pinot Noir when you can have this?! A charming and fragrant wine, brimming with wild strawberry freshness. The mouthfeel is succulent, with sweet ripe red fruits and a dose of minerality giving great balance. Absolutely delicious!

Drink 2020+

Moulin à Vent 'La Rochelle'

£186.00 per case IB

La Rochelle is one of the outstanding terroirs of Moulin à Vent. Olivier Merlin's holding was mostly planted in 1937, with a small section dating back to 1955. A truly glorious and complex wine produced on deep granite soils. Big and meaty, there are powerful black olive notes that give added weight to the concentrated black fruits that dominate the palate. There is pepper and minerality, the tannins are profound but very ripe and the finish is colossal. This is a monstrous wine of great definition.

Drink 2024+

DOMAINE LUQUET

We have worked with Patrick Luquet for many years now. His 26ha family domaine is situated in the centre of the village of Fuissé. The domaine's flagship vineyard is the 'Au Bourg' located right in front of the Church, in the centre of the village.

Patrick uses no oak ageing at all in the winemaking process whatsoever, producing wines that express both fruit and terroir with no interfering dimensions. As Patrick says "We really appreciate our terroir". Renowned for their purity his wines are beautiful from an early age.

Pouilly Fuissé 'Au Bourg'

£140.00 per case IB

Produced from vines that average nearly 60 years old, situated in the Clos just in front of the church in the centre of the village of Fuissé. The church protects the vines from the westerly winds which makes this the warmest parcel of Fuissé. This vineyard was initially planted back in 1927 by the Great Grandfather of the current generation, Patrick Luquet. There is no oak ageing here. A full and rich bouquet is enhanced by a touch of fresh, ripe banana. The mouthfeel is rich and creamy, the depth deriving from one year on the lees. There are generous notes of apple and lychee as well as an exotic mango richness. This is quite superb!

Drink 2020+



CHÂTEAU FUISSÉ

This is undoubtedly the aristocratic domaine of Fuissé. Now under the control of brother and sister, Antoine Vincent and Bénédicte Tuinder-Vincent, son and daughter of Jean-Jacques Vincent. Whilst Antoine is now the winemaker at this great property, his sister runs the commercial side along with her husband, Philip Tuinder.

The domaine holds 30ha of vines in total, in Pouilly-Fuissé, St Veran, Macon and Julienas. The wines are epitomized by fat, rich fruit, whose weight is perfectly balanced with a consistently outstanding backbone of tight acidity.

Château Fuissé, Tête de Cuvée (case x 6)

£95.00 per case IB

Produced from 40 different parcels in the Pouilly Fuisse appellation. 85% barrel fermented, of which 17% is new. 5 months ageing in barrel with lees stirring, this wine underwent full malo-lactic fermentation. A rich and toasty wine with luscious notes of mandarin and orange. A rich and round finish delivers great length.

Drink 2021+

Château Fuissé, Le Clos (Monopole) (case x 6)

£192.00 per case IB

Le Clos, along with Les Brûlés (another wine the family produces), is currently in the process of being designated 1er Cru status. They will be amongst the first 1er Crus of the Pouilly Fuissé appellation.

Produced from vines that date back to 1963 and aged in 100% new oak, this is a beautifully crafted wine, strict and austere yet with a great intensity of ripe fruits, melon and tangerine, hints of nut and a freshly struck match. A classic wine of great breeding.

Drink 2023+



CHALONNAISE

CHATEAU DE CHAMILLY

This Château lies in the heart of Mercurey and has been in the hands of the Desfontaine family for over 150 years. The impressive castle boasts a 14th century tower as well as imposing 17th century fortifications.

Véronique Desfontaine is the current proprietor of this 25ha property, which is run by her two sons, Arnaud and Xavier. They have invested heavily in recent years and are producing some scintillating wines. It has been great to witness the year on year improvements at this property.

WHITE

Montagny 'Les Reculerons' (case x 6)

£60.00 per case IB

The vineyards are perfectly positioned with a south eastern exposure, producing perfect Chardonnay grapes. Fermented in 100% stainless steel with no oak intervention at all.

A very pure and precise wine, oozing rich, clean, ripe pineapple flavours. It is balanced by an appealing freshness with a lingering hint of gunflint, followed by a delicious lingering finish.

Drink 2020+

RED

Mercurey 1er Cru Les Puillels (case x 6)

£96.00 per case IB

Produced from 50 year old vines, planted on south-east facing vineyards with iron rich soils, this wine is aged in 20% new oak for 12 months oak with a further 6 months in stainless steel tank.

An extremely aromatic bouquet with notes of ripe black cherries and a hint of hedgerow. The palate is voluptuous, rich and finely textured with bramble and damson fruits and an underlying cherry stone freshness. What a lovely wine!

Drink 2021+



CHALONNAISE

CAVE DE BUXY

Established in 1931, the Caves de Vignerons de Buxy is based in the Côte Chalonnaise, 46km south of Beaune. The vineyards are managed by 120 families who are rewarded for the quality of their grapes rather than the quantity that they produce. Strict viticultural guidelines are followed with a programme of continual vineyard assessments. It is very rare that one can equate Burgundy with affordability as well as quality; however, this top Cave Co-operative can certainly lay this claim.

WHITE

Macon Azé, Jules Richard (case x 6)

£28.50 per case IB

This wine exudes a soft, balanced and very approachable style, almost creamy in texture – open, rounded and yet with a surprising degree of finesse. A favourite ‘Wednesday night’ Bottle!

Drink 2020+

Bourgogne Côtes Chalonnaise, Buissonnier (case x 6)

£34.00 per case IB

A very fine and attractive Chardonnay produced from a blend of vineyard parcels scattered across the Côtes and around Buxy itself, offering subtle, creamy notes of cereal, peach, apple skin and a touch of wet stones. Open, quite lush with lovely texture bordering on tropical and a delicious mouthfeel.

An excellent introduction to southern white Burgundy, especially in 2018 – a bargain!

Drink 2020+

RED

Côteaux Bourguignons, Buissonnier (case x 6)

£28.00 per case IB

Produced from 100% Gamay. This is a delight! Ripe red cherries are immediate on the bouquet, there is a touch of hedgerow, bramble and raspberry. Very fruity, soft and sweet-edged; creamy and open at first taste, but with a lovely fresh feel and hint of ‘snappiness’ to the textured palate - juicy and well defined throughout, this is a red for purists of young red Burgundy.

Drink 2020+

Bourgogne Côtes Chalonnaise, Buissonnier (case x 6)

£34.00 per case IB

Produced from south and south east facing vineyards with very stony soils packed with limestone. A red Burgundy made, it seems, for the Yorkshire Market – lush, open, textured and an immediate delight – the glass brims with sweet red fruits, cherries, plum, blackberry and a smattering of raspberry, balanced with a nicely formed acidity and touch of rasping tannins. An excellent red Burgundy for those who like their Pinots to show simple fruit, easy tannins and a nicely textured, elegant finish - all without the cost of a small bungalow as a penalty!!

Drink 2020+



CÔTE DE BEAUNE

DOMAINE DENIS CARRÉ

A new addition to our portfolio, this domaine was established by Denis Carré and his wife in 1974 with the first vintage produced in 1975. Situated in the heart of the village of Meissey in the Hautes Côtes de Beaune, it covers 12ha in 12 different appellations. Although not certified, the domaine is farmed organically.

It has been run by his son and daughter, Martial and Gaetane, since 2008. Full of energy and passion they are raising the quality of wines produced here at an impressive speed.

WHITE

Auxey Duresses Les Vireux (case x 6)

£111.00 per case IB

Situated in a side valley near the Côte de Beaune, this appellation is the place to look in hot years such as 2018, given its cooler location. Purchased in 2012, their 0.26 ha plot is situated adjacent the Meursault appellation. Aged in 25% new oak, this is a cracking wine, tight, stoney minerality and impressively complex. The palate is rich and buttery with a delicious infusion of toasted oak. It may not be the star appellation but it deserves its place at the top table!

Drink 2020+

Meursault Les Tillets (case x 6)

£189.00 per case IB

The vines are located at the top of the hillside overlooking the village of Meursault, enjoying a south/south east exposure. The name Tillets is derived from lime trees that grow around the vineyards in Medieval times. Aged in 25% new oak, this is a classic Meursault – rich with flavours of honey and nougat, balanced by a steely minerality. There is a great backbone running through this wine that gives great structure and holds the oak perfectly. Excellent!

Drink 2021+

RED

Beaune 1er Cru Les Tuvilains (case x 6)

£135.00 per case IB

There are two parcels that produce this wine, 200 metres apart, close to Pommard, hence the more structured and powerful style. Overflowing with prunes and red berries, this is so moreish and sooo pretty! There is a little hint of toasted oak which provides an added dimension and the tannins are perfectly ripe and in-tune. A beautiful wine.

Drink 2021+



CÔTE DE BEAUNE

DOMAINE HUBERT LAMY

This domaine is the star property in the appellation of St Aubin. It was created back in 1973 by Hubert Lamy who was followed by his son Olivier, who has managed the family property since 1996, following his training at Domaine Meo Camuzet. He immediately introduced the changes that have ultimately elevated this domaine into the higher echelons of Burgundian winemaking.

He ceased selling grapes to negociants and sold off peripheral vineyards to concentrate on the oldest and best sites. High density planting was introduced to glean as much expression of terroir as possible and selection tables were introduced into the cuverie to ensure that only the finest grapes are used. He has reduced the amount of new oak dramatically over the years introducing demi-muids (300-600lt barrels) to improve the wines and giving them a greater propensity to age.

His vines are split 14.5ha white and 3ha red, although we choose only to source his white wines.

After the pitifully small harvest in 2017, fans of this superb domaine will be delighted to learn that 2018 has been kinder to Olivier. He reported that the summer months had produced 30% more light than last year which speeded up the ripening process. Olivier only starts the harvest when he is convinced that the grapes have obtained perfect phenolic ripeness. The analysis can suggest the grapes are ready but he is constantly tasting the grapes before taking the decision to pick. Harvest took place between 22nd August and 12th September and produced beautifully balanced fruit.

Bourgogne Chardonnay 'Les Chataigniers'

£178.00 per case IB

Produced from vineyards that lie on the upper slopes as the hill bends around towards Meursault and away from Saint-Aubin itself. Matured in 600 lt oak barrels (2/3 1 year and 1/3 2 year), Olivier uses no new oak in order to preserve the intense minerality. There is a rich tropical character to this wine, reflecting the personality of the vintage, and a subtle nuttiness on the finish gives added character. There is no need to wait, start drinking!

Drink 2020+

Saint-Aubin La Princesse

£235.00 per case IB

This wine is produced from ten parcels and also includes 20% of grapes from his 1er Cru Frionnes vines located in a cooler part of the appellation. This gives an added depth and complexity to the wine. No new oak, the barrels used are anywhere up to 10 years old. The bouquet is aromatic with lovely notes of lime peel, whilst the palate is steely, laden with tropical fruits and pineapple notes and a beautiful citrus acidity gives excellent balance.

Drink 2021+



CÔTE DE BEAUNE

DOMAINE HUBERT LAMY

Saint-Aubin 1er Cru Clos du Meix

£299.00 per case IB

The Clos de Meix is a small 0.7ha walled plot of vines overlooking the Southern aspect of the village - the extra warmth of the 'clos' gives a higher degree of richness. The vines were planted in two blocks in 1985 and 1995 on a soil of hard chalk and rock overlaid with large stones. Tight, steely and beautifully crafted, the palate is laden with ripe fruit. There is a lovely streak of minerality, wet stone and a touch of almond gives added character.

Drink 2021+

Saint-Aubin 1er Cru en Remilly

£415.00 per case IB

Produced from 2 parcels, each 1 ha, planted by the Lamy family over the past two generations. This is the finest Saint-Aubin 1er Cru - a steep south facing slope which is effectively a continuation of the famous Grand Cru Le Montrachet. Only 2% new oak, reflecting the Lamy style of winemaking, this is a classic white Burgundy. Intense, rich and complex with notes of honey and nuts, this wine possesses a super, linear structure with citrus and a hint of salt. The finish is rich and long. Stunning!

Drink 2022+



Olivier Lamy



CÔTE DE BEAUNE

DOMAINE GUY AMIOT

This Domaine was created in the 1920s by Arsène Amiot, who started acquiring parcels in the village of Chassagne-Montrachet. A man with great foresight, he became one of the first vigneron in Burgundy to bottle his own wines.

By the time Guy Amiot took over in 1985, the domaine had built up very impressive holdings and had passed the knowledge of how best to care for the vines down from generation to generation. The domaine is now run by Guy's two sons, Thierry and Fabrice. Their work in the vineyards is exemplary and has led to a solid consistency in the wines. This is enhanced by their policy of 'selection Massale' when replanting vines, preserving the character of the individual vineyard.

The wines of this domaine age particularly well, largely due to the serious acidity and minerality that so epitomise them when tasting from barrel.

Bourgogne Chardonnay 'Cuvée Flavie'

£120.00 per case IB

This wine takes its name from Fabrice Amiot's Great Grandmother. It is a blend of 3 plots and vinified 70% in tank and 30% in old barrels. This is a baby Chassagne Montrachet. In Fabrice's own words, "I find this wine orgasmic!". Ripe with aromas of apple, this is such an opulent wine, high in explosive richness, yet not too heavy. There is a lovely wet stone minerality that ties this wine together.

Drink 2020+

Chassagne-Montrachet Vieilles Vignes

£350.00 per case IB

This wine is produced from 12 different parcels totaling 1ha from vines aged between 20 and 90 years old. Aged in 25% new oak for 12 months followed by 6 months in cuve. Scrumptious! A mouthfilling richness with elements of nougat, pineapple and pain grillé. The underlying acidity is bracing and produces a perfect equilibrium. Great length too.

Drink 2021+

Chassagne-Montrachet 1er Cru Les Macherelles (case x 6)

£220.00 per case IB

La Femme Classique of Chassagne! A very rich and opulent Chassagne produced from a 0.5 plot of clay dominant soil with a North East exposure and 50 year old vines on the Puligny side of Chassagne. Aged in 25% new oak for 12 months followed by 6 months in cuve. This is a very classy wine – a real basket of fresh apples and pears and a delightful citrus freshness." Wow – explosive" commented Fabrice Amiot!

Drink 2021+



CÔTE DE BEAUNE

DOMAINE GUY AMIOT

Chassagne-Montrachet 1er Cru Les Vergers (case x 6)

£245.00 per case IB

Produced from 65 year old vines, just above Vergers, that enjoy a North-East exposure and hence a longer ripening period. Vergers means “orchard” so the apple characters are most apt.

A very aromatic bouquet boasting intense ripe apple aromas. The palate follows suit, rich in nougat and honey flavours and supported by a racy minerality. This is such a decadent wine.

Drink 2021+

Chassagne-Montrachet 1er Cru Les Caillerets (case x 6)

£245.00 per case IB

This wine is produced from two parcels of vines planted on soil covered with large limestone rocks. One parcel is now 85 years old the other was replanted in 1985.

This is always a very rich and powerful wine and this vintage certainly continues the theme! It possesses a quite fantastic intensity, laden with rich honey and creamy butter, with a lush and viscous texture. The oak is beautifully crafted and there are notes of almond and butterscotch on the dreamy finish. Outstanding.

Drink 2020+

Puligny-Montrachet 1er Cru Les Demoiselles (case x 6)

£550.00 per case IB

This vineyard is situated next to Montrachet and just below Chevalier Montrachet and is planted with 70 year old vines. Amiot's plot is 0.25ha. This is a Grand Cru in all but name. This vintage yielded 5 barrels – 125 cases for the world – and that's a good crop!

A very clear Puligny profile, lean with a tight, stony minerality and quenching steeliness. This structure supports a stunning fruit intensity – exotic tropical fruits, ripe apples and a warm pain grillé enveloping the palate. This is a very impressive, multi-dimensional wine.

Drink 2023+

Le Montrachet (case x 6)

£2400.00 per case IB

Only 2 barrels are produced of this wine. Aged in 100% new oak for 12 months followed by 6 months in cuve. Aristocratic, powerful and brooding. A great Grand Cru. A wine of such great complexity with crème caramel, nougat and lightly browned toast supported by a regal mineral spine. A perfectly balanced wine offering a multitude of flavours all in perfect harmony. Simply great!

Drink 2023+



DOMAINE JEAN LOUIS CHAVY

Jean-Louis is the son of Gérard Chavy but left the family domaine which is now run by his brother Alain, to sail his own ship. He produces wines from his 7ha domaine with a very careful and restrained use of oak, resulting in a very pure and classically elegant style.

Jean- Louis invested in new cellars based at the bottom of the village. The modern winery is very impressive, with an immaculate temperature controlled cellar. Vinification is classic with only natural yeasts used for the fermentation process. The majority of the vines at the domaine are between 20 and 40 years old. The wine style is very elegant and classic, with a stunning purity and steeliness.

Puligny-Montrachet (case x 6)

£165.00 per case IB

A blend of 10 separate parcels and aged in 20% new oak for 12 months. A very elegant and stylish wine, tightly structured with a fresh tropical fruit spiked by a mineral acidity and just a hint of finely integrated oak. It is an exceptional example of the Puligny terroir.

Drink 2021+

Puligny-Montrachet 1er Cru Clavoillon (case x 6)

£255.00 per case IB

New to our list and what a great addition. Pierre Morey, winemaker at Domaine Leflaive for many years called this appellation the “Bâtard” of the premier cru. The vines are planted in the middle of the slope, below its fellow 1er Cru Folatières and next to Pucelles.

Produced from 50 year old vines and aged in 25% new oak for 12 months, this is an incredibly profound wine, with opulent and concentrated ripe pineapple fruit supported by a stoney structure and a citrus tang.

Drink 2021+



CÔTE DE BEAUNE

DOMAINE BACHELET-MONNOT

This relatively young 23ha domaine was established in 2005 by brothers Marc and Alex Bachelet along with their father Jean François and Uncle Monnot. Situated in the village of Dezize-lès-Maranges, southwest of Santenay, the domaine consists of 10ha of owned vineyards as well as a further 10 on long-term lease, covering the appellations of Santenay, Maranges and Puligny-Montrachet.

This is a star domaine on the rise. The vineyards are farmed organically with strict de-budding to reduce the yields, whilst the winemaking philosophy is very much one of non-intervention. No bâtonnage, only a small use of new oak, with the introduction of larger oak barrels in 2012, and long ageing in the barrel which gives great stability to the wines.

The harvest took place between 26th August and 7th September. The wines produced this vintage are top drawer, possessing a great salinity, beautifully balanced between sweet and sour. We enjoyed a great tasting with Jean-François who took us through a range of wines that showed great depth and finesse.

WHITE

Puligny-Montrachet (case x 6)

£199.00 per case IB

Produced from 2 ha of vines made up of 7 different parcels, each vinified separately in 20% new oak 350lt demi-muids. Classic Puligny, the bouquet is piercing, rich with hints of freshly struck match box. The palate is tightly knit with a fine steely core, lemon citrus fruits with a touch of underlying honey. Freshly baked almond flavours round off the palate beautifully. A super wine!

Drink 2021+

Puligny-Montrachet 1er Cru Les Folatières (case x 6)

£332.00 per case IB

On the same contour and with the same soil composition as Chevalier Montrachet, this 1er Cru is renowned for its minerality. Aged in 25% new oak 350lt demi-muids. A simply stunning wine, intense and finely crafted, boasting an intense richness of honey and baked almond, with wet stone minerality providing an impressive balance. The finish is powerful, indeed sumptuous, and lingers on.

Drink 2022+

RED

Maranges 1er Cru Clos de la Boutière (case x 6)

£ 100.00 per cas IB

Produced from a single, mid slope 1.5ha plot of 80 year old vines, the soils are very deep in chalky clay. As Marc says, "the vineyard has everything; it is easy to make great wine here.". The vinification sees 20% whole bunch ferment, which adds structure to the massively rich fruit intensity, and it is aged in 25% new oak for one year. The aromas are very alluring, ripe black cherry fruit with a screaming freshness and the palate is super concentrated., almost jammy. Cherry fruits dominate.

Drink 2022+



CÔTE DE BEAUNE

DOMAINE ETIENNE SAUZET

This iconic, 8 hectare, bio-dynamically farmed domaine is now run by Gérard Boudot's daughter, Emilie, and her husband, Benoît Riffault, although Gérard himself is still heavily involved.

It has been farmed organically since 2006, and the family subsequently moved to bio-dynamic status in 2010. These are some of the most sought after wines in the Puligny-Montrachet appellation and are famed for their great definition, intensity and style.

Harvest started on the 25th August as the malic acids were fairly low and it was important to preserve acidities after the hot and dry summer.

Bourgogne Blanc Tuféra (case x 6)

£99.00 per case IB

Produced from four separate, small parcels of vines and vinified in a mixture of 4-5 year old barrels and large foudres. A stunning Bourgogne Chardonnay that would rival many a Puligny-Montrachet, this is a great entry to the wines of this great domaine. Floral and richly aromatic, with seductive aromas of wild flowers, the palate quenches with an array of apple and citrus flavours. The mouthfeel is round and tropical with a pineapple juice viscosity. This really is one of the Côte de Beaune's finest Bourgogne Chardonnays and is always in high demand.

Drink 2020+

Puligny-Montrachet (case x 6)

£240.00 per case IB

Produced from 12 parcels spread around the village but primarily on the Meursault side, totaling 3.5ha planted with vines that average 50 years old, the oldest of which was planted in 1934. The essence of this wine is terroir and fruit with only 15% new oak ageing. The nose is extravagant with an overt and expansive richness. There was no need for any extensive bâtonnage such was ripeness this vintage, just pure pineapple and tropical fruits. The finish is delicious, lingering and long.

Drink 2021+

Puligny-Montrachet 1er Cru Les Perrières (case x 6)

£420.00 per case IB

The Sauzet estate owns 1.4ha at the heart of the Perrières vineyard, on the Meursault side, with a great aspect and thinner calcareous soil structure, giving long lived wines with great finesse. A stunning wine – rich, powerful yet also finely poised with classic Puligny character. The palate is rich and powerful, laden with tropical fruits and citrus freshness, and there is an impressive tension and salinity that holds this wine together perfectly. A very stylish wine!

Drink 2022+



CÔTE DE BEAUNE

DOMAINE MESTRE-MICHELOT

This domaine is owned and run by Jean-François Mestre who assumed control of the vineyards and winemaking at the 22 ha Domaine Michelot in 1993. Mestre, who is married to one of Bernard Michelot's four daughters, has spent the last twenty years raising the profile of this domaine which is now widely regarded as one of the finest in the Meursault appellation. He is now joined in the business by his son, Nicolai, whose endearing, light hearted personality combines with a fierce desire to experiment and push the boundaries.

The wines benefit from extended contact with the lees and regular bâtonnage, which contributes to their rich and expressive character. Up to 25% new oak is used with a growing emphasis on 500lt barrels. To enhance the wines' vivacity, after 12 months the cuvées are assembled into temperature-controlled stainless steel tanks where they complete their maturation over the next 6 months. The estate's entire production now appears under the Domaine Mestre-Michelot label.

Domaine Michelot's vineyard practices aim at maintaining a balanced natural environment. The aim is to encourage the vine's natural resistance mechanisms. They regularly plough the soils and apply compost as opposed to chemical fertilizers. Grass is planted between all the rows to absorb water, thereby creating a condition of mild hydric stress for the wines. This condition serves 3 purposes: it encourages the roots to grow deeper into the soil, enhancing the wine's complexity; it makes for healthier grapes while concentrating their sugar and flavors; and it creates an environment in which vine maladies caused by moisture are naturally prevented.

Bourgogne Chardonnay (case x 6)

£69.00 per case IB

This wine is produced from 4 ha of vines that are made up of 10 parcels, a stone's throw from the appellation of Meursault. It is vinified in 500lt barrel, only 2-3% new oak, and aged for one year before spending 6 months in stainless steel tanks before bottling. An expressive honeyed bouquet, the palate is rich and succulent with butter and honey notes and there is a delicious citrus tang that gives balance to such a rich palate. A baby Meursault!

Drink 2020+

Meursault (case x 6)

£148.00 per case IB

As usual, this wine is enhanced by grapes produced from the lieux-dits vineyards of Les Casse Têtes and Limozin, which give an added richness and intensity to the wine. Matured in 15% new oak, a mix of 225lt and 600lt Demi-Muids. This is very much a Yorkshireman's style of white Burgundy! The bouquet is oozing rich, fat fruit aromas with sweet honey too. The palate is plump and round with honey and nougat and super lime and citrus balancing acidity. As with previous vintages it shows the power and concentration that you normally associate with Chassagne and 1er cru Meursault. In a vintage like this it is great to see the characteristics of the appellation showing through so well.

Drink 2021+



CÔTE DE BEAUNE

DOMAINE MESTRE-MICHELOT

Meursault Clos St Felix (case x 6)

£168.00 per case IB

Named after the small walled vineyard ('Clos') that lies huddled down to the front of the estate, this sheltered 0.94ha site enjoys an extra 1°C degree of temperature. The late Bernard Michelot claims that he always felt that extra degree of warmth after he jumped over the wall, returning from seeing his girlfriend in the early hours, after breaking the evening curfew during the 2WW! Aged in 15% new oak, a stunning wine laden with nuts, richly honeyed, with notes of pineapple, peach apple and pain grillé. There is a racy acidity and great tension in this wine, which is both poised and focused with a very impressive underlying power.

Drink 2021+

Meursault 1er Cru Les Genévrières (case x 6)

£290.00 per case IB

This is one of the most highly regarded 1er Cru situated to the south of the village where the soil is poor with high mineral content. Produced in a mixture of 70% barrique (228lt) of which 50% is new, and 30% large oak barrels, of which 15% is new. A multi-dimensional wine that simply oozes class. There is a stunning layered minerality with notes of spice and wet stone, but the powerful fruit is something to behold. Intense, nutty and honeyed with some baked apples and quenching tropical fruits married by a very subtle seamless weave of oak.

Drink 2022+



CÔTE DE BEAUNE

DOMAINE LAFARGE

This is always a great tasting and one we always look forward to. The family domaine is run by Frédéric, son of Michel, whose passion and knowledge for all things Volnay and Burgundy are unmatched.

This 10ha domaine has been managed using biodynamic principles since 1999, and they are renowned for producing some of the finest wines in Volnay. Very little new oak is used, only around 5%, with barrels between 2 and 5 years preferred. The style is alluring, complex and harmonious and is exactly what one looks for in great Volnay.

Frédéric was feeling very relaxed when we visited, nonchalantly shrugging his shoulders when he said, "this vintage was an easy vintage". Biodynamic producers face many challenges, so it is hard to begrudge them an easy ride for once!

Volnay (case x 6)

£210.00 per case IB

This wine is produced from 6 plots totaling 2.6 ha of vines planted as far back as 1932. There is no new oak used in the production of this wine, it is a pure expression of the Pinot Noir and terroir of Volnay.

A beautiful, expansive and aromatic bouquet, very much in the distinguished Lafarge style. The palate is very refined, not heavy at all, sexy and expressive with an incredible density of strawberry fruit. Pure and elegant, the tannins are silky and smooth and there is seamless structure to the wine. Long on the finish this is a beautifully crafted wine. Chapeau!

Drink 2022+

Volnay 1er Cru Clos des Chênes (case x 6)

£475.00 per case IB

One of the appellation's finest premier crus, situate on the mid-slope just south of the village of Volnay. It is named after the oak trees that line the western boundary of the vineyard. There is a more southerly aspect to this premier cru which ensures a rich and exuberant fruit. Closed and brooding with an astonishing richness and depth. There is a voluptuous, multi-layered fruit structure with cassis and blueberry freshness, the tannins are ripe but suave and the finish is long and oozes finesse.

Drink 2024 +



CÔTE DE BEAUNE

DOMAINE VOILLOT

Jean Pierre Charlot, son-in-law of the founder, Joseph Voillot, has now passed on the running of the family domaine to his nephew, Etienne Chaix. This exceptional domaine's future is now secure.

The domaine consists of 9ha of vineyards, including some prized sites in several 1er Crus. The grapes are partially destemmed and the wines matured in oak barrels (15-20% new) for 14-16 months. Without doubt one of the finest domaines in Volnay, these wines are never heavy or over extracted. They offer the fragrance, charm and beauty so typical of Volnay.

"I am very satisfied with this vintage!" said Etienne Chaix with a mischievous grin. A true master of the understatement!

Bourgogne Pinot Noir (case x 6)

£75.00 per case IB

Produced from 4 plots, covering approximately 2 hectares, the vineyards are situated on the lower slopes in the village of Volnay. The vines average 38 years old, planted in the lieux-dits of Longbois, Luret, Petits Prés and Grandes Terres. There is no new oak used in the vinification of this wine, with barrels between one to 4 years old used. Intensely rich and jammy on the nose, the palate is delicious, succulent and fruit packed. The texture is so velvety and there is an amazing purity, with oozing cassis and soft silky tannins.

Drink 2020+

Volnay Vieilles Vignes (case x 6)

£138.00 per case IB

Produced from 8 plots totaling just under 2ha, the 'vieilles vignes' average over 40 years old. With only one new barrel used this means slightly less than 5% new oak in the cuvee. This is such a suave wine, with black fruit aromas and a palate of fresh black cherries providing a charming elegance. The tannins are succulent and support the wine beautifully whilst a hint of spice and hedgerow on the finish provides added dimension.

Drink 2022+

Volnay 1er Cru Fremiets (case x 6)

£250.00 per case IB

This 1er Cru is situated to the eastern extremities of the appellation adjacent to Pommard on a chalk and powdery limestone subsoil. Produced from vine averaging 60 years old, this wine is aged for 14 months in 15% new oak. Spicy and aromatic, with whiffs of fresh and fragrant cherries with a little white pepper, the palate offers a super, velvety texture with ripe and round tannins. This is an outstanding, sexy wine. Classic Volnay.

Drink 2023+



CÔTE DE BEAUNE

DOMAINE VOILLOT

Volnay 1er Cru Champans (case x 6)

£250.00 per case IB

This is a brooding wine from Voillot's largest holding of 1er cru (1.7ha), situated on heavier clay soils that give the wine more depth and intensity, almost in the mould of Pommard. Aged in 10% new oak, it is packed with concentrated fruit, with notes of cassis and liquorice. It is intense and powerful with a voluptuous palate and moreishly long on the finish. There was a healthy debate as to which was the better of the two 1er crus – the result was a score draw!

Drink 2024+

Pommard (case x 6)

£148.00 per case IB

Produced from four parcels—Cras, Poisots, Saussilles and Vaumuriens, totaling 1.2 ha, with the vines averaging 56 years old. It is great to see the difference in appellation showing so clearly. Tighter and more masculine in style, with a lovely, chunky rich palate of crunchy black fruits and grippy tannins. There is an impressive underbelly of richness that gives the wine added lift.

Drink 2022+

Pommard 1er Cru Epenots (case x 6)

£336.00 per case IB

This vineyard is situated to the right as you enter Pommard from Beaune. Aged in 30% new oak, this is an opulent wine full of cassis, mulberry and dark cherries. The tannins are succulent and support well. An underbelly of crème de mure enriches the wine but there is also the level of sophistication that you would expect from a 1er cru.

Drink 2022+



Etienne Chaix



CÔTE DE BEAUNE

DOMAINE CAMUS BRUCHON

Guillaume Camus was in exceptionally high spirits when we visited him in Savigny-Les-Beaune. 2018 was the second vintage in succession that he has enjoyed a plentiful crop, following a series of disastrously low yields in more recent years, due to damaging summer hailstorms.

This 9ha domaine performed particularly well in 2018, largely aided by the high percentage of old vines at the property. Guillaume explained the importance of harvesting early in order to maintain the freshness and “Esprit de Bourgogne.”

Like his late father, he is meticulous and thoughtful, wary of the amount of new oak used when making his wines, limiting it to no more than 25%. There is 30% whole bunch fermentation which gives freshness and structure to the wines.

The wines of this domaine are delightful, perfumed with a delicious elegance and firm, yet refined structure. They are bottled unfiltered in order to preserve the natural balance of fruit and tannins and offer great value.

Savigny-lès-Beaune, La Reine Joly (case x 6)

£100.00 per case IB

This wine is named after Guillaume’s Great, Great Grandmother. Produced from 4 separate parcels – Dessus Les Vermots, Les Goudelettes, Clos des Pointes and Aux Champs des Pruniers. This is a wine that oozes finesse. There are super aromatic whiffs of fresh cassis aromas and the palate is full of crunchy ripe black fruits, succulent and seamless with a delightful tannin structure. This is great affordable red Burgundy and should be considered in any En Primeur purchase this vintage.

Drink 2021+



Guillaume Camus & 'Mia'



DOMAINE TOLLOT-BEAUT

This domaine was one of the first to bottle its own wines back in 1921 when most growers simply sold their wines to the local negociants, and it has retained its ground breaking ethos to the present day. Under the meticulous control of Natalie Tollot, 5th generation, the domaine currently comprises some 24 hectares of vines, spread over 16 different appellations, including small holdings in premiers and grands crus in Beaune, Savigny-lès-Beaune, Chorey-lès-Beaune, Aloxe-Corton and Corton.

Each wine produced is respectful of its terroir and perfectly represents the characteristics of the appellation. It is always one of the most popular domaines in our portfolio, producing wines that possess an inimitable style. Exuberant, extravagant, rich but incredible pure – we always say “Typically Tollot”.

Bourgogne Pinot Noir (case x 6)

£90.00 per case IB

Produced from 3 plots totaling 3ha, planted a stone's throw from the Chorey appellation, this is a super little wine that will give immense pleasure. A super entry to this domaine very much in the Tollot style, aged for 16 months in barrel. Wow! This is so expressive.

A very rich wine packed with moreish blackcurrants and a fresh dollop of strawberry jam. The tannins are very soft and the mouthfeel lush. This can be drunk now!

Drink 2020+

Chorey- lès -Beaune (case x 6)

£114.00 per case IB

The signature wine of this top domaine – its style is inimitable. Rich and exuberant, there is a stunning fruit intensity, with ripe black cherries, cranberry, cassis and even a touch of dark chocolate. There is a noticeable spiciness on the finish which gives added character and balance. Super wine!

Drink 2020+

Savigny Champs Chevrey (case x 6)

£174.00 per case IB

This is a monopole of the Domaine Tollot-Beaut estate, covering 1ha and was planted in 1954. It produces the most structured wine of the two Savigny-lès-Beaune premier cru appellations. It is situated just below the Les Lavières vineyard and benefits from a sunnier exposure.

With more clay in its soils, the bouquet is ripe with red and black cherry, liquorice and espresso. A beautiful bouquet filled with fresh violet aromas. This is a big Savigny, chunky and rich with a powerful core. The tannins are deliciously fresh and there is an exceptional balance to the wine. “I am surprised that the acidity is so good in such a hot vintage” commented Nathalie.

Drink 2021+



CÔTE DE BEAUNE

DOMAINE TOLLOT-BEAUT

Aloxe-Corton (case x 6)

£177.00 per case IB

Produced from four separate parcels totaling 2ha, this wine is vinified in 33% new oak. Nathalie confessed that this was her favourite appellation. Quite delightful! Sometimes Aloxe can be a little foursquare, but this is the opposite. There is a lovely velvety texture to the palate, with ripe and rounded red fruits and confiture richness. The tannins are extremely soft and ripe and the finish lingers long.

Drink 2022+

Beaune 1er Cru Clos du Roi (case x 6)

£270.00 per case IB

Blessed with a perfect south-south-easterly exposure, this 1er Cru is situated to the north of Beaune. Owned by the dukes of Burgundy and highly favoured by the kings of France, the wines of Beaune were regularly served at Versailles. In the 15th century, upon the death of Charles Le Téméraire, the last duke of Burgundy, this clos passed into the hands of the royal winemakers and therefore became Beaune Clos du Roi - the plot of the king. The grapes were the first to be picked on the 28th August. Once picking started, it was a race against time.

This is so voluptuous, beautifully constructed with layers of rich red fruits. The tannins are supple and wrap seamlessly around the rich fruit structure. Very stylish, this is a brilliant expression of Beaune Clos du Roi.

Very small quantities available.

Drink 2024+



CÔTE DE NUITS

DOMAINE CHRISTIAN SÉRAFIN

Frédérique Goulley, the niece of Christian Sérafin, is now in sole charge of the winemaking at this top domaine, after serving her apprenticeship under Christian Sérafin for ten years. The wine making philosophy remains the same and this continues to be one of the finest domaines of the appellation. The wines are hand crafted, with old vines and low yields central to the winemaking here.

A cool ten day maceration helps create a stunning richness and concentration with the diligent use of new oak and the non-filtration of his wines being key to the Sérafin style. They continue to destem around 70% of the bunches. The grapes are fermented at a relatively high temperature and enjoy up to 100% new oak ageing.

For those who like a gutsy Gevrey-Chambertin with plenty of ageing potential, this is your stop!

Bourgogne Pinot Noir (case x 6)

£125.00 per case IB

The grapes are produced from a single 0.33ha parcel of vines name Pressonnier, which for 30 years, between 1956 and 1986, had the right to be sold as Gevrey-Chambertin. The vines are 44 year old. Vinified in 50% new oak, there is a very impressive richness to this wine. It really is a baby Gevrey! The structure is sturdy and supports the intense black fruit content extremely well. The tannins are ripe but stand in the background as a support act, as the ripe cassis and liquorice take center stage.

Drink 2022+

Gevrey-Chambertin (case x 6)

£200.00 per case IB

11 small parcels totaling 1.33ha, with vines averaging 56 years old produce the grapes for this wine. There is also a proportion of grapes from the 1er Cru Les Cazetieres used in the blend which provides added depth and flavor. Fermented in 70% new oak and aged for 18 months, this is a great traditional Gevrey-Chambertin, meaty and structured with a robust and powerful fruit intensity. There are notes of blackcurrants and damson with a little dash of kirsch. The tannins are beautifully polished and a fresh acidity provides perfect balance.

Drink 2022+

Gevrey-Chambertin Vieilles Vignes (case x 6)

£275.00 per case IB

Produced from 7 parcels totaling 1ha, situated adjacent to Grand Cru and 1er Cru vineyards. The vines average 71 years old, the oldest of which are 90 years old. Vinified and aged for 18 months in 100% new oak this wine possesses a stunning viscosity. Sturdy and structured, with cassis and black olive characters on full show, there is also a dash of toast layered into the underbelly. The tannin structure and fresh acidity provide great balance and the finish is very fruit dominant.

Drink 2023+



CÔTE DE NUITS

DOMAINE CHRISTIAN SÉRAFIN

Gevrey-Chambertin 1er Cru Les Corbeaux (case x 6)

£350.00 per case IB

This 1er Cru is situated just outside the village of Gevrey adjacent to the Grand Cru of Mazis-Chambertin. Within the Corbeaux vineyards there is a small walled vineyard (a Clos) which is owned exclusively by the Sérafin family. Planted on deep clay and rocky soils, the vines are 50 years old, or as Frédérique commented, "...they are now at the end of their adolescence!" Aged in 100% new oak. Brooding, tight and intense, this is a monstrous wine, inky black and powerful in construction. There is an underlying layer of crème de mure that provides a delicious succulence and also a streak of minerality. There is a lot happening in this very complex wine.

Drink 2024+

Morey-Saint-Denis 1er Cru Les Millandes (case x 6)

£345.00 per case IB

This 0.3 plot of 1er Cru is located next to the Grand Cru of Clos de la Roche. The average age of the vines is 50 year old. Wow! The nose hits you like a train laden with mulled black fruits – the richness, depth and fullness of this wine is almost palpable. A monster, hiding behind a cloak of succulent sweetness, spice, and mulled cherries. The oak is integrated into the tightly knit and thickly structured fruit, the spice is layered, the complexity builds and builds.

Drink 2025+

Chambolle-Musigny 1er Cru Les Baudes (case x 6)

£465.00 per case IB

Produced from 44 year old vines which are located adjacent to the Grand Cru of Bonne Marres. Fermented in 100% new oak and aged for 18 months. A similar bouquet to the Morey-Saint-Denis, with a degree more 'exotica' on the first sniff – this is, again, deeply opulent and seriously stacked in terms of power, richness and mouthfeel. Big, ripe and laden with boiled black fruits encased in a structure that has a feel of iron and wet soil, the denseness of the wine feels like it is still shaking the earth from its roots. It is firm and tight but will delight in a few years' time.

Drink 2025+

Gevrey-Chambertin 1er Cru Fonteny (case x 6)

£450.00 per case IB

Produced from 62 year old vines enjoying an east west exposure to the daily sunshine that sit on a very rocky soil, producing very small grapes. Situated next to the Grand Cru Ruchottes, Fonteny is always a much more charming Gevrey, oozing finesse. In 2018, this wine shows the power of Gevrey in spades; fermented in 100% new oak and aged for 18 months, this is exotic, rich and plump with a rich sweet core, balanced by a subtle hint of black olive and liquorice. There is power enough here, with great length and a brooding sense of complexity

Drink 2025+



CÔTE DE NUITS

DOMAINE CHRISTIAN SÉRAFIN

Gevrey-Chambertin 1er Cru Les Cazetières (case x 6)

£550.00 per case IB

Produced from 60 year old vines, this 1er Cru is situated immediately next to the famous Clos Saint Jacques vineyard. The family has just increased their holding of this great 1er Cru after realizing that Christian Sérafin's garden was within the appellation boundaries! Dig up the lawn and plant the vines!

Fermented in 100% new oak and aged for 18 months this is always the most robust of Sérafin's 1er Cru's. Masculine with a propensity to age extremely well, there are many dimensions to this wine, but the most immediate impression is of balance – the richness and sweetness of the fruit is held perfectly in check by startling freshness and minerality – the spice is cooled by the acidity, the oak balanced by the earthiness, the opulence mirrored by the lush quality of the structure. A truly great Gevrey and a consistent high scorer, year after year.

Drink 2025+

Charmes-Chambertin (case x 6)

£750.00 per case IB

Produced from two parcels of vines averaging 86 years old, one in Charmes and one in Mazoyères totaling only 0.3ha. (It is an interesting peculiarity that Mazoyères can be used as Charmes Chambertin.). In 2018 only 5 barrels were made – and demand will be for around 500!

This is a foxy, seductive, exotic, lush and generous Pinot Noir, showing sweet cherries, raspberry Pavlova, a touch of myrtle with a profoundly rich and brooding palate. The tannins, formidable as they are, are enveloped in the lush fruit, with integrated spicy oak, and a layer of coffee bean and dried cherry bitterness. An outstanding wine!

Drink 2026+



CÔTE DE NUITS

DOMAINE MACHARD DE GRAMONT

A short 5km drive from Nuits-St-Georges, this unassuming hamlet of Prémieux-Prissey, is the home of the characterful Alban Machard de Gramont. It has been our source of 'Burgundy at sensible prices' for many years. "Value for money" is not something that is often associated with the wines of the Côte d'Or; however, we have dealt with this family domaine for many years as it offers such great wines at sensible prices. As Alban often says, "I want people to be able to afford to drink my wines" How refreshing!

The family owns small parcels in several different appellations and manages to seduce the individual characteristics from each one. They use a blend of American and French oak, developing a unique style in the appellation of Nuits-St-Georges, Gevrey-Chambertin and Pommard.

The grapes are hand-harvested and vinified at low temperatures, with natural yeast, in oak barrels. They are then aged for 12 to 16 months in the cellars of the domaine.

RED

Bourgogne Pinot Noir 'Le Chapitre'

£75.00 per case IB

This is one of only three Bourgogne Pinot Noirs that can attach the vineyard name to its label. It has now been given the go ahead to be re-classified to the appellation of Marsannay from the 2020 vintage. A bit of a shame but we still have 2 more years to fill our boots with this outstanding value for money wine! Produced from 60 year old vines and aged in 15% new oak, this wine offers simply outstanding value for money!

Drink 2020+



Alban Machard de Gramont with Neil Goldie



CÔTE DE NUITS

DOMAINE MACHARD DE GRAMONT

Bourgogne Hautes Côtes de Beaune

£80.00 per case IB

Produced from vineyards just outside the boundary with Pommard, this is a really interesting wine. 3 parcels, the oldest of which are planted with 70 year old vines, are very well positioned and enjoy all day sunshine. Alban adds 4% Pinot Beurot (an ancient Burgundian grape similar to Pinot Gris) to the wine to enhance the aromatics. There is no new oak used in the production of this wine. A very beautiful everyday Pinot Noir with a delightful wild strawberry fruit palate. There is a lovely hedgerow freshness to the finish.

Drink 2020+

Chorey-lès-Beaune

£120.00 per case IB

Produced from vineyards to the west of the village of Chorey, this wine is aged in older barrels. Aged in 20% new French oak. Sweet cherry fruits and ripe succulent tannins. As Alban says, "What is the point in waiting!". This wine encapsulates all that is great at village level in Burgundy – offering ripe forward yet elegant perfumed black fruits, a touch of 'opulence' in the mid palate that sweetens and draws through the mouth like a vinous thread, yet behind the sweetness there is structure a plenty, with a well-balanced and slightly 'meaty' finish.

Drink 2020+

Beaune Les Epenottes

£140.00 per case IB

This finely situated plot of only 0.3ha touches the Pommard 1er Cru Epenots at the southern limit of the appellation. Fermented and aged in a mixture of both French, American and Hungarian oak of which 25% is new. This wine is always good, but in 2018 the energetic Alban has surpassed himself. This Pinot shows a rich, brooding style, with a core of hedonistic, sweet-edged and forward black fruits, seductive texture and a nose that not only seduces but wraps you in a thickening weight of power, sweet oak, weight, boiled cherry, plum and mulling spice.

Drink 2020+

Beaune 1er Cru Aux Coucheries

£182.00 per case IB

Produced from 63 year old vines, fermented and aged in 50% new Burgundian oak, which gives added structure to the wine. Only 8 barrels of this wine were produced. The bouquet is immediately appealing, quite lush, but then broadens to show cassis, cherry and spice elements. There is an underlying hint of menthol from the limestone soils (very atypical) which in no way detracts, but adds texture and a seasoning balance to the overt sweetness and 'jammy' ripeness of the wine. A long, complex and broadening finish.

Drink 2020+



CÔTE DE NUITS

DOMAINE MACHARD DE GRAMONT

Gevrey-Chambertin 'Pressonnier'

£210.00 per case IB

This small 0.3 ha plot produces only 9 barrels a year. Aged in 25% French mountain oak, the finer grain enhances the soft tannins. and a little German oak for seasoning. Wow – what a cracking wine!

Lush, open and sensuous at first approach, this is a sturdy, broad shouldered Pinot that exudes class and appeal. The tannins are ripe and fulsome, the fruit lush, sweet-edged and textured with a lovely atypical 'meaty' finish atop the cherry and roasted plum fruit. Nice lick of pepper compliments the long even finish. Superb!

Drink 2020+

Nuits-St-Georges En La Perrière Noblot

£205.00 per case IB

This domaine is the dominant landowner of this lieu-dit with a 1.7 ha limestone plot of late ripening vines, some of which are 50 years old. It is situated on this mid-slope in between the villages of Nuits-Saint- Georges and Vosne Romanée. Aged in 30% new oak barrels, of which 40% is French and 60% is American.

Sweet, lush and quite decadent with a lovely thick texture, a touch of Scottish raspberry and a hint of warming spice. The tannins are firm, yet underpinned by the lush fruit – this is a rich and fresh wine, yet will develop well for several years and reward those who have patience.

Drink 2020+

Nuits-Saint-Georges 1er Cru 'Les Damodes'

£295.00 per case IB

Situated in the northern part of the appellation, on poor, limestone soils, just to the south of the premier cru appellations of Vosne-Romanée. One of the domaine's flagship wines, this was our top scoring red from Machard.

Great bouquet, open and inviting with hints of both red and black fruits, creamy and textured throughout. The palate was fresh, slightly smoky with raspberry, cherry and a note of myrtle – then the firm tannins enveloped the wine and these added more tension and energy. This is great winemaking – complex, long and quite simply a fabulous Burgundy!.

Drink 2022+



CÔTE DE NUITS

DOMAINE JEAN GRIVOT

“Everything has to play at the same time – it is like an orchestra. The winemaker is the conductor!” – Etienne Grivot.

Along with Domaine Tollot Beaud, this 15 ha domaine was one of the first to bottle its own wines, back in the 1930's. Etienne Grivot, who is the 5th generation to run this family domaine, is now joined by his daughter, Mathilde, so the future is in safe hands.

Etienne has some great raw materials to work with. He destems 95% and stops the practice of 'pigeage' as soon as the fermentation starts, continuing with one 'pumping over' the skins per day before the ferment stops and the wines are transferred to barrel. He uses 30% new oak for village wines, 40-50% new oak for 1er Crus and up to 70% new oak for his Grand Crus.

Grivot produce some of the most classic wines in the whole of Burgundy, with an average vine age of around 45 - 50 years old. His motto is simple! “Wine is a therapy – you need to feel better after it than before!”

Vosne-Romanée (case x 6)

£282.00 per case IB

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

This is classic Vosne-Romanée; silky, sweet-edged, rounded and supple. Hints of blueberry, raspberry and green tea, layered in new sweet oak and showing a delicious elegance, very moreish and a wonderful Pinot that will develop well. An outstanding wine!

Drink 2023+

Nuits-St-Georges 'Aux Lavières' (case x 6)

£282.00 per case IB

These vineyards are situated on the Vosne-Romanée side of Nuits-Saint-Georges and thereby take influences from both villages – the linearity of Nuits-Saint-Georges and the seductive succulence of Vosne-Romanée. Aged for 15 months in 20% new oak. So rich and sexy with a voluptuous mouthfeel, it is both intensely powerful and charming. Aged for 15 months in 20% new oak, this wine underwent a long and slow malo-lactic fermentation.

Rich, aromatic, fresh and intense on the nose, the palate offers great definition – the fruit is sweet and multi-layered, the tannins are firm yet seductively entwined within the structure, the acidity fresh and 'lifts' the whole wine and there is an underlying spice and minerality. This is a buxom and full red, structured to impress yet with a lovely elegance to the fruit.

Drink 2023+



BURGUNDY EN PRIMEUR 2018 ORDER FORM

Cases Req'd	Cost IB	Total
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Prices given are per case, in bond Melton (ex VAT & Duty)

CHABLIS

DOMAINE PHIPILLE TESTUT

Chablis Vieilles Vignes	.....	£105.00	.....
Chablis 1er Cru Montée de Tonnerre	.....	£154.00	.....
Chablis Grand Cru Les Grenouilles (case x 6)	.....	£162.00	.....

DOMAINE DES MARRONNIERS

Chablis	.....	£98.00	.....
(5+ cases)	.....	£95.00	.....
Chablis 1er Cru Montmains	.....	£138.00	.....

DOMAINE DANIEL DAMPT

Chablis	.....	£102.00	.....
(5+ cases)	.....	£99.00	.....
Chablis 1er Cru Côte de Léchet	.....	£149.00	.....

MÂCONNAIS

OLIVIER MERLIN

WHITE

Mâcon La Roche Vineuse	.....	£95.00	.....
Mâcon La Roche Vineuse Vieilles Vignes	.....	£125.00	.....

RED

Bourgogne Pinot Noir	.....	£110.00	.....
Moulin à Vent 'La Rochelle'	£186.00

DOMAINE ROGER LUQUET

Pouilly Fuissé 'Au Bourg'	£140.00
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CHÂTEAU FUISSÉ

Château Fuissé, Tête de Cuvée (case x 6)	£95.00
Château Fuissé, Le Clos (Monopole) (case x 6)	£192.00

CHALONNAISE

CHATEAU DE CHAMILLY

WHITE

Montagny 'Les Reculerons' (case x 6)	£60.00
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RED

Mercurey 1er Cru Les Puilleux (case x 6)	£96.00
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BURGUNDY EN PRIMEUR 2018 ORDER FORM

		Cases Req'd	Cost IB	Total
CHALONNAISE	CAVE DE BUXY			
	WHITE			
	Macon Azé, Jules Richard (case x 6)	.....	£28.50	.....
	Bourgogne Côtes Chalonnaise	.....	£34.00	.....
	Buissonnier (case x 6)			
	RED			
	Côteaux Bourguignons, Buissonnier (case x 6)	.....	£28.00	.....
	Bourgogne Côtes Chalonnaise	.....	£34.00	.....
	Buissonnier (case x 6)			
CÔTE DE BEAUNE	DOMAINE DENIS CARRE			
	WHITE			
	Auxey Duresses Les Vireux (case x 6)	.....	£111.00	.....
	Meursault Les Tillets (case x 6)	.....	£189.00	.....
	RED			
	Beaune 1er Cru Les Tuvilains (case x 6)	.....	£135.00	.....
	DOMAINE HUBERT LAMY			
	Bourgogne Chardonnay 'Les Chataigniers'	.....	£178.00	.....
	St Aubin La Princesse	.....	£235.00	.....
	St Aubin 1er Cru Clos du Meix	.....	£299.00	.....
	St Aubin 1er Cru en Remilly	.....	£415.00	.....
	DOMAINE GUY AMIOT			
	Bourgogne Chardonnay 'Cuvée Flavie'	.....	£120.00	.....
	Chassagne-Montrachet Vieilles Vignes	.....	£350.00	.....
	Chassagne-Montrachet 1er Cru	.....	£220.00	.....
	Les Macherelles (case x 6)			
	Chassagne-Montrachet 1er Cru	.....	£245.00	.....
	Les Vergers (case x 6)			
	Chassagne-Montrachet 1er Cru	.....	£245.00	.....
	Les Caillerets (case x 6)			
	Puligny-Montrachet 1er Cru	.....	£550.00	.....
	Les Demoiselles (case x 6)			
	Le Montrachet (case x 6)	.....	£2,400.00	.....
	DOMAINE JEAN LOUIS CHAVY			
	Puligny-Montrachet (case x 6)	£165.00
	Puligny-Montrachet	£255.00
	1er Cru Clavoillon (case x 6)			



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BURGUNDY EN PRIMEUR 2018 ORDER FORM

	Cases Req'd	Cost IB	Total
CÔTE DE BEAUNE DOMAINE BACHELET-MONNOT			
WHITE			
Puligny-Montrachet (case x 6)	£199.00	.....
Puligny-Montrachet 1er Cru	£332.00	.....
Les Folatières (case x 6)			
RED			
Maranges 1er Cru Clos de la Boutière (case x 6)	£100.00	.....
DOMAINE ETIENNE SAUZET			
Bourgogne Blanc Tufera (case x 6)	£99.00	.....
Puligny-Montrachet (case x 6)	£240.00	.....
Puligny-Montrachet 1er Cru	£420.00	.....
Les Perrières (case x 6)			
DOMAINE MESTRE-MICHELOT			
Bourgogne Chardonnay (case x 6)	£69.00	.....
Meursault (case x 6)	£148.00	.....
Meursault Clos St Felix (case x 6)	£168.00	.....
Meursault 1er Cru Les Genévrières (case x 6)	£290.00	.....
DOMAINE LAFARGE			
Volnay (case x 6)	£210.00	.....
Volnay 1er Cru Clos des Chênes (case x 6)	£475.00	.....
DOMAINE VOILLOT			
Bourgogne Pinot Noir (case x 6)	£75.00	.....
Volnay Vieilles Vignes (case x 6)	£138.00	.....
Volnay 1er Cru Fremiets (case x 6)	£250.00	.....
Volnay 1er Cru Champans (case x 6)	£250.00	.....
Pommard (case x 6)	£148.00	.....
Pommard 1er Cru Epenots (case x 6)	£336.00	.....
DOMAINE CAMUS BRUCHON			
Savigny-lès-Beaune, La Reine Joly (case x 6)	£100.00	.....
DOMAINE TOLLOT-BEAUT			
Bourgogne Pinot Noir (case x 6)	£90.00	.....
Chorey-lès-Beaune (case x 6)	£114.00	.....
Savigny Champs Chevrey (case x 6)	£174.00	.....
Aloxe-Corton (case x 6)	£177.00	.....
Beaune 1er Cru Clos du Roi (case x 6)	£270.00	.....



BURGUNDY EN PRIMEUR 2018 ORDER FORM

		Cases Req'd	Cost IB	Total
CÔTE DE NUITS	DOMAINE CHRISTIAN SÉRAFIN			
	Bourgogne Pinot Noir (case x 6)	.....	£125.00	.....
	Gevrey-Chambertin (case x 6)	.....	£200.00	.....
	Gevrey-Chambertin Vieilles Vignes (case x 6)	.....	£275.00	.....
	Gevrey-Chambertin 1er Cru Les Corbeaux (case x 6)	.....	£350.00	.....
	Morey St Denis 1er Cru Les Millandes (case x 6)	.....	£345.00	.....
	Chambolle Musigny 1er Cru Les Baudes (case x 6)	.....	£465.00	.....
	Gevrey-Chambertin 1er Cru Fonteny (case x 6)	.....	£450.00	.....
	Gevrey-Chambertin 1er Cru Les Cazetières (case x 6)	.....	£550.00	.....
	Charmes-Chambertin (case x 6)	.....	£750.00	.....
CÔTE DE NUITS	DOMAINE MACHARD DE GRAMONT			
	RED			
	Bourgogne Pinot Noir 'Le Chapitre'	.....	£75.00	.....
	Bourgogne Hautes Côtes de Beaune	.....	£80.00	.....
	Chorey-lès-Beaune	.....	£120.00	.....
	Beaune Les Epenottes	.....	£140.00	.....
	Beaune 1er Cru Aux Coucheries	.....	£182.00	.....
	Gevrey-Chambertin 'Pressonnier'	.....	£210.00	.....
	Nuits-St-Georges En La Perrière Noblot	.....	£205.00	.....
	Nuits-Saint-Georges 1er Cru 'Les Damodes'	.....	£295.00	.....
	DOMAINE JEAN GRIVOT			
	Vosne-Romanée (case x 6)	£282.00
	Nuits-St-Georges 'Aux Lavières' (case x 6)	£282.00
	Total		



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BURGUNDY EN PRIMEUR 2018 ORDER FORM

To purchase any of our Burgundy 2018 wines En Primeur, please visit www.houseoftownend.com.

Alternatively, you can return the enclosed order form and send your payment by Bank Transfer.

Please return this form along with your payment to:

House of Townend Ltd
Wyke Way
Melton West Business Park
Melton
East Riding of Yorkshire
HU14 3BQ

Account Name: J Townend & Sons (Hull) Ltd
Sort Code: 40-25-20
Account Number: 20814660
Please use the reference: Burgundy 2018

Payment details:

(CAPITALS PLEASE)

Name:

Tel No:

E-mail:

Address:

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Postcode:

Signed

House of Townend reserve the right to refuse removal of any stock held in Melton Bond if the customer is outside the agreed trading terms and offset any value against outstanding monies on the customer's trading account.

TERMS & CONDITIONS OF SALE

In Bond: Wines offered are lying in Bond in Melton, and these wines will attract a charge for the Excise Duty (currently £26.78 per case of 12 bottles) and VAT, when the wine is taken out of Bond.

Storage: We will be pleased to store your wines in our secure Bonded Warehouse in Melton, if you so wish. The rental is 15 pence per case per week, which covers all charges.



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