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LEA & SANDEMAN

'MOST ORIGINAL WINE MERCHANTS'

2018 Burgundy En Primeur Offer

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sales@leaandsandeman.co.uk, 020 7018 1414

2018 Burgundy En Primeur

An excellent vintage - good quantities of very good whites, and ripe, rich, concentrated reds.

2018 was a very hot vintage – the growing season only beaten by 2003 for overall heat. However, the wines are very different from 2003. Even where they are very ripe there is much more freshness than one could have dreamed possible. The very wet winter of 2017-8 was one decisive factor, as it meant water reserves in the soil were good, and generally speaking the vines did not suffer from drought - and while there was an unprecedented number of hours of sunshine, there were not the peaks of burning heat which marked the 2003s.

The Whites

The whites, produced from a welcome large harvest, are good to very good, a vintage which will be welcome in the market as much for the volume as for the quality. The grapes were in perfect condition at the harvest and it was possible to press hard and long. The ripeness of the year may give a front-of-mouth opulence, but behind that there is quite good acidity and the wines lengthen out and finish on a refreshing pithy phenolic density supported by the acidity – this should develop well in bottle. They will be immensely attractive quite early, but we will bet that, a bit like 2009, many from our top domaines will prove better in the cellar than current more general projections seem to imply.

The Reds

For the mostly excellent reds, the lack of drought means the wines are inclined to be much more sumptuous than 2003, with high colour and tannin levels - tannins that are sweetly ripe and completely enveloped in a feeling of silky generosity.

There was definitely a choice to be made between harvesting early to keep the potential alcohol down, or waiting for phenolic maturity (which came late) and dealing with high sugar levels. Pick too early and the wines, even at 13.5%, could be green-edged; pick at full ripeness and the alcohols can be over 15%, although most are somewhere in between. If picking early, it was not possible to do much extraction for fear of extracting green pip tannins, if picking later the ripe stalks could go into the vat too, bringing a bracing additional 'straightness' and elegance. In a year when alcohols are relatively high, and acidities relatively low, the tannins can bring the balance and an impression of freshness - but it is a different freshness to the normal Burgundian freshness of acidity. Or perhaps it will turn out to be the new normal.

It was also possible to extract a lot from the very healthy harvest. Those who made wines by infusion still made wines with rich colour and sumptuous body; those who waited could stray further into a character that is still clearly Pinot, but with an expression more like wines from the Northern Rhône than we are all used to from the Côte de Nuits – but in this exotic style, hugely enjoyable and complete.

Our 'Top Picks' from the vintage for red and white will be made available as the campaign progresses, along with recommendations from the critics. Whether you are looking for the finest Grand Crus, the best performing Premier Crus, or some great value drinking Burgundy, these lists are the place to start.



Charles Lea & The Lea & Sandeman Team

INDEX

White

Chablis, 5

Domaine Adhémar et Francis Boudin
Domaine Denis Pommier
Domaine des Hâtes
Domaine Drouhin Vaudon
Domaine Laurent Tribut
Domaine Moreau-Naudet
Domaine Solange Tribut
Domaine Vincent Dauvissat

Mâconnais, 9

Domaine Daniel Barraud
Domaine Frantz Chagnoleau

Côte Chalonnaise, 11

Domaine Dureuil-Janthial
Domaine François Lumpp
Domaine Paul et Marie Jacqueson
Jean-Marc Boillot

Côte D'Or, 13

Domaine Anne Gros
Domaine Bernard Dugat-Py
Domaine des Lambrays
Domaine Faiveley
Domaine Fernand & Laurent Pillot
Domaine Henri Boillot
Henri Boillot
Domaine Henri Germain
Domaine Hubert Lamy
Domaine Jean-Marc Boillot
Domaine Joseph Colin
Domaine Joseph Drouhin
Joseph Drouhin
Domaine Rémi Jobard
Domaine de la Choupette
Thibault Liger-Belair Successeurs
Domaine Thomas-Collardot

Red

Côte Chalonnaise, 22

Domaine Dureuil-Janthial
Domaine François Lumpp
Domaine Paul et Marie Jacqueson
Domaine François Raquillet

Côte D'Or, 24

Côte de Beaune, 24

Domaine Bernard Dugat-Py
Domaine Faiveley
Domaine Fernand & Laurent Pillot
Domaine Henri Boillot
Henri Boillot
Domaine Henri Germain
Domaine Hubert Lamy
Domaine Joseph Colin
Domaine Joseph Drouhin
Domaine Comte Armand
Domaine de Courcel
Domaine J. Confuron Cotetidot
Domaine Joël Rémy
Domaine de la Choupette
Domaine Nicolas Rossignol
Thibault Liger-Belair Successeurs

Côte de Nuits, 32

Domaine Anne Gros
Domaine Bernard Dugat-Py
Domaine des Lambrays
Domaine Faiveley
Domaine Henri Boillot
Domaine Joseph Drouhin
Domaine Thierry Mortet
Domaine de la Douaix
Domaine J. Confuron Cotetidot
Domaine Christophe Perrot-Minot
Domaine Georges Mugneret-Gibourg
Domaine Lignier-Michelot
Domaine Stéphane Magnien
Domaine Thibault Liger-Belair
Thibault Liger-Belair Successeurs
Domaine Huguenot

CHABLIS**Domaine Adhémar et Francis Boudin****£ Per case IB Bottle Size Case Size**

Francis Boudin, who has obviously been in charge for many years, continues to make wines which from this sector at La Chapelle Vaupelteigne, next to the Fourchaume escarpment, gets good ripeness and the wines here are quite fat and supple, while still retaining the classic Chablis minerality.

The new generation were much in evidence at our autumn 2018 visit, and so the continuity is assured, with Francis' daughters Angélique and Virginie, as well as Angélique's husband, now working in the domaine.

2018 CHABLIS Domaine Adhémar et Francis Boudin

£115 75cl bottles case of 12

In such a warm vintage the Boudin family have done a great job here presenting a fresh and nicely clipped Chablis. As ever their trademark soft fruit and weight is in there but delivered brightly and with good verve, another very pleasing release from this house favourite.

2018 CHABLIS 1er Cru Fourchaume Domaine Adhémar et Francis Boudin

£155 75cl bottles case of 12

There is good freshness here too. Brighter and also broader. This is quite chunky in the fruit feel - but nice style and good mineral lift. There is a phenolic texture, nice weight of dry extract. And then a nice cleansing sweep of minerality. Soft apple notes waft across the finish.

2018 CHABLIS 1er Cru Homme Mort Domaine Adhémar et Francis Boudin

£215 75cl bottles case of 12

Interesting, spice on nose soft ginger and lime perk up this enticing nose. Follows to the palate with crunch of white fruit and some soft peach and pineapple elements too.

Good power - good precision too - a nice pinched feel. Taut with good tension - but lovely weight on the middle palate too. Clever stuff, this will be explosive. Delicious.

2018 CHABLIS Domaine Adhémar et Francis Boudin

£70 Half-bottles case of 12

2018 CHABLIS 1er Cru Fourchaume Domaine Adhémar et Francis Boudin

£95 Half-bottles case of 12

Domaine Denis Pommier**£ Per case IB Bottle Size Case Size**

Founded when the Pommiers inherited 2 hectares of vines in 1990. Isabelle and Denis bottled their first wine in 1994 and now have 18 hectares of vineyards, which are run according to biodynamic principles (which have sadly cost them dearly in terms of lost crop in 2016 and 2017). The Petit Chablis is a model of brisk freshness - made entirely in stainless steel - while the Premier Crus benefit from a small amount of barrel-fermentation and élevage. The Troësmes (a small parcel within the larger premier cru 'Beuroy' which the Pommiers think deserves to be identified by its correct name) is relatively rounder, while the Côte de Léchet is the one for fans of the slatier, crystalline side of minerality. Keep either of the premiers crus four to six years.

2018 PETIT CHABLIS Domaine Denis Pommier

£120 75cl bottles case of 12

Nice crisp edge here. This is clean and bright on the nose and that freshness follows to the palate. All soft lemon and cox apple a very convincing Chablis line. Was expecting to be bigger and more broad - but it is good and clipped and just how you want it. Nice matter in the middle - but well balanced. Perfect and not so Petit!

2018 CHABLIS Croix aux Moines Domaine Denis Pommier

£180 75cl bottles case of 12

No more than 10% in new wood; this would normally be nearer to 25%. But he's right there is already a really good feel. Mineral, chalky line takes the lead - then some soft yellow. Mirabelle and green-gage inflected fruit builds. Less crisp finish but this starts bright and clean and grows on the palate. Attractively broad and wholesome. Some iodine and more savoury notes swirl on the finish. Interesting and intriguing. Lots to think about will need a few months to settle.

2018 CHABLIS 1er Cru Côte de Léchet Domaine Denis Pommier

£195 75cl bottles case of 12

Bright, with lovely tight lines. This is good. Classy effort from Denis. Lovely citrus kick ? super minerality. Long and clean push to the finish. Plenty of mineral power and buzz. Nice depth - but no excess at all. This vineyard is quite high up the Cote - and gets a good wind from the north which always gives fresh tension to the wine.

2018 CHABLIS 1er Cru Troësmes Domaine Denis Pommier

£220 75cl bottles case of 12

The Pommiers used to label this as Beuroy, but Troësmes is a more specific spot within Beuroy, known locally to be the very best plot and quite distinctive.

Great citrus lift here. Then some nice fraîcheur from the ground. Fruit balanced perfectly by the gorgeous mineral lift. There is focus and tension - what more do you want? A great Chablis. Smart - powerful and clean as a whistle - but with nice depth too: a 'profondeur' in the middle which is normal for Troësmes. Finishes with the whiff of the seashore.

Domaine des Hâtes	£ Per case IB	Bottle Size	Case Size
<p>Pierrick Laroche's father farms cereals, and was not very concerned with his family's vineyard, the production of which was sold to the co-operative. Pierrick took them out of the co-operative, and 2010 was his first vintage making wine under his own label. Pierrick is clearly a very talented winemaker. He currently manages 25 hectares of vines in Petit Chablis, Chablis and Premier Cru, with additional fruit being bought to make his Beauroy and Grand Cru Bougros. In preparation for bottling under his own name from 2010 onwards Pierrick stopped using pesticides and herbicides in 2009 and has since then manually worked the soil - this great change in practices has seen superb results in the quality of fruit he is now picking.</p> <p>It is all about freshness and precision here. Classical, deeply mineral wines. Picking perhaps earlier than some of his neighbours Pierrick captures beautiful acidity and brightness of fruit - he then loves giving the wine a long élevage in tank to build texture and weight and complexity. He is not averse to using oak - but it is done at a very minimal level with just the 1er Cru wine having less than 25% oak ageing. The results are bright, elegant wines but with a real shape and feel - classical, but interesting Chablis.</p>			
2018 CHABLIS Domaine des Hâtes	£125	75cl bottles	case of 12
<p>Massive yields of 2018 here in Chablis mean that all producers have to get rid of anything more than 60HL/HA harvested. Inevitably they get rid of the excess from the bottom up. This means the great quality filters down: - excess Grand Cru juice goes into 1er Cru, excess 1er cru goes in to Chablis etc. Which helps explain why this is quite so good. Nice and clean core of sleek fruit dominates proceedings. There is a good peppy acidity too which carries nicely the full and supple fruit. All really well delivered in a polished neat jolt - well done Pierrick this is great drinkers' Chablis.</p>			
2018 CHABLIS 1er Cru Beauroy Maison des Hâtes	£200	75cl bottles	case of 12
<p>25% of this goes into wood here in a mixture of sizes so Pierrick can really control the impact. He uses demi-muids and regular barrels. Of the wood 20% is usually new.</p> <p>There is a richness up front a nicely gourmand feel not thick - but just indulgent enough. It is guided and held the right side of the fence by a nice tension that builds to the finish. Full of sunshine but good lines too. Some brighter bolts of acidity and some good intensity of fruit make for a satisfying Chablis.</p>			
2018 CHABLIS Grand Cru Bougros Maison des Hâtes	£215	75cl bottles	case of 6
Domaine Drouhin Vaudon	£ Per case IB	Bottle Size	Case Size
<p>The Beaune-based merchant Joseph Drouhin has restyled its Chablis Domaine 'Domaine Drouhin-Vaudon' to emphasise its ties with and holdings in (38 hectares) the Chablis vineyard. The Moulin de Vaudon, an 18th Century watermill straddling the Serein River, close to the Grand Cru vineyards of Chablis, is the headquarters and the source of the name. It is the largest estate in Chablis entirely farmed biodynamically.</p>			
2018 CHABLIS Grand Cru Les Clos Domaine Drouhin Vaudon	£295	75cl bottles	case of 6
Domaine Laurent Tribut	£ Per case IB	Bottle Size	Case Size
<p>Laurent Tribut is married to Vincent Dauvissat's sister, Marie Clotilde. When he started he made his wines in the Dauvissat cellar in Chablis, but now this small family-run domaine is based in Poinchy. You could not hope to meet a more charming and mild-mannered man than Laurent. He is a quiet genius, making some of the purest and most classical wines in the appellation.</p> <p>Three (Solange, Adeline and Gabriel) of Laurent's four children all now work with him. With his guidance the future here looks very bright. With just 6 hectares the quantities are small - but the quality of all his cuvées is extraordinary. Pure, powerfully driven, classically shaped there is more than a passing similarity to the wines of his brother-in-law the head-line grabbing Vincent Dauvissat. Buyers will enjoy these super wines with some time in bottle too - they have a great ability to age and patience will pay off, we recently tasted the 1er Cru Côte de Léchet 2004 with Laurent in his cellar and it was bright, young and full of vigour - nearly 15 years on. This is brilliant, classic Chablis made by a quiet maestro.</p>			
2018 CHABLIS 1er Cru Beauroy Domaine Laurent Tribut	£270	75cl bottles	case of 12
<p>Immediate hit of joy here. From the glass - fresh citrus notes rose and on the palate the fun continues. Mineral seashore wafts float above the firm citrus core - delicious. Super feel and classic lines. Well done! Texture is bang on. No iodine, no seashells, but bright, clean and with nice fruit weight. V smart Chablis.</p>			
2018 CHABLIS 1er Cru Montmains Domaine Laurent Tribut	TBA	75cl bottles	case of 6
<p>The Montmains was the only wine in the cellar that had not quite completed its Malo.</p> <p>Acidity is there - boy - a good crisp attack. Then delicious crisp apple skin and crunchy white flesh. Good saline notes too - fruit is rich, yellow warm lemons and firm peach flesh in the background, but still over-riding sensation is Chablis! Impressive.</p>			
2018 CHABLIS 1er Cru Côte de Léchet Domaine Laurent Tribut	£270	75cl bottles	case of 12
<p>Pretty nose, just generous enough. Enticing. Lovely lemony brightness up front on the palate. Good grip and mineral hold. again so classical. This is clever there is more limestone in the soil here than their Beauroy plot - and it is clear on the palate. Having just tasted Beauroy - this is even more focused, more pure lines and that sueded, grippy texture. Nice energy though - fresh acidity pushes to the finish.</p>			
2018 CHABLIS Domaine Laurent Tribut	£185	75cl bottles	case of 12
<p>The Tribut family have got it spot on here. Despite the famously warm conditions in 2018, this delivers everything you could hope for! On the nose some bright apple and then the odd savoury fleck adds another dimension. Great Chablis fruit character and mineral feel. Pear and lemon flesh.</p> <p>True and precise - really nicely done. There is good minerality and good fruit here - spot on.</p>			

2018 CHABLIS 1er Cru Montmains Domaine Laurent Tribut	TBA	75cl bottles	case of 12
The Montmains was the only wine in the cellar that had not quite completed its Malo. Acidity is there - boy - a good crisp attack. Then delicious crisp apple skin and crunchy white flesh. Good saline notes too - fruit is rich, yellow warm lemons and firm peach flesh in the background, but still over-riding sensation is Chablis! Impressive.			
Domaine Moreau-Naudet	£ Per case IB	Bottle Size	Case Size
Virginie Moreau is proving more than equal to the task of taking over from her husband Stéphane. Stéphane, who was influenced by Vincent Dauvissat (who recommended him to us many years ago, and who remains an influence here) was vigneron whose star burned very brightly, and the domaine continues along the lines he set, working organically, hand-picking, aiming for optimum maturity while avoiding any botrytis influence. The cellar-work is also masterful, using barrel-élevage, but not in such a way that oakiness can readily be detected in the wines (all the barrels are steamed rather than charred and there is no new oak except for in the straight Chablis, and then only one barrel per 100hl in order to age it prior to using for the Premiers Crus). Virginie is proving to have what it takes to build on Stéphane's legacy, and the wines here, full of racy character, textural depth and complexity, are as fine as they have ever been.			
2018 PETIT CHABLIS Domaine Moreau-Naudet	£120	75cl bottles	case of 12
The sample we tasted was from from one cuve - of three, that will be blended. Good feel. Yes! This is very promising! Intense, but dry and fresh too. Lovely acidity. Great bounce and ping to the citrus crusted fruit core. Limey, pithy feel on the palate. Good and delicious flow with a fine note of sweetness that pops up from time to time - good effort.			
2018 CHABLIS Domaine Moreau-Naudet	£135	75cl bottles	case of 12
Straight away this makes you smile. This is great. Pretty and floral notes of white blossom and lemony verbena on the nose. Then a really lovely feel. More Chablis-like than the Petit Chablis tasted just before. Here there is super weight of fruit. Really sexy. Nice intensity, broad yet there is a great contained feel. This Chablis is so measured and pure. Ripeness adds some exotic notes but this is fresh and lively. Winning.			
2018 CHABLIS Vieilles Vignes Les Pargues Domaine Moreau-Naudet	£160	75cl bottles	case of 12
15-25HL/HA is normal here, always a tiny yield. These 70 year old vines give gorgeous but intense juice - and just not much of it anymore. Brisker, more energy - a spritz here. Really lovely sherberty-like pep. Lemon juice - less full on - less ample feel - but this is good. Fresh and delicious.			
2018 CHABLIS 1er Cru Forêts Domaine Moreau-Naudet	£220	75cl bottles	case of 12
(30% New wood). Tasted after the Montmains. This is more straight and lean. Beautifully bright and clean - a 'ting' to this, a clarity of expression. Delicious crisp lines - the fruit is good but more yellow and green - peppy - and juicy. Mineral and fresh even if there is a weight to the fleshy core. Wet pebbles up front then bigger more full fruit flavours to the back. Nice play on the palate. A really enjoyable Chablis.			
2018 CHABLIS 1er Cru Montmains Domaine Moreau-Naudet	£220	75cl bottles	case of 12
(10% new wood) Another riot on the palate. Fresh start, builds fast to a more measured ripe-fruited middle There is apple bite, firm peach, curd-like intensity to the citrus line and lovely orange blossom flowers. Some savour too, some seaweed - then gently textured dusty feel adds grip and focus on the back end. Just crunched sea-shell hints pepper the finish.			
2018 CHABLIS 1er Cru Vaillons Domaine Moreau-Naudet	£220	75cl bottles	case of 12
(30% New Wood) This is leaner than the Pargues, with a more restrained tenser feel. Neat and compact. Some apple crunch and then sweeter notes too add depth to the fruit core. The whole feel is of more measure and the weight is steady, immaculate balance. Less flashy perhaps - but serious and charming. Intense fruit and green herbs too. Then saline, seashore elements. Cool and delicious.			
2018 CHABLIS 1er Cru Montée de Tonnerre Domaine Moreau-Naudet	£250	75cl bottles	case of 12
(30% New Wood). Virginie has 0.8 of hectare here in the Montée de Tonnerre. But for now only half is in production after a replanting 5 years ago of half of the site, so it is quite a small plot for now. Thankfully it is completely delicious. And the maturity of the vines shines through. The juice is Bright and so pure. Lots of minerality - this limestone impression really dominates. A great feel of cool stone. Despite the vintage and the potential exuberance of fruit - this pure, powerfully driven wine seems unphased. A steely, serious and delectable Chablis from this important premier cru site.			
2018 CHABLIS Grand Cru Valmur Domaine Moreau-Naudet	TBA	75cl bottles	case of 6
Valmur just 10% New wood this year. Virginie explains that she really did not want to add any further weight here where it could be avoided. This is richly broad and has great natural structure. Virginie always hunts out purity and lift - always wanting to guard the 'peps' - we love it peppy! There is unmistakable power here. The weight and drive are deeply impressive. The fruit middle is ripe and full of sunshine, but unmistakably tense and intrinsically 'Chablis'. Lovely soft pineapple and firm peach fruit hold forth up front and then some chalky, sea-shell notes - an almost iodine like savoury bite to the finish.			

Domaine Solange Tribut	£ Per case IB	Bottle Size	Case Size
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Solange Tribut is the daughter of Laurent Tribut, whose excellent Chablis we have sold successfully for years, and the niece of the highly regarded Vincent Dauvissat. The family tradition for expressive yet pure Chablis is safe in her hands. Her wines are very classically shaped. Light on their toes - pithy with lovely citrus highs and great clean lines. Super value wines with great heritage.

2018 CHABLIS Domaine Solange Tribut	TBA	75cl bottles	case of 12
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Although Solange and her siblings are now completely involved with all the domaine wines we always taste her own wine first. It offers a slightly different, more open and easy angle on the still very traditional family style. This is clean and fresh. Good weight of fruit. But pinched nicely - real Chablis character. Pithy lemon. Good bright lines. Some nods to richness in the back - but this is good, classically shaped Chablis, bearing in mind the long hot summer.

Domaine Vincent Dauvissat	£ Per case IB	Bottle Size	Case Size
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A domaine of 12.7 hectares, comprising a hectare each of the Grands Crus Clos and Preuses, 3.7ha of Premier Cru Forest, 1.3ha of Vaillons, 0.4ha of Séchet, .3ha of Montée de Tonnerre, 3.3ha of Chablis, 1.1ha of Petit Chablis, and .6ha of Irancy (red). Vincent Dauvissat remains one of the (if not the) leading lights of Chablis, and his wines are always in high demand and limited volume.

Vincent's grandfather Robert was the first to start bottling under the family name in 1931 and he uses the same cellar today - but the family have been growing grapes here since the 18th century. Today his single-minded determination in the vineyard, where he follows biodynamic principles (without certification) followed by very subtle use of old oak barrels as part of a long élevage, produce some of Chablis' most age-worthy and fascinating wines. The tasting in Vincent's cellar of his 2018s was, as usual, one of the highlights of our trips to Burgundy.

2018 CHABLIS Domaine Vincent Dauvissat	Sold out	75cl bottles	case of 6
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2018 CHABLIS 1er Cru Séchet Domaine Vincent Dauvissat	Sold out	75cl bottles	case of 6
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Very mineral. Just that bit of richness - and a certain spice even; really lovely.

2018 CHABLIS 1er Cru Forest Domaine Vincent Dauvissat	Sold out	75cl bottles	case of 6
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Tasted after the Séchet and Vaillons, and the nose is classier - it's got a kind of lift, and identity apart. Not sweet, but full of brightness like an inner light; warm glow and lightness and lift. As Vincent says, you sense the tannins far back in the mouth rather than in the gums.

2018 CHABLIS Grand Cru Les Clos Domaine Vincent Dauvissat	Sold out	75cl bottles	case of 6
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Quite a discreet nose, all in harmony. The palate is like the internal harmony of a great Puligny, but it's all Chablis, all tight mineral and verticality; the most complete. Just fantastic.

2018 CHABLIS Grand Cru Les Preuses Domaine Vincent Dauvissat	Sold out	75cl bottles	case of 6
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Sleek harmonious feel after a balanced nose with spice and mineral intermixed. Really quite fat, but really lively too - lots of everything. A phenolic grip that seems to press without hooking - a lovely touch. Salinity begins to emerge on the finish. The finish is long on minerals and bright flavour like inside the tube of a kaleidoscope, then slowly releases out, fan-like.

MÂCONNAIS

Domaine Daniel Barraud

£ Per case IB Bottle Size Case Size

Daniel and Martine Barraud, now joined by their son Julien and daughter Anaïs, have vineyards in Vergisson that are mostly high up under the famous rock (Vergisson lies between the two dramatic cliffs of the rocks of Solutré and Vergisson). The vineyards here are significantly higher than those of Fuissé, and are consequently later-ripening, and the wines often have a more solid structure - but all of Daniel's wines have their own character, from the Puligny-like directness of the La Roche to the fat richness of the 'en Buland', via the mineral force of the Crays. All the wines are made keeping close to the tenets of bio-dynamics - not as Daniel says for the sake of it - but because over the generations experience has taught them these principles really are the best way forward - as such they only ever bottle on a waning moon. All the wines see some barrel ageing apart from the Chaintré, which is aged in foudre (2/3) and tank. As Allen Meadows wrote in 2014 in Burghound "I have said this before, but I will say it again: no one makes better wine in the Mâconnais than Barraud. There are a few domaines that produce wines that are sometimes just as good, ... but none of them surpasses the quality he consistently produces. If you aren't familiar with the wines, you owe it to yourself and your pocketbook to check them out." (www.Burghound.com). In 2018 They picked from the 28th August to the 15th of September (stopping for 4 days in the middle). 'The wines are balanced, thirst-quenching, fresh - like 2016 or 2014', said Julien.

2018 MÂCON CHAINTRÉ Pierres Polies Domaine Daniel Barraud

£105 75cl bottles case of 12

Nicely sleek and broad in feel. Fruit is tense here - deeply flavoured with pineapple - savoury ginger powder. As ever this is a pert and firm and remarkably joyful Macon. A really nice, pretty, bright lift runs through this.

2018 MÂCON VERGISSON La Roche Domaine Daniel Barraud

£140 75cl bottles case of 12

Very impressive. It hits the palate with a broad swathe of ripeness and sunshine. Yet it is nicely kept in with mouth-watering, juicy acidity. Crisp cox apple cuts through with refreshing zip and just lifts the nice, sappy weight. This is good to go right away - pretty, juicy and delicious.

2018 POUILLY FUISSÉ Alliance-Vergisson Domaine Daniel Barraud

£145 75cl bottles case of 12

The 'Alliance' here is the coming together of 5 parcels: 4 in Vergisson and 1 in Fuissé. All the vines range between 45 - 65 years old. One of the parcels is on clay - 4 on rock. There are some serious raw materials here and some clever, hard craft from Julien. Minerality ruling the nose for now. There's also some toast here, some good wood-spice on the attack. Nicely toasty. Good, tightly furled fruit core. Firm citrus flesh some apple and some pineapple cube crunch. Quite a big boy for now. Nicely complex and lots to get your teeth in to. Complex - powerful and slightly tightish. This complex mix of terroirs is then aged in a range of barrels and tanks to get the exact expression that Julien is after. 1/3 in barrel, 1/3 in Demi-Muids, 1/3 in cuve. Just 10% of the wood is new.

2018 SAINT VÉРАН En Crêches Domaine Daniel Barraud

£145 75cl bottles case of 12

This vineyard's fantastic position up high and facing south east, as well as its rock-laden soil really show the class of this site in warm vintages. The vines here are now 37 years old and the 2018 is a total triumph. Fresh floral citrus spray to the nose and then in the mouth a delicious lift of mineral brightness kicks into some firm hard white fleshed fruit - some lime, some chalky bite. Delicious, clean and fresh Saint Véran.

2018 SAINT VÉРАН Les Pommards Domaine Daniel Barraud

£170 75cl bottles case of 12

From vines between 20-55 years old. More savoury than the 'En Crêches' - and a slightly fuller, riper fruit core holds sway. This weight and richness is surprising on the face of it as the cote the vines are on face North East and you'd expect a cooler feel - especially as the soils are poor and ideal for retaining line and freshness. However, the vines are in fact in a little dip that holds any heat. This is what gives that depth, power and weight. A great contrast to En Crêches. Deep and full. It will take time, but this impresses.

2018 POUILLY FUISSÉ Les Châtaigniers Domaine Daniel Barraud

£180 75cl bottles case of 12

Tank sample still with a little CO2 in evidence. But this does not hide the fact that it is looking super. So bright and mouth-watering on the attack. A firmish, greenish line here that peeps up the palate - but for now makes it hard to define the flavours. But I like the freshness and the energetic flow very much. Yellow fruits and sleek feel in middle.

2018 POUILLY FUISSÉ Vieilles Vignes La Verchère Domaine Daniel Barraud

£225 75cl bottles case of 12

Again a deliciously bright attack - but this has an imposing sense of weight and power in the shadows. Builds nicely - sleekly into quite a big broad polished weight. Gorgeous fruit. Firm white and yellow flesh. Sweet pear and tart peach fruit, nice bright notes. Delivery is impeccable. Big, but so smoothly done. 65 years old vines.

2018 POUILLY FUISSÉ sur la Roche Domaine Daniel Barraud

£230 75cl bottles case of 12

Damp pebbles on the nose - incredible mineral feel. Highest bit of the Rock of Vergisson, with intensely limestone soil. There is a bright and tight core of brilliant fruit here. Zipping citrus and crisp pear juice. Good energy is beautifully held by the gorgeous delicate mineral grip that builds so finely. This is heady, impressive stuff.

2018 POUILLY FUISSÉ Vieilles Vignes Les Crays Domaine Daniel Barraud

£230 75cl bottles case of 12

Crisp nose, mineral to the fore - palate is loaded with juicy citrus notes. This has an easy flow though - smooth and velveteen on the palate with just a slowly building mineral scrape towards the finish. Good stuff. From vines on the rock of Vergisson. Behind Verchere. 'Calcaire Rouge' soil here. Top drawer terroir gives such refined complexity in this humdinger of a Maconnais.

2018 POUILLY FUISSÉ Vieilles Vignes En Buland Domaine Daniel Barraud	£265	75cl bottles	case of 12
This plot was planted in 1934. The wine is now labelled as ?Grand Vin de Bourgogne? (as it is!)However, this is the best they can do as the local authorities will not classify En Buland as 1er cru, despite its clear brilliance! This is simply because it faces North East and not South. Perched highish on the Rock of Solutré. With the same soil as Les Crays but on the opposite rock across the valley - which means it has a very different exposition. Power and weight are mesmerising - but delivered with aplomb. This is intense and powerful - but still so tightly coiled in the middle. Energy and flesh in great harmony. It is a masterpiece of White Burgundy.			
2018 POUILLY FUISSÉ Vieilles Vignes Les Crays Domaine Daniel Barraud	£250	Magnums	case of 6
2018 POUILLY FUISSÉ Vieilles Vignes En Buland Domaine Daniel Barraud	£290	Magnums	case of 6

Domaine Frantz Chagnoleau	£ Per case IB	Bottle Size	Case Size
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Frantz Chagnoleau and his wife Caroline Gon, who is also the winemaker at the Comte Lafon Mâcon operation, are rising stars of the Mâconnais. Together they have a small domaine consisting of 3.5 hectares of Mâcon in a single block in Saint Albain, and several small plots in Viré Clessé, Saint Véran and Pouilly Fuissé, making up 6.8 hectares in total. All the vineyards are organically farmed (Ecocert certified). Great care is taken at harvest to pick at the optimum moment for sugars, acidity and aromatic precursors, and they will stop the picking between parcels if they think that the ripening is not even across the whole domaine. Grapes are manually picked into 25kg cases, so as to get whole, undamaged grapes to the winery. After careful pressing, a very non-interventionist vinification takes place with natural yeasts in oak foudres. The wines are kept on the lees to preserve freshness until the beginning of summer, when they are racked and lightly filtered, before bottling before the next harvest, except for some of the top wines which are aged for another six months in tank in order to develop fully. The wines are expressive and pure and well worth seeking out. In 2018 they have moved to a slightly more spacious cellar, so have more room to work. They started picking on the 26th August. As elsewhere in the Mâconnais, they feel that there is more freshness, more minerality than in 2017 - alcohol levels were at 12.6% for the Mâcon and 13.1-13.2 for the Saint Verans - there was much more rain down here in August than in the Côte d'Or.

2018 MÂCON VILLAGES Clos Saint Pancras Domaine Frantz Chagnoleau	£105	75cl bottles	case of 12
From a site by Saint Albain, at 250m altitude. Aged 10 months in old oak foudres, and bottled under Stelvin. Lovely fresh pineapple and citrus, sweet bright fruit, very precise.			
2018 SAINT VÉРАН Prélude Domaine Frantz Chagnoleau	£160	75cl bottles	case of 12
Poor, calcareous soils. 15% new wood in demi-muids (500l barrels). 45 year old vines in several plots - the earliest ripening. Ripe pear nose, quite fat and gathering juicy citrus makes it dance - lots of flavour.			
2018 VIRÉ-CLESSÉ Les Raspillères Domaine Frantz Chagnoleau	£160	75cl bottles	case of 12
These vines were planted in 2000. The 2018 was harvested on the 2nd September. Frantz uses a little bit of new wood - 10%. Élevage in Demi-muids. This is the most northerly plot he works and it is high (350m) - facing east and made up of mineral, stony soil. Just the way Franz likes it! Even in 2018 this wine is delightfully fresh and clean - some citrus spritz - but a good saline backdrop rules. Bright and fresh and yet nicely weighted too. Quite a serious feel. Sophisticated			
2018 SAINT VÉРАН La Fournaise Domaine Frantz Chagnoleau	£195	75cl bottles	case of 12
All aged in demi-muids with no new wood. The whitest and most mineral soil they have. Spicy and super-dry and bright. Firm and all in bracing brightness and minerality. 'A reductive and Chablis-like character' says Frantz.			
2018 SAINT VÉРАН La Roche Domaine Frantz Chagnoleau	£195	75cl bottles	case of 12
70 year old vines at 200m in Chasselas, on marl, in mid-slope. Some is aged in demi-muids, but mostly it's in barrel with 10% new wood. Supple fine structure, very sleek on the palate, a fine rich supple middle on ripe pear fruit - concentrated, saline, long.			
2018 SAINT VÉРАН A la Côte Domaine Frantz Chagnoleau	£195	75cl bottles	case of 12
The highest vineyard of the domaine at 400m, on red earth, in Chasselas. Aged in demi-muids with no new wood. Deep gold, more massive in the mouth, round and rather joyously gourmand, still super-lively.			
2018 POUILLY FUISSÉ Madrigal Domaine Frantz Chagnoleau	£240	75cl bottles	case of 12
From Vergisson, (mostly 'en Carmentrant') and all aged in barrel, but no new wood even if some are recent. The idea, says Frantz, is to choose reductive wood and keep it straight and mineral. Big and initially quite a relaxed and generous style, lovely purity and freshness. At once mouthfilling and thrillingly linear - a burst of flavour on the finish.			

CÔTE CHALONNAISE - White**Domaine Dureuil-Janthial****£ Per case IB Bottle Size Case Size**

Domaine Dureuil-Janthial is simply the leading domaine of the Côte Chalonnaise. What is more, the astonishing Vincent Dureuil is equally adept at making both white and red wines. Vincent inherited from the Janthial side of his family, who have been in Rully since the eighteenth century. Vincent and his wife Céline took over in 1994. As they say 'because wine is first grown in the vineyard, we have chosen to respect the land and let the soils and vineyards live, to produce committed and accurate wines, of great purity and a frank personality.'

The domaine now extends to 20 hectares, 17 in the Côte Chalonnaise (primarily Rully and Mercurey) with 3 hectares in the Côte d'Or, including vines inherited by Céline in Nuits Saint Georges, and some inherited by Vincent in Puligny. The domaine was certified organic in 2009, but after short harvests in 2012 and 2013, Vincent was forced by a late attack of mildew in 2016 to spray with fungicide. The result was that he saved 5 hectares out of the 20, but lost his certification. Stubbornly he immediately set about the three years of 'conversion' he must do before he can be certified again. For this perfectionist, being 'nearly organic' does not quite cut it. The brief look we had at the 2018s in October 2019 was a joy of a tasting, with both whites and reds showing the precision that Vincent brings to his wines. Yields in this part of Burgundy were more limited than elsewhere in 2018, then 2019 dealt them a cruel blow with a frost through much of the best hillsides. Availability will still be limited and we may not know what we are getting until after the February - March bottlings.

2018 BOURGOGNE ALIGOTÉ Domaine Dureuil-Janthial

TBA 75cl bottles case of 12

Lively bright and so pure - a lemony briskness crystalline definition.

2018 BOURGOGNE BLANC La Combe Domaine Dureuil-Janthial

TBA 75cl bottles case of 12

From Vincent's parcel at the bottom of Puligny, (where he neighbours Joseph Colin). Rich and bright, so Puligny in style, lots of richness and density this year, but still bright.

2018 RULLY BLANC Vincent Dureuil-Janthial

TBA 75cl bottles case of 12

Vincent makes this cuvee from bought-in grapes from his neighbour - a sixty-year-old who has a tractor but nothing else. It's also all organic. 20% new wood. Quite fat and full, this is lovely without quite having the precision of Vincent's domaine version - but it picks up nicely with freshness on the finish

2018 RULLY BLANC Domaine Dureuil-Janthial

TBA 75cl bottles case of 12

There's more to this than the négoce version, on both nose and palate, a richer texture and more open and filled-out aromatics. Lovely balance here.

2018 RULLY BLANC 1er Cru Vauvry Domaine Dureuil-Janthial

TBA 75cl bottles case of 12

Lovely weight, freshness and fullness - and a premier cru level of flavour concentration. Gorgeous - super length with citrus a go-go.

2018 RULLY BLANC 1er Cru Margoté Domaine Dureuil-Janthial

TBA 75cl bottles case of 12

Open and expressive nose. Really lovely sunny, ripe feel, with that classic freshness, a feel of limestone - salivating, captivating.

2018 RULLY BLANC Vieilles Vignes 1er Cru Meix Cadot Domaine Dureuil-Janthial

TBA 75cl bottles case of 12

Vines planted in the 1920s. Rich nose, lots going on; palate is sweetly harmonious, fat and dense, not at all aggressive, but caressing, sophisticated, lively and long.

Domaine François Lumpp**£ Per case IB Bottle Size Case Size**

François Lumpp started as a grower in the family domaine in 1977, but then separated from his brother and set up on his own with four hectares of vines in 1991. He and his wife Isabelle have gradually grown the vineyard to reach nine and a half hectares. They are delighted that they have now been joined by two of their children, Pierre and Anne-Cécile. François is a passionate viticulturalist and places great emphasis on making the wine in the vineyards, which are farmed with minimum intervention to allow the terroir to express itself fully. In practice this means very careful choice of plant material to give the highest quality results (often at the expense of yield). 2018 has made a slightly smaller than usual harvest here, and as we have noted elsewhere, the Côte Chalonnaise was generally less affected by heat and lack of water, so the reds are the Lumpp's usual style of glossy dark richness with immense fruit concentration and purity, while the whites were singing, with a fine balance. It is no surprise that Tim Atkin described François Lumpp as the 'the best producer in Givry.' All the Lumpp wines still offer great value for money.

2018 GIVRY Blanc Clos des Vignes Rondes Domaine François Lumpp

£215 75cl bottles case of 12

30% new oak, fresh and appealing, the oak being no more than a hint. Succulent and medium-bodied, there's good concentration and nice lively finish.

2018 GIVRY Blanc 1er Cru Crausot Domaine François Lumpp

£270 75cl bottles case of 12

The step up the premier cru is marked, and this has a more pronounced minerality, firm and with a lively sense of movement and élan.

Domaine Paul et Marie Jacqueson	£ Per case IB	Bottle Size	Case Size
<p>The domaine consists now of 13 hectares of vines, mostly in Rully, but also parcels in Mercurey and Bouzeron. The grapes are harvested by hand and vinified in classical fashion, before an élevage in barrel (up to 25% new wood). Under Paul, and now by his children, Marie and Pierre, the domaine has become adept at a sophisticated use of barrels, the élevage here is key to the quality they consistently achieve, and this rubs off on the négociant 'Cuvée Sélection' which is always beautifully finished.</p> <p>Quality is as high as ever - or higher, but the 2018 vintage is not one that will be remembered with any fondness by the Jacquesons, since quantitatively it was a disaster, 65% down in white and 35% down in red, following appalling frosts early in the year, which took out much of the slope of the premiers crus. As usual the élevage in barrel here is extremely precise and delicately done with around 20% new wood, the Premiers Crus getting barrels with a little more toast. The whites are all concentrated and fresh in 2018, while the reds are richly full of flavour with good freshness, the fullest being the Préaux.</p>			
2018 BOURGOGNE CUVÉE SELECTION Domaine Paul et Marie Jacqueson	£125	75cl bottles	case of 12
<p>The fruit is sourced in Pierreclos in the Maconnais, and the wine given the same well-honed élevage as the domaine's Rullys, this cuvée has become a popular mainstay of the Jacqueson range. Soft and with a sweet fruit middle and attractive freshness and length, it's beautifully crafted.</p>			
2018 RULLY Domaine Paul et Marie Jacqueson	£165	75cl bottles	case of 12
<p>All made and aged in classic Burgundy barrels, there is 15% new wood on this village cuvée. Bottled in August, it's completely delicious, relaxed, slightly saline, fresh and with the gourmand ease of the vintage - ready to drink from the moment it arrives.</p>			
2018 RULLY 1er Cru La Pucelle Domaine Paul et Marie Jacqueson	£210	75cl bottles	case of 12
<p>Bottled the day before we tasted, so showing a little tight, but there's a phenolic density, a firmness full of bright flavour freshness. The Premiers Crus get 20% new wood, but the wood influence is nearly unnoticeable, despite Marie saying that these barrels are given a little more toast than those used on the lesser wines. Give it six months, and it will drink well over the following three or four years.</p>			
2018 RULLY 1er Cru Grésigny Domaine Paul et Marie Jacqueson	£210	75cl bottles	case of 12
<p>Bottled a week earlier than the Pucelle, this was showing more 'in place'. Sometimes the Gresigny can seem to need a little longer to come round, but in this vintage it seems it will drink alongside the Pucelle.</p>			
2018 RULLY 1er Cru La Pucelle Domaine Paul et Marie Jacqueson	£120	Half-bottles	case of 12
Jean-Marc Boillot	£ Per case IB	Bottle Size	Case Size
<p>Jean-Marc's daughter Lydie has been at the helm here for years now and continues the brilliant work. The white wines are particularly impressive. with power and energy in perfect balance. Their fantastic holdings in Puligny are the real prize and the 2017s once again offer fantastic quality and real terroir specific wines - at a very sensible price. Alongside the wines from the family's own vineyards, she also runs a successful négociant business, vinifying wines from the Côte Chalonnaise with huge aplomb. In Montagny in particular, the wine is the best we have found in the appellation, and remarkably consistent from year to year.</p>			
2018 MONTAGNY 1er Cru Jean-Marc Boillot	£185	75cl bottles	case of 12
<p>Lydie's 2018 has immediate impact with good weight on the palate. The fruit is really quite intense. It is a Montagny with the volume turned up! This is gently spicy with some good tropical notes and a nice richness, but not fat up front. Deep and nice phenolic weight. A broad sweep of fruit that neatly tightens up on the finish. A true crowd pleasing Burgundy!</p>			
2018 MONTAGNY 1er Cru Jean-Marc Boillot	£190	Half-bottles	case of 24
2018 MONTAGNY 1er Cru Jean-Marc Boillot	£180	Magnums	case of 6

CÔTE D'OR - White**Domaine Anne Gros****£ Per case IB Bottle Size Case Size**

Anne Gros joined her father François at the family domaine in Vosne Romanée in 1988, having given up her arts studies in favour of viticulture and oenology at Beaune and Dijon, she took charge of the domaine in 1995 and has been joined now by 2 of her children Julie since 2015 and Paul since 2017. The Domaine now has 7 hectares of Pinot and Chardonnay. Anne describes herself as being 'wary of certainties and keen to preserve her freedom'. In the vineyards Anne practises viticulture influenced by organic and biodynamic principles, and the vineyards are ploughed and fertilised with compost, but although she believes that the long-term health of the vineyards are best preserved by such methods, she likes to maintain the freedom to use conventional treatments when necessary. In the cellar, the wines are classically made, in cement tanks for the reds, and stainless steel for the whites. They are then aged in barrel for up to fifteen months, with 80% new wood for the grand crus, 50% for the village wines and 30% for the regional wines. Anne is quietly meticulous and almost obsessive about cleanliness in her cellar, which perhaps is reflected in the delicacy and restrained tension in her wines, which have aromatic clarity, limpid precision, sheer joie de vivre, lively balance and persistence.

There is a bit more wine here than in some recent vintages - a chance to get on the list of one of the most sought-after Domaines of Burgundy.

2018 HAUTES CÔTES DE NUITS Blanc Cuvée Marine Domaine Anne Gros

TBA 75cl bottles case of 6

Absolutely delightful this year - pure and crystalline, fully ripe but still super-fresh, with a lovely long saline finish. The vines here are now 20 years old - the wine is made and aged in 500l French oak barrels (they used to use Hungarian oak).

Domaine Bernard Dugat-Py**£ Per case IB Bottle Size Case Size**

Domaine Dugat-Py's wines are far from shy and retiring, but they do require patience to show their best. Old vines, tiny yields, viticulture with minute and constant attention, all lead to a magnificent concentration and purity in the raw material. Without extracting harsh tannins, Loïc (who despite his youthful good-looks, has overseen the wine-making since 2012) gets an astonishing density into the wines, and they take on the high percentage of new oak quite casually. Nevertheless, Loïc has reduced the amount of new wood (The village wines get 50% max., while the Premiers Crus and Grands Crus get up to 75%).

'Nous on est tres content' said a relaxed and smiling Loïc Dugat as he began to tell us about the 2018 vintage. There were frosts until March - the winter had been cold and rainy so there were good reserves of water, then suddenly in April they had 28C - from freezing at night straight to that. Flowering happened from the 23rd May. It was very hot in August - 34-35C - but there was no blocage de maturité because of the water reserves in the ground. He started to harvest on the 29th August (Charmes, Vosne, Pommard), but it was still 29C in the afternoons, so they hurried, employing a team of fifty to get it all picked in a week. They finished with the Corton Charlemagne on the 7th September. Loïc has just one word for it: 'exceptional'.

2018 CHASSAGNE MONTRACHET 1er Cru Morgeot Domaine Bernard Dugat-Py

TBA 75cl bottles case of 6

2018 CORTON CHARLEMAGNE Grand Cru Domaine Bernard Dugat-Py

TBA 75cl bottles case of 6

2018 MEURSAULT Vieilles Vignes Domaine Bernard Dugat-Py

TBA 75cl bottles case of 6

2018 PERNAND VERGELESSES 1er Cru Sous Frétille Domaine Bernard Dugat-Py

TBA 75cl bottles case of 6

Domaine des Lambrays**£ Per case IB Bottle Size Case Size**

The 'Clos' consists of 8.66 hectares of land enclosed by a wall in which there is the original milestone marking its founding in 1365, confirmed in the records of the Abbaye de Cîteaux (those monks knew where to place a vineyard). The Clos owes much of its current fame to the nineteenth and twentieth century proprietors who reconstituted it after the fragmentation of ownership which followed the French revolution. Despite always having been considered a Grand Cru site, the Clos was in fact classified Premier Cru in the original 1936 appellations contrôlées. The Rodier family which owned it from the 1930s fought to regain its Grand cru status, with eventual success only in 1981, when it became the last of the thirty-three Grands Crus of Burgundy, although by then it had passed to the Saier family. Recently under the benign ownership of the Günther Freund and his family, who gave a very free hand to régisseur Thierry Brouin, who had been employed by their predecessor Rolland Pelletier de Chambure, the quality of the wines here has pushed up again. In 2014 it was bought by the LVMH group. It has been all rather quick change here as Jacques Devauge has taken over here after a short interregnum under Boris Champy. The legacy of Thierry Brouin can still be felt, Jacques describing him as having been 'clairvoyant' in his approach to the domaine, which has set it up well to deal with challenges of warmer vintages. Jacques seems set to take this estate onward - 'every domaine has to challenge itself to do better', he says. 2018 marks the first year being fully organic - if all goes well they will be certified after three.

2018 PULIGNY MONTRACHET 1er Cru Folatières Domaine des Lambrays

£570 75cl bottles case of 6

Sunny site and this is relaxed, softly juicy, sweet and easy - very pure. Possibly the most harmonious Folatières I have tried from here. Their plot runs the full length from top to bottom, so they pack in the full range of what it has to offer.

2018 PULIGNY MONTRACHET 1er Cru Clos du Cailleret Domaine des Lambrays

£730 75cl bottles case of 6

Ideally placed parcel at the very top of Pucelle, touching Le Montrachet. Much tauter than the Folatières, with a concentrated phenolic middle, which remains very closed - very different, dense and very long.

Domaine Faiveley	£ Per case IB	Bottle Size	Case Size
<p>As we tasted with winemaker Jerome Flous he was keen to point out that this is a far more serious vintage than it may first appear. Yes there was a hot summer, but that is not the only story - these wines have great intensity too and are full of promise for the medium to long-term - despite the apparent up-front richness.</p> <p>2018 is his 12th vintage at the helm of Faiveley and there is a reassuring confidence about him - these certainly all look very accomplished wines in the vintage. It has not been straightforward in 2018 - tricky climatic challenges aside. A stop-start fermentation in the cellar lead to some difficult, wild elements in the young juice. The lees were potentially quite ?dangerous? he says. So he racked all the 1er and Grand Cru wines very early to preserve clean and fresh fruit. He intends to give all the reds two winters in the cellar as they need a long élevage to ?finish off?. He'll start the bottling in March 2020.</p> <p>Tasting them we were struck by quite how measured and tightly-wrapped they seem for now. Smart and sophisticated on the whole with good restrained power and intensity, impressive drive for 2018.</p> <p>As is so often the way here each wine really has a sense of place and knows its spot on the pecking order. There are some real delights for drinkers.</p>			

2018 PULIGNY MONTRACHET 1er Cru Les Champgains Domaine Faiveley	£305	75cl bottles	case of 6
Lovely mineral attack - then some toasty wood kicks in. Nicely poised - good bite and mineral cleanliness - not deeply textured for now. Sleek and polished. But bright and bouncing nonetheless. A good Puligny character and soul.			
2018 CORTON CHARLEMAGNE Grand Cru Domaine Faiveley	£850	75cl bottles	wood case of 6
Wow. So loaded with firm, yellow-fleshed fruit and some pithy warm lemon squeeze. Monster attack of deep indulgence - what is clever though is the lively feel. Super energy and more chalky brightness keeps this rattling across the palate. The fruit builds to an imposing, intense and utterly delicious wallop. That energy and zip motors on and on though so this is not tiring or too big - but lingers well after you swallow.			
2018 BIENVENUES BÂTARD MONTRACHET Domaine Faiveley	Sold out	75cl bottles	case of 6
Intense, great power and tightly wound energy is just waiting to unravel. This is bursting with promise. Lovely zip - and the fruit core and power copes well with the wood. Nicely spiced, great flow - but this will need an age to get to perfect harmony - and it has everything it needs to get there.			

Domaine Fernand & Laurent Pillot	£ Per case IB	Bottle Size	Case Size
<p>The origins of the Pillot family in Chassagne can be traced back to the eighteenth century, when they seem to have been coopers more than vigneron. In the nineteenth century they abandoned barrel-making in favour of enlarging the property in Chassagne. Fernand and Laurent, who is the fourth generation, added to it again in 1992, and then in 2001 Laurent's wife Marie-Anne inherited half of her family's property, the Pommard domaine of Pothier-Rieusset, and Laurent and his father bought the other half. The domaine now stands at 14.5 hectares of vines across almost the whole length of the Côte de Beaune from Santenay to Beaune. The Domaine is worked according to organic principles and are ploughed ? no chemical weedkillers are used. They have also been members of the Dephy-ECO-phyto group, which works to reduce the number of treatments using copper sulphate, since 2012.</p> <p>Laurent has always managed to pack in a lot alongside his running of the vineyard. He has a sophisticated microlight which he flies to all corners of France, he keeps and hunts hawks, and conducts the Chassagne brass band as well as dabbling in Mayoral duties - on top of being a father of three, Anaïs, Adrien and Eugène. They are all mad about the alps and disappear up the mountains at regular intervals.</p> <p>Laurent's eldest son Adrien has been travelling the world making wine all over the place for the last few years having completed his training in Beaune. Bringing back lessons learnt in Australia, South Africa and California (and from a stint at Lea & Sandeman) - he now helps Laurent with all aspects of the wine-making and viticulture at the domaine. The wines have long been L&S favourites in both red and white - they represent excellent value, and they age very well too, despite being attractive young. The whites are precise and pure, and not lacking for body and generosity, while the reds are velvety and juicy, beautifully balanced even if drunk young on their expressive Pinot fruit. The domaine was rightfully heralded in Decanter Magazine as 'an address that deserves to be better-known'. Great value and real pleasure across their range.</p>			

2018 BOURGOGNE BLANC Domaine Fernand & Laurent Pillot	£130	75cl bottles	case of 12
From vines in Pommard. Supple and bright sleek fruit with a core of sweetness and a nice drive and length - only young vines but this is good.			
2018 SAINT AUBIN 1er Cru Sentier du Clou Domaine Fernand & Laurent Pillot	£250	75cl bottles	case of 12
There's an attractive firmness in the middle here - as well as a certain palate weight - with a good finish full of freshness and movement.			
2018 CHASSAGNE MONTRACHET Domaine Fernand & Laurent Pillot	£305	75cl bottles	case of 12
Floral nose, then more serious density on the palate, juicy citrus and a balanced finish.			
2018 CHASSAGNE MONTRACHET Les Chênes Domaine Fernand & Laurent Pillot	£320	75cl bottles	case of 12
From a well-placed plot below la Maltroie, and immediately more interesting, rich with a bit of spice and nice sleek length.			
2018 PULIGNY MONTRACHET Noyers Brets Domaine Fernand & Laurent Pillot	£330	75cl bottles	case of 12
Nicely sleek and fresh, with volume in the middle and a good straight length and juicy appeal.			
2018 CHASSAGNE MONTRACHET 1er Cru Vergers Domaine Fernand & Laurent Pillot	£400	75cl bottles	case of 12
Cool and saline, then a sneaky sweetness, but it remains in the background. A cool well-ironed linen-shirt feel. Calm and precise.			
2018 CHASSAGNE MONTRACHET 1er Cru Morgeot Domaine Fernand & Laurent Pillot	£400	75cl bottles	case of 12
Really well-done, not too massive and there's a sleekness that's almost Puligny-like - mineral even! Morgeot is huge - 65 hectares, the Pillots plots are high-up.			
2018 CHASSAGNE MONTRACHET 1er Cru Champgains Domaine Fernand & Laurent Pillot	£400	75cl bottles	case of 12
Bright and expressive - really open and attractive - will show well young and has the balance to last well - lovely - long too.			

2018 CHASSAGNE MONTRACHET 1er Cru Fairandes Domaine Fernand & Laurent Pillot	£430	75cl bottles	case of 12
Fairandes is the top of Morgeot next to Grandes Ruchottes, so a step up on the general production. The richer flavour density is accompanied by brighter acidity - powerful wine.			
2018 MEURSAULT 1er Cru Caillerets Domaine Fernand & Laurent Pillot	£490	75cl bottles	case of 12
Like the Vide Bourse, this was still in cuve when we tasted. A lovely fine, almost floral nose and then bright mineral balance on the palate. Rich with a slightly 'greener' fruit expression than the Chassagnes, but less minerality - definitely Meursault not Chassagne.			
2018 CHASSAGNE MONTRACHET 1er Cru Vide Bourse Domaine Fernand & Laurent Pillot	£505	75cl bottles	case of 12
Still in tank when we tasted. Rich and full, quite closed in aromas, but definitely all here and has a considerable richness, which is tugged out long on the finish by bright acidity.			
2018 CHASSAGNE MONTRACHET 1er Cru Grandes Ruchottes Domaine Fernand & Laurent Pillot	£600	75cl bottles	case of 12
Probably as much fat richness as the Vide Bourse, but with an extra dimension of mineral and a crisply saline side. Limestone texture - really lovely in a grand style.			
2018 CHASSAGNE MONTRACHET Domaine Fernand & Laurent Pillot	£170	Half-bottles	case of 12
2018 CHASSAGNE MONTRACHET 1er Cru Morgeot Domaine Fernand & Laurent Pillot	£215	Half-bottles	case of 12
2018 CHASSAGNE MONTRACHET 1er Cru Vide Bourse Domaine Fernand & Laurent Pillot	£520	Magnums	case of 6
2018 CHASSAGNE MONTRACHET 1er Cru Grandes Ruchottes Domaine Fernand & Laurent Pillot	£620	Magnums	case of 6

Domaine Henri Boillot	£ Per case IB	Bottle Size	Case Size
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A domaine which dates back to 1885, but which began properly in the early years of the 20th century under the current Henri's grandfather (also Henri). His son, Jean, was the one who really developed it. Henri arrived in 1975 and worked his way up, becoming the winemaker. In 2000 he began the building of the new winery at the bottom of Meursault, and he then bought out his brother and sister to keep the domaine as one, renaming it from 'Domaine Jean Boillot' to 'Domaine Henri Boillot' to avoid confusion with his brother Jean-Marc's domaine. After six years working alongside his father, Guillaume is the 'chef de culture', i.e. heads up the vineyard team, and has been entirely responsible for the vinification of the reds since 2012. Henri continues to make the whites which he likes to be 'straight, taut, precise, pure and elegant'. Guillaume's input has resulted in red wines that have gained in definition and energy, without losing the luxurious velvety richness and fruit depth that they have always had. In 2018 he expanded his use of vinification intégrale in which the reds are vinified in the barrels they will be aged in - the cellar being equipped with 140 barrels with stainless steel doors in the ends, all made of wood they bought for the purpose, which has been dried for three years. Labour-intensive and time-consuming though it is, Guillaume clearly believes it is the way to more precision in the wines, and the 2018s certainly are rather astonishing.

The Domaine has roughly equal surfaces of red and white, and of which just under 4ha is the Monopole vineyard of Clos de la Mouchère, a walled enclave within the premier Cru Puligny Perrières. After last year's acquisition of small parcels in Latricières and Échezeaux, the Boillots bought the vineyards of Domaine Henri Darnat early in 2019, and will have almost all the wines from the 2019 vintage.

2018 PULIGNY MONTRACHET Domaine Henri Boillot	£230	75cl bottles	case of 6
25% new wood. Lovely gold colour. Rich nose shows oak spice, on the ripe side, with a very attractive sweet middle, very good village level.			
2018 MEURSAULT 1er Cru Poruzots Domaine Henri Boillot	£360	75cl bottles	case of 6
Sleek and with good salinity, this has good freshness and a glassy purity, and maybe a bit more spice too.			
2018 MEURSAULT 1er Cru Genevrières Domaine Henri Boillot	Sold out	75cl bottles	case of 6
2018 PULIGNY MONTRACHET 1er Cru Les Perrières Domaine Henri Boillot	Sold out	75cl bottles	case of 6
2018 PULIGNY MONTRACHET 1er Cru Combettes Domaine Henri Boillot	Sold out	75cl bottles	case of 6
Very fat and opulent, a mouthfilling weight to this. Pure and powerful.			
2018 PULIGNY MONTRACHET 1er Cru Pucelles Domaine Henri Boillot	Sold out	75cl bottles	case of 6
Not giving much away on the nose at this stage, then an initial fatness, but it has phenolic grip and the finish is promising.			
2018 PULIGNY MONTRACHET 1er Cru Clos de la Mouchère Domaine Henri Boillot	TBA	75cl bottles	wood case of 6
Lovely flow to this, a density on the middle with is gourmand with a chewy richness. Ripe pear fruit, juicy and long.			
2018 BÂTARD MONTRACHET Grand Cru Domaine Henri Boillot	Sold out	75cl bottles	wood case of 6
75% new wood. Fat and sleek, there's richness and even an attractive supple bitterness. Retains freshness and movement; 'it's very rich - the barrel re-tensions the wine', remarks Guillaume.			
2018 LE MONTRACHET Grand Cru Henri Boillot	Sold out	75cl bottles	wood case of 3

Henri Boillot	£ Per case IB	Bottle Size	Case Size
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Henri Boillot complements his domaine wines with a small range of négociant wines of superb quality in very limited quantities. A few of the wines are offered here - an opportunity to buy some of Burgundy's rarest appellations from a top source.

2018 CORTON CHARLEMAGNE Grand Cru Henri Boillot	Sold out	75cl bottles	wood case of 6
50% new wood. Rich again (tasted after the Bâtard), with even more tension. Aromatically still quite closed, but there's a core of power and great length. Tremendous potential.			

Domaine Henri Germain	£ Per case IB	Bottle Size	Case Size
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Jean-François Germain was joined over the course of 2018 by his daughter Lucie - who is now helping to run this small (6.5ha) domaine. The Chassagne vineyards came through his mother, a Pillot, and Jean-François is married to François Jobard's daughter, so they are quite intertwined with some of our other producers. His Poruzots comes from rows next to those of Rémi Jobard, as they would have been in the same family originally. In terms of winemaking the Germaines are always happy to let nature take its course, and in the vineyards they follow as natural a system of viticulture as possible. These are concentrated, tightly wound wines from one of Burgundy's coldest cellars. Slow to develop, they show wonderful crystalline purity. New wood is used sparingly. Jean-François told us that the yields in 2018 had been generous - 60hl/ha across the domaine (and 57hl/ha in the Premiers Crus). He described the whites as fresh and taut, but the concentration as unexceptional - but that they are nicely straight and pure with 'une belle dynamique', and it will be possible to drink them quite young. Prices to be released end of January.

2018 MEURSAULT Domaine Henri Germain	TBA	75cl bottles	case of 12
Sweetness and concentration here, purity and a rounded, warm nut and flower in the sun feel. A bit of a low-key beauty.			
2018 MEURSAULT Limozin Domaine Henri Germain	TBA	75cl bottles	case of 12
Bright and floral ripeness on the nose. White flowers, very delicately expressed, although there's considerable body behind. A bright and precise style with a juicy citrus finish.			
2018 MEURSAULT Chevalières Domaine Henri Germain	TBA	75cl bottles	case of 12
Racked the day before. Cool and chalky feel, tension and minerality, fine and long - very Chevalières.			
2018 MEURSAULT 1er Cru Poruzots Domaine Henri Germain	TBA	75cl bottles	case of 12
Relatively restrained nose and it's not giving much away on the palate either, but the weight and the phenolic density is there, and it's long with building flavour.			
2018 BOURGOGNE BLANC Domaine Henri Germain	TBA	75cl bottles	case of 12
Fresh and taut and nicely straight and pure - a wine with 'une belle dynamique', as Jean-François puts it.			
2018 MEURSAULT 1er Cru Charmes Domaine Henri Germain	TBA	75cl bottles	case of 12
Again (after the Poruzots) this seems to be restrained and on the back foot, not very imposing of character, but then it feels thick with flavour to come and the aromatic development of the village wines suggests that this will come. Very pure, very straight, very crystalline.			
2018 CHASSAGNE MONTRACHET 1er Cru Morgeot Domaine Henri Germain	TBA	75cl bottles	case of 12
A richer density of flavour here, a fatter rounder fuller-bodied style than the Meursaults - pure and classy if not the last word in characterful, but the purity is not in doubt, and it's very fresh with a richness of flavour in the finish.			
2018 MEURSAULT 1er Cru Perrières Domaine Henri Germain	TBA	75cl bottles	case of 6
Class will out. A big wine with a fat weight of body. Sleek in feel, voluminous on the palate, all full of rock and mineral flavours, a touch of freshening citrus, lovely balance - this is Grand Cru style of weight and flavour purity. Classy and long.			
2018 CHASSAGNE MONTRACHET 1er Cru Morgeot Domaine Henri Germain	TBA	Magnums	case of 6
2018 MEURSAULT 1er Cru Perrières Domaine Henri Germain	TBA	Magnums	case of 3

Domaine Hubert Lamy	£ Per case IB	Bottle Size	Case Size
A domaine with 18.5 hectares of vines - 80% are Chardonnay and 20% Pinot Noir. The vines are spread over Saint-Aubin, Puligny-Montrachet, Chassagne-Montrachet and Santenay. Olivier Lamy's wine-making style and preference is to emphasise the fresh and the mineral side of his wines, with limited new wood and that is with the wines in 600 litre demi-muids rather than the classic Burgundy (225 litre) fût. Certainly Olivier's whites do have an arrow-like purity and intensity, and seem to age completely straight and true. In 2018, he told us, there was for once no frost or hail. It was very dry in the summer, but had been very wet in winter when it seemed to rain every day. In the winter they had 50% more water than usual, but in summer it was 50% less. There was also 30% more sunshine than normal, and it was the sun rather than the heat which for him really defines the vintage - the sunniest for 30 years. They started picking on the 22nd of August - earlier than in 2003, but did not finish until the 12th September - some of the reds, despite being at 14 degrees potential alcohol, were green inside - that had not achieved phenolic ripeness and they just had to wait. In the reds he used more stems to keep freshness, and in the whites he pressed harder, saying that you can be more aggressive with the skins when there is ripeness like this - you need the phenols from the skins to balance the ripeness. His final kicker of a comment was that although yields were pretty good in 2018, 2019 is a very small harvest - so buy while you can.			
2018 BOURGOGNE BLANC Chataigniers Domaine Hubert Lamy	£195	75cl bottles	case of 12
One year in barrel - no new oak. Lovely fresh fruit - pear and pineapple says Olivier, but also a nice line of something of a nuttiness.			

2018 SAINT AUBIN Princesse Domaine Hubert Lamy	£260	75cl bottles	case of 12
Very mineral with a tight phenolic grip - fresh as fresh, and astonishing length for this cuvée as the fruit unclenches a little on the finish.			
2018 SAINT AUBIN 1er Cru Frionnes Domaine Hubert Lamy	£335	75cl bottles	case of 12
Decomposed limestone. A nicely balanced vineyard in terms of water retention, says Olivier. Cool and fresh, a taut phenolic dryness - very straight and fresh and firm, with intensity on the finish.			
2018 SANTENAY 1er Cru Clos des Gravières Domaine Hubert Lamy	£350	75cl bottles	case of 12
A hot site with stone near the surface, gets very ripe and was the first they picked. Rich and quite yellow appearance, and for Olivier this is quite a big boy - yellow fruit, then picks up and accelerates towards the mineral uplift on the finish.			
2018 PULIGNY MONTRACHET Tremblots Domaine Hubert Lamy	£450	75cl bottles	case of 12
This had been fermenting for a year, so it's not quite got the clarity of the others yet and it's behind them in development too with fermentary citrus notes. Quite fat in this ripe vintage, but there's a bright freshness too, and the finish is pure and mineral.			
2018 SAINT AUBIN 1er Cru Clos de la Chatenière Domaine Hubert Lamy	£465	75cl bottles	case of 12
After the Frionnes this has a much sunnier nose - but then it does face south. A smiling openness, but still dry and mineral, cool and straight. Great purity, it's rocky, crystalline. Very impressive now and should be very fine.			
2018 SAINT AUBIN 1er Cru Rémyilly Domaine Hubert Lamy	£465	75cl bottles	case of 12
Silky attack, dense and rich with a touch of sweetness - but very compact. The silkiness makes it seem readier than the Chatenière, but then you sense that this is going to go on and on. Olivier says that what we are tasting will be assembled with what is left in small barrels, which has more energy and is more reductive, so this sample may be more advanced than the reality of the whole cuvée.			
2018 SAINT AUBIN Haute Densité 1er Cru Derrière Chez Édouard Domaine Hubert Lamy	TBA	75cl bottles	case of 6
There's a core of really sweet fruit - it's even quite fat, tasting more advanced than the Puligny HD. Fine phenolics on finish to tighten it up. Lovely.			
2018 PULIGNY MONTRACHET Tremblots Haute Densité Domaine Hubert Lamy	TBA	75cl bottles	case of 6
Finer than all the 'normal' cuvées, a closer texture and greater energy. Citrusy element from recent fermentation. This is super-impressive, with really lovely acidity and length.			
2018 PULIGNY MONTRACHET Tremblots Haute Densité Domaine Hubert Lamy	Sold out	75cl bottles	case of 3
Finer than all the 'normal' cuvées, a closer texture and greater energy. Citrusy element from recent fermentation. This is super-impressive, with really lovely acidity and length.			
2018 CRIOTS BÂTARD MONTRACHET Haute Densité Grand Cru Domaine Hubert Lamy	TBA	75cl bottles	case of 6
2018 SAINT AUBIN 1er Cru Frionnes Domaine Hubert Lamy	£185	Half-bottles	case of 12
2018 SAINT AUBIN 1er Cru Rémyilly Domaine Hubert Lamy	TBA	Magnums	case of 6
2018 SAINT AUBIN 1er Cru Clos de la Chatenière Domaine Hubert Lamy	TBA	Magnums	case of 6
2018 SAINT AUBIN 1er Cru Rémyilly Domaine Hubert Lamy	Sold out	Magnums	case of 3
2018 SAINT AUBIN 1er Cru Clos de la Chatenière Domaine Hubert Lamy	Sold out	Magnums	case of 3
2018 SAINT AUBIN 1er Cru Les Murgers des Dents de Chien Domaine Hubert Lamy	Sold out	Magnums	case of 3
2018 PULIGNY MONTRACHET Tremblots Haute Densité Domaine Hubert Lamy	Sold out	Magnums	case of 1
2018 SAINT AUBIN Haute Densité 1er Cru Derrière Chez Édouard Domaine Hubert Lamy	Sold out	Magnums	case of 1

Domaine Jean-Marc Boillot**£ Per case IB Bottle Size Case Size**

Jean-Marc Boillot left the family domaine to be winemaker to Olivier Leflaive for five years. Then from his maternal grandfather Étienne Sauzet he inherited much of the vineyard of the old Domaine Sauzet, in some of the best vineyards of Puligny, and with this holding and others from his paternal side, he set up his own business. He makes wines that show well young, with complex exotic fruit aromas with the core of minerality, but they age well too. His daughter Lydie and son are now taking a more active role in the domaine.

2018 PULIGNY MONTRACHET Domaine Jean-Marc Boillot	£215	75cl bottles	case of 6
A light harmony to this - real Puligny expression, juice, bright with a slight sweetness of fruit, that inimitable mineral slip on the palate, and a lovely fresh length.			

2018 PULIGNY MONTRACHET 1er Cru Referts Domaine Jean-Marc Boillot	£325	75cl bottles	case of 6
50 year old vines. After the village Puligny, a more concentrated wine with a phenolic density that is tightened by the acidity on the finish.			
2018 PULIGNY MONTRACHET 1er Cru Champ Canet Domaine Jean-Marc Boillot	£325	75cl bottles	case of 6
Ripe, almost spicy nose and palate is round and fat - all very attractive, and softer and seemingly readier than the Referts when we tasted. The streamlined length builds on the acidity - powerful finish			
2018 PULIGNY MONTRACHET 1er Cru Combettes Domaine Jean-Marc Boillot	TBA	75cl bottles	case of 6
Fat again, again a ripe fruit character that's almost spicy; phenolic and dense. There's a real intensity here and it gives it amazing length.			
2018 PULIGNY MONTRACHET 1er Cru Truffières Domaine Jean-Marc Boillot	TBA	75cl bottles	case of 6
There's a real chew to this: it's harmonious, powerful, really quite a dry expression, intense, with a scrape of firm limestone, compact and long.			
2018 BÂTARD MONTRACHET Grand Cru Domaine Jean-Marc Boillot	TBA	75cl bottles	case of 6
A nose that is surprising in the context of the vintage - very bright and defined, again the sweet spicy richness found in the premiers crus, and the Bâtard volume oils the texture - and yet it stays firm. A huge wine which is not at all tiring - it stays lively and intense - one really has to chew through the density on the finish - lots more to come here.			

Domaine Joseph Colin	£ Per case IB	Bottle Size	Case Size
Joseph Colin is one of the four children of Marc Colin (the others being Pierre-Yves, Damien and Caroline), who had a large domaine with vines in Saint Aubin, Santenay, Chassagne and Puligny. Pierre-Yves left the family domaine in 2005 and since then Joseph was an important member of the team there. After making a token 1800 or so bottles on his own account in 2016, he started in earnest with 2017, with seven hectares of vines, from which he makes an astonishing nineteen different cuvées. Most of the vines he has in Saint Aubin are young, but by limiting bunches to six or seven per vine, he manages to control the yields. With plenty of time to learn his craft at Domaine Marc Colin, he has developed into a confident winemaker. He experimented with sulphur levels in the wines at the family domaine, so coming to his current view that the wines should be left the longest time possible without added SO2, perhaps adding some at racking, but if he feels there's still enough CO2 after racking, he will not even add any at that stage, so as to develop 'wine at its purest', but he is keen to say also that he has no standard recipe - he will adapt to each wine. In 2018 he again used no SO2 until just before bottling, but he's clear that if there's some botrytis, for example, he will add it earlier. Generally nothing is either fined or filtered. Joseph is a very bright new prospect for lovers of precise, pure white Burgundies with fresh acidity for crystalline definition. In 2018 Joseph picked over more than three weeks, starting on the 26th August and not finishing the last plots until the 20th of September.			

2018 BOURGOGNE ALIGOTÉ Domaine Joseph Colin	£60	75cl bottles	case of 6
From an attractively-named vineyard 'Les Jardins de la Côte'. Joseph says this is designed to be 'simple, tonic, to drink from the beginning of the year' - 12%, and only 20mg/l free sulphur. Really lively with expressive verve - a mouthwatering apéritif. All made in 2, 3 and 4 year old barrels.			
2018 BOURGOGNE BLANC La Combe Domaine Joseph Colin	£100	75cl bottles	case of 6
Some of the roundness of the vintage, but this is bright, fizzing with energy, with a well-defined mineral finish.			
2018 SAINT AUBIN Compendium Domaine Joseph Colin	£130	75cl bottles	case of 6
Made from several parcels scattered around the village from the bottom to the top, and picked as far apart as the 5th to the 20th of September - some parcels being much later-ripening than others. The combination is surprisingly successful, as we saw with the 2017 which sold out fast after our autumn tasting. Rich, still bright, lots of texture and a fresh zingy finish.			
2018 SAINT AUBIN 1er Cru Clos du Meix Domaine Joseph Colin	£170	75cl bottles	case of 6
Racked the day before we tasted. Quite a deep colour, good depth to the nose, rich and pure with bright citrus notes and some leesy and spicy depth - lovely.			
2018 SAINT AUBIN 1er Cru Sous la Roche Dumay Domaine Joseph Colin	£170	75cl bottles	case of 6
'I think I picked this a couple of days too late in 2017, and in 2018 it's better', says Joseph. Pure pale gold, and it's got a richness with a bright sparkling clarity of expression, with citrus juiciness on the finish.			
2018 SAINT AUBIN 1er Cru Les Combes Domaine Joseph Colin	£170	75cl bottles	case of 6
Racked the day before. Again a good gold colour, this one is very pointed and vertical, super-bright, good weight, but what really stands out is the sense of movement, of reaching for length.			
2018 SAINT AUBIN 1er Cru Chatenière Domaine Joseph Colin	£185	75cl bottles	case of 6
A little more volume and seriousness here. From the first nose it's a rounder, richer style, with citrus concentrated like sherbet lemons and a dense phenolic richness.			
2018 SAINT AUBIN 1er Cru En Rémylly Domaine Joseph Colin	£185	75cl bottles	case of 6
Grown-up nose, fully mature, spicy with sunny ripe fruit. On the palate the acidity is still there, bright and bringing the firmness of the stony ground to the fore - delicately precise, long and pure.			
2018 CHASSAGNE MONTRACHET Domaine Joseph Colin	£205	75cl bottles	case of 6
When we tasted this still had no sulphur dioxide added - he adjusts right at the end of the élevage for bottling. Absolutely lovely expression - still a lot of CO2, but juicy and fat, then there's freshness and a light spiciness. Bright balanced and long, a real 'gourmand' deliciousness.			
2018 PULIGNY MONTRACHET Trezin Domaine Joseph Colin	£225	75cl bottles	case of 6
Nice balance of gentle wood spice and fruit on nose. Intense flavourful richness on attack. Lively and rich - a terrific balance. Joseph says it's vital to pick at the right time in this high vineyard (it's above the Premiers Crus, on white clay), or it will make heavy wines like the vineyards at the very bottom of the village. As it is it is fresh and nervy, on it's toes, beautifully defined.			
2018 CHASSAGNE MONTRACHET 1er Cru Chenevottes Domaine Joseph Colin	£280	75cl bottles	case of 6
Arguably the only wine in the range that felt like it might need a filtration to 'straighten it up' as Joseph said - full and rich it had less CO2 than many and the aromas were not quite so youthful - but it's full and rich and the 'matière' seems to be all in place.			

2018 CHASSAGNE MONTRACHET 1er Cru Caillerets Domaine Joseph Colin	£315	75cl bottles	case of 6
Joseph picked this first in 2018 - on the 26th of August, when it seemed ripe to him. Rich nose and rich attack, big concentration of flavour and it's spicy and bold. Absolutely superb. He's very excited about the wine '80% of making a wine is choosing the right harvest date - this wine is a truck - the power of a red wine - and there's the balance for a very long life - un vin éternel'.			
2018 PULIGNY MONTRACHET 1er Cru La Garenne Domaine Joseph Colin	£340	75cl bottles	case of 6
Green-gold. Joseph describes this as having the caractère mentholé of Puligny - a fresher style. And it's all there, sappy, insinuating, a cool 'hard pebble' feel, less spice - he says silkier, less brutal than the Caillerets. It's just under Trezin, so high up - the highest of the Premiers Crus, but still 13.8% - 'but the alcoholic degree is not important, it stays fresh even over 14%, as there's always a breeze up there'. It's a lovely style and this ripe vintage plays to the strength of the site.			
2018 BÂTARD MONTRACHET Grand Cru Joseph Colin	Sold out	75cl bottles	case of 3
Beautiful. The acidity of Bâtard with perfectly judged acidity and freshness. Silky in the Puligny way, it has the gourmandise and richness as well as the tongue-tingling freshness. Gorgeously rich, and it lengthens out beautifully. 'The draught from the combe of Saint Aubin to the north may be the secret of why there is never botrytis, and why it retains its freshness despite the vineyard itself not looking much', remarks Joseph.			
2018 CHEVALIER MONTRACHET Grand Cru Joseph Colin	Sold out	75cl bottles	case of 3
After the Bâtard there seems to be a bit more firmness and rock on the nose and the palate bears this out - mineral firmness is the keynote, which is astonishing because it's a thick, rich wine. Really not giving much away, less gourmand than the Bâtard, a vertical, patrician, impeccably-mannered but slightly stiff style. Then comes the acidity, citrus juice, mouthwatering, amazing - long mineral and exciting, but really locked-down. 'Sometimes bottling will change the balance between these two, says' Joseph.			

Domaine Joseph Drouhin	£ Per case IB	Bottle Size	Case Size
A huge part of the Drouhin production comes from their own domaine fruit (78 hectares), and much of the rest comes from contracts such as that with the Marquis de Laguiche, who shook hands with the grandfather of the current generation, agreeing to let him manage his vineyards which included an important part of Le Montrachet; this collaboration endures. Today, the fourth generation is at the helm, still driven by the same passions that inspired the founder - and it remains one of the most well-respected names in Burgundy, staying true to their motto of 'natural elegance'. The domaine is all cultivated with an organic and biodynamic approach.			
Véronique Drouhin took us through the 2018 vintage and how she and her brothers managed it - always with the help of star chief winemaker Jérôme Faure Brac. A mild rainy winter after the hot dry summer of 2017. A cool spring, a bit of frost, and then in mid April fast growth in warm weather "the vines exploded into growth". It was warm and dry until July - warmer and dryer than usual "good news for Philippe" (Véronique's brother, in charge of the vineyards) - no mildew, no botrytis - they are all organic, so this was especially good as these are hard to treat. Harvest was early, starting on the 29th August, and finishing mostly by the 7th-9th, except for Chablis and Maconnais.			
As Véronique put it "sugars were not low", so they had to decide whether to wait for phenolic maturity or not. They decided to wait. "But you cannot pick 80 hectares in one day, so decisions had to be made".			
The whites were picked in perfect conditions. Careful management of the lees and almost no batonnage except to help the fermentations along. "I did not think that the wines would keep so much freshness - I think Jérôme did a great job", Véronique summed-up.			
In the reds they used a lot of whole clusters - even in wines like the Beaune premiers crus, which is not something they normally do. Between 25% and 65% depending on the cuvée. They were easy to vinify - colour came easily, but they did not want to extract too much or make them too big "they have very good ageing potential, but they have charm too.. you have to respect the vintage, but..." The wines range from 12.5 to 14.3% Alc. (reds and whites), and all the Grands Crus are over 13.5%.			

2018 BEAUNE 1er Cru Clos des Mouches Domaine Joseph Drouhin	£545	75cl bottles	wood case of 6
There are seven hectares of this (in white - another seven in red) - lucky Drouhins. Ripe and lush. A really sunny feel here, but also beautifully balanced. The point of sweetness balanced by the lively freshness. Some of the gourmandise of the Chassagne Laguiche, but there's a lively freshness which pulls this out long; "a beauty" says Véronique. Yup.			
2018 CORTON CHARLEMAGNE Propriétés Grand Cru Domaine Joseph Drouhin	£735	75cl bottles	wood case of 6
Lots of phenolic density here, powerfully weighty. Not giving much away but all the power and ageing capability is here. From the warmer eastern side of the hill, and on a soil that's very calcareous, making structured wines. They make eight barrels.			
2018 CRIOTS BÂTARD MONTRACHET Grand Cru Domaine Joseph Drouhin	£1,860	75cl bottles	wood case of 6

Joseph Drouhin	£ Per case IB	Bottle Size	Case Size
Despite the size of their vineyard holding, not all Drouhin's wines come from their own domaine, but most of the other wines do come from long-term contracts, such as exists with the Marquis de Laguiche wines. In all but name these wines are 'Domaine' wines, and the vineyards are cared for and the wines vinified with exactly the same care.			
2018 PULIGNY MONTRACHET Joseph Drouhin	£230	75cl bottles	case of 6
Tastes like a Puligny from altitude - quite tight and with the phenolic grip and intensity of the vintage. Needs to open up but all there.			
2018 PULIGNY MONTRACHET 1er Cru Clos de la Garenne Joseph Drouhin	£395	75cl bottles	case of 6
2018 MEURSAULT 1er Cru Perrières Joseph Drouhin	£420	75cl bottles	case of 6

2018 CHASSAGNE MONTRACHET Marquis de Laguiche 1er Cru Morgeot Joseph Drouhin	£420	75cl bottles	case of 6
A quite complete nose, and on the palate it is ample and fat, yet with a sleek minerality and purity. A very supple feel; classic Morgeot really, good gourmand richness and flavour depth - salivating. The Drouhins have run this as if part of their own domaine since 1947.			
2018 MEURSAULT 1er Cru Genevrières Joseph Drouhin	£510	75cl bottles	case of 6
They've only been making this 4 or 5 years. Cask sample. Spicy and slightly (nicely) smokily reductive aroma? the only wine in which I noticed any reduction at all in this line-up of 2018 Drouhin white burgundies. Deep, intense citrus fruit cut through by quite strident acidity, not yet meshed. All very embryonic but it has depth and intensity and length. Juicy and full of lively energy.			
2018 LE MONTRACHET Marquis de Laguiche Grand Cru Joseph Drouhin	£2,535	75cl bottles	wood case of 6
From the Marquis de Laguiche's two hectare holding which is a quarter of the whole eight hectare appellation. A fresh geen-gold. Immediate harmonious ripeness on nose. Sleek and supple start with total freshness - but the richness is there: huge power and elegance - penetrating, with remarkable intensity and length. So open and smiling, yet this is very grand too.			
Domaine Rémi Jobard	£ Per case IB	Bottle Size	Case Size
Rémi has been making small qualitative changes ever since he took over here. The entire vineyard is cordon-pruned, so yields are naturally limited. There has been no use of fertiliser since 1994, and the vineyard is grassed-over to encourage the vine roots to go deep. The domaine has been certified organic from 2008. He says that the two most important things are the absence of weedkiller (and thus the necessity to plough, which cuts any surface roots and makes the vine go deeper) and not adding any fertiliser which again makes the roots go deeper to find nutrients. Rémi has two vast presses, to enable him to press very slowly over six hours, and this has resulted in a big jump in finesse. The élevage now lasts nearly fifteen months, so as to allow the wines to develop slowly and to avoid fining. As a result these are wines which take a moment to show, but which reward the patient with complexity and great depth of flavour. Rémi made a move from traditional barrels to foudres made of a mix of French, Austrian and Slavonian oak, constructed by Austrian cooper Stockinger, and having added a new one (or two) each year, there's barely a normal barrel left. He likes the way the wines develop in these large volumes, in which the 'oaking' effect is minimised. 2018 has produced another great set of wines here, although we always seem to arrive when they are being fined, so they are hard to taste - we look forward to seeing them again at our London tasting. But there's terrific concentration in a vintage which in general had large yields. Rémi picked the domaine fruit between the 30th of August and the 9th of September.			
2018 BOURGOGNE BLANC Rémi Jobard	£155	75cl bottles	case of 12
Picked on the 11th and 12th of September, after all of the domaine wines, this is Rémi's one wine made from bought fruit. Citrus peel phenolics, bright and pure, with nice bouncy acidity.			
2018 BOURGOGNE CÔTE D'OR BLANC Vieilles Vignes Domaine Rémi Jobard	£215	75cl bottles	case of 12
Now upgraded to the 'Bourgogne Côte d'Or' appellation, this is Rémi's big cuvée, which all comes from parcels that border 'village' level vineyards in Meursault, Puligny and Chassagne. Much richer nose, and a much richer palate too - a weight and breadth of fruit, pithy and phenolic, and pure too - straight and citrusy with excellent depth - lots of flavour packed in here.			
2018 MEURSAULT Sous la Velle Domaine Rémi Jobard	£195	75cl bottles	case of 6
Lovely concentrated richness; really impressive; such a weight of flavour in this. Excellent village level wine.			
2018 MEURSAULT Luraule Domaine Rémi Jobard	£230	75cl bottles	case of 6
Next to premier cru Goutte d'Or. There's a sweetness to this - a sunny ripeness - and all the phenolics too; supple body and more richness but still fresh and driven.			
2018 MEURSAULT Narvaux Domaine Rémi Jobard	£245	75cl bottles	case of 6
Richer density of flavour than the Luraule, but dryer, more serious, less charm and smile and more muscle and sinew. Long and savoury.			
2018 MEURSAULT Chevalières Domaine Rémi Jobard	£265	75cl bottles	case of 6
Sleek feel. Quite cool again, but there's a point of sweet fruit too. Very classical citrus, with almost burning concentration, and long too.			
2018 MEURSAULT 1er Cru Poruzot Dessus Domaine Rémi Jobard	£375	75cl bottles	case of 6
Sleek and cool and fresh and seems very calm. Slightly fleeting impression as it was very gassy when we tasted and hard to fathom, but all very impressive, with concentration and structured length.			
2018 MEURSAULT 1er Cru Charmes Domaine Rémi Jobard	£375	75cl bottles	case of 6
After the Poruzot, this is sweeter and rounder, a calmer experience. Lovely succulent fruit, perhaps not the most intense on the finish but that may be what makes it so attractive today. Astonishing wine from such young vines.			
2018 MEURSAULT 1er Cru Genevrières Domaine Rémi Jobard	£380	75cl bottles	case of 6
Like the Charmes this has a sleek weight, dense with flavour to come but not giving much away when we were there. Sure that this will be lovely, but to be seen later - all the wines were being fined when we were there and that does close them down and make them 'stricter'.			
2018 BOURGOGNE CÔTE D'OR BLANC Vieilles Vignes Domaine Rémi Jobard	£215	Magnums	case of 6
2018 MEURSAULT 1er Cru Poruzot Dessus Domaine Rémi Jobard	£385	Magnums	case of 3
2018 MEURSAULT 1er Cru Charmes Domaine Rémi Jobard	£385	Magnums	case of 3

2018 MEURSAULT 1er Cru Genevrières Domaine Rémi Jobard	£390	Magnums	case of 3
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Domaine de la Choupette	£ Per case IB	Bottle Size	Case Size
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The Gutrin brothers' domaine was created when the twins joined forces in 1992 - it's based in the middle of Santenay, with Jean-Christophe in charge of the vines and Philippe in the winery. They have vineyards in Puligny (three hectares), Chassagne (half a hectare) Maranges (one hectare) and Santenay (seven and a half hectares). The vineyards are worked traditionally with ploughing rather than chemicals for weed control and to encourage the roots to go deeper. Yields are initially controlled at the pruning and with de-budding, and finally a green harvest as necessary. Whites are classically made with élevage in barrel for a year with up to half new wood. The reds are de-stemmed and macerated cold for a week before the three week fermentation at around 28C, then the temperature is allowed to rise to around 33C to stabilise colour and tannins. This gentle vinification is aimed at making fruit-forward wines, which are then aged in barrel for twelve to eighteen months using a mix of new and up to three-year-old barrels.

2018 PULIGNY MONTRACHET Domaine de la Choupette	£355	75cl bottles	case of 12
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From les Houlières. The bright lines and buzz of crisp fruit jump out of the glass at you. This freshness is impressive for the vintage. Lots of juicy acidity here - crisp and fresh. Green apple notes up front develop and broaden on the palate and then some richer more peachy flesh emerges. There's the sunshine! Thankfully there is no excess weight. A pithy, powdery feel dominates texturally - this is really quite tight for now. It is clear to see that this will benefit from another 6 months in the bottle to fill out, but it is showing much promise.

2018 PULIGNY MONTRACHET 1er Cru La Garenne Domaine de la Choupette	£430	75cl bottles	case of 12
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The family's parcel here in La Garenne dates back to the Second World War - they were actually planted in the early 1940s which is rare indeed. This is good and crisp. There is a delicious citrus-mist that teases the palate - then an almost jolting electric bite of mineral freshness. The weight of fruit is there again, but this is a step up from the Village wine met the intensity is great. Nicely concentrated and delicious. The old vines here give tiny berries - lean and clean juice, lemons and limes zip around your mouth, but the feel is less aggressive, less clipped than the 'village' and even the 1er Cru Chalumaux.

Thibault Liger-Belair Successeurs	£ Per case IB	Bottle Size	Case Size
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The lack of the word 'domaine' in the name signals that this is a négociant wine from Thibault Liger-Belair. Thibault buys the grapes he picks having tended the vines with his own team, so that the wines are domaine wines in all but name.

2018 SAVIGNY LES BEAUNE Blanc Clos du Village Thibault Liger-Belair Successeurs	£265	75cl bottles	case of 12
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2018 CORTON CHARLEMAGNE Les Languettes Grand Cru Thibault Liger-Belair Successeurs	£820	75cl bottles	wood case of 6
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2018 CORTON CHARLEMAGNE Les Languettes Grand Cru Thibault Liger-Belair Successeurs	Sold out	Magnums	wood case of 3
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Domaine Thomas-Collardot	£ Per case IB	Bottle Size	Case Size
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Jacqueline Collardot and her son Matthieu own and run this exciting 'micro- domaine' in the heart of Puligny-Montrachet.

Matthieu completes his studies this year and will join Jacqueline permanently, just in time for the harvest. Once they are doing it together we look forward to a slightly bigger production - as for now Jacqueline is limited to what she can achieve all on her own.. At only 2.5ha, this is an almost artisan project, allowing Jacqueline to give unrivalled time and care to every parcel she has ? all the work is either done by horse or by hand. Jacqueline inherited these vineyards from her father's Domaine Thomas Pierre in 2010 after he retired and is slowly raising the profile with her incredible care and attention. The results are stunning and this is a very exciting new signing for Lea & Sandeman! Although there may not be much quantity - the quality is impeccable. These are classically shaped, bright wines that express their various Puligny terroirs perfectly. She likes a long, slow élevage on the lees, with very little new wood used. Typically the wines spend two winters in the cellar before she then bottles in line with the moon in March.

2018 PULIGNY MONTRACHET Les Houlières Domaine Thomas-Collardot	TBA	75cl bottles	case of 6
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From 35 years old vines. On shallow clay with hard limestone just below the surface. Hits the palate with a lovely bracing, fresh attack. Bright, bright, bright. Loaded with good and lifted lemony fruit. Nicely citrus, some warm grapefruit softens that edge. Leads to a good feel of cream too - good fruit and nice punch. A really smart 'village' Puligny.

CÔTE CHALONNAISE - Red**Domaine Dureuil-Janthial****£ Per case IB Bottle Size Case Size**

Domaine Dureuil-Janthial is simply the leading domaine of the Côte Chalonnaise. What is more, the astonishing Vincent Dureuil is equally adept at making both white and red wines. Vincent inherited from the Janthial side of his family, who have been in Rully since the eighteenth century. Vincent and his wife Céline took over in 1994. As they say 'because wine is first grown in the vineyard, we have chosen to respect the land and let the soils and vineyards live, to produce committed and accurate wines, of great purity and a frank personality.'

The domaine now extends to 20 hectares, 17 in the Côte Chalonnaise (primarily Rully and Mercurey) with 3 hectares in the Côte d'Or, including vines inherited by Céline in Nuits Saint Georges, and some inherited by Vincent in Puligny. The domaine was certified organic in 2009, but after short harvests in 2012 and 2013, Vincent was forced by a late attack of mildew in 2016 to spray with fungicide. The result was that he saved 5 hectares out of the 20, but lost his certification. Stubbornly he immediately set about the three years of 'conversion' he must do before he can be certified again. For this perfectionist, being 'nearly organic' does not quite cut it. The brief look we had at the 2018s in October 2019 was a joy of a tasting, with both whites and reds showing the precision that Vincent brings to his wines. Yields in this part of Burgundy were more limited than elsewhere in 2018, then 2019 dealt them a cruel blow with a frost through much of the best hillsides. Availability will still be limited and we may not know what we are getting until after the February - March bottlings.

2018 RULLY ROUGE Domaine Dureuil-Janthial

TBA 75cl bottles case of 12

Three parcels. Sweetly soft, cushiony on the palate, gentle and pure, on soils with more clay than the Bourgogne, so less structure, but a lot of volume. Long, long finish.

2018 RULLY ROUGE 1er Cru La Fosse Domaine Dureuil-Janthial

TBA 75cl bottles case of 12

Not tasted in October as it was still in barrel.

2018 RULLY ROUGE 1er Cru Chapitre Domaine Dureuil-Janthial

TBA 75cl bottles case of 12

Like most of the reds this was quite subdued on the nose when we tasted in October having just been taken out of barrel and into cuve. but it's all there - densely structured and intense.

Domaine François Lumppp**£ Per case IB Bottle Size Case Size**

François Lumppp started as a grower in the family domaine in 1977, but then separated from his brother and set up on his own with four hectares of vines in 1991. He and his wife Isabelle have gradually grown the vineyard to reach nine and a half hectares. They are delighted that they have now been joined by two of their children, Pierre and Anne-Cécile. François is a passionate viticulturalist and places great emphasis on making the wine in the vineyards, which are farmed with minimum intervention to allow the terroir to express itself fully. In practice this means very careful choice of plant material to give the highest quality results (often at the expense of yield). 2018 has made a slightly smaller than usual harvest here, and as we have noted elsewhere, the Côte Chalonnaise was generally less affected by heat and lack of water, so the reds are the Lumppp's usual style of glossy dark richness with immense fruit concentration and purity, while the whites were singing, with a fine balance. It is no surprise that Tim Atkin described François Lumppp as the 'the best producer in Givry.' All the Lumppp wines still offer great value for money.

2018 GIVRY 1er Cru à Vigne Rouge Domaine François Lumppp

£265 75cl bottles case of 12

Very harmonious nose, as it often seems, the most complete and fullest, much more like a big Volnay. Rich and round and pure, but the structure and density is all there for a long life.

2018 GIVRY 1er Cru Clos Jus Domaine François Lumppp

£270 75cl bottles case of 12

Very blue-purple colour, very ripe and quite a core of sweetness, but also tannic, powerful, long-lived and vivid.

2018 GIVRY 1er Cru Crausot Domaine François Lumppp

£270 75cl bottles case of 12

In contrast to some of the Côte d'Or there was not a particularly large harvest here - smaller than 2017, although 2019 will be smaller yet. Very positive flavours and a density and juiciness that is remarkable. Bueberry, raspberry and blackberry, very pure.

Domaine Paul et Marie Jacqueson**£ Per case IB Bottle Size Case Size**

The domaine consists now of 13 hectares of vines, mostly in Rully, but also parcels in Mercurey and Bouzeron. The grapes are harvested by hand and vinified in classical fashion, before an élevage in barrel (up to 25% new wood). Under Paul, and now by his children, Marie and Pierre, the domaine has become adept at a sophisticated use of barrels, the élevage here is key to the quality they consistently achieve, and this rubs off on the négociant 'Cuvée Sélection' which is always beautifully finished.

Quality is as high as ever - or higher, but the 2018 vintage is not one that will be remembered with any fondness by the Jacquesons, since quantitatively it was a disaster, 65% down in white and 35% down in red, following appalling frosts early in the year, which took out much of the slope of the premiers crus. As usual the élevage in barrel here is extremely precise and delicately done with around 20% new wood, the Premiers Crus getting barrels with a little more toast. The whites are all concentrated and fresh in 2018, while the reds are richly full of flavour with good freshness, the fullest being the Préaux.

2018 RULLY Rouge Chaponnières Domaine Paul et Marie Jacqueson

£150 75cl bottles case of 12

These vines were planted in the the 1980s. Super site although not 1er Cru - very much on the same slope as all the other 1er cru vineyards. This 2018 is a real charmer. Bright and juicy but with deep undertones. Delicious. Easy and crowd pleasing. Some herbs some spice - but just good firm deep blue and red fruit. Yes please!

2018 RULLY 1er Cru Les Préaux Domaine Paul et Marie Jacqueson

£180 75cl bottles case of 12

Under Les Cloux at the foot of the slope, planted in the 60s. Thick ripe fruit, with some energy from 25% whole bunch fermentation, it shows the dense richness of the vintage.

2018 RULLY 1er Cru Les Cloux Domaine Paul et Marie Jacqueson	£195	75cl bottles	case of 12
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25% new wood. From vines planted in 1967, on a hillside with a high limestone content, not that much soil before the bedrock. Deep colour and the ripe expressive fruit of the vintage, with real density and richness. The mineral underpinning giving streamlined length.

2018 MERCUREY 1er Cru Champs Martin Domaine Paul et Marie Jacqueson	£200	75cl bottles	case of 12
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A great vineyard site, young vines planted in 2005, but well-chosen plants, obviously, judging by the result. Aromatic and expressive, this has a lovely juicy density despite being entirely de-stemmed. Slight salinity just adds to the fun and gourmandise.

Domaine François Raquillet	£ Per case IB	Bottle Size	Case Size
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François took over the running of this estate from his father, Jean, in 1990, with his wife Emmanuelle. Records show that the same family have made wine in Mercurey since the 1600s, and Francois is the eleventh generation. With eleven hectares under vine, François has substantially reduced yields, introduced higher quality oak barrels (up to 50% new wood for the Premiers Crus) and significantly increased the quality of wines made at this domaine. François explains he tries to avoid over-extraction at all costs - his one aim is to deliver the beautifully pure fruit profile he gets out of the old vines - this he does with great success. It is a wonderfully transparent style - combined with good mid-palate weight. In 2018 he made an average of 42hl/ha across the domaine, so smiles in order, and probably just as well as the wines would have been over-concentrated had they been any lower. In 2019, we learned, the yield is down to only 32hl/ha, which is not really enough for him given the very reasonable pricing of this part of the world. Great value across the range.

2018 BOURGOGNE Pinot Noir Domaine François Raquillet	£125	75cl bottles	case of 12
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This is aged half in barrels, half in steel cives and will be bottled in January 2020. You are immediately struck by a very flattering hit of supple fruit. quite rich and joyous. It is quite full on but there is some grip too, some gentle shades of structure. On the black fruit side, good and dark and rich. Black cherry flesh and sweet dark currants. Grip and structure build on the finish- this will be good once its had a moment in bottle.

2018 MERCUREY Vieilles Vignes Domaine François Raquillet	£175	75cl bottles	case of 12
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Tasted from tank, this juice was racked off just 2 weeks previously. The vines are now 65 years old. Good pretty and enticing nose. Pinot with a sense of weight and plush edge. Palate starts fresh and clean. Good mineral edge to the core, then a brightness - a red edge to the fruit. Gets better and better on the palate. Really rather delicious. Some warm spice on finish perhaps a touch of mincemeat, very pleasing. Nice weight of fruit - but balanced nicely with fresh lines.

2018 MERCUREY 1er Cru Les Vasées Domaine François Raquillet	£215	75cl bottles	case of 12
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Serious feel here - smart sleek and polished nose. Loaded with dark, brambling, sweeter fruit. But with a sophisticated smart Burgundian Pinot feel. Palate has lift and energy. Delightful textured and with really good flow. The energy here sucks you in and there is a delicious chiselled feel to the fruit. Really pretty Pinot, with much more tension and balance than the nose might suggest. Vasées is a sunny site Francois reminds us - and this adds that extra dimension of charm. (40% new wood, as on all François's 1er Crus.)

2018 MERCUREY 1er Cru Les Naugues Domaine François Raquillet	£220	75cl bottles	case of 12
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This south facing vineyard is full of lovely old vines that often produce really very small grapes. This of course adds power and structure. And the 2018 Naugues does not disappoint fans of this more 'hefty' 1er cru. Francois will be bottling this in March as it needs that second winter in the cellar. As always this bold wine has bigger shoulders than the other vineyard wines, there is always more power here. The wine is tighter and more focused for now than the Vasées or Veleys. A profound mineral scrape is there underpinning the firm serious fruit which adds a sense of grandeur and purpose. That packed fruit core is great - with sweet juice popping through, but nicely measured and never losing focus. Well done, serious stuff that will need time to get more showy, more flashy. Certainly one for the cellar that will give great pleasure in the medium term. (40% new wood, as on all François's 1er Crus.)

2018 MERCUREY 1er Cru Les Veleys Domaine François Raquillet	£220	75cl bottles	case of 12
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Of the three 1er Crus we love from Raquillet this is always the most mineral and has the purest feel. As we taste in the cellar this will be bottled in March, racked last week - and now 'en masse' in tank. Despite this recent 'agitation' the smart, serious edge is very clear. Sophisticated feel, you can just sense the wood, but all round there is a step up in intensity, depth of fruit and power. This will need a moment to fill out and settle. But it is complex and very impressive - one for the connoisseurs. (40% new wood, as on all François's 1er Crus.)

CÔTE D'OR - Red**Côte de Beaune****Domaine Bernard Dugat-Py****£ Per case IB Bottle Size Case Size**

Domaine Dugat-Py's wines are far from shy and retiring, but they do require patience to show their best. Old vines, tiny yields, viticulture with minute and constant attention, all lead to a magnificent concentration and purity in the raw material. Without extracting harsh tannins, Loïc (who despite his youthful good-looks, has overseen the wine-making since 2012) gets an astonishing density into the wines, and they take on the high percentage of new oak quite casually. Nevertheless, Loïc has reduced the amount of new wood (The village wines get 50% max., while the Premiers Crus and Grands Crus get up to 75%.)

'Nous on est tres content' said a relaxed and smiling Loïc Dugat as he began to tell us about the 2018 vintage. There were frosts until March - the winter had been cold and rainy so there were good reserves of water, then suddenly in April they had 28C - from freezing at night straight to that. Flowering happened from the 23rd May. It was very hot in August - 34-35C - but there was no blocage de maturité because of the water reserves in the ground. He started to harvest on the 29th August (Charmes, Vosne, Pommard), but it was still 29C in the afternoons, so they hurried, employing a team of fifty to get it all picked in a week. They finished with the Corton Charlemagne on the 7th September. Loïc has just one word for it: 'exceptional'.

2018 POMMARD Vieilles Vignes La Levrière Domaine Bernard Dugat-Py

TBA 75cl bottles case of 6

Always a beefy step change after the nicely spiced red fruit of the Gevreys. Yes there it is - suddenly a firm front here. More guts, more tannin give the impression of much broader shoulders. And yet it still zings - there is still that bounce of energy. Lithe dark fruit, blacker and less sweet here - but beautifully ripe. Powerful, but delicious.

Domaine Faiveley**£ Per case IB Bottle Size Case Size**

As we tasted with winemaker Jerome Flous he was keen to point out that this is a far more serious vintage than it may first appear. Yes there was a hot summer, but that is not the only story - these wines have great intensity too and are full of promise for the medium to long-term - despite the apparent up-front richness.

2018 is his 12th vintage at the helm of Faiveley and there is a reassuring confidence about him - these certainly all look very accomplished wines in the vintage. It has not been straightforward in 2018 - tricky climatic challenges aside. A stop-start fermentation in the cellar lead to some difficult, wild elements in the young juice. The lees were potentially quite ?dangerous? he says. So he racked all the 1er and Grand Cru wines very early to preserve clean and fresh fruit. He intends to give all the reds two winters in the cellar as they need a long élevage to ?finish off?. He'll start the bottling in March 2020.

Tasting them we were struck by quite how measured and tightly-wrapped they seem for now. Smart and sophisticated on the whole with good restrained power and intensity, impressive drive for 2018.

As is so often the way here each wine really has a sense of place and knows its spot on the pecking order. There are some real delights for drinkers.

2018 CORTON Grand Cru Clos des Cortons Domaine Faiveley

£725 75cl bottles wood case of 6

Barrel sample. Mid to deep cherry red. Dark fruits with a hint of violets and a very faint stemmy note ?herbal but not unripe (though I don't think there were any stems in the ferment). The floral side is present yet delicate. Lighter-bodied than the Faiveley Côte de Nuits grands crus just tasted, tighter, a little more severe on the palate but that perfume is from start to finish.

Domaine Fernand & Laurent Pillot**£ Per case IB Bottle Size Case Size**

The origins of the Pillot family in Chassagne can be traced back to the eighteenth century, when they seem to have been coopers more than vigneron. In the nineteenth century they abandoned barrel-making in favour of enlarging the property in Chassagne. Fernand and Laurent, who is the fourth generation, added to it again in 1992, and then in 2001 Laurent's wife Marie-Anne inherited half of her family's property, the Pommard domaine of Pothier-Rieusset, and Laurent and his father bought the other half. The domaine now stands at 14.5 hectares of vines across almost the whole length of the Côte de Beaune from Santenay to Beaune. The Domaine is worked according to organic principles and are ploughed ? no chemical weedkillers are used. They have also been members of the Dephy-ECO-phyto group, which works to reduce the number of treatments using copper sulphate, since 2012.

Laurent has always managed to pack in a lot alongside his running of the vineyard. He has a sophisticated microlight which he flies to all corners of France, he keeps and hunts hawks, and conducts the Chassagne brass band as well as dabbling in Mayoral duties - on top of being a father of three, Anais, Adrien and Eugène. They are all mad about the alps and disappear up the mountains at regular intervals.

Laurent's eldest son Adrien has been travelling the world making wine all over the place for the last few years having completed his training in Beaune. Bringing back lessons learnt in Australia, South Africa and California (and from a stint at Lea & Sandeman) - he now helps Laurent with all aspects of the wine-making and viticulture at the domaine. The wines have long been L&S favourites in both red and white - they represent excellent value, and they age very well too, despite being attractive young. The whites are precise and pure, and not lacking for body and generosity, while the reds are velvety and juicy, beautifully balanced even if drunk young on their expressive Pinot fruit. The domaine was rightfully heralded in Decanter Magazine as 'an address that deserves to be better-known'. Great value and real pleasure across their range.

2018 BOURGOGNE PINOT NOIR Domaine Fernand & Laurent Pillot

£125 75cl bottles case of 12

The sweetness of the fruit dominates the attack, but it does have more to say, with little fine tannins activated by acidity giving a juicy gourmandise. Simple but very delicious.

2018 SANTENAY Prarons Dessus Domaine Fernand & Laurent Pillot

£185 75cl bottles case of 12

A different level of tonic freshness; bright and lifted and so easy to drink!

2018 CHASSAGNE MONTRACHET Rouge Vieilles Vignes Domaine Fernand & Laurent Pillot	£225	75cl bottles	case of 12
From lots of odd bits of vineyard around the village, but minimum 30 years old and mostly planted in the 50s and 60s. Harvested late and with low yields it's very ripe. There's a different level of concentration here, spicy fruit, supple and rich and pure. Quite a crowd-pleaser.			
2018 VOLNAY Domaine Fernand & Laurent Pillot	£275	75cl bottles	case of 12
This is 1/3 Premier Cru (Brouillards and Ronceret). Refined style with a cooler, fresher fruit, even though still lots of volume, with very fine but present tannins. Another lovely village wine in the vintage.			
2018 POMMARD Tavannes Domaine Fernand & Laurent Pillot	£275	75cl bottles	case of 12
That slightly broader, sweeter richness of Pommard, sweet dense fruit picked up with lovely acidity - gorgeous, lots of punch and character.			
2018 CHASSAGNE MONTRACHET Rouge 1er Cru Morgeot Domaine Fernand & Laurent Pillot	£310	75cl bottles	case of 12
Old vines, low yield, and again this is very ripe and the fruit is round and sweetly rich, with firm tannins under the surface.			
2018 BEAUNE 1er Cru Boucherottes Domaine Fernand & Laurent Pillot	£310	75cl bottles	case of 12
Bright and fresh to look at with a blue edge, and it hits the palate fresh with very fine tannins that just give a sense of volume more than any roughness. Sleek and elegant.			
2018 POMMARD 1er Cru Clos du Verger Domaine Fernand & Laurent Pillot	£385	75cl bottles	case of 12
Again the supple volume of the vintage, not as aromatic as the Boucherottes, but sleeker and fine. They pulled out the middle bit of this site a few years back and when they replanted six years ago they put back a token (.8%) of Pinot Gris - the other 2/3 are very old vines.			
2018 POMMARD 1er Cru Charmots Domaine Fernand & Laurent Pillot	£500	75cl bottles	case of 12
This has the lively energising charm that this cuvée of Charmots regularly shows - velvet fruit density kept lively by a frank expressive fruitiness.			
2018 POMMARD 1er Cru Rugiens Domaine Fernand & Laurent Pillot	£575	75cl bottles	case of 12
100% de-stemmed. Very silk-velvet texture, a lovely coolly-stated juicy fruit. This is so pure and has terrific body and texture and balance - it will keep a long time on this balance. 2 buds on the 'taille', 3 on the 'baguette' for a low yield - not much of it but they want it to be a true Rugiens.			
2018 POMMARD Tavannes Domaine Fernand & Laurent Pillot	£155	Half-bottles	case of 12

Domaine Henri Boillot**£ Per case IB Bottle Size Case Size**

A domaine which dates back to 1885, but which began properly in the early years of the 20th century under the current Henri's grandfather (also Henri). His son, Jean, was the one who really developed it. Henri arrived in 1975 and worked his way up, becoming the winemaker. In 2000 he began the building of the new winery at the bottom of Meursault, and he then bought out his brother and sister to keep the domaine as one, renaming it from 'Domaine Jean Boillot' to 'Domaine Henri Boillot' to avoid confusion with his brother Jean-Marc's domaine. After six years working alongside his father, Guillaume is the 'chef de culture', i.e. heads up the vineyard team, and has been entirely responsible for the vinification of the reds since 2012. Henri continues to make the whites which he likes to be 'straight, taut, precise, pure and elegant'. Guillaume's input has resulted in red wines that have gained in definition and energy, without losing the luxurious velvety richness and fruit depth that they have always had. In 2018 he expanded his use of vinification intégrale in which the reds are vinified in the barrels they will be aged in - the cellar being equipped with 140 barrels with stainless steel doors in the ends, all made of wood they bought for the purpose, which has been dried for three years. Labour-intensive and time-consuming though it is, Guillaume clearly believes it is the way to more precision in the wines, and the 2018s certainly are rather astonishing.

The Domaine has roughly equal surfaces of red and white, and of which just under 4ha is the Monopole vineyard of Clos de la Mouchère, a walled enclave within the premier Cru Puligny Perrières. After last year's acquisition of small parcels in Latricières and Échezeaux, the Boillots bought the vineyards of Domaine Henri Darnat early in 2019, and will have almost all the wines from the 2019 vintage.

2018 BOURGOGNE ROUGE Domaine Henri Boillot	£200	75cl bottles	case of 12
No new wood. Restrained nose, but this is beautifully balanced: even from this source this surprisingly classy and has a lovely succulence.			
2018 VOLNAY 1er Cru Fremiets Domaine Henri Boillot	£740	75cl bottles	case of 12
Surprisingly the Fremiets is lighter and fresher than the Chevrets, a cooler expression, even if the fruit is just as vivid. Again pure and long, intense and balanced.			
2018 VOLNAY 1er Cru Chevrets Domaine Henri Boillot	£750	75cl bottles	case of 12
Amazingly defined bonbon fruit - raspberry 'Love Hearts'! Vivid and juicy and sweet with silky tannins. This very ripe but it can take it - lovely elegance and purity.			
2018 VOLNAY 1er Cru Caillerets Domaine Henri Boillot	Sold out	75cl bottles	case of 12
Very fine nose; absolutely fabulous lifted, weightless yet voluminous palate. It's got power, but it's all in gentleness and caress; ghostly. Love it.			

Henri Boillot**£ Per case IB Bottle Size Case Size**

Henri Boillot complements his domaine wines with a small range of négociant wines of superb quality in very limited quantities. A few of the wines are offered here - an opportunity to buy some of Burgundy's rarest appellations from a top source.

2018 POMMARD 1er Cru Clos Blanc Henri Boillot	£375	75cl bottles	case of 6
For a wine from young vines this is amazing. Silky, one would say it's from clay, but then it's too elegant - but although there is Pommard power it's not aggressive.			
2018 POMMARD 1er Cru Rugiens Henri Boillot	Sold out	75cl bottles	case of 6
This is (sadly) coming to an end as a cuvée chez Boillot, as it came from purchased grapes and the contract is ending. It's also super silky, with a darker fruit expression than the Clos Blanc; as usual a top example.			

Domaine Henri Germain	£ Per case IB	Bottle Size	Case Size
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Jean-François Germain was joined over the course of 2018 by his daughter Lucie - who is now helping to run this small (6.5ha) domaine. The Chassagne vineyards came through his mother, a Pillot, and Jean-François is married to François Jobard's daughter, so they are quite intertwined with some of our other producers. His Poruzots comes from rows next to those of Rémi Jobard, as they would have been in the same family originally. In terms of winemaking the Germaines are always happy to let nature take its course, and in the vineyards they follow as natural a system of viticulture as possible. These are concentrated, tightly wound wines from one of Burgundy's coldest cellars. Slow to develop, they show wonderful crystalline purity. New wood is used sparingly. Jean-François told us that the yields in 2018 had been generous - 60hl/ha across the domaine (and 57hl/ha in the Premiers Crus). He described the whites as fresh and taut, but the concentration as unexceptional - but that they are nicely straight and pure with 'une belle dynamique', and it will be possible to drink them quite young. Prices to be released end of January.

2018 BEAUNE 1er Cru Bressandes Domaine Henri Germain	TBA	75cl bottles	case of 12
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30% whole bunch. Like the Clos des Mouches, this is caressing in texture, but with a more emphatic fruit and structure too, all quite closed and restrained. The tannin is fine but very present, but the fruit is it's equal - will make a lovely bottle in time.

2018 MEURSAULT Rouge 1er Cru Clos des Mouches Domaine Henri Germain	TBA	75cl bottles	case of 12
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30% whole bunch. Very supple and easy texture, smooth weight, coolly expressed, not popping with flavour density, but caressing, calm, classy.

Domaine Hubert Lamy	£ Per case IB	Bottle Size	Case Size
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A domaine with 18.5 hectares of vines - 80% are Chardonnay and 20% Pinot Noir. The vines are spread over Saint-Aubin, Puligny-Montrachet, Chassagne-Montrachet and Santenay. Olivier Lamy's wine-making style and preference is to emphasise the fresh and the mineral side of his wines, with limited new wood and that is with the wines in 600 litre demi-muids rather than the classic Burgundy (225 litre) fût. Certainly Olivier's whites do have an arrow-like purity and intensity, and seem to age completely straight and true. In 2018, he told us, there was for once no frost or hail. It was very dry in the summer, but had been very wet in winter when it seemed to rain every day. In the winter they had 50% more water than usual, but in summer it was 50% less. There was also 30% more sunshine than normal, and it was the sun rather than the heat which for him really defines the vintage - the sunniest for 30 years. They started picking on the 22nd of August - earlier than in 2003, but did not finish until the 12th September - some of the reds, despite being at 14 degrees potential alcohol, were green inside - that had not achieved phenolic ripeness and they just had to wait. In the reds he used more stems to keep freshness, and in the whites he pressed harder, saying that you can be more aggressive with the skins when there is ripeness like this - you need the phenols from the skins to balance the ripeness. His final kicker of a comment was that although yields were pretty good in 2018, 2019 is a very small harvest - so buy while you can.

2018 CHASSAGNE MONTRACHET Rouge Goujonne Domaine Hubert Lamy	£270	75cl bottles	case of 12
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On clay. We tasted before racking, so a fleeting impression - density and ripe fruit, with a really nice initial touch on the palate - sweet. The tannic finale just shows there's a little more work to do.

2018 SANTENAY Rouge 1er Cru Clos des Gravières Domaine Hubert Lamy	£355	75cl bottles	case of 12
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Again tasted before racking, but this was showing real elegance - there's limestone here and the lift it gives is coming through loud and clear - quite a big wine but very nicely balanced.

Domaine Joseph Colin	£ Per case IB	Bottle Size	Case Size
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Joseph Colin is one of the four children of Marc Colin (the others being Pierre-Yves, Damien and Caroline), who had a large domaine with vines in Saint Aubin, Santenay, Chassagne and Puligny. Pierre-Yves left the family domaine in 2005 and since then Joseph was an important member of the team there. After making a token 1800 or so bottles on his own account in 2016, he started in earnest with 2017, with seven hectares of vines, from which he makes an astonishing nineteen different cuvées.

Most of the vines he has in Saint Aubin are young, but by limiting bunches to six or seven per vine, he manages to control the yields. With plenty of time to learn his craft at Domaine Marc Colin, he has developed into a confident winemaker. He experimented with sulphur levels in the wines at the family domaine, so coming to his current view that the wines should be left the longest time possible without added SO₂, perhaps adding some at racking, but if he feels there's still enough CO₂ after racking, he will not even add any at that stage, so as to develop 'wine at its purest', but he is keen to say also that he has no standard recipe - he will adapt to each wine. In 2018 he again used no SO₂ until just before bottling, but he's clear that if there's some botrytis, for example, he will add it earlier. Generally nothing is either fined or filtered.

Joseph is a very bright new prospect for lovers of precise, pure white Burgundies with fresh acidity for crystalline definition. In 2018 Joseph picked over more than three weeks, starting on the 26th August and not finishing the last plots until the 20th of September.

2018 CHASSAGNE MONTRACHET ROUGE Domaine Joseph Colin	£120	75cl bottles	case of 6
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Joseph makes this to be a simple wine - a short fermentation in vat and an élevage in old barrel so as not to mark the purity of the fruit. Juicy, on the front foot, nice richness of colour and fruit, juicy fresh balance drawing out the finish.

Domaine Joseph Drouhin	£ Per case IB	Bottle Size	Case Size
<p>A huge part of the Drouhin production comes from their own domaine fruit (78 hectares), and much of the rest comes from contracts such as that with the Marquis de Laguiche, who shook hands with the grandfather of the current generation, agreeing to let him manage his vineyards which included an important part of Le Montrachet; this collaboration endures. Today, the fourth generation is at the helm, still driven by the same passions that inspired the founder - and it remains one of the most well-respected names in Burgundy, staying true to their motto of 'natural elegance'. The domaine is all cultivated with an organic and biodynamic approach.</p> <p>Véronique Drouhin took us through the 2018 vintage and how she and her brothers managed it - always with the help of star chief winemaker Jérôme Faure Brac. A mild rainy winter after the hot dry summer of 2017. A cool spring, a bit of frost, and then in mid April fast growth in warm weather "the vines exploded into growth". It was warm and dry until July - warmer and dryer than usual "good news for Philippe" (Véronique's brother, in charge of the vineyards) - no mildew, no botrytis - they are all organic, so this was especially good as these are hard to treat. Harvest was early, starting on the 29th August, and finishing mostly by the 7th-9th, except for Chablis and Maconnais.</p> <p>As Véronique put it "sugars were not low", so they had to decide whether to wait for phenolic maturity or not. They decided to wait. "But you cannot pick 80 hectares in one day, so decisions had to be made".</p> <p>The whites were picked in perfect conditions. Careful management of the lees and almost no batonnage except to help the fermentations along. "I did not think that the wines would keep so much freshness - I think Jérôme did a great job", Véronique summed-up.</p> <p>In the reds they used a lot of whole clusters - even in wines like the Beaune premiers crus, which is not something they normally do. Between 25% and 65% depending on the cuvée. They were easy to vinify - colour came easily, but they did not want to extract too much or make them too big "they have very good ageing potential but they have charm too, you have to respect the vintage, but...". The wines range from 12.5 to</p>			
2018 VOLNAY Domaine Joseph Drouhin	£175	75cl bottles	case of 6
<p>2018 BEAUNE 1er Cru Grèves Domaine Joseph Drouhin</p> <p>Cask sample. Mid purplish cherry red. Lovely floral and open nose. So pure and scented with cherry and violets. On the palate, some oak in evidence in sweet spice. Incredibly smooth and rounded texture. Packed with fruit, generous and remarkably approachable. Just fresh enough. Very persistent with that fruit.</p>	£315	75cl bottles	case of 6
<p>2018 BEAUNE Rouge 1er Cru Clos des Mouches Domaine Joseph Drouhin</p> <p>25% whole bunches. Tasted after the excellent Beaune Cras, the Clos des Mouches has a more 'serious' nose, a cooler, dryer expression with more depth. This is followed through in the mouth with quite weighty dark fruit - a blacker expression than the Cras. Rather fab - a very complete wine with great depth of fruit and a touch of spice. Says very big, gourmand and deep but there's subtlety and elegance and finesse too.</p>	£395	75cl bottles	case of 6
Domaine Comte Armand	£ Per case IB	Bottle Size	Case Size
<p>A domaine totalling nine hectares, the Volnay vineyards were added in 1994, followed by parcels in Auxey Duresses. The current Comte Armand is a lawyer living in Paris, but very supportive of the régisseurs who have looked after this domaine for the thirty years or so that L&S have been buying here. The 1980 vintage, made by one of the many Rossignols of Volnay who was in charge at the time, was for us a great introduction to the possibilities of the great Clos des Epeneaux vineyard. Then came the era of Pascal Marchand, a young Quebecois who came to do a harvest with Domaine Bruno Clair and just never left. He began a period of radical restructuring and the introduction of organic and then biodynamic farming, while making very dark, dense and long-lived wines. Benjamin Leroux, hugely respected amongst growers who approach things from an organic or biodynamic point of view, then took over, and refined this approach and changed the way the parcels of vines are divided up for harvesting, paying less attention to just the age of the vines, and more to the underlying soil types. Claude Bourguignon was employed to provide a full geological survey of the Clos as the basis for this. Under Benjamin the wines of the Clos gained in finesse and precision, while still having the depth and richness expected of a great Pommard. Both Pascal and Benjamin were keen to expand beyond the confines of the Clos, and the Domaine also has vines in Volnay, and, a particular enthusiasm of both Pascal and Benjamin, in Auxey Duresses, where they are convinced of the great potential of some of this village's undervalued and neglected terroirs. Paul Zinetti, who had worked with Ben for four years, took over in 2014. The vineyard is cultivated organically and biodynamically. The grapes are entirely de-stemmed, but left intact, for a five to eight-day cold maceration before the fermentation, which lasts five to ten days, and then the wine remains in the fermenters for between three and fifteen days, depending on the vintage. In most years, the total time with skin contact will be around four weeks, which is longer than most. The wines will then be aged in barrel for between eighteen and twenty-four months, with new wood limited to 30% for the wine from the old vines of the Clos, down to none at all for the village wines. Paul has nailed his colours to the mast by saying he wants to make a less tannic wine in the Clos, and one which is more about aromatic length. In this he is continuing the route that Ben was following, but perhaps taking it even further. All the wines here are a triumph in 2018, with a transparent elegance allied to the ripe density of the vintage.</p>			
2018 AUXEY DURESSES Domaine Comte Armand	£130	75cl bottles	case of 6
<p>Just lovely. Purple juice and concentrated flavour. Expressive, juicy and a lovely weight of just sheer joie de vivre.</p>			
2018 AUXEY DURESSES 1er Cru Domaine Comte Armand	£175	75cl bottles	case of 6
<p>Bréterins and Duresses, both really fully south-facing. Like the village Auxey, this purple-bright and super-expressive with a crunchy fresh texture.</p>			
2018 VOLNAY Domaine Comte Armand	£210	75cl bottles	case of 6
<p>Sleek and fine with a core of very ripe sweet fruit - rather a gourmandise - still fresh, a lovely crispness to the definition makes it elegant, pure. A lovely village wine.</p>			

2018 VOLNAY 1er Cru Fremiets Domaine Comte Armand	£360	75cl bottles	case of 6
Similar feel to the village wine - ripe fruit and a delicious freshness, this is more serious in terms of drive and length. Excellent too.			
2018 POMMARD 1er Cru Clos des Épeneaux Domaine Comte Armand	£595	75cl bottles	wood case of 6
Tasted as four components, then the blend. The 'young vines' (now 36) in the top of the south side have made a wine that is juicy and firm on limestone pebbles - taut. The vines below, now 55-65 years old, are on deeper soil and the resulting wine is deeper and richer, structured and dense. At the top of the northerly side are old (70+) vines. High up, the wine is sleek and saline, very fresh and mineral - the most complete in itself. The vines below, on deeper soils again, are 80-100 years old and make a wine that is richer yet, but not as lively - but there's chew and density. Exceptionally we also tasted the press wine, which makes up 8 barrels out of 72 - this was as tannic as expected, but as Catherine said, it has 'bitterness without astringency', and amply demonstrates the ripeness of the tannins in this vintage. The Clos blend has richness and energy; the synthesis is lively, expressive, deep with red and black fruit crunch, richly textured and very, very long.			
2018 POMMARD 1er Cru Clos des Épeneaux Domaine Comte Armand	£635	Magnums	wood case of 3
2018 POMMARD 1er Cru Clos des Épeneaux Domaine Comte Armand	Sold out	Jeroboam	wood case of 1
2018 POMMARD 1er Cru Clos des Épeneaux Domaine Comte Armand	Sold out	Methuselah	wood case of 1

Domaine de Courcel	£ Per case IB	Bottle Size	Case Size
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One of the great domaines of Pommard, with a 400 year history in the same family. The domaine produces a small amount of Bourgogne Chardonnay, a completely over-performing Bourgogne Rouge, a village Pommard (Vaumuriens, 1.44 ha), but the biggest part of the domaine consists of four great Premier Cru expressions of the terroir of Pommard, Fremiers (0.79 ha), Croix Noires (0.58 ha), Grand Clos des Epenots (4.89 ha) and Rugiens (1.07 ha). These represent a very different style to the Clos des Épeneaux of Comte Armand, for example. Yves Confuron, the régisseur, describes the difference between the two top wines by saying that the Grand Clos is 'terreux' while the Rugiens is 'aérien'. The aim is to limit yields to around 25hl/ha, to attain optimum ripeness. The vines are ploughed, and pruned carefully to suit each one, then de-budded in spring and green-harvested in August to keep the fruit load balanced. Following Yves' usual practice the harvest is late and the vatting is long - usually around a month, with a cold maceration leading into a cool fermentation, and a long post-fermentation soak under the protection of the carbon dioxide given off by the fermentation. The wines are developed in barrel over 21 to 23 months, with a third of the barrels being replaced each year. After racking they are bottled without fining or filtration. The domaine produces wines with astonishing depth and density that still retain the freshness, just like Yves' own wines at Domaine Confuron-Cotetidot. They are classic vins de garde and patience is advised - and will be amply rewarded. In 2018, like in Vosne, he picked the grapes at full phenolic ripeness and the wines are, as he describes them, plus Rhodaniens que Bourguignons (comparing them to wines from the Northern Rhône). Yves says that it is hard to know what the 1947s were like at the time, as no one can remember, but that he'd wager that they were like this. He compared the 2018s to the last very hot vintage, 2003; the difference, he says, is that in 2003 the lack of water caused both blocage de maturité, when the vines shut down for lack of water, and also the grapes shrivelled as they dried in the unrelenting sun. 2018, he says, is different - there was in most places enough water stored in the ground, and the ripeness is more developed - and so are the wines, which for him are very complete and so well-balanced that they will age for decades.

2018 BOURGOGNE ROUGE Domaine de Courcel	£300	75cl bottles	case of 12
'In Pommard you get a ripe fraise de bois character when it's very ripe - ripe so the berries are soft and explode in your hand.' says Yves. There's an unctuousness in this, dense and so rich and huge in body it has the constitution of a Grand Cru, let alone a Pommard.			
2018 POMMARD Vaumuriens Domaine de Courcel	£295	75cl bottles	case of 6
Aged in cuve not barrel - Yves thought it did not need barrel. Dense, firm and with a drive and energy despite the exceptional volume. Richly fruit and spice-filled.			
2018 POMMARD 1er Cru Croix Noires Domaine de Courcel	£335	75cl bottles	case of 6
Rich again, very ripe fruit nose silky and concentrated - the warm richness of the vintage making it enormously round and mouthfilling, liquorice and spice, but it's fresh too.			
2018 POMMARD 1er Cru Fremiers Domaine de Courcel	£335	75cl bottles	case of 6
Rich again in this hot site - a sucrosity from the super-ripe tannins give a dark chocolatey density. Older and new barrels give slightly contrasting impressions of forcefulness and tannic structure on the finish - the blend should be amazing.			
2018 POMMARD 1er Cru Grand Clos des Épenots Domaine de Courcel	£410	75cl bottles	case of 6
Unctuous, beautifully balanced - harmonious even in this extraordinary richness - a powerful fist in a thick velvet glove. This is a huge and complex wine with a mass of sweet spice and extraordinary ageing potential - and will one day accompany a Côte de Boeuf in winter to make a truly memorable dinner.			
2018 POMMARD 1er Cru Rugiens Domaine de Courcel	£540	75cl bottles	case of 6
In the Rugiens comes the elegance - tighter on nose and palate. The richness is here, but there's an additional dryness too, which seems to bring with it a fresher, slightly more precise aroma set, more on fruit and mineral that the richness of complex spice, although that is there too. Taut despite the density, and pure and long.			
2018 POMMARD 1er Cru Grand Clos des Épenots Domaine de Courcel	£870	Magnums	case of 6
2018 POMMARD 1er Cru Grand Clos des Épenots Domaine de Courcel	£315	Jeroboam	wood case of 1

Domaine J. Confuron Cotetidot	£ Per case IB	Bottle Size	Case Size
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Vignerons since the seventeenth century, the Confuron family has always selected and propagated vines to ensure that their plant material produces the highest quality, and they even have a clone of Pinot named after them - 'Pinot Confuron'. The domaine has several Grands Cru vineyards as well as two hectares of the great Vosne Romanée Premier Cru 'Les Suchots'. There are around 12 hectares in all. The vines have never seen chemical weedkillers, and are ploughed and managed organically. The Confurons have always used whole-bunch fermentation, picking very late, which really is a necessity if the stems are to be properly ripe and not give green flavours to the wine. A bit like the Thévenets with their whites in the Maconnais, they pick so much later that they can seem to have different vintages to everyone else. Yves thinks that 2007 was their great vintage of the first decade of this millennium, and he'd probably be the only grower in the Cote de Nuits who would say that. Yves, opinionated and laconical as ever, dismisses those who make pale wines by 'infusion' and says that failing to get the whole bunches properly ripe - and using all the bunch - is failing to get everything the terroir can offer. The wines he makes are dark, richly concentrated, and often hard to taste in their development, but experience shows that they age brilliantly. He is sure that, if anyone could remember, the 1947s when young would have tasted like these young 2018s. He says that the vintage was exceptionally hot, with a hot wind from the north, so very concentrated berries, and the result is a Rhonish profile - which seems logical to him. Flavours of black cherry and dark chocolate coming from the sucrosity of the ripe tannins. "I say the opposite of everyone else - a wine can be rich and durable - rich and balanced." He mentions the 2003s, which were wines we discussed along similar lines at the time and which frightened some buyers. We agreed that although the acidity was on the low side, there was plenty of tannin and the wines would age on the tannin rather than the acidity - and opening 2003s now proves this point, as his are still fresh and youthful. But the 2003s were always less well-balanced than the 2018s - the drought of the year resulted in tannins that remained dry, and while they may soften more with time, some will remain. The 2018s, by contrast, have tannins ripened to perfect sweetness and the resulting liqueur-like wines are in an extraordinary balance and will age unbelievably. Like the 1947s?

2018 POMMARD 1er Cru Arvelets Domaine J. Confuron Cotetidot	£780	75cl bottles	case of 12
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Domaine Joël Rémy	£ Per case IB	Bottle Size	Case Size
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A family domaine that extends back five generations to 1853, but which Joël has modernised considerably over the past twenty years, installing new fermentation and ageing equipment. Over the years his vinifications have changed, and the wines have a lot more immediacy and precision. The quality of fruit is not in doubt, as lovers of his Bourgogne Rouge from year to year will attest, and a lot of work in the vineyard contributes to this, including leaf-thinning towards the end of the growing season. In the winery he has installed a vibrating sorting table, and the only filtering is by a lens filter at very low pressure to avoid de-naturing the wines. Joël is always in search of freshness in his wines, and now has been working on his bottles too - from 2018 onward he has reduced the internal diameter of the necks of his bottles to get a tighter cork fit, and is only using Diam corks. This development is purely to ensure the maximum freshness is retained. It is not primarily to overcome any problems with cork taint, although that is obviously a bonus. In 2016 Joël was joined full-time by both his children, Maxime and Manon, which injected a new air of excitement and ambition here, and the 2018s continue to show the confidence that Joël has brought to the winemaking.

2018 BOURGOGNE ROUGE Pinot Noir Domaine Joël Rémy	£100	75cl bottles	case of 12
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Tasted in November, this was bottled in August and is already showing really nicely. Attractive freshness when you might have accepted some excess and weight to the fruit. Quite tight lines in fact. Good pep - gentle grip and a piquant feel. Not fat - not too glossy. Good drive, lovely clipped feel. Pure, intense and well balanced.

2018 CHOREY LES BEAUNE Les Beaumonts Domaine Joël Rémy	£155	75cl bottles	case of 12
This is richer fruited than the Bourgogne, a clear step up in power, but it also has that bright line - lifting 'pinch' of juiciness. The dark fruit is ripe but nicely indulgent, a delice. A bramble crumble here. Red and black berries - gently slowly cooked - delicious with fresh cooked crumble-topping notes too. Very good, nicely crafted. Concentrated and deeply coloured and with some nicely concentrated flavours.			
2018 SAVIGNY LES BEAUNE Fourneaux Domaine Joël Rémy	£170	75cl bottles	case of 12
After the Chorey this is more high-toned - more tightly packed. In fact this is really quite 'senior' feeling. Lovely gentle tannins - add shape and drive - but no dryness. Good fruit weight - less sweet than Chorey - and there is more power here and a more classic 'Pinot Noir from Burgundy' feel and profile. Good power and drive - but mouth-watering too. A super effort from Joel and family.			
2018 BEAUNE 1er Cru Cent Vignes Domaine Joël Rémy	£225	75cl bottles	case of 12
2018 BEAUNE 1er Cru Les Avaux Domaine Joël Rémy	£225	75cl bottles	case of 12
2018 ALOXE CORTON Les Combes Domaine Joël Rémy	£240	75cl bottles	case of 12
2018 POMMARD Vignots Domaine Joël Rémy	£255	75cl bottles	case of 12

Domaine de la Choupette	£ Per case IB	Bottle Size	Case Size
The Gutrin brothers' domaine was created when the twins joined forces in 1992 - it's based in the middle of Santenay, with Jean-Christophe in charge of the vines and Philippe in the winery. They have vineyards in Puligny (three hectares), Chassagne (half a hectare) Maranges (one hectare) and Santenay (seven and a half hectares). The vineyards are worked traditionally with ploughing rather than chemicals for weed control and to encourage the roots to go deeper. Yields are initially controlled at the pruning and with de-budding, and finally a green harvest as necessary. Whites are classically made with élevage in barrel for a year with up to half new wood. The reds are de-stemmed and macerated cold for a week before the three week fermentation at around 28C, then the temperature is allowed to rise to around 33C to stabilise colour and tannins. This gentle vinification is aimed at making fruit-forward wines, which are then aged in barrel for twelve to eighteen months using a mix of new and up to three-year-old barrels.			

2018 SANTENAY Comme Dessus Domaine de la Choupette	£185	75cl bottles	case of 12
Just next to 1er Cru La Comme vineyard on the Chassagne side of the village. It is quite a high, rocky vineyard. Yet pleasingly there is lots of fruit too. A sappy and almost wild underlying weight of darkish flesh. Hemmed in for now by some stony, mineral notes. In fact you might expect more weight and richness. This is nicely restrained - good mineral, rocky drive. Good, firm, purple-fruited push. Restrained and shaped though.			
2018 SANTENAY 1er Cru La Comme Domaine de la Choupette	£210	75cl bottles	case of 12
The La Comme vineyard abuts the Chassagne Montrachet vineyards to the north east. Just bottled, but there is a nice frame and restrained weight here up front. For now this is not open and so not hugely expressive, but this should open up well and reveal that deep rich flesh. Darker fruit - some more intense dark notes - this has brood and power. No wait this has a firm, poised impressive feel for now. Really quite hefty fruit but delivered in a measured, clean - cool way. Should be great from mid 2020.			
2018 SANTENAY 1er Cru Clos Rousseau Domaine de la Choupette	£210	75cl bottles	case of 12
Clos Rousseau is on the Maranges side of Santenay. Tasted in the cellar after the 'La Comme' and this is immediately more polished on the fruit side. A little lighter touch. The intense core of fruit is redder and less wild than either the Comme or the Comme Dessus. Really rather refined in comparison. Again a minerality that leads it. More spice - and less wallop here, less impact. But far more grace somehow.			

Domaine Nicolas Rossignol	£ Per case IB	Bottle Size	Case Size
With good-sized harvests from 2017 and 2018, it's good to see Nico's cellar full, but the the 2019 vintage is rather smaller. Still, for now it's all smiles. Now in its third year, he could not be happier with his new winery. A fantastic bespoke build, admittedly in a ZI (Zone industrielle) on the outskirts of Beaune, which he recognises is not ideal for the folklore aspect, but it is a perfect tool for the job, and does have a good view of all 'his' bits of the Côte - from the roof. brbr In 2018 the range was notable for very dark fruit expressions - and although there is no escaping the richness of the vintage and the astonishing concentration that come with it, the different vineyards each show the style variations one expects to see - whether elegant or structured. There are some really terrific wines here, and we have selected the best.			
2018 BOURGOGNE Pinot Noir Domaine Nicolas Rossignol	£195	75cl bottles	case of 12
All the richness of the vintage is packed into this lowly appellation, raising it to village level - from vines in Pommard and Volnay, and soe in Pernand. Quite burly but full of character.			
2018 SAVIGNY LES BEAUNE Domaine Nicolas Rossignol	£265	75cl bottles	case of 12
2018 ALOXE CORTON Domaine Nicolas Rossignol	£295	75cl bottles	case of 12
On clay; rich and massive. Nico thought this needed another winter in barrel when we tasted and we agreed - extraordinarily dense and concentrated, it needed the time to shape it. We look forward to seeing it at our January tasting.			
2018 SAVIGNY LES BEAUNE 1er Cru Les Fourneaux Domaine Nicolas Rossignol	£370	75cl bottles	case of 12
Stones in the soil here give greater vivacity - it's bouncier. Quite densely-packed all the same, so will need a moment.			
2018 POMMARD Domaine Nicolas Rossignol	£380	75cl bottles	case of 12
5 parcels, all on clay, making a wine that is gourmand and round. Dark very ripe fruit flavours and there is tension despite the warm expression - generous.			

2018 VOLNAY Domaine Nicolas Rossignol	£480	75cl bottles	case of 12
From five parcels, four of which are below premiers crus, and one of which is above. He de-stems it all as there's sufficient tension from the parcel which is high up. Quite approachable, huge volume and body, rich and pure but quite soft and dense too. Long, it's a pretty amazing village wine.			
2018 BEAUNE 1er Cru Reversées Domaine Nicolas Rossignol	£525	75cl bottles	case of 12
Aromatic freshness, and a lightness in the elegance although it's very voluminous too - I like this very much			
2018 VOLNAY 1er Cru Clos des Angles Domaine Nicolas Rossignol	£595	75cl bottles	case of 12
Above Mitans. Nico used 50% whole bunches and it gives the wine lift - silky and elegant - not the most complex of his premiers crus, perhaps, but there's a flow as well as concentration.			
2018 VOLNAY 1er Cru Santenots Domaine Nicolas Rossignol	£745	75cl bottles	case of 12
All de-stemmed. Lovely combination here of silky rich velvet thickness, huge density of fruit, and an elegance and extraordinary structured length. Really quite serious and for long ageing.			
2018 POMMARD 1er Cru Argillières Domaine Nicolas Rossignol	£795	75cl bottles	case of 12
100% destemmed. We found this hard to taste in November, very thick fruit, but Nico wants to show it at our January tasting so we look forward to seeing it again!			
2018 VOLNAY 1er Cru Chevrets Domaine Nicolas Rossignol	£825	75cl bottles	case of 12
30% whole bunch. Lovely richness - and a lovely freshness here too - no sign of the 'confit' fruit of 2003, this has remarkable fresh flavours and a silk-velvet core of red and black berry fruit.			
2018 VOLNAY 1er Cru Roncerets Domaine Nicolas Rossignol	£825	75cl bottles	case of 12
All de-stemmed - Nico does not want to add to the structure that this vineyard produces. Silky with a supple fine-tanned feel, but by golly the tannins are there. Dense, intense and powerfully structured, lots of richness but lots of energy too.			
2018 VOLNAY 1er Cru Caillerets Domaine Nicolas Rossignol	£965	75cl bottles	case of 12
10% whole bunch. This cuvée is finer and more delicate in feel as usual, but despite the purity, the ripeness plays against the elegance a little this year? Look forward to seeing this again a bit further down the line, as the finish picks up nicely.			
2018 POMMARD 1er Cru Épenots Domaine Nicolas Rossignol	£625	75cl bottles	case of 6
Finesse, elegance and power in one package, and it's already more expressive than many of the wines in this cellar. Finely silky and fresh, then saline, then it tightens on noble Pommard tannins. Very long and really top class.			
2018 VOLNAY 1er Cru Santenots Domaine Nicolas Rossignol	£395	Magnums	case of 3
2018 POMMARD 1er Cru Argillières Domaine Nicolas Rossignol	£430	Magnums	case of 3
2018 VOLNAY 1er Cru Chevrets Domaine Nicolas Rossignol	£465	Magnums	case of 3
Thibault Liger-Belair Successeurs	£ Per case IB	Bottle Size	Case Size
The lack of the word 'domaine' in the name signals that this is a négociant wine from Thibault Liger-Belair. Thibault buys the grapes he picks having tended the vines with his own team, so that the wines are domaine wines in all but name.			
2018 CORTON RENARDES Grand Cru Thibault Liger-Belair Successeurs	TBA	75cl bottles	case of 6
40% whole bunch. Whether it's the effect of the whole bunches, or whether it's the site, this has, as usual, a slightly feral edge and wilder fruit which makes it particularly engaging.			
2018 CORTON Grand Cru Clos du Roi Thibault Liger-Belair Successeurs	TBA	75cl bottles	wood case of 6
All de-stemmed. A classic Corton, mouthfilling, massive in this rich vintage, but also sensual, with an almost surprising elegance, not brutal.			

Côte de Nuits

Domaine Anne Gros

£ Per case IB Bottle Size Case Size

Anne Gros joined her father François at the family domaine in Vosne Romanée in 1988, having given up her arts studies in favour of viticulture and oenology at Beaune and Dijon, she took charge of the domaine in 1995 and has been joined now by 2 of her children Julie since 2015 and Paul since 2017. The Domaine now has 7 hectares of Pinot and Chardonnay. Anne describes herself as being 'wary of certainties and keen to preserve her freedom'. In the vineyards Anne practises viticulture influenced by organic and biodynamic principles, and the vineyards are ploughed and fertilised with compost, but although she believes that the long-term health of the vineyards are best preserved by such methods, she likes to maintain the freedom to use conventional treatments when necessary. In the cellar, the wines are classically made, in cement tanks for the reds, and stainless steel for the whites. They are then aged in barrel for up to fifteen months, with 80% new wood for the grand crus, 50% for the village wines and 30% for the regional wines. Anne is quietly meticulous and almost obsessive about cleanliness in her cellar, which perhaps is reflected in the delicacy and restrained tension in her wines, which have aromatic clarity, limpid precision, sheer joie de vivre, lively balance and persistence. There is a bit more wine here than in some recent vintages - a chance to get on the list of one of the most sought-after Domaines of Burgundy.

2018 HAUTES CÔTES DE NUITS Domaine Anne Gros

TBA 75cl bottles case of 6

Like the white Hautes Côtes, the extra maturity of the vintage means this is exceptional this year, with a sleek fine-tanned feel and bright springy freshness - quite simple, perhaps, but a real délice.

2018 BOURGOGNE ROUGE Domaine Anne Gros

TBA 75cl bottles case of 6

Again fat and sleek, with an extra depth and ripeness in the vintage. Really this is village level; sweet fruit, full and with good tension, this has a beautiful purity. This was picked after all the Grands Crus and the alcohol is at around 13.8-14%. They put all the lees of the grands vins into the cuve to help finish the fermentation.

2018 CHAMBOLLE MUSIGNY Combe d'Orveau Domaine Anne Gros

TBA 75cl bottles case of 6

Quite pale, lots of freshness, a lovely purity of expression. Translucent, fresh - absolutely brilliant - the fruit is sweet and ripe but the overall effect is of coloured light. Brilliant.

2018 VOSNE ROMANÉE Barreaux Domaine Anne Gros

TBA 75cl bottles case of 6

A denser, more vinous style than the Chambolle, with the flavours woven into the dense but superfine tannins - great intensity, all in filigree delicacy.

2018 ÉCHEZEAUX Les Lochausses Grand Cru Domaine Anne Gros

TBA 75cl bottles case of 6

A feel of glycerine viscosity like a liqueur, rich and fatly supple. Very fine ripe tannins giving huge volume, all silky textured with sweet red and black fruit - so civilised and easy to taste in a gorgeous balance.

2018 CLOS DE VOUGEOT Le Grand Maupertui Grand Cru Domaine Anne Gros

TBA 75cl bottles case of 6

As so often after the Échezeaux, wilder fruit character - still red and black berries, but somehow more hedegrow in there too. Complex, full of flavour and tannins that are a bit wilder and hairier too. Just fab - a real Grand Vin.

2018 RICHEBOURG Grand Cru Domaine Anne Gros

TBA 75cl bottles wood case of 6

A bit dumb on the nose after the characterful Clos Vougeot, palate is rich, dense and surprisingly tender. There's a lot of wine here and it needs time to sort itself out. Great - but a long way to go.

Domaine Bernard Dugat-Py

£ Per case IB Bottle Size Case Size

Domaine Dugat-Py's wines are far from shy and retiring, but they do require patience to show their best. Old vines, tiny yields, viticulture with minute and constant attention, all lead to a magnificent concentration and purity in the raw material. Without extracting harsh tannins, Loïc (who despite his youthful good-looks, has overseen the wine-making since 2012) gets an astonishing density into the wines, and they take on the high percentage of new oak quite casually. Nevertheless, Loïc has reduced the amount of new wood (The village wines get 50% max., while the Premiers Crus and Grands Crus get up to 75%.)

'Nous on est tres content' said a relaxed and smiling Loïc Dugat as he began to tell us about the 2018 vintage. There were frosts until March - the winter had been cold and rainy so there were good reserves of water, then suddenly in April they had 28C - from freezing at night straight to that. Flowering happened from the 23rd May. It was very hot in August - 34-35C - but there was no blocage de maturité because of the water reserves in the ground. He started to harvest on the 29th August (Charmes, Vosne, Pommard), but it was still 29C in the afternoons, so they hurried, employing a team of fifty to get it all picked in a week. They finished with the Corton Charlemagne on the 7th September. Loïc has just one word for it: 'exceptional'.

2018 BOURGOGNE ROUGE Domaine Bernard Dugat-Py

TBA 75cl bottles case of 6

2018 BOURGOGNE ROUGE Halinard Domaine Bernard Dugat-Py

TBA 75cl bottles case of 6

2018 GEVREY CHAMBERTIN Vieilles Vignes Domaine Bernard Dugat-Py

TBA 75cl bottles case of 6

2018 VOSNE ROMANÉE Vieilles Vignes Domaine Bernard Dugat-Py	TBA	75cl bottles	case of 6
No more than 50% new wood. Beautifully fresh. The pretty fruit is ripe but not heavy in any way. Great intensity, richly scented. All sweet, dark berries and some sophisticated wood spices. A voluptuous, sleekly creamy feel. Polished and dense - but still light on its toes. What an opener to this tasting.			
2018 GEVREY CHAMBERTIN Coeur de Roy Domaine Bernard Dugat-Py	TBA	75cl bottles	case of 6
The Coeur de Roy is a mix of the family's old vine plots in Gevrey. All are now more than 50 years old and some are up to 110 years old. A great compote of red smashed summer fruit and cassis. There is a good Gevrey frame here too. Beefy - but still sleek. And with good acidity. Blacker fruits and good menthol notes. Power and pleasure. Defined and real fruit lines with good lift. A meagre harvest here always - this year between 20-30 HL/HA.			
2018 GEVREY CHAMBERTIN Évocelles Domaine Bernard Dugat-Py	TBA	75cl bottles	case of 6
Less than 20 HL/HA. Vines here average 70 years - explains the tiny yield. Again this is surprisingly easy, deeply inviting. Defined and pure but less of a wallop than in some previous years. Wilder forest fruit - lovely small mountain strawberries and bright red brambling fruit here, but totally delicious and the energy is high. Long, long finish.			
2018 GEVREY CHAMBERTIN 1er Cru Corbeaux Domaine Bernard Dugat-Py	TBA	75cl bottles	case of 6
When tasting this from barrel we always think of this great wine as being dark and slightly brooding - as black as a crow - the 'corbeau' perhaps. Black as a crow? On the Mazis side of Gevrey - so you'd expect it to be masculine and firmer. Yet in 2018 it is different - more balanced and incredible aromatic intensity. Then a glorious lift that you did not expect. This has great power, great voluptuousness - there is a dark intensity. Long and sweetly aromatic.			
2018 GEVREY CHAMBERTIN 1er Cru Perrières Domaine Bernard Dugat-Py	TBA	75cl bottles	case of 6
2018 GEVREY CHAMBERTIN 1er Cru Petite Chapelle Domaine Bernard Dugat-Py			
Incredible nose. So good you want to throw yourself in to the barrel. Floral aromatics and a dusty red-fruited mist that draws you in. Palate is super attractive too, 'so silky' says Loïc. It certainly is rounder easier with gorgeously soft and supple fruit. Velvet-like tannins - no real hard edge at all, just great red-fleshed summer fruit juiciness. This absolutely sings. Just enough grip and bite to give perfect tension. Delicious.			
2018 GEVREY CHAMBERTIN 1er Cru Fonteny Domaine Bernard Dugat-Py	TBA	75cl bottles	case of 6
This vineyard is close to Ruchottes. Very well placed. After tasting Petite Chapelle, this feels broader and easier - more mild-mannered. Deep red, plummy fruit - whiffs of cherry and some cherry skin peps. But the mineral grip and drive builds. Fine tannins grow. This has a cool feel and an edge then the power builds. Quite a potent beast really - but so measured. Gently imposing. Clever stuff.			
2018 GEVREY CHAMBERTIN 1er Cru Champeaux Domaine Bernard Dugat-Py	TBA	75cl bottles	case of 6
Just next to Évocelles - and the two wines do share some characteristics - this one just more of everything. Big and firm. The tightest packed of the lot from Loïc this year. Intense and dark fruit picks up with energy and soft, red fruits with zippy cherry skin too. Completely delicious and completely 'complete'. Such delicate, fine tannins you do not really notice them - but there is good power and persistence here. All is in harmony but with a really assured feel. Confident and brilliant.			
2018 GEVREY CHAMBERTIN 1er Cru Lavaux Saint Jacques Domaine Bernard Dugat-Py	TBA	75cl bottles	case of 6
Spicy. Delicious attack. Deep mature red fruit - but not so sweet. Great weight and sexy impact. Blueberry skin grippiness and bite. Great energy too. Coolish spot because of the Combe says Loïc - this gives superb natural acidity. 50 year old vines. Red fruit and some mineral breadth. Completely delicious.			
2018 CHARMES CHAMBERTIN Grand Cru Domaine Bernard Dugat-Py	TBA	75cl bottles	case of 6
1/3 Mazoyeres, 2/3 Charmes proper. Shapely and voluptuous with lots of gorgeous soft red fruit. There's a good backbone here - a firmish line of grip and firm power underpins this. It is charming, for sure - but not an easy push-over. Tightly wrapped in redcurrant vim and gorgeous cherries flesh are a treat. For now this delivers in quite a discreet way - but its all here - packed in for the future. The future is bright. A sophisticated and well-crafted Charmes.			
2018 MAZOYÈRES CHAMBERTIN Grand Cru Domaine Bernard Dugat-Py	TBA	75cl bottles	case of 6
Darker nose more brood here having just tasted the Charmes. More masculine. Fruit is ripe and intense, but more on the black side of things. Lovely and spicy. Right next to Charmes, but totally different. Fine but firmer tannins. Great lift and drive. Yes. Power for the future.. clean and clear mineral undercurrent which brings it all together neatly at the finish. Sophisticated.			

Domaine des Lambrays	£ Per case IB	Bottle Size	Case Size
The 'Clos' consists of 8.66 hectares of land enclosed by a wall in which there is the original milestone marking its founding in 1365, confirmed in the records of the Abbaye de Cîteaux (those monks knew where to place a vineyard). The Clos owes much of its current fame to the nineteenth and twentieth century proprietors who reconstituted it after the fragmentation of ownership which followed the French revolution. Despite always having been considered a Grand Cru site, the Clos was in fact classified Premier Cru in the original 1936 appellations contrôlées. The Rodier family which owned it from the 1930s fought to regain its Grand cru status, with eventual success only in 1981, when it became the last of the thirty-three Grands Crus of Burgundy, although by then it had passed to the Saier family. Recently under the benign ownership of the Günther Freund and his family, who gave a very free hand to régisseur Thierry Brouin, who had been employed by their predecessor Rolland Pelletier de Chambure, the quality of the wines here has pushed up again. In 2014 it was bought by the LVMH group. It has been all rather quick change here as Jacques Devauge has taken over here after a short interregnum under Boris Champy. The legacy of Thierry Brouin can still be felt, Jacques describing him as having been 'clairvoyant' in his approach to the domaine, which has set it up well to deal with challenges of warmer vintages. Jacques seems set to take this estate onward - 'every domaine has to challenge itself to do better', he says. 2018 marks the first year being fully organic - if all goes well they will be certified after three.			

2018 MOREY SAINT DENIS Domaine des Lambrays	TBA	75cl bottles	case of 6
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From Rue de Vergy and Larrets, both above the Grands Crus of Lambrays and Clos de Tart. Very exuberant nose, bright, ripe, with a mineral structure - a lovely village wine, full and juicy. As so often these high vineyards, which have little soil above the rock, do brilliantly in hot vintages.

2018 MOREY SAINT DENIS 1er Cru Les Loups Domaine des Lambrays	TBA	75cl bottles	case of 6
A blend of Riotte, Sorbé and Village, which are all on the same level, below the middle of the village. There are only ten barrels. A touch of reduction gives it a hardness which will go - nice and ripe and good intensity and length.			
2018 CLOS DES LAMBRAYS Grand Cru Domaine des Lambrays	TBA	75cl bottles	wood case of 6
The Clos this year is a powerfully tannic wine - Dense ripe fruit, very much in the whole bunch profile of structure and spice. Great intensity and lovely driven length. Thoroughly impressive.			
2018 CLOS DES LAMBRAYS Grand Cru Domaine des Lambrays	TBA	Magnums	wood case of 3
2018 CLOS DES LAMBRAYS Grand Cru Domaine des Lambrays	TBA	Jeroboam	wood case of 1

Domaine Faiveley	£ Per case IB	Bottle Size	Case Size
As we tasted with winemaker Jerome Flous he was keen to point out that this is a far more serious vintage than it may first appear. Yes there was a hot summer, but that is not the only story - these wines have great intensity too and are full of promise for the medium to long-term - despite the apparent up-front richness. 2018 is his 12th vintage at the helm of Faiveley and there is a reassuring confidence about him - these certainly all look very accomplished wines in the vintage. It has not been straightforward in 2018 - tricky climatic challenges aside. A stop-start fermentation in the cellar lead to some difficult, wild elements in the young juice. The lees were potentially quite ?dangerous? he says. So he racked all the 1er and Grand Cru wines very early to preserve clean and fresh fruit. He intends to give all the reds two winters in the cellar as they need a long élevage to ?finish off?. He'll start the bottling in March 2020. Tasting them we were struck by quite how measured and tightly-wrapped they seem for now. Smart and sophisticated on the whole with good restrained power and intensity, impressive drive for 2018. As is so often the way here each wine really has a sense of place and knows its spot on the pecking order. There are some real delights for drinkers.			
2018 GEVREY CHAMBERTIN 1er Cru Cazetiers Domaine Faiveley	£365	75cl bottles	case of 6
Sweeter attack than on the Lavaux. A pretty Chambolle-like fruit note draws you in - but then it gets more serious quite quickly. A rush of polished but firm tannins build and add real substance. Delicious in fact. Sweet fruit - and good bones - nicely balanced. - will need time - but that fruit is hard to resist already. Indulgent and delicious sweet, dark red coulis.			
2018 CHAMBOLLE MUSIGNY 1er Cru Les Fuées Domaine Faiveley	£595	75cl bottles	case of 6
Lovely pretty attack. More balance and restraint here than the other two quite rich and warm Chambolles. Better energy. Really good flow. Fruit is red and pretty - small wild strawberries with just a touch of leafy stem too. 25% Whole Bunch again. Thank goodness, it really seems to have worked, The highish level of alcohol is well masked here. This is quite a bold, but a joy-filled Chambolle.			
2018 CLOS DE VOUGEOT Grand Cru Domaine Faiveley	£695	75cl bottles	wood case of 6
Restrained, tight and firm approach. Then darker, blacker fruit emerges, reluctantly. This is big and dense - but with seemingly very measured intensity. Great energy and powerful push. This is complete, full on but so integrated already. Powerful but sleek and polished.			
2018 LATRICIÈRES CHAMBERTIN Grand Cru Domaine Faiveley	£810	75cl bottles	wood case of 6
Just feels so enticing. A perfect Pinot attack. Sits so nicely on the palate. Fresh fruit - great bounce and drive. Deep red berries and softly cooked plum flesh. Sweeter notes build on the palate - but this has fine structure and delicious flow.			
2018 MAZIS CHAMBERTIN Grand Cru Domaine Faiveley	£910	75cl bottles	wood case of 6
There is more grit and grip - but also more fruit weight. This is very impressive, still structured and a tad firm. Lovely purple feel to the fruit. Intense and totally delicious. Lots of fine tannin adds shape and drive - Jerome tells us that this will need at least 5 years after bottling for sure to unwind. but everything is in place to be awesome when it gets there.			
2018 CLOS DE VOUGEOT Grand Cru Domaine Faiveley	£710	Magnums	wood case of 3
2018 CHAMBERTIN CLOS DE BÈZE Grand Cru Domaine Faiveley	£1,210	Magnums	wood case of 3

Domaine Henri Boillot	£ Per case IB	Bottle Size	Case Size
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A domaine which dates back to 1885, but which began properly in the early years of the 20th century under the current Henri's grandfather (also Henri). His son, Jean, was the one who really developed it. Henri arrived in 1975 and worked his way up, becoming the winemaker. In 2000 he began the building of the new winery at the bottom of Meursault, and he then bought out his brother and sister to keep the domaine as one, renaming it from 'Domaine Jean Boillot' to 'Domaine Henri Boillot' to avoid confusion with his brother Jean-Marc's domaine. After six years working alongside his father, Guillaume is the 'chef de culture', i.e. heads up the vineyard team, and has been entirely responsible for the vinification of the reds since 2012. Henri continues to make the whites which he likes to be 'straight, taut, precise, pure and elegant'. Guillaume's input has resulted in red wines that have gained in definition and energy, without losing the luxurious velvety richness and fruit depth that they have always had. In 2018 he expanded his use of vinification intégrale in which the reds are vinified in the barrels they will be aged in - the cellar being equipped with 140 barrels with stainless steel doors in the ends, all made of wood they bought for the purpose, which has been dried for three years. Labour-intensive and time-consuming though it is, Guillaume clearly believes it is the way to more precision in the wines, and the 2018s certainly are rather astonishing.

The Domaine has roughly equal surfaces of red and white, and of which just under 4ha is the Monopole vineyard of Clos de la Mouchère, a walled enclave within the premier Cru Puligny Perrières. After last year's acquisition of small parcels in Latricières and Échezeaux, the Boillots bought the vineyards of Domaine Henri Darnat early in 2019, and will have almost all the wines from the 2019 vintage.

2018 CLOS VOUGEOT Grand Cru Henri Boillot	Sold out	75cl bottles	wood case of 6
Concentrated and classy. Super fruit density, but at the same time a lift, a little edge of taut wild berry complexity, and a brambly feel of little black berries. Pure, balanced, fine.			
2018 ÉCHEZEUX Grand Cru Domaine Henri Boillot	Sold out	75cl bottles	wood case of 3
The fruit may not be quite as explosive as on the Clos Vougeot, but this is all in suavity, all of a piece, compact and richly tannic, full of black fruit and firmness. Powerfully long.			
2018 LATRICIÈRES CHAMBERTIN Grand Cru Domaine Henri Boillot	Sold out	75cl bottles	wood case of 3
Guillaume remarks that hot years are good for Latricières, which is quite high up. Extraordinary finesse of texture, rich and voluminous, supple and mouthfilling, balanced and long.			
2018 LE CHAMBERTIN Grand Cru Henri Boillot	Sold out	75cl bottles	wood case of 3
2018 BONNES MARES Grand Cru Henri Boillot	Sold out	75cl bottles	wood case of 3

Domaine Joseph Drouhin	£ Per case IB	Bottle Size	Case Size
<p>A huge part of the Drouhin production comes from their own domaine fruit (78 hectares), and much of the rest comes from contracts such as that with the Marquis de Laguiche, who shook hands with the grandfather of the current generation, agreeing to let him manage his vineyards which included an important part of Le Montrachet; this collaboration endures. Today, the fourth generation is at the helm, still driven by the same passions that inspired the founder - and it remains one of the most well-respected names in Burgundy, staying true to their motto of 'natural elegance'. The domaine is all cultivated with an organic and biodynamic approach. Véronique Drouhin took us through the 2018 vintage and how she and her brothers managed it - always with the help of star chief winemaker Jérôme Faure Brac. A mild rainy winter after the hot dry summer of 2017. A cool spring, a bit of frost, and then in mid April fast growth in warm weather "the vines exploded into growth". It was warm and dry until July - warmer and dryer than usual "good news for Philippe" (Véronique's brother, in charge of the vineyards) - no mildew, no botrytis - they are all organic, so this was especially good as these are hard to treat. Harvest was early, starting on the 29th August, and finishing mostly by the 7th-9th, except for Chablis and Maconnais.</p> <p>As Véronique put it "sugars were not low", so they had to decide whether to wait for phenolic maturity or not. They decided to wait. "But you cannot pick 80 hectares in one day, so decisions had to be made".</p> <p>The whites were picked in perfect conditions. Careful management of the lees and almost no batonnage except to help the fermentations along. "I did not think that the wines would keep so much freshness - I think Jérôme did a great job", Véronique summed-up.</p> <p>In the reds they used a lot of whole clusters - even in wines like the Beaune premiers crus, which is not something they normally do. Between 25% and 65% depending on the cuvée. They were easy to vinify - colour came easily, but they did not want to extract too much or make them too big "they have very good ageing potential, but they have charm too.. you have to respect the vintage, but..." The wines range from 12.5 to 14.3% Alc. (reds and whites), and all the Grands Crus are over 13.5%.</p>			

2018 CHAMBOLLE MUSIGNY 1er Cru Domaine Joseph Drouhin	£380	75cl bottles	case of 6
Very much in the 2018 vintage idiom, with ripe and mouthfilling black fruit density, warm and velvet tannin texture.			
2018 GEVREY CHAMBERTIN 1er Cru Cazetiers Joseph Drouhin	£520	75cl bottles	case of 6
2018 CHAMBOLLE MUSIGNY 1er Cru Les Baudes Joseph Drouhin	£545	75cl bottles	case of 6
2018 CHARMES CHAMBERTIN Grand Cru Domaine Joseph Drouhin	£895	75cl bottles	wood case of 6
25% whole bunch. Very deep and also very dense: huge and tannic and a bit of a mouthful - velvet richness on very ripe tannins. Bought grapes but clearly a good source - they changed supplier five years ago and this is from Pierre Damoy. The vines are in Mazoyères, which explains the style.			
2018 CLOS VOUGEOT Grand Cru Domaine Joseph Drouhin	£1,070	75cl bottles	wood case of 6
30% whole bunch. Estate fruit - one parcel near the folly. Dark and dense with a wilder structure of coarse-grained tannin, a barely restrained liveliness, immensely rich, full of character and density. Powerful, wild, lively but still focused, elegant.			
2018 VOSNE ROMANÉE 1er Cru Petits Monts Domaine Joseph Drouhin	Sold out	75cl bottles	case of 6
Between 45 and 50% whole bunches. Delicate little-red-berry fruit on nose. Slight sweetness, with fine but present tannins. The palate is all sustained by the fresh bright flavour profile which makes it very immediate - a délice - but there's power here too. "Above Richebourg, so good density", says Véronique, and there's a spiciness here too - "Whole bunch gives spice and camphor in older wines", she adds.			
2018 GRANDS ÉCHEZEUX Grand Cru Joseph Drouhin	£1,870	75cl bottles	wood case of 6
40% whole bunch. One of the samples in this tasting that was possibly a little tired on the first nose, but fascinating:- very deep rich nose of ripe fruit and spice. Supple tannins which are very ripe, but there's lots here, still juicy and the acidity seems fine; amazingly long. A bit of a monster but a very exciting one: "complexity and elegance" says Véronique.			
2018 GRIOTTE CHAMBERTIN Grand Cru Domaine Joseph Drouhin	£980	75cl bottles	wood case of 3
2018 CHAMBERTIN CLOS DE BÈZE Grand Cru Domaine Joseph Drouhin	£2,050	75cl bottles	wood case of 6
30% whole bunch. Some of this, the Petits Monts and the Amoureuuses were vinified in 'vinification integral', like Domaine Henri Boillot is now doing, in barrel. Really old vines. Paler colour than the Charmes. There's a much greater lifted sweet bright elegance to this - energy and tension, red and black fruit, dancing, aromatic black cherry - lovely and very long.			
2018 CHAMBOLLE MUSIGNY 1er Cru Les Amoureuuses Domaine Joseph Drouhin	Sold out	75cl bottles	wood case of 6
40% whole bunch. From two parcels, one next to Le Musigny, one just below it. After the Grands Échezeaux, a cooler, bluer colour and on the nose fresher, tighter. Compact, sappy and close-textured, with right, fine-grained tannins. Sensational suave purity.			
2018 BONNES MARES Grand Cru Domaine Joseph Drouhin	£2,290	75cl bottles	case of 6
The super-harmony of the true blue Grand cru. Supple and finest grain it has a lift and freshness which belies the weight and volume. Extraordinary freshness, totally complete and rather wonderful. Elegant and long. 3 barrels only.			
2018 LE MUSIGNY Grand Cru Domaine Joseph Drouhin	Sold out	75cl bottles	wood case of 3
After the Bonnes Mares, this seems riper - there's more to it in terms of sturcture and density; so intense and yet so calm - just completely lovely, and a real sense of being a baby - there's so much more to come. Spice, elegance, sophistication.			
2018 CLOS VOUGEOT Grand Cru Domaine Joseph Drouhin	TBA	Magnums	wood case of 3
2018 GRANDS ÉCHEZEUX Grand Cru Joseph Drouhin	TBA	Magnums	wood case of 3
2018 VOSNE ROMANÉE 1er Cru Petits Monts Domaine Joseph Drouhin	TBA	Magnums	case of 3
2018 GRIOTTE CHAMBERTIN Grand Cru Domaine Joseph Drouhin	TBA	Magnums	wood case of 3

Domaine Thierry Mortet**£ Per case IB Bottle Size Case Size**

The domaine dates back to 1992, when Domaine Charles Mortet was split between Thierry and his brother Denis, and Thierry set up on his own with just 4 hectares of vines. Today he has 7.3 ha, of which 6 are red and 1.3 white. Only 4.36 hectares are Gevrey or Chambolle, the rest being a small parcel of Marsannay Blanc and regionals - Bourgogne Rouge and Blanc, Aligoté and Passetoutgrain. Thierry continues to be praised in the French press without ever quite seeming to crack the influential American journalists. It may be simply because he is a bit short of fancy appellations - one little cuvée of Grand Cru would no doubt do his reputation a lot of good - but might also put his prices up, and these remain very modest. In the vineyard, Thierry has been certified organic since 2007, but really this was just an official stamp on what had been the practices of the domaine since the beginning, and he is working towards biodynamic certification. In the cellar, the grapes are entirely de-stemmed, and given four or five days of cold maceration are followed by the fermentation, with just a touch of cooling to keep the temperature around 31-33C (below 35, at least), and two pigeages a day. The total time in vat can be as little as 17 days. The wines then go into barrel, all second use or older for the Bourgogne, with 30% new wood on the Gevrey, and 50% on the Clos Prieur, for a period of around sixteen months. Thierry's wines are fine and precise, tany and long, never massive, but not insubstantial all the same. In 2018 he started to pick on the 31st August.

2018 BOURGOGNE ROUGE Charmes de Daix Côte de Nuits Domaine Thierry Mortet	£145	75cl bottles	case of 12
From vines on the old Côte north of Dijon. A very 'straight' wine, with excellent ripeness and tension. Power and finesse - a high-level Bourgogne.			
2018 GEVREY CHAMBERTIN Domaine Thierry Mortet	£320	75cl bottles	case of 12

Very ripe - there's a real weight of silky cassis-dominated, supple fruit and very attractive tension. There's a slight fresh oak note. Nice svelte shape and length. This will not be bottled until February, so there's plenty of *élevage* still to go.

2018 GEVREY CHAMBERTIN Vigne Belle Domaine Thierry Mortet £365 75cl bottles case of 12

Thierry remarked that this *cuvée*, from a vineyard next to premier cru Petite Chapelle, which was so good at this stage in 2016 and 2017, has not quite 'found itself' on the nose yet - but in the mouth it clearly has more volume and a weight of supple concentration - lovely.

2018 CHAMBOLLE MUSIGNY Domaine Thierry Mortet £410 75cl bottles case of 12

There's freshness and elegance to this - like a lot of Chambolles this year the richness of the vintage slightly tempers the lifted floral element of the nose, but the elegance of Chambolle is here all the same and there's no denying the sweet fruit appeal on the palate.

2018 CHAMBOLLE MUSIGNY 1er Cru Beaux Bruns Domaine Thierry Mortet £625 75cl bottles case of 12

Glossy, elegant, with an insinuating aromatic finesse. The palate has lots of flesh and density, but still it's straight and gently long.

2018 GEVREY CHAMBERTIN 1er Cru Clos Prieur Domaine Thierry Mortet £625 75cl bottles case of 12

Very ripe, this has considerable depth of black berry fruit (cassis) expression. Rich and round and chewy. Very gourmand, it stays nicely on the finish.

2018 GEVREY CHAMBERTIN Domaine Thierry Mortet £345 Half-bottles case of 24

2018 GEVREY CHAMBERTIN Domaine Thierry Mortet £360 Magnums case of 6

2018 GEVREY CHAMBERTIN Vigne Belle Domaine Thierry Mortet £405 Magnums case of 6

Domaine de la Douaix £ Per case IB Bottle Size Case Size

Mark and Gilles Moustie are Belgians, huge fans of wine and in particular Burgundy. The family rented a gite for many years in the Hautes Côtes village of Arcenant, straight up the hill to the west of Nuits Saint Georges, and gently graduated from buying wines at domaines up and down the Côte to wanting to make the wine themselves. Eventually they bought some vines and a house with cellars, and set to. Most of their wines are from vines they own, but they do make a little wine from bought-in fruit to supplement what is still a tiny domaine. It is his Gilles who is hands-on on a daily basis and is really running the domaine now with ever-growing confidence and the wines seem to improve year on year. He is now working organically across the domaine. The extra ripeness of 2018 has been particularly beneficial in these relatively cool terroirs, and the results are impressive. Gilles told us that they'd made a good volume of wine, and that there had been just enough rain, and little to do in the way of treatments as the vines remained healthy through the season. He has extended the *élevage*, and is now keeping all his wines in wood for two winters: "I really like how the wines stabilise in the last six months."

2018 HAUTES CÔTES DE NUITS Clos des Favelots Domaine de la Douaix £210 75cl bottles case of 12

Nice vivid colour, a good rich nose of bright dark fruit, and the palate too is vivid and beautifully defined. "a bit more fresh fruit and a bit less tannic grip - it's normally the other way round" says Gilles.

2018 CÔTE DE NUITS VILLAGES Terres Nobles Domaine de la Douaix £240 75cl bottles case of 12

One third new wood. Ripe and rich, not quite the vivid brightness of the Hautes Côtes, but there's a greater sweet black fruit depth, as you'd expect - needs more time in barrel - the oak is a little disassociated for now.

2018 CÔTE DE NUITS VILLAGES Vieilles Vignes Domaine de la Douaix £245 75cl bottles case of 12

Even denser and darker than the Terres Nobles, with some of the rigid tannins of Nuits, lots of 'bottom' - and lots of ageing capacity.

2018 NUITS SAINT GEORGES Domaine de la Douaix £320 75cl bottles case of 12

This surprises after the Côtes de Nuits Villages, as it is so much more elegant - lovely ripeness with a point of sweetness in the robust fruit - sappy and altogether delicious.

Domaine J. Confuron Cotetidot	£ Per case IB	Bottle Size	Case Size
Vignerons since the seventeenth century, the Confuron family has always selected and propagated vines to ensure that their plant material produces the highest quality, and they even have a clone of Pinot named after them - 'Pinot Confuron'. The domaine has several Grands Cru vineyards as well as two hectares of the great Vosne Romanée Premier Cru 'Les Suchots'. There are around 12 hectares in all. The vines have never seen chemical weedkillers, and are ploughed and managed organically. The Confurons have always used whole-bunch fermentation, picking very late, which really is a necessity if the stems are to be properly ripe and not give green flavours to the wine. A bit like the Thévenets with their whites in the Maconnais, they pick so much later that they can seem to have different vintages to everyone else. Yves thinks that 2007 was their great vintage of the first decade of this millennium, and he'd probably be the only grower in the Cote de Nuits who would say that. Yves, opinionated and laconical as ever, dismisses those who make pale wines by 'infusion' and says that failing to get the whole bunches properly ripe - and using all the bunch - is failing to get everything the terror can offer. The wines he makes are dark, richly concentrated, and often hard to taste in their development, but experience shows that they age brilliantly. He is sure that, if anyone could remember, the 1947s when young would have tasted like these young 2018s. He says that the vintage was exceptionally hot, with a hot wind from the north, so very concentrated berries, and the result is a Rhonish profile - which seems logical to him. Flavours of black cherry and dark chocolate coming from the sucrosity of the ripe tannins. "I say the opposite of everyone else - a wine can be rich and durable - rich and balanced." He mentions the 2003s, which were wines we discussed along similar lines at the time and which frightened some buyers. We agreed that although the acidity was on the low side, there was plenty of tannin and the wines would age on the tannin rather than the acidity - and opening 2003s now proves this point, as his are still fresh and youthful. But the 2003s were always less well-balanced than the 2018s - the drought of the year resulted in tannins that remained dry, and while they may soften more with time, some will remain. The 2018s, by contrast, have tannins ripened to perfect sweetness and the resulting liqueur-like wines are in an extraordinary balance and will age unbelievably. Like the 1947s?			
2018 GEVREY CHAMBERTIN Domaine J. Confuron Cotetidot	£415	75cl bottles	case of 12
Like the other villages, there's huge density here - rich and sleek it flows with a freshness that is amazing given the volume.			
2018 CHAMBOLLE MUSIGNY Domaine J. Confuron Cotetidot	£415	75cl bottles	case of 12
2018 NUITS SAINT GEORGES Domaine J. Confuron Cotetidot	£415	75cl bottles	case of 12
Once Yves has said 'dark chocolate', that is exactly what comes to the for here - enormously rich and sweet, the massive structure rendered softly lush by the ripeness of the tannins, but this is still bright, balanced in its own terms. Massive and incredibly densely-packed and then long too.			
2018 VOSNE ROMANÉE Domaine J. Confuron Cotetidot	£415	75cl bottles	case of 12
The introductory point of our tasting with Yves, and the first glimpse of the volume and richness which he has got into these wines. Dark, very rich and velouté, a warmth in the ripeness, with a huge volume of pulpy tannins which are never harsh but demonstrate just how complete the ripeness was, and how it all remains in balance. But as he says, this is not Pinot that 'Pinots', but Pinot which 'Grenaches' - so the wines are full of sweet spice and dark chocolate, for example.			
2018 NUITS SAINT GEORGES 1er Cru Les Vignes Rondes Domaine J. Confuron Cotetidot	£815	75cl bottles	case of 12
The volume again, but here lifted with a pepperiness, bright, firmly constructed under the rich juice.			
2018 GEVREY CHAMBERTIN 1er Cru Craipillot Domaine J. Confuron Cotetidot	£845	75cl bottles	case of 12
Definitely the most complete wine I have tasted from this vineyard, there as extra spice over the village Gevrey, more nuance, and again despite the volume it has an amazing energy and movement - lift and fun, bright on the finish.			
2018 CHAMBOLLE MUSIGNY 1er Cru Derrière la Grange Domaine J. Confuron Cotetidot	TBA	75cl bottles	case of 12
2018 GEVREY CHAMBERTIN 1er Cru Petite Chapelle Domaine J. Confuron Cotetidot	£480	75cl bottles	case of 6
2018 VOSNE ROMANÉE 1er Cru Suchots Domaine J. Confuron Cotetidot	£495	75cl bottles	case of 6
This has not gone into barrel at all - Yves thought it so complete, so balanced, that it had no need of additional polishing, saying that the barrels bring out the chocolateiness with oxidation, and that this is so ripe it just does not need that - so he has kept it in cuve. Very purple, very taut and fresh (more backward too), despite the richness and astonishing depth of fruit.			
2018 GEVREY CHAMBERTIN 1er Cru Lavaut Saint Jacques Domaine J. Confuron Cotetidot	TBA	75cl bottles	case of 6
Cassis liqueur, very densely enrobed, a thick sweet silky middle, and a fruit which just goes on and one, spicy again on finish.			
2018 ÉCHEZEAUX Grand Cru Domaine J. Confuron Cotetidot	TBA	75cl bottles	case of 6
Like the Suchots, this has been aged only in cuve. This is a jump up in richness - sweetly ripe with huge supply density. Really extraordinary.			
2018 CLOS VOUGEOT Grand Cru Domaine J. Confuron Cotetidot	TBA	75cl bottles	case of 6
Again, this was aged only in cuve, and as a result is more backward in terms of its development. Rich and full with a sweet liqueur-like volume. Absolutely dense with flavour, like an essence. Very pure yet slightly wild and mad too.			
2018 CHARMES CHAMBERTIN Grand Cru Domaine J. Confuron Cotetidot	Sold out	75cl bottles	case of 6
Rich almost to the point of opulence, but there's a brightness and movement and flow here too. Aged in ten year old barrels - he's not looking for a wood effect. Succulent with a salinity - extraordinary length.			
2018 MAZIS CHAMBERTIN Grand Cru Domaine J. Confuron Cotetidot	Sold out	75cl bottles	case of 3
Very rich, very dark fruit, sweetly complete, crushed black cherry, suave tannins - very, very dense. This will age for decades.			

2018 VOSNE ROMANÉE Domaine J. Confuron Cotetidot	£460	Magnums	case of 6
2018 NUITS SAINT GEORGES 1er Cru Les Vignes Rondes Domaine J. Confuron Cotetidot	£860	Magnums	case of 6
2018 VOSNE ROMANÉE 1er Cru Suchots Domaine J. Confuron Cotetidot	£1,040	Magnums	case of 6
2018 ÉCHEZEAUX Grand Cru Domaine J. Confuron Cotetidot	TBA	Magnums	case of 3
2018 NUITS SAINT GEORGES 1er Cru Les Vignes Rondes Domaine J. Confuron Cotetidot	TBA	Jeroboam	case of 1
2018 VOSNE ROMANÉE 1er Cru Suchots Domaine J. Confuron Cotetidot	£375	Jeroboam	case of 1
2018 CHARMES CHAMBERTIN Grand Cru Domaine J. Confuron Cotetidot	Sold out	Jeroboam	case of 1

Domaine Christophe Perrot-Minot	£ Per case IB	Bottle Size	Case Size
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Christophe is now the fourth generation of his family producing wine on the estate after his great grandfather Amédée Merme devoted himself to the management and production of wine over 130 years ago. The estate has gone from strength to strength ? always keeping the highest standards. Integrated viticulture has been practiced for many years now which has been adapted especially for the terroir. No herbicide or chemical fertilizer is used, instead, Christophe prefers to ?stand back and listen to this terroir, only intervening when necessary or when the weather requires it, never systematically.? This is one of the star domaines of the whole of Burgundy.

In 2018 he picked 'not early, not late - the 5th September to the 14th was the right time for us'. He wanted to keep as much freshness as possible so painstakingly cut out all overripe bunches - and berries from bunches. There were a lot of parcels which suffered from hydric stress, so he kept the best bits and declassified the rest. About half of his Beaux Monts is in the village Vosne (so we are sorry if you don't get any this year), and the top part of Combe d'Orveau also suffered from lack of water and did not make the cut - so the village Chambolle is 40% Combe d'Orveau. He used 50% to 60% whole bunches throughout - almost no pigeage, just remontage, and only 20% new wood, or, on some of the smaller cuvées, no new wood at all (as it's not possible to put only 20% new wood in a two or three-barrel quantity). The alcohol levels are 13.2% to 13.5% across the range, but the bits he left out made ten barrels of Bourgogne rouge that is at 15.4%, so leaving that in would have raised the average.

2018 GEVREY CHAMBERTIN Justice des Seuvrées Domaine Christophe Perrot-Minot	TBA	75cl bottles	case of 6
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Richer fruit hit another step up in power. Glossy, polished and nicely dark.

This is very voluptuous indeed. Plush and suave fruit. Nicely ripe and velvety smooth. Just so luscious and indulgent feeling. Smart polished and richly satisfying. The spicy sleek fruit delivery is almost too much to bear it is so satisfying and offers such temptation.

2018 NUITS SAINT GEORGES Les Murgers des Cras Domaine Christophe Perrot-Minot	TBA	75cl bottles	case of 6
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This 'village' wine in fact includes 3 different 1er Crus. 20% from Les Murgers, 20% from Les Cras and 20% from La Richemonne.

More heft and Nuits-like masculinity. Yes this is good. Nice guts and lovely energy.

As a whole this is totally delicious. Flow and power is brilliant. There is push and drive and some good structure - but such a sophisticated, balanced wine.

2018 MOREY SAINT DENIS La Rue de Vergy Domaine Christophe Perrot-Minot	TBA	75cl bottles	case of 6
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Simply gorgeous. A perfect example of Morey St Denis? There is a lovely fruit weight, soft and full but not cooked in any way. Bright and impressive tension with nice minerality running right through.

2018 VOSNE ROMANÉE Ormes des Chalandins Domaine Christophe Perrot-Minot	TBA	75cl bottles	case of 6
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More gloss here having just tasted the Vosne. A great full feel to the fruit weight. Delicious crisp and perfectly ripe, deep-red juice. Sexy, velvet and plush. So beautifully polished yet without losing its focus and that smart Vosne character.

2018 CHAMBOLLE MUSIGNY Orveaux des Bussières Domaine Christophe Perrot-Minot	TBA	75cl bottles	case of 6
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Includes 40% 1er Cru Combe d'Orveau.

Very pretty. Lifted and aerien. Fruit is on the quite dark red spectrum and not so sweet as some we have tasted. A nice measured more rhubarb and rooty edge. But then a sleeker, rounder line of fruit. Richens up on the palate to a juicy line of fruit. Quite showy in fact when it gets going - but some gentle structural lines keep it flowing gracefully.

2018 VOSNE ROMANÉE Champs Perdrix Domaine Christophe Perrot-Minot	TBA	75cl bottles	case of 6
A very well placed plot here with Bruno Clair just next door. This has immediate impact. So sophisticated. Dark fruit fills the palate, rich but not overly ripe deeply coloured red and black flesh. Some graceful tannins build and add some straight lines. Keeping this from getting too full on. Dark berries and lovely energy. This is pure and long.			
2018 MOREY SAINT DENIS Vieilles Vignes 1er Cru La Riotte Domaine Christophe Perrot-Minot	TBA	75cl bottles	case of 6
Tasted after the Nuits this is more retrained and sows brighter more perky fruit. Peppy red berries. An almost cranberry-infused lift. Energy is scintillating and bouncy. The tension comes from the minerality as well as this crisper red edged fruit. Smart and lithe.			
2018 CHAMBOLLE MUSIGNY 1er Cru Les Fuées Domaine Christophe Perrot-Minot	TBA	75cl bottles	case of 6
From vines planted in 1945. Delicious. There is some delicate grip here and some tension but beautiful pert, red and purple fruit. This is not a heavyweight. Clever for the vintage a gorgeously lacy, classy Chambolle with persistence and drive - but so genteel.			
2018 VOSNE ROMANÉE Vieilles Vignes 1er Cru Beaux Monts Christophe Perrot-Minot	TBA	75cl bottles	case of 6
Old vines here are at least 65 years old. This has the most sumptuous nose which follows perfectly on to the palate. A rush of gently macerated red berries. Some red currents and a citrus edge - a crisp almost shrill bite which is gorgeous. Very digeste. An arrow of acidity pinning it all together and darting on and on. The fruit is firm though and more blue and dense than it first appears. Almost imaginary tannins just hold shape at the finish. Very smart indeed.			
2018 NUITS SAINT GEORGES Vignes Centenaires 1er Cru La Richemone Domaine Christophe Perrot-Minot	TBA	75cl bottles	case of 6
These Richemone vines were planted in 1902 - so the intensity and depth is not surprising - but still staggering. This is great. Gentle attack of high-toned red fruit. Awesome acidity delivered so discreetly - so well integrated it is barely there. Intense fruit is loaded with concentrated mature red fruit flavours, some darker plum flesh too. Structure builds gently and steadily. Sophisticated stuff. Slowly slowly power builds, floral and beautifully textured. None of that Nuits heft. Fine, elegant and long. Persistent not pushy. Some grip on the finish to remind you this is serious - but in the palate it is all so harmonious. A 'wow' wine.			
2018 CHAMBOLLE MUSIGNY Vieilles Vignes Ultra 1er Cru Combe d'Orveau Domaine Christophe Perrot-Minot	TBA	75cl bottles	case of 6
Interestingly restrained on the nose, not giving a lot away at this stage. On the palate it's a different story. Fruit has drive but the feel is all elegance and pretty lift. Nicely defined, but bright red berries and sweet strawberry mulch - that acidity though, such a fine thread keeps it all so fine so pert. This is great. Precise and bright with hidden depths of concentration. Long and voluptuous and shapely as heck.			
2018 CHARMES CHAMBERTIN Vieilles Vignes Grand Cru Domaine Christophe Perrot-Minot	TBA	75cl bottles	case of 6
Highest bit below Le Chambertin. Just next to Rousseau's parcel. This is gorgeous. Very sleek, very charming. Satisfying and quite richly fruited. Concentrated and quite ripe - but a good sensitive line of minerality gets involved and adds some class and energy. Red fruit, well-defined on the attack, begins to fill out, the sweetness builds in the mouth. But the gentle power is there, looming benevolently.			
2018 MAZOYÈRES CHAMBERTIN Vieilles Vignes Grand Cru Domaine Christophe Perrot-Minot	TBA	75cl bottles	case of 6
Lovely balance of ripeness here. Dark berries again. Darker feel to the fruit - all just really nicely ripe. Pitch-perfect. Concentrated and the grip is deliciously mouth-watering. Fine powdery feel - gorgeous with a restraining mineral dustiness. Dark and smouldering with a gob or too of sweetness. There is lots going on here, its deep and densely layered for now. It will be a great treat to revisit this in about 10 years time.			
2018 CHAPELLE CHAMBERTIN Vieilles Vignes Grand Cru Domaine Christophe Perrot-Minot	TBA	75cl bottles	case of 6
From 90 year old vines. There is more bite here - more crunch on the attack. Than the Charmes. All round this is more serious. Red berries and little black fruit hits too add juicy interest. Then there is the sensation of some white gravelly stones adding a satisfying mineral line. This has frame and structure - but is beautifully together with such bright and spicy fruit. Quite weighty and some incredible concentration that remains firm for now but goes on and on. Impressive.			
2018 CHAMBERTIN CLOS DE BÈZE Grand Cru Domaine Christophe Perrot-Minot	TBA	75cl bottles	case of 6
This seems to be moving to a different rhythm to the Le Chambertin. Immediately bright and peppy fruit jumps at you. Gorgeously aromatic. Delicious up front. Surprisingly high toned. But grippy too. Fine, talc like tannins build up gently - adding a firm side to this beauty. The mineral note is almost savoury too - there is just so much going on. A quick taste is impossible, you need time to think and reflect. Intense and tense. Densely packed with loads of deep, not rich, red fruit and bramble. Completely delicious.			
2018 CHAMBERTIN Vieilles Vignes Grand Cru Domaine Christophe Perrot-Minot	TBA	75cl bottles	case of 6
Heady and intense perfume on the nose. Yet this is quite packed-in for now. Quite tightly rolled. Muscular and bold but with gorgeous snippets of fruit popping out too. Peppy black juice and lots of softer brighter red elements. This needs time. Lots to love - but for now it is not totally harmonious, as Christophe points out - it finished its Malo a bit later than some, so just needs a moment. Very promising nonetheless!			
2018 CHAMBERTIN CLOS DE BÈZE Grand Cru Domaine Christophe Perrot-Minot	TBA	75cl bottles	case of 3
This seems to be moving to a different rhythm to the Le Chambertin. Immediately bright and peppy fruit jumps at you. Gorgeously aromatic. Delicious up front. Surprisingly high toned. But grippy too. Fine, talc like tannins build up gently - adding a firm side to this beauty. The mineral note is almost savoury too - there is just so much going on. A quick taste is impossible, you need time to think and reflect. Intense and tense. Densely packed with loads of deep, not rich, red fruit and bramble. Completely delicious.			

2018 NUITS SAINT GEORGES Vignes Centenaires 1er Cru La Richemone Domaine Christophe Perrot-Minot	TBA	Magnums	case of 1
2018 CHAMBOLLE MUSIGNY Vieilles Vignes Ultra 1er Cru Combe d'Orveau Domaine Christophe Perrot-Minot	TBA	Magnums	case of 1
2018 VOSNE ROMANÉE Vieilles Vignes 1er Cru Beaux Monts Christophe Perrot-Minot	TBA	Magnums	case of 1
2018 CHAPELLE CHAMBERTIN Vieilles Vignes Grand Cru Domaine Christophe Perrot-Minot	TBA	Magnums	case of 1
2018 MAZOYÈRES CHAMBERTIN Vieilles Vignes Grand Cru Domaine Christophe Perrot-Minot	TBA	Magnums	case of 1
2018 CHARMES CHAMBERTIN Vieilles Vignes Grand Cru Domaine Christophe Perrot-Minot	TBA	Magnums	case of 1
2018 CHAMBERTIN CLOS DE BÈZE Grand Cru Domaine Christophe Perrot-Minot	TBA	Magnums	case of 1
2018 CHAMBERTIN Vieilles Vignes Grand Cru Domaine Christophe Perrot-Minot	TBA	Magnums	case of 1
2018 GRIOTTE CHAMBERTIN Grand Cru Domaine Christophe Perrot-Minot	TBA	Magnums	case of 1

Domaine Georges Mugneret-Gibourg**£ Per case IB Bottle Size Case Size**

The sisters Marie-Christine and Marie Andrée have been firmly in control of this exceptional domaine for some years now. With one a pharmacist and the other an oenologist, the domaine was always going to be in safe hands as far as the wine-making was concerned and in 2017, Lucie, Marie-Christine's daughter has joined the team officially. These are top-flight burgundies with that elusive balance of enough concentration allied with delicacy of expression and the capability of ageing well. This year Marie-Christine spoke of 'new parameters' in Burgundy with higher fermentation temperatures up to 38C as opposed to the old maximum of 36C, which killed all the yeasts. The finished wines range from 13.6% to 14.4%. They picked from the 4th September and finished in five days. As usual everything is entirely de-stemmed.

2018 BOURGOGNE ROUGE Domaine Georges Mugneret-Gibourg	TBA	75cl bottles	case of 6
Produced from old vines at 25hl/ha, this is deep and intense: dark colour and rich intensity of flavour, with the elegance that is found in all the wines here.			
2018 VOSNE ROMANÉE Domaine Georges Mugneret-Gibourg	TBA	75cl bottles	case of 6
Again this is intensely concentrated. Blue-edged bright ruby colour, powerful and intense, seems to have lovely acidity and there's a nice freshness, although it's not quite in the ethereal linear style that is usual here.			

2018 VOSNE ROMANÉE La Colombière Domaine Georges Mugneret-Gibourg	TBA	75cl bottles	case of 6
The same vinification, and the same 25% new wood, so the difference between this and the VR 'classique' is the site and the age of the vines. The domaine has taken back some parcels which were en métayage, and they have decided to make a new cuvée of village Vosne from this exceptional site, which is planted north-south because of the shape of the plot, and so running laterally across just below their winery and in front of their neighbour Anne Gros. Planted sixty-five year ago, but some vines have been replaced as necessary. The concentration of the vintage and the old vines is here too, but this is so much more refreshing and liquid, flowing, the young vine component giving red fruit and energy. Intense and concentrated but elegant, fresh-fruited, florally-scented and long.			
2018 NUITS SAINT GEORGES 1er Cru Chaignots Domaine Georges Mugneret-Gibourg	TBA	75cl bottles	case of 6
Old vines on the slope, thin soil, deep roots, 'well-ventilated' - there's always a flow of air here. This is always the darkest colour of their wines and this year is no exception. So fat and round and rich. Lots of intensity. A sensational cuvée this year, and very complete as a wine.			
2018 CHAMBOLLE MUSIGNY 1er Cru Feusselottes Domaine Georges Mugneret-Gibourg	TBA	75cl bottles	case of 6
Sulphured the day before, so there was a certain tight fierceness about this the day we tasted, but the density is undeniable and the underlying silk is all there.			
2018 ÉCHEZEAUX Grand Cru Domaine Georges Mugneret-Gibourg	TBA	75cl bottles	case of 3
60% new wood. Big wine with depth and rich fruit and spice, a lot of concentration and a long future ahead. Remains powerful on the long finish too.			
2018 CLOS VOUGEOT Grand Cru Domaine Georges Mugneret-Gibourg	TBA	75cl bottles	case of 3
Sleek! It seems to be the Ruchottes which has the wildness this year. Richly enveloping, a huge weight of velvety black fruit. Very black expression, deep and rather amazing, even if in some ways a slightly surprising expression from this cuvée which is usually more tensile.			
2018 RUCHOTTES CHAMBERTIN Vieilles Vignes Grand Cru Domaine Georges Mugneret-	TBA	75cl bottles	case of 3
Intensity - wild berry fruit, peppery, lively, bracing and a little bit fierce. Red and black little berries with good fresh acidity and a bright salty freshness. Gorgeous.			
2018 VOSNE ROMANÉE Domaine Georges Mugneret-Gibourg	TBA	Magnums	case of 3
2018 CHAMBOLLE MUSIGNY 1er Cru Feusselottes Domaine Georges Mugneret-Gibourg	TBA	Magnums	case of 1
2018 NUITS SAINT GEORGES 1er Cru Chaignots Domaine Georges Mugneret-Gibourg	TBA	Magnums	case of 3
2018 ÉCHEZEAUX Grand Cru Domaine Georges Mugneret-Gibourg	TBA	Magnums	case of 3
2018 RUCHOTTES CHAMBERTIN Vieilles Vignes Grand Cru Domaine Georges Mugneret-Gibourg	TBA	Magnums	case of 1

Domaine Lignier-Michelot	£ Per case IB	Bottle Size	Case Size
A domaine of 11 hectares, 25% regionals, 50% Villages, 20% Premiers crus and 5% Grands Crus. Virgile Lignier worked at the domaine with his father Maurice from 1988, beginning to bottle some of the wine from 1992 (it had previously been sold to the négoce), taking over in 2000, which was the vintage when he first bottled all the domaine's production. In the vineyard Virgile made significant changes, stopping the use of herbicides, and beginning to plough instead. Green harvesting to limits yields followed, along with greater attention to grape selection. The domaine works organically except in extremis. The wines have a lovely combination of enough body and richness, combined with a lively clarity of expression. The old vines village cuvées are seriously good, and great value too. Going up the scale each site seems to speak very clearly of its source and there is a brightness and energy along with full, seamless fruit. In 2018 Virgile picked from the 5th to the 14th September (for the reds). The potential alcohols went up 1.5% in the week, he reported, mostly by concentration from the berries drying up rather than extra ripening. Fermentations were long and slow, with very little pigeage. The wines are then aged for 13 months in barrel, with about 30% new wood. It was a generous harvest - he made 48hl. ha on the Morey Vieilles Vignes even after doing a vendange verte. 'For me the key to the vintage was whole bunches and very light extraction' We repeat what we said last year: this domaine is in our view one to follow very closely as the prices have not yet caught up with the growing quality.			
2018 BOURGOGNE ROUGE Domaine Lignier-Michelot	£185	75cl bottles	case of 12
70% whole bunch. Nice fresh nose - rich and full-bodied. Satisfying tannic density too. This was picked last and inevitably riper than everything else.			
2018 MOREY SAINT DENIS Rue de Vergy Domaine Lignier-Michelot	£360	75cl bottles	case of 12
Like the Chambolle, this is not all that aromatic yet, but a lovely texture and some liquorice and leather spice, compact, all of a piece with nice balance.			
2018 CHAMBOLLE MUSIGNY Vieilles Vignes Domaine Lignier-Michelot	£360	75cl bottles	case of 12
80% whole bunch. Fresh; not amazingly aromatic yet but the lift and freshness is impressive, nice feel of sappy fully body and flavour density all there to open up.			
2018 MOREY SAINT DENIS Vieilles Vignes Domaine Lignier-Michelot	£360	75cl bottles	case of 12
90% whole bunch. There's more aromatic lift in the red fruit spectrum here. Very silky - a lovely sleek texture with a salty lift on the finish.			
2018 GEVREY CHAMBERTIN Cuvée Bertin Domaine Lignier-Michelot	£360	75cl bottles	case of 12
All whole bunch. Supple and silky, nice lift, then sweet black fruit. There's some spice too and the finish is good. Justices and Sevrées - the latter is the bit that gives the elegance.			

2018 MOREY SAINT DENIS 1er Cru Charmes Domaine Lignier-Michelot	£330	75cl bottles	case of 6
80% whole bunch. Plush ripe aromatics and a silk plush texture too - sophisticated - a sort of Chambolle texture with a more Gevrey black fruit expression. 'Lots of clay', says Virgile, 'deep roots, makes soothing wines'.			
2018 MOREY SAINT DENIS 1er Cru Aux Chezeaux Domaine Lignier-Michelot	£330	75cl bottles	case of 6
All whole bunch. This is lower down than the Aux Charmes, but has more active limestone. It can be a bit opulent, so he has used all whole bunches to try to bring elegance. Rich; a dark floral and red and black berry fruit, weighty, but the opulence tempered by the brisk structure and underlying minerals. Minerality makes this very long.			
2018 MOREY SAINT DENIS 1er Cru Les Chenevery Domaine Lignier-Michelot	£330	75cl bottles	case of 6
'Floral' says Virgile, and it is - that deep dark fruit floral. Supple texture edging toward Chambolle, but such a depth to it too. Very gourmand but exciting and mouth-watering too. More mineral on this.			
2018 MOREY SAINT DENIS 1er Cru Faconnières Domaine Lignier-Michelot	£345	75cl bottles	case of 6
A more restrained, 'firmer' nose. Intense in its structure. Not the opulence of the Chezeaux, but more intensity and lively length all the same. Complete. 'a baby Clos de la Roche' says Virgile.			
2018 CHAMBOLLE MUSIGNY Cuvée Jules 1er Cru Domaine Lignier-Michelot	£390	75cl bottles	case of 6
All whole bunch. A mix of Chabiots, Chatelots and Sentiers. Sweet fruit, silky and intense. The sweetness is a little ahead of the aromatics at the entry, then the mineral undertow picks up to give a firmness to the finish. Very ripe when picked, and he did not do any pigeage at all.			
2018 CLOS DE LA ROCHE Grand Cru Domaine Lignier-Michelot	£915	75cl bottles	case of 6
A very 'straight' nose, all compact and harmonious. The entry is silky, but lifted, not heavy, fresh and pushing red fruit brightness with the weight gathered effortlessly behind. Richly silk-wrapped. There's lovely energy here.			
2018 CLOS SAINT DENIS Grand Cru Domaine Lignier-Michelot	Sold out	75cl bottles	case of 6
Very dark expression here - radically different to the Clos de la Roche. Coal-black even; very silky-fat wrapping, but the force is there, grippy and powerfully intense. Very backward - the finish is still super-intense. Needs more time in barrel to gather finesse, but it's all here.			
2018 MOREY SAINT DENIS Rue de Vergy Domaine Lignier-Michelot	£215	Magnums	case of 3
2018 CHAMBOLLE MUSIGNY Vieilles Vignes Domaine Lignier-Michelot	£230	Magnums	case of 3
2018 MOREY SAINT DENIS 1er Cru Les Chenevery Domaine Lignier-Michelot	£355	Magnums	case of 3
2018 MOREY SAINT DENIS 1er Cru Charmes Domaine Lignier-Michelot	£355	Magnums	case of 3
2018 MOREY SAINT DENIS 1er Cru Faconnières Domaine Lignier-Michelot	£370	Magnums	case of 3
2018 CLOS DE LA ROCHE Grand Cru Domaine Lignier-Michelot	£940	Magnums	case of 3

Domaine Stéphane Magnien	£ Per case IB	Bottle Size	Case Size
Stéphane's is a small domaine, a mere 4.5 hectares, with one full hectare of that in regional wine - Passetoutgrains and Bourgogne - but it is blessed with two Grands Crus and also a long history of not messing with nature. No pesticides have ever been used on this land, and the plants are nearly all the old 'Pinot tordu' - twisted Pinot with its gnarly stems which are less vigorous than the modern clones and said by many to make wines with more finesse. Stéphane chaptalizes only to extend fermentations - these are wines which his father Jean-Paul used to describe as 'sage en alcool' - from 12 to 13% - the old vines do not make much alcohol. Wood use is also discreet, never exceeding 20% new wood on the Grands Crus, 15% on the Premiers Crus and on the village appellations, 10% new wood for one year only, then all into older barrels. Stéphane says that he aims to make wines with more richness than his father's, 'but not black angular wines which have less relief. Wines which leave your mouth clean and clear, refreshed and revived and, above all, wanting another glass'. He destems 100%, gives the grapes a six-day maceration, then a classical fermentation with just two pigeages, and a little remontage (pumping over) at the end. Stéphane described 2018 as 'miraculous', because good in volume and concentration even coming after the good harvest of 2017 - a rich, even opulent vintage, picked in six days from the 4th to the 10th September.			
2018 CÔTEAUX BOURGUIGNONS Pur Pinot Noir Domaine Stéphane Magnien	£55	75cl bottles	case of 6
Stéphane bottled this back in July to preserve the freshness - and it's already a complete delight with a sappy vivid purple fruit and supple feel - rather wanted to take a bottle to drink that evening...			
2018 MOREY SAINT DENIS Grains Fins Domaine Stéphane Magnien	£145	75cl bottles	case of 6
Two parcels, Bas Chenevery and Crais-Gillon, both below Faconnières. Stéphane describes the soil as calcareous and free-draining. Ten to twelve-year old vines, four different clones chosen for finesse. Very elegant fine-grained tannins, lovely silky dark fruit - very attractive.			
2018 MOREY SAINT DENIS Vieilles Vignes Domaine Stéphane Magnien	£155	75cl bottles	case of 6
Cognés and Clos Solon. Fifty-five year old vines. 'More typical, more masculine', says Stéphane of this cuvée. There's still the precise juicy dark harmonious fruit of the 'Grains Fins', but this is more muscly, with greater tannic density and grip on the finish.			
2018 CHAMBOLLE MUSIGNY Vieilles Vignes Domaine Stéphane Magnien	£185	75cl bottles	case of 6
From les Athéts, very ancient vines originally planted by Stéphane's grandfather in 1902 and 1903 - they have replaced some individual plants over the years. Finely concentrated, delicate and forceful in its flavour intensity - very attractive firmly lifted fruit. Sweet old vine dark fruit intensity.			

2018 MOREY SAINT DENIS 'Petites Noix' 1er Cru Domaine Stéphane Magnien	£230	75cl bottles	case of 6
Gruenchers and Clos-Baulet, clay soils in the middle of the village under Clos des Lambrays. No pigeage and 15-20% whole bunch to bring a bit of elegance to this cuvée which has good density and satisfying richness.			
2018 MOREY SAINT DENIS 1er Cru Faconnières Domaine Stéphane Magnien	£265	75cl bottles	case of 6
One of the defining premiers Crus of Morey, Faconnières is to the east of Clos de la Roche. Richly opulent with a sweet glossy black fruit. Structure and harmony, all in a lovely balance and enveloped in a creamy silky body. Lively too - it's a very calcareous stony soil and this come through on the lifted mineral finish.			
2018 CHAMBOLLE MUSIGNY 1er Cru Sentiers Domaine Stéphane Magnien	£280	75cl bottles	case of 6
Chalky soil at the bottom of the village: very fine, but ripe and opulent too - lovely fruit intensity.			
2018 CHARMES CHAMBERTIN Grand Cru Domaine Stéphane Magnien	£580	75cl bottles	case of 6
This is from Mazoyères. Dark and delicately powerful in an understated way - but there's concentration here; very black fruit expression, even if it is all wrapped in sweetness.			
2018 CLOS SAINT DENIS Grand Cru Domaine Stéphane Magnien	£595	75cl bottles	case of 6
Clos Saint Denis is now 6.5 hectares, but when it was originally made a Grand Cru it was only 3.5 - some neighbouring premiers crus were incorporated. This parcel of 65 year old vines is in the original part. Lots of millerandage. Very dark expression; really sweet black fruit concentration, total purity - blackberry coulis, but firm, the mineral giving a lively brightness. All in length and elegance.			
Domaine Thibault Liger-Belair	£ Per case IB	Bottle Size	Case Size
The steady progression of this domaine has been fascinating to watch as Thibault gradually refines his approach to each parcel of vines with the help of cellar-master Eric. Viticulture is biodynamic (since 2005), yields low but not ludicrously low, everything is pragmatic, so that he should be doing just what is necessary and no more. He uses 40-50% new wood maximum, with wood chosen and aged by him, and barrels made with almost no toasting. The wines are bright, pure, focused, aromatic and elegant without lacking anything in the way of stuffing. The range of wines produced from rented vines or from bought grapes, sold under the separate 'Thibault Liger-Belair Successeurs' label, seems to grow with each vintage and the new cellar which Thibault moved to in 2016 is already stacked in the aisles. To each parcel the team brings great experience and there is a coherence across the range, so that the whole enterprise can be regarded as one. Impressive wines again here in 2018.			
2018 HAUTES CÔTES DE NUITS Clos du Prieuré Domaine Thibault Liger-Belair	£105	75cl bottles	case of 6
1 ha in Arcenant, quite high up, again on white soils, facing due south. As always this is a fatter cuvée than the Corvée de Villy - dense, but without heaviness, peppery, bright 'c'est vraiment une cuvée qui me ravi', tres beau' says Eric, and we're not disagreeing.			
2018 HAUTES CÔTES DE NUITS Corvée de Villy Domaine Thibault Liger-Belair	£105	75cl bottles	case of 6
Purple both in colour and in the vivid freshness of its expression. Very straight and pure and with a lovely depth of fruit - it's a very calcareous soil and the extra maturity of the vintage is particularly good on this wine.			
2018 NUITS SAINT GEORGES Charmotte Domaine Thibault Liger-Belair	£240	75cl bottles	case of 6
2018 VOSNE ROMANÉE Aux Réas Domaine Thibault Liger-Belair	£335	75cl bottles	case of 6
From a vineyard with very little earth above active limestone. It has the lively velvet feel - a tapestry of little reds berries with a sense of lively flavour density - Eric says he feels it is a similar style to the Corvée de Villy.			
2018 NUITS SAINT GEORGES 1er Cru Les Saint Georges Domaine Thibault Liger-Belair	£490	75cl bottles	wood case of 6
30-40% whole bunches. Very dark colour; rich and silky - it's very ripe. Very dark fruit and deep sweet spice, with an extraordinary density of ripe tannin which gives shape and intensity. Needs a bit more time in élevage.			
2018 CLOS VOUGEOT Grand Cru Domaine Thibault Liger-Belair	£725	75cl bottles	wood case of 6
Wild fruit - complex nose and it's the same on the palate, with lots of flavour density and chew. Spicy, lively, long			
2018 RICHEBOURG Grand Cru Domaine Thibault Liger-Belair	TBA	75cl bottles	wood case of 3
30% whole bunch. All the harmonious richness you'd expect. Black fruit depth seems unfathomable - and all so calm - it does it all with such regal calm. Super-rich too. Massive. Very long. Remaining élevage just needs to draw out the finish and shape it a little more.			
2018 NUITS SAINT GEORGES 1er Cru Les Saint Georges Domaine Thibault Liger-Belair	TBA	Magnums	wood case of 3
2018 CLOS VOUGEOT Grand Cru Domaine Thibault Liger-Belair	TBA	Magnums	wood case of 3
2018 RICHEBOURG Grand Cru Domaine Thibault Liger-Belair	TBA	Magnums	wood case of 1
2018 NUITS SAINT GEORGES 1er Cru Les Saint Georges Domaine Thibault Liger-Belair	TBA	Jeroboam	wood case of 1
2018 RICHEBOURG Grand Cru Domaine Thibault Liger-Belair	TBA	Jeroboam	wood case of 1

Thibault Liger-Belair Succesieurs	£ Per case IB	Bottle Size	Case Size
The lack of the word 'domaine' in the name signals that this is a négociant wine from Thibault Liger-Belair. Thibault buys the grapes he picks having tended the vines with his own team, so that the wines are domaine wines in all but name.			
2018 BOURGOGNE ROUGE Les Grands Chaillots Thibault Liger-Belair Succesieurs	£175	75cl bottles	case of 12
Lovely balance - 'just so'. Aromatically no that developed, but the weight is perfectly judged and the tannin to match it is spot on. As Eric says, this is 'one of the best Bourgogne Chaillots we've made'.			
2018 CÔTE DE NUITS Les Leurey Thibault Liger-Belair Succesieurs	£280	75cl bottles	case of 12
2018 NUITS SAINT GEORGES Les Belles Croix Thibault Liger-Belair Succesieurs	£470	75cl bottles	case of 12
2018 CHAMBOLLE MUSIGNY Vieilles Vignes Thibault Liger-Belair Succesieurs	£565	75cl bottles	case of 12
Entirely de-stemmed. Fifty to sixty-year-old vines. Aromatically it does not yet have the scented purity of the 2017, but there's more mass, this will still be a lovely Chambolle. Bright and really quite rich, it is both mouth-filling and elegant. 'The skeleton is not quite in place', remarks Eric, 'it will get there in cuve'.			
2018 CHARMES CHAMBERTIN Aux Charmes Grand Cru Thibault Liger-Belair Succesieurs	£795	75cl bottles	wood case of 6
Very sweet and charming on nose and attack, this seems initially a little too easy after the dark depth of the Les Saint Georges, but despite the relative lack of muscle it remains coherent, sleek and totally pure, a very Charmes style, holding its line well and long. Bravo! Delicacy as well as richness.			
2018 CHARMES CHAMBERTIN Aux Charmes Grand Cru Thibault Liger-Belair Succesieurs	TBA	Magnums	wood case of 3
Domaine Huguenot	£ Per case IB	Bottle Size	Case Size
The Huguenots can trace their history in Marsannay and working in the vines back to 1789. Currently the domaine is run by Philippe. His father Jean-Louis expanded the domaine from five to twenty-two hectares (twelve in Marsannay, six in Fixin, and four in Gevrey) before handing over the reins. Philippe took the bold step of taking all twenty-two hectares into organic production (the conversion was completed in 2010), but immensely sadly he was forced to do a single non-organic treatment in 2016, because of the terrible conditions, so he was back to square one - three years to re-qualify for the organic label - but this should be in place for 2020. Philippe was initially unsure if he would try for the certification again - but for all that is not planning to change the way he works - it is, he assures us, better for him and the environment and his workers as well as for quality, and the domaine will continue along organic lines. Philippe's father Jean-Louis died suddenly just before the 2019 harvest and Philippe was clearly still in some shock about it when we came to taste in last October. The 2018s are once again lovely wines which, while richer than some years still have have a lightness of tread and great purity and length, with more or less structure and weight depending on whether they are from clay or more rock-dominated soils. Philippe called it a 'very rich vintage', and said the wines were a little 'on their reserve' in the autumn. 'They need the patination of élevage', he finished.			
2018 MARSANNAY Héritage Domaine Huguenot	£215	75cl bottles	case of 12
Blue-edged vivid colour. Supple, lots of volume with a lightness of touch - very attractive. Needs to open up a little aromatically, but the finish suggests good concentration of fruit. Lovely village wine.			
2018 CÔTE DE NUITS VILLAGES La Créole Domaine Huguenot	£220	75cl bottles	case of 12
La Créole is a gem of a site, between Gevrey Chambertin Les Crais and the family's Fixin holdings. A mix of clay and small gravel stones.			
This is, as slways, softish and yet elegant. The lovely plump fruit is showy. Giving a delicious impression of being very easy. Soft and rich fruit up front - nice lift and gentle tannins build on finish very nicely. Its all here. Lovely soft ripe red fruit flesh and just the right reins to gather it to - and give fine shape and flow.			
2018 FIXIN Petits Crais Domaine Huguenot	£250	75cl bottles	wood case of 12
After tasting the Marsannays this is a little more gently built. Lighter in feel. More red fruit - more dryness. Not as thick at all. There is a good mineral edge to the fruit. A chalky scrape that underscores the core of soft flesh in the middle. Some nice spice and then a flash of acidity too. Good lift, but the fruit intensity and sweet line builds on the finish.			
2018 MARSANNAY Montagne Domaine Huguenot	£255	75cl bottles	case of 12
A lovely streak of restraint runs through this. There is a good weight of fruit - but it is taut and nicely tense. Philippe has just done the assemblage, so there is a moment needed for this to come together - but all is here. Just enough gloss and sheen, but this remains smartly serious. Built on delicious, sweet dark, red and black fruit which runs right to the finish to keep it interesting.			
2018 MARSANNAY Champs Perdrix Domaine Huguenot	£265	75cl bottles	case of 12
We tasted this from tank after the Marsannay 'Montagne' and this is distinctly different! Limestone Character here - interestingly the calcaire wines are more sorted, more ready to go - those from clay, are dense and powerful - will need more time. Very pretty - good red fruit berries, nicely poised. Elegant for the vintage - sweet fruit thread through the middle but delivered with delicacy. At this early stage, all round this is looking more together than the 'Montagne'.			
2018 MARSANNAY Charme aux Prêtres Domaine Huguenot	£265	75cl bottles	case of 12
80 year old vines here on this superb terroir.			
- a little lower than the Champs Perdrix vineyard.			
This is glossy and full but at no cost to the good, positive flow. Not delicate, not high-toned and airy - - but it is smartly done and represnets teh warm vintage well. Just really quite dense and and on the sweeter side. Gourmand.			
2018 GEVREY CHAMBERTIN Les Crais Domaine Huguenot	£170	75cl bottles	case of 6
The vineyard here is made up of 'sables calcaire'.			
Nice nose - whiffs of weighty dark, plump fruit and red currant jelly. The attack is a super mix of sweet red berries but delivered through quite a focused funnel. Neatly glides, without too much excess across the palate. Lacy and lovely. Soft pretty fruit - nice mineral lift. Good. A pretty and balanced Gevrey Chambertin. The finish tightens up and has a serious feel.			

2018 GEVREY CHAMBERTIN 1er Cru Fonteny Domaine Huguenot	£280	75cl bottles	case of 6
<p>More clay here. And it is wines from the clay that seem to be in need of a bit more élevage this year. This is bigger, bolder. Really quite full. There is still charm and in the mouth things tighten up somewhat. A nice feel of fine grip builds and freshens, this really helps with the density of a mass of fruit, still tightly wound for now. Dark and brooding in the middle for now, this will be quite indulgent. Power and possibility are both high here.</p>			
2018 CHARMES CHAMBERTIN Grand Cru Domaine Huguenot	£440	75cl bottles	case of 6
<p>Good weight here - fruit is supple, but still quite closed. There is a coolness too. Clever, the ground seems to be restraining the expression. Very limestone, there is an ample soft, ripe, red-fruit character. Firm strawberries and then a sweeter line of cooked raspberry. Not surprising this does have some power some structure. After the Gevrey this feels like the tannins are chunkier - with all that fruit and charm its this power that reminds you that this is Grand Cru!</p>			
2018 FIXIN Petits Crais Domaine Huguenot	#N/A	Magnums	case of 6
2018 MARSANNAY Champs Perdrix Domaine Huguenot	£290	Magnums	case of 6
2018 GEVREY CHAMBERTIN Les Crais Domaine Huguenot	#N/A	Magnums	case of 6
2018 GEVREY CHAMBERTIN 1er Cru Fonteny Domaine Huguenot	£595	Magnums	case of 6